

PANTERRA NIGHT

Written by

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EXT. UPPER MIDDLE CLASS HOME - EVENING

STEVE WINCHESTER, mid 30's, tall, athletic build, randomly whistles as he walks up to the side door of his home.

INT. KITCHEN, UPPER MIDDLE CLASS HOME - EVENING

Steve quietly walks into the house at 11:56 PM. His wife, DIANE WINCHESTER, mid 30's, slender and pretty, speaks in a hushed tone.

DIANE WINCHESTER (O.S.)

Hi, Hon. How was work? I was expecting you at five or six.

STEVE WINCHESTER

The guy gave himself up. (very quietly) Is Mini Me sleeping... door closed?

DIANE WINCHESTER

Yes. What happened?

STEVE WINCHESTER

The guy walks out of his house, drunk, hands above his head and says, "Mom said I couldn't drive the Charger because I never put gas in it. I said - yes, I did - 2 months ago. She was lying, so I put 5 bullets into her face. She's inside... sitting in her favorite chair."

DIANE WINCHESTER

His Mom?... He puts 5 bullets in her face. Gees.

STEVE WINCHESTER

So, I cuff and arrest the guy and go inside to check on his Mother.

DIANE WINCHESTER

And she's gone.

STEVE WINCHESTER

Very gone. I'm not giving you any more details. I'm washing up and going to bed, will you join me?

DIANE WINCHESTER

Yes... in 5.

INT. BEDROOM, UPPER MIDDLE CLASS HOME - MOMENTS LATER

Steve gives his wife a small kiss, fluffs his pillow, and closes his eyes. Moments later, he is sleeping. Steve gets up and walks into his living room where he sees the backside of a chair, occupied with a woman. She has long brownish grey hair. Steve walks over to see who is sitting in the chair. Steve speaks.

INT. LIVING ROOM, UPPER MIDDLE CLASS HOME - MOMENTS LATER

STEVE WINCHESTER

Mom?

Out of the shadows, Steve sees a handgun pointed at his Mom. He takes a running step towards the gun. He sees 5 fire discharges shoot out of the barrel simultaneously as he hears 5 gunshots. He looks to his Mother and sees a massive amount of blood all over her chest.

INT. KITCHEN, UPPER MIDDLE CLASS HOME - MORNING

SUPER IN WHITE: 3 MONTHS LATER. Steve puts ice into a black thermal ice chest that sits on the kitchen counter. He puts his keys, wallet and 1 small black leather secured holster and a long plastic container on the counter. He looks at the assortment of items, turns around and pours coffee into a thermal container. Diane speaks just above a whisper.

DIANE WINCHESTER

Morning, hon. How'd you sleep?

STEVE WINCHESTER

Like a rock.

Steve takes 3 steps towards Diane. He lightly hugs her.

DIANE WINCHESTER

I see that you're ready for another day at the office. Care to share what you can share?

STEVE WINCHESTER

(lighthearted) 6 big guys... in 2 tanks - with hand grenades - are threatening the chief at his house on the reservation.

Steve smiles. He picks up the items on his counter, but drops his wallet. Diane picks up the wallet revealing Steven's FBI badge.

DIANE WINCHESTER
Almost 6 years?

STEVE WINCHESTER
In 3 months. (pause) Gotta' go.
Evil doesn't sleep.

DIANE WINCHESTER
I'll come with you... I can kick
some butt - if you need help.

Diane makes a lighthearted karate pose. Steve kisses Diane's forehead and speaks.

STEVE WINCHESTER
I'll be home for dinner and Mini
Me's wrestling match. Love you.

Steve grabs the items off of the counter.

DIANE WINCHESTER
I've got an idea. Make a mean face
at the accused bad guys, then
handcuff 'em.

STEVE WINCHESTER
I'm training a class this
afternoon. I'll add the "mean face
and cuff 'em" strategy.

DIANE WINCHESTER
Bye hon.

Steve walks 1 step down into the garage.

INT. 3 CAR GARAGE WITH TREAD MILL, EXTENSIVE BENCH PRESS AND
BARBELLS TO RIGHT - MOMENTS LATER

Steve grabs a rifle scope from a gun safe.

EXT. DRIVEWAY OF HOME WITH BLACK, 2025 CHEVROLET TRUCK, WITH
TRUCK CAP - MORNING

Steve drives the truck on I-94. A sign says welcome to
Ypsilanti Township. The scenery changes into a dirt road
through a semi wooded hilly area. A worn wooden sign says:
Panterra Tribe. Modest smaller homes and worn trailers dot
the landscape.

STEVE WINCHESTER (V.O.)
That's me on my way to work. I'm an
FBI agent. I deal with felony
(MORE)

STEVE WINCHESTER (V.O.) (CONT'D)
 federal crimes. As a sworn agent
 I respond to emergencies, execute
 search warrants and make arrests.
 I'm on my way to have breakfast with
 Panterra Indian Chief Ken
 Whitecloud. It is my jurisdictional
 obligation, regarding major crimes,
 to uphold the law at the Panterra
 reservation.

EXT. MEETING PLACE RESTAURANT - MOMENTS LATER

Steve stops the truck in front of a worn, single story 40
 seat diner. The name, "Meeting Place Restaurant", is hand
 painted on a plywood sign. Steve enters the building.

INT. DINING AREA, MEETING PLACE RESTAURANT- MOMENTS LATER

25 men and women are eating breakfast. 2 waitresses and 1
 waiter are tending to customers. In the back of the
 restaurant, CHIEF KEN WHITECLOUD, early 50's, medium build,
 almost shoulder length silver/grey hair, stands as he sees
 Steve Winchester come to his table. The Chief extends his
 hand. Steve extends his hand and shakes the Chief's hand.

CHIEF KEN WHITECLOUD
 Breakfast is on me today Steve.

STEVE WINCHESTER
 Only if you spill it on yourself.
 The FBI has very strict rules.

CHIEF KEN WHITECLOUD
 A man of integrity and propriety...
 even in the direct path of free
 grits, sausage, sliced tomato and
 dark roast coffee. I admire your
 convictions. Money is the root of
 all evil.

STEVE WINCHESTER
 Excuse me for the correction, but
 the actual quote is: "the love of
 money is the root of all evil".
 That's why my wife gave me 17
 dollars for the week... so I have
 to use it wisely. I've chosen
 breakfast with you.

CHIEF KEN WHITECLOUD
 You get 17 dollars? Wow! I only get
 14 for the week.

Waitress SUSAN MARTIN, 30, chubby, addresses the table.

SUSAN MARTIN
What'll it be, Chief?

CHIEF KEN WHITECLOUD
Good morning. I'll have the usual,
Susan.

Susan looks toward Steve.

STEVE WINCHESTER
Ma'am, the same for me. Thank you.

CHIEF KEN WHITECLOUD
So... the family OK?

STEVE WINCHESTER
Yes, sir, and yours?

CHIEF KEN WHITECLOUD
My personal family is great. My
extended family - 2,732 of them -
are mostly good. {lowering his
voice} But, about 20 of them need
a good swift kick in the behind.
Would you do the kicking?

STEVE WINCHESTER
(half laughing) I can't go around
kicking butt and saying, "this is a
message from Chief Ken Whitecloud."

Both of the men laugh loud enough to get attention from 6
diners. The men eat the food, pausing to talk.

CHIEF KEN WHITECLOUD
(whispering) Can you stop a crime
before it happens?

STEVE WINCHESTER
Like what?

CHIEF KEN WHITECLOUD
(almost whispering) Printing money.

STEVE WINCHESTER
I need a ton of evidence and a
judge to agree with me that the
people involved had intent to be
part of a criminal enterprise.

CHIEF KEN WHITECLOUD

What if the 2 men were just talking? No printing press. No paper. No ink. Just talk. Would you talk to them? They would listen to you. You look like a tough guy from Detroit, plus you have dark Native American Indian like hair.

STEVE WINCHESTER

My grandpa is from Detroit. He thinks he's a bit of a tough guy. He has pride in his Detroit roots.

CHIEF KEN WHITECLOUD

I have the same pride about being a native American Indian. Respect for yourself... your people, the animals that roam the land and the land. (pause) The Chippewa, Ottawa and Potawatomi are from the Detroit area.

STEVE WINCHESTER

Just point the gentlemen out to me and I'll talk to them I know what to do.

Susan brings the food and coffee to the table. Steve and Ken eat and talk.

I/E. STREET VIEW OF BLACK TRUCK IN FRONT OF CONVENIENCE STORE
- CONTINUOUS

Chief Ken sees a beaten older black Dodge pick up truck, occupied by 2 men, pull up to a convenience store across the street. Chief Ken nods his head in the direction of the truck. Steve sees Chief Ken focus on the men as they exit the truck. Steve nods his head at Ken.

CHIEF KEN WHITECLOUD

(quietly) Those are the 2 men who I heard talking about opening a money printing business.

STEVE WINCHESTER

I'll talk to them.

CHIEF KEN WHITECLOUD

Thanks.

STEVE WINCHESTER
Chief, I've got to leave. I'll get
those gentlemen straightened out.
Call or text if you need me.

Steve stands up and the Chief stands up.

CHIEF KEN WHITECLOUD
I am happy that you are here. The
FBI made a good choice.

STEVE WINCHESTER
Thanks, Chief. I'll go and uphold
the law and you go guide the people
so that they don't break the law.
Deal?

The Chief nods his head "yes". Steve shakes hands with Chief
Ken Whitecloud. Both men leave the restaurant. Steve gets
into his truck and talks on his phone.

I/E. CAR ON ROADS IN THE PANTERRA NATION RESERVATION -
MOMENTS LATER

Steve drives his truck and talks on the phone. He slows down,
speeds up, stops and looks at people and buildings.

STEVE WINCHESTER (V.O.)
So.... What do I do as an FBI
agent? Our motto is fidelity,
bravery and integrity. I follow
those principals. (pause)
First, I am only going to tell you
unclassified info you can look up
on the web. (pause) So... How do I
find accused bad guys? People tell
me information, the internet tells
me and other federal agencies tell
me info, other police tell me info,
plus I do interviews. Then there is
technical, patterns of people and
undercover work.

Steve drives his truck.

STEVE WINCHESTER (V.O.)
I went through 20 weeks of training
at Quantico, near Washington D.C.
About 15,000 people apply and about
125 start training - about 90
graduate. It's exhausting mental
and physical training. Gun

(MORE)

STEVE WINCHESTER (V.O.) (CONT'D)
training. Plus, defensive and
offensive fighting.

I/E PARKING LOT NEAR GREY OFFICE BUILDING - AFTERNOON

Steve pulls his truck into a parking space. He gets out of the truck and walks into the building.

INT. FBI OFFICE - 4 PARTITIONED OFFICES AND LARGE OPEN AREA WITH 1/2 GLASS DOOR - MOMENTS LATER

6 FBI officers, 3 male and 3 female, dressed in workout clothes, are talking to each other as Steve Winchester enters the office. They stop talking.

STEVE WINCHESTER
Glad that all 6 of you are here.
I'm Special Agent Winchester - your
instructor. You are all here to
keep your disarming and escape
skills sharp and intact. Let's get
started.

The 6 agents go into the room that has a large piece of glass in the upper part of the door. Steve Winchester follows the group. DAVID BERNARD, 35, black and slightly pudgy, speaks.

DAVID BERNARD
Special Agent Winchester - are you
going to be kickin' our asses and
throwing us all over the room?

STEVE WINCHESTER
(with respect) Why do you ask?

DAVID BERNARD
I just don't want to get hurt and
not be able to work. I love my job.

Steve Winchester walks up to David Bernard and stands 6 inches in front of him without talking for 8 seconds. A smile comes over Steve Winchester's face.

STEVE WINCHESTER
Great answer. My answer to your
comment is "no, putting someone on
medical leave is wrong. Showing off
to your peers is counter
productive.

The door of the room closes. Intermittently, the agents can be seen quickly moving past the window of the door. The muffled voice of Steve Winchester is heard.

STEVE WINCHESTER (V.O.)
Nobody likes being scared, thrown around or excessively bossed around. But, these students have to keep their skill level high so they can disarm people and take control of a situation. I'll push them - but nobody is going to get hurt.

The class ends and the agents walk out of the room. Steve Winchester exists last. LEO TRACY, (SAC) Special Agent in Charge, mid 50's and fit, motions for Steve to come into his office.

STEVE WINCHESTER
SAC Tracy, good afternoon.

LEO TRACY
Good afternoon, Agent Winchester.
But not a good afternoon at the Panterra reservation.

STEVE WINCHESTER
What's up, sir?

LEO TRACY
Latest intel - about 10 minutes old, says that 2 bodies, a boy and a girl, both approximately 9 years old - were found 90% buried in the wooded area of the Huron River on the Panterra reservation. Specific positive identification has not yet been determined. Agent Winchester... find and arrest the responsible individual or individuals.

STEVE WINCHESTER
On it SAC Tracy.

LEO TRACY
By the way, the bodies were found with just the heads visible.

STEVE WINCHESTER
This person is showing off.
Teasing.

LEO TRACY

You know what to do. I will email over the file. The name and phone number of the tribal police officer who found the bodies is there as well.

STEVE WINCHESTER

People killing kids... then, showing off. Mocking the tribe... and us. Double sick.

LEO TRACY

I see how your face tightened up and how your breathing changed. Don't get emotional about this case - or any other case. Emotions change how we think and what we do.

STEVE WINCHESTER

I'll try, sir.

LEO TRACY

That wasn't a suggestion.

STEVE WINCHESTER

Yes, sir.

LEO TRACY

Good. Proceed.

STEVE WINCHESTER

On my way back to the rez, I'll do some phone time with the officer who found the bodies.

LEO TRACY

Good.

I/E. CAR ON ROADS TO PANTERRA RESERVATION - DAY

Steve Winchester drives his car.

STEVE WINCHESTER (V.O.)

Murder investigations are like an engineering project for a bridge combined with putting together a puzzle with all of the pieces being upside down. You keep working until the pieces fit. Then, the lawyers and judge takes over.

EXT. MURDER SCENE OF 2 CHILDREN, IN WOOD NEAR THE RIVER - DAY

Steve Winchester is looking around the scene of where the bodies were found.

STEVE WINCHESTER (V.O.)
 You look at everything. I mean everything. What kind of trees are nearby? Footprints. Odors. Items on the ground. In the branches of the tree. Was the scene obscured from view? In this case, which direction were the heads pointed. An autopsy will tell me how the person died. And when. Molestation. I write down notes. About anything I think, see or feel.

EXT. HOUSES OF PANTERRA TRIBE - DAY

Steve interviews residents of nearby houses.

STEVE WINCHESTER (V.O.)
 I talk to nearby residents. Could be 10 or 15 people... in 20 homes. Did they see a different vehicle then they normally see? Did they see a vehicle in the area where the bodies were found?

Steve talks to THOMAS BEAR, mid 30's, small build

STEVE WINCHESTER
 Did you see anybody carrying a shovel or see a car or truck near the bend in the river?

THOMAS BEAR
 Why should I talk to you... help you? You don't live here.

STEVE WINCHESTER
 2 children are dead. There could be more. (long pause) Did you see anything unusual? Anybody say anything odd to you?

THOMAS BEAR
 I saw a muddy truck. Older black Dodge pick up truck.

STEVE WINCHESTER
 What color of mud?

THOMAS BEAR
Light brown. Like a sand color.
Long time mud.

STEVE WINCHESTER
What do you mean... Long time mud?

THOMAS BEAR
You know... mud that becomes part
of the truck's paint.

STEVE WINCHESTER
You know who was driving?

THOMAS BEAR
Ed Whitecloud - the chief's
brother. He once said to me, "God
uses the rain to wash my truck".

EXT. HARDWARE STORE ON PANTERRA RESERVATION - MOMENTS LATER

Steve talks to 2 employees of the hardware store.

STEVE WINCHESTER (V.O.)
I ask a lot of questions. Was a
shovel purchased recently? A tarp?
A rake? Were these items stolen
from the inventory? Did the person
buying the items look nervous?
No eye contact? Extra eye contact?
Sweating?

INT. LIVING ROOM, UPPER MIDDLE CLASS HOME - AFTERNOON

STEVE WINCHESTER
Hon, I'll meet you outside soon.
This football game has about 3
minutes to go. I'll move those
stones to the other side of the
house right after the game.

Diane Winchester playfully mocks Steve by closing her eyes,
tilting her head and slightly opening her mouth as though she
was sleeping.

STEVE WINCHESTER (CONT'D)
No way am I falling asleep. I'll be
moving stones in a few minutes.

ELI ZARRET, mid 60's, speaks on the TV.

ELI ZARRET

It looks as though, with 2:14 left
in the game, that Eastern Michigan
University, with a 42 point lead...

Steve Winchester falls asleep.

INT. BASEMENT OF STEVE WINCHESTER'S HOME - MOMENTS LATER

20 closed caskets are all displayed as Steve Winchester looks
at them as he walks. DAVE MADDEN, 70's, in a blue suit, talks
to Steve.

DAVE MADDEN

You'll be needing these for your
friends and family over the next 8
days.

STEVE WINCHESTER

No. No. No.

INT. LIVING ROOM, UPPER MIDDLE CLASS HOME

Steve wakes up sweaty and yelling on the couch. Diane hears
Steve yelling and sits on the floor next to him.

DIANE WINCHESTER

Steve. Steve. Everything is OK.
You were dreaming. A nightmare...

STEVE WINCHESTER

Work tension. This isn't good.

DIANE WINCHESTER

We'll find some way for you to
sleep without these nightmares. We
can handle this.

Diane hugs Steve. Steve takes in a big breath and sighs.
Diane walks away and speaks as she walks.

DIANE WINCHESTER (CONT'D)

I'll be folding clothes from the
dryer.

STEVE WINCHESTER

Ok.

INT. LAUNDRY ROOM OF WINCHESTER HOME - MOMENTS LATER

Diane takes clothes out of the dryer and places them onto top of the washer. The clothes slide off of the washer onto the floor. Diane picks up the clothes and angerly places the clothes on the dryer. The clothes fall onto the floor. She picks up the clothes as she begins to cry. She grabs a shirt and cries into the shirt.

DIANE WINCHESTER (V.O.)
I've got to help him. What can I
do? What can I do?

Steve walks by and sees Diane with a shirt up to Diane's face.

STEVE WINCHESTER
That lavender detergent does smell
nice.

DIANE WINCHESTER
Smells great.

Diane takes the shirt away from her face. Steve sees that Diane has been crying. Steve walks over and hugs Diane.

DIANE WINCHESTER (CONT'D)
Is it me? Am I making you have
these nightmares?

STEVE WINCHESTER
You are my dream wife... Not a
nightmare. I love you. Don't worry -
I'll figure something out

Steve hugs Diane and kisses her on her forehead.

I/E. GARDEN CITY, MICHIGAN - POLICE STATION - DUSK

2 men and 1 women walk into the police station.

STEVE WINCHESTER (V.O.)
That's me - the one with the brush
cut and my first law enforcement
job. You don't have to be a super
hero, but being an officer of the
law is not easy or for somebody
who is easily frightened. You
have to be mentally tough. You
asses situations quickly... then
act quickly.

EXT. JONES AND SMITH ROAD, GARDEN CITY, MICHIGAN - EVENING

Steve Winchester, in a Garden City, MI police uniform, is crouched behind a car pointing a gun at an armed man standing in front of a warehouse.

STEVE WINCHESTER
3 police officers, have a
weapon pointed at you. Make that 4-
when you count me. Put your weapon
on the concrete, kick it away from
your body and put your hands up.

MIKE NORMANDY, 30, medium build, Caucasian, waits 4 seconds, then puts his weapon on the concrete, kicks it 10 feet away from his body then puts his hands up in the air.

STEVE WINCHESTER (CONT'D)
Make a move... you're dead.

Mike Normandy urinates in his pants. Tears flow from his eyes. Steve aims his pistol at Mike Normandy and walks up to him.

STEVE WINCHESTER (CONT'D)
Turn around and put your hands
behind your back.

Steve puts hand cuffs on Mike Normandy.

STEVE WINCHESTER (CONT'D)
You are under arrest. You have the
right to remain silent. If you
choose to speak, anything you say
may be used against you in a court
of law. Do you understand these
rights?

MIKE NORMANDY
Yeah.

Mike Normandy looks from left to right.

MIKE NORMANDY (CONT'D)
Where are the 3 other cops?

STEVE WINCHESTER
Just me. I lied.

Steve puts the suspect into the back of the Garden City police car.

I/E. POLICE CAR ON MIDDLEBELT ROAD, GARDEN CITY, MI - MOMENTS LATER

Steve talks on the 2 way radio with SUSAN STEIN, 40's.

SUSAN STEIN (O.C.)
Officer Winchester in squad car #6.
Do you read me?

STEVE WINCHESTER
This is Winchester. Go ahead.

SUSAN STEIN
Possible suicide at 2-1-1-1-2
Avondale. Are you available to
investigate?

STEVE WINCHESTER
I need to drop off a suspect. 6
minutes of paperwork and I'll be on
my way to the possible suicide.

SUSAN STEIN
Officer Tomlinson will assist when
you arrive at the station with the
suspect. What is your E.T.A.?

STEVE WINCHESTER
About 5 minutes.

Steve Winchester arrives at the main Garden City police headquarters with the male suspect.

INT. GARDEN CITY POLICE HEADQUARTERS - MOMENTS LATER

Steve completes the paperwork as Officer Tomlinson pats down the suspect for contraband or weapons. The suspect is put into a holding cell.

I/E. SQUAD CAR ON AVONDALE AVENUE - MOMENTS LATER

Steve Winchester drives the squad car and slowly pulls into 21112 Avondale. The 1,200 square foot brick house has missing paint, broken concrete and over grown bushes. Steve gets out of the squad car and walks around the house, checking both of the entry doors... Both doors are unlocked. In the small unkempt backyard, a wobbly decayed picnic table rests near the kitchen window. JANICE SULLIVAN, 40's sits, crying, on the top of the table with her head in her hands.

STEVE WINCHESTER (V.O.)
This scene doesn't lean into a
happy ending.

STEVE WINCHESTER
I'm Officer Steve Winchester of the
Garden City police department. You
called us a few minutes ago. What
is your name, ma'am.

JANICE SULLIVAN
Janice Sullivan. I'm his sister.

STEVE WINCHESTER
Who's sister?

JANICE SULLIVAN
David's sister.

STEVE WINCHESTER
You're crying. Did you go inside...
the doors aren't locked.

JANICE SULLIVAN
I... I... I can't go in. I'm
scared. David got divorced 3 months
ago. He's a big drinker. I'm
worried that...

STEVE WINCHESTER
You stay here. I'll go in.

Steve slowly opens the door and speaks.

INT. 21112 AVONDALE, GARDEN CITY, MI - MOMENTS LATER

STEVE WINCHESTER
David! David Sullivan. I'm Officer
Steve Winchester of the Garden City
police department. I'm checking to
see if you're OK.

Steven doesn't get an answer as he slowly walks through the
house. Steven sniffs. He sniffs again. He follows the smell.

STEVE WINCHESTER (V.O.)
Once you've smelled that odor,
well, it's unforgettable.

Steve walks into the tiny living room and sees a steel pulley
bolted to a 2 by 4 that is bolted to the ceiling. A rope is
run over the pulley and tied to the front door of the house.

The other end of the rope is tied to the neck of David Sullivan. A simple wooden chair, on it's side, is nearby. Steve checks David Sullivan for a pulse. He calls the dispatch office.

STEVE WINCHESTER (V.O.)
This is what I call the "push through" part of my job. Seeing a person in this condition is beyond difficult. Looking at dead people is part of my job, so, I "push through". I focus on the specifics of the job at hand. I always check for a pulse, even though I'm 99% sure that the person has passed away. Then I call the EMS - medical professionals that know more than I do.

Steve walks outside and talks to Janice Sullivan.

STEVE WINCHESTER
I found your brother. He doesn't have a pulse. The EMS are on the way. I'll need you to stay outside.

Janice Sullivan stands still, wide eyed, looking at Steve. She then bursts into tears. Steve hugs her for 5 seconds. The EMS vehicle drives onto the scene. Steve talks to the 2 medical technicians as they get out of their truck. PEDRO GONZALEZ, 45, speaks to Steve.

PEDRO GONZALEZ
What do we have here?

STEVE WINCHESTER
You'll verify, but, suicide by hanging.

PEDRO GONZALEZ
Did you check for vital signs?

STEVE WINCHESTER
Yes. No breathing. No pulse.

PEDRO GONZALEZ
Anything else?

STEVE WINCHESTER
His neck was stretched out about 2 feet long.

PEDRO GONZALEZ
(breathes out) Ok. I'm going in.
Janice Sullivan walks up to Steve.

JANICE SULLIVAN
I want to go in.

STEVE WINCHESTER
Keep an image of your brother from
a happier times in your head.

JANICE SULLIVAN
So, I can go in?

STEVE WINCHESTER
I'll go in with you... or go by
yourself. Or, not go in at all.
It's up to you.

JANICE SULLIVAN
I'll go in with you.

EXT. REAR OF HOUSE - MOMENTS LATER

Crying, Janice stands still, then walks up to the picnic table and sits with her head in her hands. Steve walks up and puts his hand on her back.

EXT. MERRIMAN ROAD IN SQUAD CAR - AFTERNOON

Steve pulls the squad car into a parking lot. He gets out of his car and takes out his police cell phone. His backside leans on the rear end of the police car. Steve looks at his phone and looks ahead. Steve takes a few deep breaths and speaks.

STEVE WINCHESTER (V.O.)
Never routine, seeing a
person...that way.

EXT. FISHING BOAT ON THE DETROIT RIVER - MORNING

Steve is fishing with KEN SILVA, 38. Steve's rod tip goes down and stays down in the water. Ken looks at Steve's fishing pole and sees that half of it is submerged in the water. Ken looks at Steve's blank face.

KEN SILVA
Fish on! Fish on! Fish on!

STEVE WINCHESTER
Wah... wa... fish on.

Steve sets the hook and reels in a big trout.

KEN SILVA
I've been a cop for 14 years,
Steve. (pause) Leave work at work.
Or...

STEVE WINCHESTER
Or what?

KEN SILVA
Or it'll eat you up and spit you
out. That fish was going to eat
you're fishing pole and you were at
some crime scene. Let me help you
with this. Be present. Concentrate
your thoughts on what your doing.
When you're with your son - be with
your son. When your with Diane be
with Diane. When your are in cop
clothes... be a cop.

EXT. BOAT RAMP ON DETROIT RIVER - MOMENTS LATER

STEVE WINCHESTER (V.O.)
Ken was right. Focus. As a cop you
are put into a variety of
situations every day. It's a double
edged sword. You focus on the
suspect and the uninvolved people,
plus, you focus on being safe.

INT. LIVING ROOM OF LOW INCOME SMALL HOUSE - NIGHT

Steve performs CPR on an infant. The baby begins to slowly
cough and move.

STEVE WINCHESTER (V.O.)
I performed CPR on an infant. He
lived.

EXT. MICHIGAN AVENUE IN GARDEN CITY - AFTERNOON

A man in a 1998 Corvette slams into a tree. The car catches
on fire. Steve Winchester approaches the car with a fire
extinguisher, but the flames are huge and the man perishes.

STEVE WINCHESTER (V.O.)
 Tried to save a guy from a wild
 car fire, but the flames were to
 big. I couldn't do anything.

EXT. COMMON PICNIC AREA OF GARDEN CITY - DAY

STEVE WINCHESTER (V.O.)
 Then I get called to a gunfight in
 the park. A man gets shot
 in the head with an A-K-47.

A shirtless, middle aged man is holding a handgun. From
 across the parking lot another man puts a bullet from an AK47
 in his head. The shot turns the man half way around. He falls
 on his face. A large amount of blood pools around his head.
 FRANK MONZA, late 50's, walks into the scene after the area
 is cleared of suspects and bystanders.

FRANK MONZA
 I just found it, Steve.

STEVE WINCHESTER
 Found what?

FRANK MONZA
 A chunk of his face. I'll plastic
 bag it.

I/E. ROADS NEAR STEVE WINCHESTER'S HOME - NIGHT

STEVE WINCHESTER (V.O.)
 Those were some of the calls when I
 was a cop for the Garden City
 police department. Nasty stuff.
 I was arresting bad guys. Now, as
 an FBI agent, I deal with federal
 crimes. That double homicide...
 (pause) 2 kids.... on the Panterra
 reservation is now occupying a lot
 of territory in my head.

Steve pulls his truck into the driveway of his home. He gets
 out of the truck and walks toward his home.

INT. BEDROOM, UPPER MIDDLE CLASS HOME - NIGHT

Steve is in bed next to his wife. Steve begins to sweat.
 Steve yells. 2 children, a GIRL, 10, and a BOY 9, appear on
 Steve's side of the bed. They look at Steve.

GIRL

Will you find the bad man who
killed me? My Mommy and Daddy are
angry at him. They miss me.

BOY

My Mommy cries all day. All day.

STEVE WINCHESTER

(Yelling). I'll find him. I'll find
him! I'll find him.

Steve is rolling and moving side to side. His arms are
outreached. Diane Winchester shakes Steve and he wakes. Diane
speaks.

DIANE WINCHESTER

Steve! Steve. Wake up. It's a
nightmare. Get up.

Steve gets up and looks at his wife.

STEVE WINCHESTER

I'm sorry hon. I'm sorry.

DIANE WINCHESTER

Don't worry about me. I love you
Steve. I love you.

Diane hugs Steve.

STEVE WINCHESTER

I'm supposed to be comforting you.
I'm sorry. I'm sorry. These dreams
are messing me up.

DIANE WINCHESTER

Steve, I'm here to help you through
this.

Diane cries as she hugs Steve.

DIANE WINCHESTER (CONT'D)

I'll find an answer.

STEVE WINCHESTER

You're here. You love me... that's
all I need.

I/E. ENTRANCE TO PANTERRA TRIBE RESERVATION - MORNING

Steve is driving his truck and pulls into the driveway of a
modest small home.

He gets out of his truck and knocks on the door. DAVID SUNRISE, late 30's, sees Steve through a window and walks to the door. He doesn't speak.

STEVE WINCHESTER (V.O.)
 These folks need to feel some light
 in their darkness.

EXT. HOME OF CRIME VICTIMS MR./MRS. SUNRISE - DAY

Steve knocks (snd, effect- knock/knock) on the door.

STEVE WINCHESTER
 Mr. Sunrise, I'm Steve Winchester
 with the FBI. Do you have a few
 minutes to talk?

Steve shows his badge. MARY SUNRISE, early 30's. Steve stands behind David.

DAVID SUNRISE
 Why are you here?

STEVE WINCHESTER
 First, to pray for you and your
 wife. I can pray alone or you and
 your wife can join me.

David Sunrise opens the door. He walks outside and his wife, Mary, follows.

DAVID SUNRISE
 Thank you.

David Sunrise and Mary raise their arms to the sky. Steve raises his arms to the sky. Steve speaks.

STEVE WINCHESTER
 Oh Great Spirit, God, today I come
 to you and thank you for letting me
 be here with David and Mary
 Sunrise. I ask you, God, to
 place some of their deep sorrow for
 the loss of their children on my
 shoulders.

David Sunrise puts his left hand on the shoulder of Steve. Mary puts her right hand on the other shoulder. Mary speaks.

DAVID SUNRISE
 Oh Great Spirit, my son, my
 daughter - are with you now. Thank
 you God Spirit for bringing
 (MORE)

DAVID SUNRISE (CONT'D)
 us Mr. Steve. If it is your will,
 please allow Mr. Steve to bring
 this person who broke your
 commandment, "thou shalt not kill"
 to justice. Amen?

STEVE WINCHESTER
 Amen.

MARY SUNRISE
 Amen.

STEVE WINCHESTER
 Let's go for a walk. How about
 these woods and along the river?

Steve points to the nearby woods. David nods yes and begins to walk towards the woods. Mary and Steve follow. The trio walk in the woods.

STEVE WINCHESTER (CONT'D)
 I breath deep in the woods.

DAVID SUNRISE
 All that lives is connected. A
 famous Sioux prayer is, "we walk
 the soft earth as relatives to all
 that live".

STEVE WINCHESTER
 Let's all say that prayer together.

David slightly nods yes. Mary begins the prayer as David and Steve immediately join in.

STEVE, DAVID, MARY
 We walk the soft earth as relatives
 to all that live.

The trio walk in the woods and come within 40 yards of the area where the children were buried. Steve stops walking.

STEVE WINCHESTER
 Do both of you want to be here?

MARY
 I need to be here.

DAVID SUNRISE
 Many of the living things may still
 be here from the time my children
 were buried here. Those living
 (MORE)

DAVID SUNRISE (CONT'D)
plants and animals will "talk", not
with a tongue and lips.

MARY
We will listen.

Steve, Mary and David all sit on a fallen large tree trunk.
Mary sits between David and Steve. Mary grabs David's hand
and also Steve's hand.

MARY (CONT'D)
We pray to God, Great
Spirit. We listen to the Spirit. We
listen to all that is near and
alive.

The 3 people sit and pray and listen. Mary lets go of each
hand, stands up and smiles.

MARY (CONT'D)
What we are told by nature does not
come by words. I have a good
feeling about you, Mr. Steven.

DAVID SUNRISE
You are the one.

STEVE WINCHESTER
I will use the resources of
the FBI and everything humanly
possible to bring this person who
has taken your children to justice.

MARY
God... you have blessed
us with this man.

DAVID SUNRISE
Amen.

STEVE WINCHESTER
Thanks for your faith and trust.

Steve hugs Mary and shakes the hand of David. The trio walk
back to the Sunrise home. Steve gets into his truck and
drives through the reservation.

STEVE WINCHESTER (V.O.)
(very serious) I studied law
enforcement in college. I now have
13 years of training from senior
law enforcement. I listen. I
watch... I take notes about little
things. Big things.

Steve gets out of his truck at the restaurant. He walks to the door.

STEVE WINCHESTER (V.O.)
About 7 years ago I was at a retirement party for a sheriff who spent 32 years in law enforcement, I was leaving the party, when I asked him how many crimes he solved.

INT. MIDDLE SIZE HOME - NIGHT

RON JOHNSON, mid 60's, speaks to Steve Winchester near the doorway of his home. 20 men and women are milling about.

RON JOHNSON
310. 52 were murder investigations.

STEVE WINCHESTER
You remembered the exact numbers.

RON JOHNSON
Steve, it was my job to find the person who committed the crimes. People - taxpayers - who were affected by bad guys wanted those bad men and women brought to justice. I couldn't just ride around in a car eating pizza and sip ginger ale all day.

STEVE WINCHESTER
I like ginger ale to. Go on...

RON JOHNSON
So I wrote notes about everything I heard. Everything I saw. I used the tecks in the science lab. I linked what I thought could be linked to something else. If the lead took me to a dead end, I found another lead, but I never ruled out anything.

STEVE WINCHESTER
That's a lot of note taking... and linking those clues together was a lot to chew on. How did you keep any order to what you saw?

RON JOHNSON

I ranked things from 1 to 10. A 10 was something that was "out of place - shouldn't have been there". Or, should be there.

STEVE WINCHESTER

So, if you interviewed somebody and they say that they work on old muscle cars, that person would have a big tool box, a vice and maybe some car art in their garage.

RON JOHNSON

That's right. If they mentioned old muscle cars - they should have a deep knowledge about old muscle cars. I would ask an easy question, like - Bob, I forget - How many horsepower was the old Chrysler 426 Hemi engine?

STEVE WINCHESTER

So, every muscle car guy would know that answer.

RON JOHNSON

The answer is 425. If they said 175, they didn't know squat. If they said, 420 or 428, that was close enough.

STEVE WINCHESTER

I'm getting what you are saying. I like it. Thanks.

Steve Winchester shakes Ron's hand.

RON JOHNSON

Everything I could put into my head mattered about an investigation. I used spiral bound notebooks... about 4 a month. I wrote down everything. Everything. If the area smells like apple pie... you write that down. If it smells like apple pie and it should smell like laundry detergent - you write that down. Make sense? Do you carry a small notebook with you?

Steve takes out his phone.

STEVE WINCHESTER
I record intel on this, then I
download that info into the FBI
computer. Thanks, Ron. I hear you
loud and clear. This is good stuff.

Steve shakes Ron's hand again and walks out of the house.

EXT. STEVE WINCHESTER'S HOME, DRIVEWAY - AFTERNOON

Steve gets out of his car and walks to the side door of his home.

INT. KITCHEN, MIDDLE UPPER CLASS HOME - AFTERNOON

Diane Winchester looks to the door of the kitchen as Steve Winchester enters.

DIANE WINCHESTER
How was Ron's party? Who was there?

STEVE WINCHESTER
Good party. Real good bar-b-que
ribs. The usual suspects were
there. Both Paul's, Allen, Rick,
Rex, Ron, Gary and his big mouth
and Susan wearing her too tight
pants.

DIANE WINCHESTER
No drama?

STEVE WINCHESTER
No drama until the political stuff,
Gary said... Well, I'm not
repeating what Gary said. I just
got a call from Mike in San Diego.
I need to go to an event there. I
leave at midnight our time.

DIANE WINCHESTER
How long will you be gone?

STEVE WINCHESTER
14 hours. So I was going to nap for
an hour or 2, pick up Mini Me from
his friend's house, toss the
football with Mini Me for a few
minutes, then have dinner with you
and Mini Me - I'm making that steak
on the grill for a 6:30 dinner -
Does all that work for you?

DIANE WINCHESTER

Yep. All good.

INT. LIVING ROOM, UPPER MIDDLE CLASS HOME - MOMENTS LATER

Steve Winchester takes out his phone and sits on the arm of the over stuffed couch. Steve looks straight ahead and speaks.

STEVE WINCHESTER (V.O.)

Before I was an FBI agent, first I was with the police department for 3, then a deputy sheriff for 6 years. The sheriff issued us "sheriff cell phones", for official business.

Steve takes out another cell phone. He is now holding a cell phone in each hand. He slightly raises his left hand that is holding a cell phone.

STEVE WINCHESTER (V.O.)

With this phone I take pictures for evidence and for writing reports and to make sheriff calls.

Steve slightly lowers his left hand and slightly raises his right hand.

STEVE WINCHESTER

With this phone my wife tells me that I should pick up 3 slabs of ribs because the Kowalski's are coming over for dinner. I like Stan, but he brags about his prowess as a high school athlete. (pause) As a sheriff, you keep your private and sheriff calls and images separate from each other.

STEVE WINCHESTER (V.O.)

I was going to show you some sheriff images, but most of them are shocking, horrible, sad and after you see them, well they are unforgettable. A few of the pictures actually bring a smile to my face. I'll just tell you what I've seen. (pause) You ready? Ok... I performed CPR on a infant that lived. I saw a guy shoot himself in the chest with a shotgun after leaving his wife a suicide note. A

(MORE)

STEVE WINCHESTER (V.O.) (CONT'D)
 guy wrecks his Camaro head on into
 a tree. The car catches fire and my
 fire extinguishers are not enough
 to help. I couldn't get him out.

Steve gets up and walks over to a deer head on the wall and
 adjusts it so it is straight.

Steve Winchester
 He screamed as he burned to death.

Steve walks to the refrigerator and takes out a carrot. He
 bites the carrot, chews and swallows. He continues to talk.

STEVE WINCHESTER
 I talked a teen boy down to safety
 from the top of the courthouse.
 That made me happy. He got
 counseling and he's good now.
 Let's see... I reported to 5 head
 on car crashes. 14 people were
 involved in those crashes with a
 Grandpa and an infant that lived.
 Then there were 3 cars versus 3
 pedestrians. The pedestrians were
 turned into bits and pieces. Guy
 drowns a 17 month old in a bathtub.
 Teenage girl rolls her car over a
 bunch of times and decapitates her
 head. (pause) Suspect comes out of
 a house with a gun pointing at the
 sniper team. I shot him in the
 neck. I rescued a cat stuck in a
 bush... that older lady was so
 happy that she changed the cat's
 name to Winchester.

Steve eats more of the carrot. He goes to the refrigerator
 and takes out a chunk of cauliflower. He takes a bite.

STEVE WINCHESTER (CONT'D)
 Lots of drug abuse. Alcohol abuse.
 Sex assaults and child rapes. Stuff
 about kids... is... ah... very hard
 to handle... but, that is my job.

Steve takes another bite of cauliflower.

STEVE WINCHESTER (CONT'D)
 I was out on patrol and saw an SUV
 with a flat tire. Inside of the SUV
 5 middle aged ladies were going out
 to celebrate a divorce. I changed
 the tire and asked them

(MORE)

STEVE WINCHESTER (CONT'D)

which one of them was the designated driver. 1 lady volunteered. Later that night I saw them again. The driver rolled through a stop sign. I pulled the S-U-V over. 4 of the women were drunk... very drunk. The driver was sober. I think I saved their lives. So... in the words of Forrest Gump, "that's all I have to say about that".

Steve lies on the couch, closes his eyes and falls asleep.

EXT. TREE FILLED BACKYARD OF RON JOHNSON HOUSE - DAY

7 middle aged men and 3 middle aged women are shooting their pistols at Steve Winchester. The bullets are hitting branches and leaves near Steve's body.

STEVE WINCHESTER

Hey! I'm a sheriff stop shooting.
Stop it. Stop. I'm one of you.

A bullet hits Steve's left leg, then his right leg. Another bullet hits his upper left arm, then his hand. Steve falls out of the tree.

INT. LIVING ROOM, UPPER MIDDLE CLASS HOME - MOMENTS LATER

Steve falls out of the couch onto the floor. Steve screams.

STEVE WINCHESTER

They shot me 4 times. I'm bleeding.

Diane Winchester runs into the room and hugs Steve as he lays on the floor.

DIANE WINCHESTER

Steve - get up. Get up.

Diane Winchester gently shakes Steve's body.

DIANE WINCHESTER (CONT'D)

Your O-K. Your O-K. I love you.

Steve opens his eyes. He hugs Diane.

STEVE WINCHESTER

I'm OK, now.

Diane Winchester cries.

STEVE WINCHESTER (CONT'D)
Why are you crying? I will be fine.

DIANE WINCHESTER
You will be fine? But these bad
dreams haven't stopped. These
dreams are ripping you up inside.
We gotta get you fixed.

STEVE WINCHESTER
2 days ago I asked for help from a
higher authority.

DIANE WINCHESTER
You asked your boss, Larry Bernard
for help?

STEVE WINCHESTER
No. Not, Larry.

A large smile comes over Steve's face.

DIANE WINCHESTER
A psychologist? A psychiatrist?

Steve looks to the upper right corner of the room to a cross
on the wall. A nearby window lets sunlight through that
covers the cross with a stream of light.

STEVE WINCHESTER
My help will come soon. (pause) I'm
going to the reading room.

Steve walks out of the room. Diane walks over to the cross,
kneels down, looks up and clasps her hands in the prayer
position.

EXT. BACKYARD OF MIDDLE INCOME HOME - AFTERNOON

A football, in mid air, spirals toward STEVE "MINI ME"
WINCHESTER.

STEVE "MINI ME" WINCHESTER
Throw it a little faster Dad, I'm
not a baby.

Steven waves Mini Me in, towards him.

STEVE WINCHESTER
3 catches in a row and we go out
for ice cream.

STEVE "MINI ME" WINCHESTER
I'm up for that. If miss 1, I'll
wash, dry and vacuum your truck.

STEVE WINCHESTER
Confident. I like it. Here are the
plays. Go out 20 yards and a hard
cut left. Ball will be chest high.

STEVE "MINI ME" WINCHESTER
Got it. Next.

STEVE WINCHESTER
Slant over the middle from far
right. Ball will be strait over the
middle.

STEVE "MINI ME" WINCHESTER
Got it!

STEVE WINCHESTER
Go out 10, stop, then go. Ball will
be coming to your left shoulder
OK, bold boy, I do need my truck
cleaned, so I'll put some zip on
the ball.

Mini Me lines up next to his father.

STEVE "MINI ME" WINCHESTER (V.O.)
I'm gettin' ice cream. Ice cream

INT. 1,000 SQUARE FOOT ICE CREAM STORE - LICKETY SPLIT -
LATER

Steve and Mini Mi are eating ice cream.

STEVE "MINI ME" WINCHESTER
Dad... I have a question.

STEVE WINCHESTER
I'll have an answer.

STEVE "MINI ME" WINCHESTER
Sometimes I hear you yell at night.
Are you OK?

STEVE WINCHESTER
That's not yelling. I was dreaming.
I'm happy when I'm hunting and I
shoot a deer or when I catch a big
fish. I'm loud happy talking in a
dream.

STEVE "MINI ME" WINCHESTER
 Ok. I get it - loud happy talking.
 Can I get a lemon lime soda?

STEVE WINCHESTER
 (smiling) Not part of the
 agreement, Mini Me. You've had
 enough sugar for today.

I/E. TRUCK ON THE ROADS OF THE RESERVATION - AFTERNOON

Steve Winchester drives his truck then stops near the area where the 2 children were partially buried. He gets out of the truck and looks at the trees, then the ground. He walks to the road and looks at the tire marks. He takes images of trees, small plants and the road.

STEVE WINCHESTER (V.O.)
 Apple pie and laundry detergent.
 When I'm investigating, I first
 think - apple pie and laundry
 detergent. Those words trigger me
 to look, listen and even... smell
 the area. Flowers? What kind of
 trees? Tire tracks. Skid marks -
 wide tires or thinner tires?

Steve Winchester drives to the Meeting Place Restaurant.

EXT. PARKING LOT AND ENTIRE AREA AROUND MEETING PLACE
 RESTAURANT - AFTERNOON

Steve looks at the building and speaks into his phone recording his voice. He records images of the 8 cars and trucks in the parking lot. He types in 3:12 P.M into his phone. He walks around the building and takes images.

INT. INTERIOR OF MEETING PLACE RESTAURANT - MOMENTS LATER

Upon entering, Steve shows his badge to the manager of the restaurant and speaks to PAUL MOUNTAIN, early 30's and about 350 pounds.

STEVE WINCHESTER
 (very quietly) Investigating.

PAUL MOUNTAIN
 OK. I will tell the other workers.

STEVE WINCHESTER
 (very quietly - with strength) No.
 My visit is between you and me.
 But, I may interview some
 employees. May I use your office?

Paul Mountain nods "yes" and walks away. Steve walks around the restaurant.

STEVE WINCHESTER (V.O.)
 What did the restaurant smell like?
 Busy for an "off time" or regular
 flow of people. Native Americans
 present or others present. What are
 decorations on the walls? Anything
 odd that would not normally be part
 of a restaurant scene?

Steve takes a few steps and talks to waitress, MONA WHEATHAIR, early 30's. Mona has beige colored hair.

STEVE WINCHESTER
 Mona, Steve Winchester, FBI.

MONA WHEATHAIR
 (sternly) I have the right to
 remain silent.

STEVE WINCHESTER
 (warmly) Yes, you do Mona. I
 thought, however, that you might
 like to help find out who killed
 and buried those two children up
 to their chins a few days ago.

Mona tilts her head down. Almost immediately she cries.

STEVE WINCHESTER (CONT'D)
 Care to talk... in private?

Steve sees a door with a small sign: Manager. Steve walks in with Mona right behind him.

MONA "WHEAT HAIR" DAVIDSON
 I had nothing to do with the
 killing of those 2 precious
 children.

STEVE WINCHESTER
 Good for you, Mona. Killing people
 is wrong.

MONA "WHEAT HAIR" DAVIDSON
So, how can I help you... nobody
confessed to me.

STEVE WINCHESTER
Just a little friendly
talk. OK?

MONA WHEATHAIR
Sure..

STEVE WINCHESTER
How long have you worked here?

MONA WHEATHAIR
18 years.

STEVE WINCHESTER
So... you've seen a lot.

MONA WHEATHAIR
People come and go. Our main cook
has been here 12 years.

STEVE WINCHESTER
So... Who is your cook?

MONA WHEATHAIR
I don't think he killed those
children.

STEVE WINCHESTER
(lighthearted) I'm not asking you
to identify the killer. Just tell
me the truth. Tell me about the
main cook...

MONA WHEATHAIR
Howard Sky. He doesn't
talk much... just about the food.
Like "the hash browns are ready".
Or "2 more minutes for the eggs."

STEVE WINCHESTER
OK. Is he warm? Or not nice?

MONA WHEATHAIR
In between. Kind of not nice.

Over Mona's shoulder, Steve sees a large bag of balloons.

STEVE WINCHESTER
What's with the balloons, Mona?

MONA WHEATHAIR

Sky gives the balloons to children.
Not teens. Just kids.

STEVE WINCHESTER

That makes sense. Little children
are fascinated with color and
movement. Teens like their phones.

MONA WHEATHAIR

Oh yeah... the phones. When he sees
kids, he blows a balloon up for
each kid. He asks the parents if
the children can have the balloons.

STEVE WINCHESTER

Does he get angry if the parents
say no?

MONA WHEATHAIR

No anger. He just gives the
balloons to the next kids he sees.

STEVE WINCHESTER

Anybody else you might like to
mention... anybody different?

MONA WHEATHAIR

6 tough motorcycle guys. Jackets
that say "First Americans
Motorcycle Club" in big letters on
their backs.

STEVE WINCHESTER

Tough? They cause trouble?

MONA WHEATHAIR

No trouble. They look mean. 3 of
'em always complain about burnt
toast.

STEVE WINCHESTER

Is the toast burnt for them?

MONA WHEATHAIR

Yes.

STEVE WINCHESTER

Who makes the toast?

MONA WHEATHAIR

I do.

STEVE WINCHESTER

Why do you burn the toast?

MONA WHEAT HAIR

I don't like motorcycle people. They're loud. Pushy. Motorcycles are loud. They... well, not all of them are bad. (pause) There's one I really don't like. John Winter.

STEVE WINCHESTER

What does he do that you don't like?

INT. MEETING PLACE RESTAURANT DINING ROOM - DAY

JOHN WINTER, early 40's, 6 foot tall and 265 pounds, is wearing all black clothes. John boldly stomps around the restaurant stopping 12 inches in front 2 men and 1 woman. He stares at the people and waits for them to move. John walks up to a 6 year old girl at a table. He gets down to her level. John's face is obscured as is the girls face. Then John walks away. He then sits at a table and pounds his fists until Mona walks up to him.

MONA WHEATHAIR

He stomps around and stares down anybody in his way. He yells, "get me this and get me that", then he pounds his fist.

STEVE WINCHESTER

Anything else?

MONA WHEATHAIR

He makes scary faces at little kids.

STEVE WINCHESTER

Ok. Noted. Thanks, Miss Wheathair.

Steve leaves the restaurant and begins to walk around the Panterra reservation. He talks to an older, smiling man washing a bicycle, 3 angry, sarcastic teenage girls, a talkative owner of a used car and truck lot and a shy HVAC repairman taking parts out of his truck.

STEVE WINCHESTER (V.O.)

I'm interested in how people talk. The personality of the people I'm interviewing- chatty, very quiet, argumentative, helpful, short answers, no eye contact, some eye

(MORE)

STEVE WINCHESTER (V.O.) (CONT'D)
 contact. Avoid a topic? Talk a lot
 about a topic. Hand and arm
 gestures. Leg and foot movements.

Steve walks into a worn 10 lane bowling alley: Strike and Spare. He walks around and thinks out loud.

STEVE WINCHESTER (V.O.)
 Some things naturally intertwine
 together... like people's habits.
 If a guy is on a Tuesday bowling
 league, he's there every Tuesday.
 If he misses a Tuesday. Why didn't
 he go bowling? I'll ask his
 teammates, "would it be odd for Tom
 to miss Tuesday night bowling".

INT. FBI OFFICE - 4 PARTITIONED OFFICES AND LARGE OPEN AREA -
 LATER

STAN MORTON, early 30's, tall, speaks to Steve Winchester.

STAN MORTON
 Downloading intel?

STEVE WINCHESTER
 No. Uploading Aerosmith's greatest
 hits, 3 Beatles songs and 1 Ozzy
 Osborn song.

STAN MORTON
 I see.

STEVE WINCHESTER
 I play 'em in my earbuds while I do
 gymnastics moves for my friends
 just before we golf.

STAN MORTON
 I don't get The Beatles' music for
 gymnastics, but, to each his own.
 Seriously - how is your double
 homicide case going? Any "ahh ha"
 moments?

STEVE WINCHESTER
 Just gathering info right now.

STAN MORTON
 You'll get your person. But, drop
 the Beatles - perhaps some Abba or
 Jonas Brothers or One Direction
 would be more apropos.

STEVE WINCHESTER
Thanks, Stan. As usual, sold input.

Steve leans back in his chair and thinks. He sees Stan Morton talking the ears off of the S-S-A, LARRY BERNARD, early 50's, great physical shape.

STAN MORTON
So I tell the guy, "hey, I'm not stupid. I didn't fall out of the watermelon truck on the way into town".

LARRY BERNARD
Great info. When do you arrest this suspect?

STAN MORTON
Soon, real soon. Blah, blah, blah, blah, blah, blah, me, me, me, me, me, me, blah blah, blah, blah, me, me. Blah, blah...

Steve thinks to himself.

STEVE WINCHESTER (O.S.)
I have to save Larry from Stan.

STEVE WINCHESTER (CONT'D)
Excuse me A-I-C. I need your brain over hear. I can't come to you. Computer stuff.

LARRY BERNARD
Gotta go.

Larry Bernard steps away from Stan. Larry Bernard walks up to Steve.

LARRY BERNARD (CONT'D)
I owe you. How's your case going?

STEVE WINCHESTER
Talked to a person who was too nice. Overly helpful. Overly agreeable.

LARRY BERNARD
Check 'em out. Could be hiding something... turn over every rock. Those people are also called: N-W-I-A-M-Y people.

STEVE WINCHESTER
Nwiamy people? Sir?

LARRY BERNARD
No way in a million years suspects.
They have to be a real not fit, but
also have recurrent contact with
the victim.

STEVE WINCHESTER
Convictions via Nwiamy?

LARRY BERNARD
4 for me during my tenure. (pause I
went by this thought: If the
evidence points there, the profile
doesn't matter. A senior agent put
that Idea in my head.

STEVE WINCHESTER
At Quantico, the instructor said to
watch yourself for confirmation
bias. A man sees what he wants to
see and disregards the rest.

LARRY BERNARD
Your quote is close... The correct
quote is : Still, a man hears what
he wants to hears and disregards
the rest - from the song The Boxer,
sung by Neil Simon.

STEVE WINCHESTER
Your the boss and I'm the student.

LARRY BERNARD
I'm not paid the big money just
because I'm handsome.

STEVE WINCHESTER
Want to hear my biggest rule?

LARRY BERNARD
Lay it on me...

STEVE WINCHESTER
As it comes from the Oracle of
Delphi, "leave no stone unturned".

STEVE WINCHESTER (CONT'D)
After the defeat of the Persian
army, the general of the defeated
side was rumored to have buried a
large treasure just under the

(MORE)

STEVE WINCHESTER (CONT'D)
ground. Those seeking the treasure
consulted the Oracle of Delphi,
which said: "leave no stone
unturned".

LARRY BERNARD
A great quote for the kind of
business that we are in, Agent
Winchester.

STEVE WINCHESTER
Thank you, sir.

LARRY BERNARD
There is only 1 truth.

STEVE WINCHESTER
Dead men tell no tales.

LARRY BERNARD
(small laugh) OK, enough
witticisms.

Steve Winchester slightly nods yes and vaguely smiles.

I/E. ROAD NEAR USED CAR DEALERSHIP ON PANTERRA RESERVATION -
LATER

Steve stops his truck in front of: "Good Used Cars", the
owner, JOHN GOODEARTH, late 30's, sees Steve and walks up to
Steve's truck.

JOHN GOODEARTH
A man who takes care of his vehicle
takes care of his world. Great to
see you, Agent Winchester.

STEVE WINCHESTER
Mr. Robinson. I'm here on official
business - care to answer a few
questions?

JOHN GOODEARTH
Sure, I'm an open book... and I
want to help.

STEVE WINCHESTER
Good. Where were you last Tuesday?

JOHN GOODEARTH
All day?

STEVE WINCHESTER

All day.

JOHN GOODEARTH

Let's see... I got up at 5:30 A.M., then I drove an hour to the auction in Saint Claire Shores, purchased 2 cars, then I put the cars on my trailer. Would you like to see the cars?

STEVE WINCHESTER

No. Go on.

JOHN GOODEARTH

Went to Wolf Garage - Howard repairs cars for me.

JOHN GOODEARTH (CONT'D)

Waited there 2 hours but the starter never arrived. Home for an hour nap, then back here until 10. Paperwork for the sale of 6 cars. My accountant was here for an hour. Those 2 cars have low mileage - plus the paint is perfect on both of 'em.

STEVE WINCHESTER

No, thanks. I'm good. Do you have a car or truck for personal use?

JOHN GOODEARTH

Pick up. It's right over here and it's for sale.

The 2 men walk up to the cranberry red 2007 Dodge truck.

STEVE WINCHESTER

Mind if I look it over... look inside?

JOHN GOODEARTH

Go ahead. How's your investigation going?

STEVE WINCHESTER

It's moving forward.

Steve sees a shovel and a tarp in the bed of the truck.

STEVE WINCHESTER (CONT'D)

Mind if I take these and get them examined?

JOHN GOODEARTH
Why? Did you think that I...

STEVE WINCHESTER
You are a person of interest, that
is all. You are not being arrested.
You can refuse my request.

PAUL RIVER, late 30's, walks up to Steve and John.

PAUL RIVER
Cousin, you don't have to talk or
let him have access to the insides
of your truck.

STEVE WINCHESTER
Who are you, sir?

PAUL RIVER
I don't have to talk to you, so...

STEVE WINCHESTER
Correct. So, Mr. Goodearth, may I
take thee items in and get them
examined.

JOHN GOODEARTH
Go ahead. You will find dirt and
plant stems and roots on the shovel
and on the tarp. Look at the
freshly planted shrubs and flowers
over there.

John points to plants on his used car lot.

STEVE WINCHESTER
I will take them in.

Steve takes out his FBI electronic devise.

STEVE WINCHESTER (CONT'D)
Sign here.

John "finger" signs the electronic devise.

PAUL RIVER
You just goofed up. He needs to
arrest somebody for the murders of
those 2 kids. They'll make it look
like you did it.

A loud Harley Davidson motorcycle driven by John Winter pulls
up to the scene. Steve glances at the John on the motorcycle.
Steve puts on rubber gloves, takes 2 plastic bag.

John Winter gets off of his motorcycle and nods to John Goodearth and Paul River. John Winter speaks with John Goodearth and Paul River. Steve takes a large plastic bag out of the back seat area of his truck writes a note on it. Steve then bags the items in separate bags. Steve places the items in the back seat of his truck. John Winter walks 10 feet away from Steve and speaks to Steve.

JOHN WINTER
Do you feel threatened by me?

STEVE WINCHESTER
No.

JOHN WINTER
I have witnesses, little boy. You are a piece of shit. You are going to arrest any person who looks bad so your boss will be happy. Fuck you, Steve Winchester. Fuck you.

Steve looks at John Winter for a few moments then speaks.

STEVE WINCHESTER
(calmly) People have opinions about other people. Do you have anything else to say?

JOHN WINTER
Waste your time on other people.

John Winter turns around, walks to his motorcycle, starts it and rides away spewing stones. John Goodearth looks at Steve and speaks.

JOHN GOODEARTH
I'm not concerned about a false arrest. Do you need me for anything else, Agent Winchester?

STEVE WINCHESTER
No, sir.

INT. FBI OFFICE - 4 PARTITIONED OFFICES AND LARGE OPEN AREA -
THE NEXT DAY

Steve is at his desk as JANICE MARIE, early 60's, walks up to Steve's desk. Janice speaks as Steve looks at his computer while squishing a rubber ball in his left hand.

JANICE MARIE
Dirt and plant matter. Finger
prints. No blood residue. I suspect
that intel doesn't help you.

STEVE WINCHESTER
Affirmative. (slight chuckle) I
will call the man and tell him that
he is no longer a person of
interest.

JANICE MARIE
(sarcastically) How nice of you!

STEVE WINCHESTER
I'll find the murderer or 1 of my
fellow officers will get him or
her.

JANICE MARIE
You'll get the right person. What
kind of person would commit a
double child murder?

STEVE WINCHESTER
You just gave me an idea. Thanks,
Janice.

Steve types on his computer screen, in all capital letters:
"What kind of person would commit a double murder of children
and bury them with their heads above the ground". Steve
begins typing at 3:00 P.M. Steve picks up the phone and calls
his wife at 6:00 P.M.

STEVE WINCHESTER (CONT'D)
Hello, lovely wife.

INT. KITCHEN, MIDDLE UPPER CLASS HOME - EVENING

DIANE WINCHESTER
Ahhh, my thoughtful husband,
checking in.

INT. FBI OFFICE -4 PARTITIONED OFFICES AND LARGE OPEN AREA -
EVENING

STEVE WINCHESTER
Probably 1 more hour. Maybe 2

INT. KITCHEN, MIDDLE UPPER CLASS HOME

DIANE WINCHESTER
 May I have those hours with you
 tomorrow afternoon?

INT. FBI OFFICE - 4 PARTITIONED OFFICES AND LARGE OPEN AREA -
 EVENING

STEVE WINCHESTER
 I can arrange for that. (laughing)
 Ha-ha... we going fishing?

INT. KITCHEN, MIDDLE UPPER CLASS HOME-- EVENING

DIANE WINCHESTER
 Not exactly.

INT. FBI OFFICE - 4 PARTITIONED OFFICES AND LARGE OPEN AREA -
 EVENING

STEVE WINCHESTER
 11:00 A.M. until 3... Does that
 work for you?

INT. KITCHEN, MIDDLE UPPER CLASS HOME - NIGHT

DIANE WINCHESTER
 Good for me. See you later. Love
 'ya.

INT. FBI OFFICE - 4 PARTITIONED OFFICES AND LARGE OPEN AREA -
 NIGHT

STEVE WINCHESTER
 Love 'ya, bye.

Steve continues typing and thinking.

STEVE WINCHESTER (CONT'D)
 (quietly talking to self) Severe
 mental health issues... hates
 children... eliminates source of
 anxiety, selfish, narcissist,
 social deviate.

Steve gets up out of his chair and walks around the inside
 perimeter of the entire office. Steve begins jogging around
 the inside of the perimeter of the office.

STEVE WINCHESTER (CONT'D)
(undistinguishable) Grummp. Grunt.

Steve sits at his desk and continues to type and think and type.

STEVE WINCHESTER (CONT'D)
(quietly) Unobtainable goals -
resorts to inappropriate goals,
product of dysfunctional
surroundings, need for control,
thrill seeking, no coping mechanism
to deal with unresolved pain,
product of dysfunctional
surroundings, thrill seeking, acts
without thinking of consequences.

STEVE WINCHESTER (O.S.) (CONT'D)
Time to do some guess-timating
math...

Steve takes out a hand held calculator from his desk and punches in numbers.

STEVE WINCHESTER (CONT'D)
Some estimating... and my pool of
people in the 6 county area is...
About - 123,280. Mhhmhhh. I've got
some work to do.

Larry Bernard, walks up to Steve Winchester's desk and speaks.

LARRY BERNARD
Working late on your double murder
case, Agent Winchester?

STEVE WINCHESTER
Yes, sir.

LARRY BERNARD
You've been interviewing people and
collecting evidence. Anything
chewing at your brain?

STEVE WINCHESTER
I have 3 more possible suspects.

LARRY BERNARD
Did you send your intel to the
Behavioral Analysis Unit?

STEVE WINCHESTER
Not yet.

LARRY BERNARD

Their specialty is thinking like bad guys. You can have them do some of the heavy lifting.

STEVE WINCHESTER

I'll submit the intel before I leave today.

INT. BEAUTIFUL INTERIORS HOME FURNISHING STORE - THE NEXT DAY

Steve and Diane Winchester enter the store. Steve looks from left to right and sees drapes, couches, chairs, lamps and other home accessories.

STEVE WINCHESTER

You are correct.

DIANE WINCHESTER

Correct about what?

STEVE WINCHESTER

This isn't exactly like fishing.

DIANE WINCHESTER

(half serious) More like hunting... We're replacing the living room chairs your parents gave us, and the couch that you bought 6 years ago for \$105 from your hunting buddy, Phil. (sweetly) Any questions, my love?

STEVE WINCHESTER

Are we looking for the couch first or the chairs first?

Steve and Diane walk over to the leather couches where Diane test sits on a couch and smiles at Steve. Steve points at the couch and speaks.

STEVE WINCHESTER (CONT'D)

We'll take this one.

Salesperson, MIKE DAVIS, late 20's, looks at his hand held small computer and speaks.

MIKE DAVIS

Tuesday. Delivery will be Tuesdays afternoon, sometime from 12:30 to 5P.M. Does that work for you folks? Steve looks at Mike Davis.

STEVE WINCHESTER (V.O.)
 Medical Examiner said the deaths
 took place Tuesday sometime from
 8:00 P.M. to 9:00 P.M.

STEVE WINCHESTER
 My wife works from home so...
 Diane?

DIANE WINCHESTER
 Tuesday afternoon is good.

STEVE WINCHESTER (THINKING VOICE V.O.)
 6 interviews tomorrow. 3 in the
 morning and 3 in the

DIANE WINCHESTER
 Afternoon.

STEVE WINCHESTER
 Yep... afternoon.

I/E. TRUCK ON THE ROADS OF THE RESERVATION - AFTERNOON

Steve is driving his truck.

STEVE WINCHESTER (V.O.)
 Interviews - interrogation
 questioning - talking. 4 different
 words. Each with a slightly
 different meaning. Extraction of
 information really depends upon the
 person. I read their body language,
 volume, tone, emotion - eye
 contact. Calm? Bold? Angry?

EXT. PARKING LOT OF MEETING PLACE RESTAURANT - AFTERNOON

Steve walks then stops and looks at the Meeting Place
 Restaurant.

STEVE WINCHESTER (V.O.)
 This place intrigues me. Sometimes
 I just get vibrations in my brain.

Steve sees Chief Ken Whitecloud near the door of the
 restaurant. Cloud offers his hand, and shakes Steve's hand
 with light pressure.

STEVE WINCHESTER (V.O.)
 Good. A light pressure handshake
 from Chief Ken Whitecloud is big.
 (MORE)

STEVE WINCHESTER (V.O.) (CONT'D)
It means that he respects my
culture and me.

STEVE WINCHESTER
Good afternoon, Chief.

CHIEF KEN WHITECLOUD
Good afternoon, Special Agent
Winchester.

STEVE WINCHESTER
Formal today, Chief.

CHIEF KEN WHITECLOUD
Respect. I know that you are on a
special mission. I thank you and
the tribe thanks you and your
associates.

STEVE WINCHESTER
Your welcome. Chief, do you have
anybody that you think I need to
talk to?

Chief Whitecloud palms a note to Steve Winchester.

CHIEF KEN WHITECLOUD
The U.S. Navy has a saying. "Loose
lips sink ships".

STEVE WINCHESTER
Understood.

Steve puts his hand, with note attached, into his pocket.

CHIEF KEN WHITECLOUD
Other eyes and ears are helping,
besides me, Special Agent
Winchester.

STEVE WINCHESTER
Noted and thank you, Chief
Whitecloud.(pause) If I may be so
forward, how did you get the Native
name of Whitecloud?

CHIEF KEN WHITECLOUD
I'm embarrassed to toot my own
horn, (pause) but the teachers and
elders saw that I was "above the
other students in learning.

STEVE WINCHESTER
 Makes sense to me. Sir, I need to
 leave - I've got work to do.

CHIEF KEN WHITECLOUD
 Good. (smiling) Away with you.

The 2 men shake hands. Chief Whitecloud walks into the restaurant. Steve gets in his truck and sees that a line of 10 people has formed at the door of Meeting Place Restaurant.

STEVE WINCHESTER (V.O.)
 Never seen a line in front of the
 restaurant. Could be a formal
 meeting or people just need to be
 with each other.

A late 60's worn red Mustang is moving towards Steve's truck.

STEVE WINCHESTER
 Stop. Stop. Oh, crap.

The car keeps on backing up until Steve presses the horn button for 4 seconds. Steve sees the crowd as he sees the Mustang moving towards his truck. 2 male Native American Indians jump when they hear Steve's horn. 1 Native American woman drops here purse and another native American woman throws a bouquet of flowers in the air. The Mustang stops 3 inches from Steve's truck. Twin 7 year old boys begin crying. MIKE TREE, late 40's and 2 other men walk towards Steve's truck. Steve gets out of his truck.

STEVE WINCHESTER (CONT'D)
 Good morning, gentleman.

MIKE TREE
 (almost loudly) You shook up the
 people with your horn. Are you
 stupid? Angry? Or, Just need
 attention.

The Native Indians slightly laugh at Mike Tree's comment.

STEVE WINCHESTER
 A car was... I'm sorry for
 upsetting the group. My fault.

Mike Tree takes a step towards Steve.

MIKE TREE
 I accept your apology.

STEVE WINCHESTER
 Good. I will pay for breakfast
 today... for you and your group.

MIKE TREE
 Thank you and accepted.

STEVE WINCHESTER (V.O.)
 Acceptance. Good.

Tree weakly shakes Steve's hand. The people in line walk into the restaurant.

INT. MEETING PLACE RESTAURANT- AFTERNOON

Steve follows them in. Steve talks to the cashier and slides his charge card through the card reader. Steve exits the restaurant. Steve returns to his truck 7 spaces away from the restaurant. Steve tips the sun visor of the truck down and grabs a small piece of paper clipped to the visor. He reads the note.

STEVE WINCHESTER
 Read the note from the Chief
 Whitecloud.

CHIEF KEN WHITECLOUD (V.O.)
 I walked by the garage of John
 Winter. I saw him putting up images
 of children in his garage. I got
 bad vibes.

INT. MEETING PLACE RESTAURANT- - AFTERNOON

Steve looks into the Meeting Place Restaurant. The Chief is speaking. Howard Sky brings out a balloon for each of the twins. The Chief makes an unhappy face at Sky, and shakes his own head "no". HOWARD SKY speaks.

HOWARD SKY
 Sorry, Chief. Bad timing for
 balloons. Disrespectful. I'm sorry.

STEVE WINCHESTER
 Forgiven, Sky.

I/E. TRUCK OF STEVE WINCHESTER - AFTERNOON

Steve speaks into a hand held recording device.

STEVE WINCHESTER
Balloons. Balloons from, Howard
Sky.

Steve drives to the area where the two children were partially buried. He looks at images in his phone and notices that the heads were propped up with stones, stabilizing the heads. He further looks at a photo from his FBI phone and electronically draws a line from the front of the heads of the children to 1 house and a Native American church. Steve rides to the area to the area of the house and the church.

EXT. CHIEF KEN WHITECLOUD'S 2,000 SQUARE FOOT RANCH HOME -
MOMENTS LATER

Steve takes many images of each structure. He knocks on the door of the 2,000 square foot freshly painted and cleanly manicured home. Chief Ken Whitecloud opens the wooden door and speaks through the screen door.

CHIEF KEN WHITECLOUD
Good to see you, Special Agent
Winchester.

STEVE WINCHESTER
My pleasure, Chief. May I have a
few moments of your time?

CHIEF KEN WHITECLOUD
Sure. Let's sit outside on the
porch. It's wonderful outside.

Chief Whitecloud walks outside and sits on a steel rocking chair.

EXT. HOME OF CHIEF WHITECLOUD - AFTERNOON

Steve sits in a non rocking chair next to the Chief for a second, then stands up and looks at the Chief.

STEVE WINCHESTER
Sir, I'm not going to hide why I am
here.

CHIEF KEN WHITECLOUD
(slightly smiling) There is only
one truth. You are doing your job.

STEVE WINCHESTER
Where were you last Tuesday? Walk
me through your day?

The Chief stands up.

CHIEF KEN WHITECLOUD
(slight laugh) You've seen the
police shows on TV?

CHIEF KEN WHITECLOUD (CONT'D)
Isn't this the time where I get the
Miranda warning?

STEVE WINCHESTER
No. Not at this point.

CHIEF KEN WHITECLOUD
Yes, I forgot... you need probable
cause. Some idea that I killed 2
children...

STEVE WINCHESTER
So, last Tuesday, sir. Walk me
through your day.

CHIEF KEN WHITECLOUD
Should I talk... not talk?

STEVE WINCHESTER
Do what you feel is best.

CHIEF KEN WHITECLOUD
Those words were for me, not you,
Mr. Winchester. I'll speak.

Steve nods his head toward the Chief.

CHIEF KEN WHITECLOUD (CONT'D)
Ok..., After rising at 6:45, I pray
for 15 minutes - do you need to
know the subject of my prayer?

STEVE WINCHESTER
No. Go on.

CHIEF KEN WHITECLOUD
I leave the house at 7:15 for 30
minutes of walking in the woods -
around the large rock and the
tallest tree. I contemplate for
about 20 minutes near the big rock.
On Tuesdays, I drive the
reservation, where the homes and
businesses are located. I spoke to
(pause) 3 men, 4 women. Then, back
to my home at about 11 for an hour
(MORE)

CHIEF KEN WHITECLOUD (CONT'D)
meeting with the reservation
accountant - Mr. Leo Star.

STEVE WINCHESTER
Do you know the names of the 7
people you spoke to?

CHIEF KEN WHITECLOUD
Yes.

STEVE WINCHESTER
Tell them to me, Chief. Their names
and something about them.

CHIEF KEN WHITECLOUD
(speaks confidently and
quickly)
David - plumber, Robert - pool
player, Paul - trumpet player,
Linda - shapely - pretty, Grace -
college soccer player, Claire -
autobody shop owner, and Bobbie -
inherited much money.

STEVE WINCHESTER
Late lunch/early dinner, Chief?

CHIEF KEN WHITECLOUD
No, I didn't have late lunch or
early dinner that day. Hot dogs
late at night at the bowling alley
with my wife.

STEVE WINCHESTER
No. I mean late lunch or early
dinner... with me.

CHIEF KEN WHITECLOUD
I must have passed your test.

STEVE WINCHESTER
It appears to be that way... liars,
even good liars, have long pauses
or stumble with a list of 14 items.
They'll stumble and look away when
they talk.

CHIEF KEN WHITECLOUD
Perhaps I'm an excellent liar.

STEVE WINCHESTER
Perhaps, I'm letting you think
you're off the hook.

CHIEF KEN WHITECLOUD
Let's break bread together.
Questions while we're eating?

STEVE WINCHESTER
Maybe. Maybe not.

Steve's FBI phone begins to vibrate in his pants pocket.
Steve looks at his phone.

STEVE WINCHESTER (V.O.)
Get to FBI facility in Quantico for
meetings split over 2 days. Meeting
is at 9 hundred hours, on Tuesday.

Steve types into his phone: "Confirmed. I will be there."
Steve speaks to Chief Whitecloud.

STEVE WINCHESTER
Chief, we need to have a short late
lunch... about 35 minutes total
time. Duty calls.

Chief Whitecloud and Steve eat and talk at the Meeting Place
Restaurant. Both Steve and the Chief finish eating. They
stand and shake hands. Steve leaves the restaurant. Steve
gets in his truck and drives through the reservation. Steve
begins to talk on his cell phone.

STEVE WINCHESTER (CONT'D)
Lovely wife, it's me, your loving
husband.

DIANE WINCHESTER (O.S.)
Hello, loving husband.

STEVE WINCHESTER
I need to get to Quantico later
tonight. I don't have my travel bag
ready, would you...

DIANE WINCHESTER (O.S.)
I'll have it ready, plus a roast
beef sandwich... if you want it.
(warmly) Sometime soon, I want 36
hours from you Agent Winchester.

STEVE WINCHESTER
When I get back... I promise.
Thanks, hon. See you in about 50
minutes.

DIANE WINCHESTER (O.S.)
Bye, hon.

Steve drives and looks at the Panterra Elementary School. He sees DOROTHY GREENLEAF, Caucasian, early 40's, blonde hair, throw a black board eraser in the direction of THOMAS ROCK, 9. The eraser narrowly misses Thomas Rock. It flies out of the window and on the grass. DOROTHY GREENLEAF, walks up to within 2 feet of THOMAS ROCK, 9. She points at Thomas and screams at him. Steve sees Dorothy scream at Thomas Rock. Steve Winchester hears screeching tires near his truck. He turns his head to see the car sliding towards his truck. He does not see Dorothy, with an open hand, hit Thomas Rock on the head 3 times. Steve gets out of his truck and picks up the eraser. Steve looks at Dorothy as she stands at the window. Steve walks into to the school.

INT. PANTERRA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL- - MOMENTS LATER

PRINCIPAL JOHN PEOPLES, 65, knocks on the classroom door, with Steve just behind him. Principal Peoples opens the door and speaks.

PRINCIPAL JOHN PEOPLES
(warmly) Excuse me, Miss Greenleaf and class. Miss Greenleaf, I need to speak to you in the hallway.

DOROTHY GREENLEAF
Class, sit quietly with your hands folded on your desk. I will be back in a few minutes.

Dorothy walks through the open doorway into the hallway. Principal Peoples holds an eraser in his hand.

PRINCIPAL JOHN PEOPLES
Miss Greenleaf, did you throw this eraser at a child?

DOROTHY GREENLEAF
No. I was throwing it out of the window.

PRINCIPAL JOHN PEOPLES
Did you just scream at a child?

DOROTHY GREENLEAF
No.

STEVE WINCHESTER
That's not true. I saw you scream at a male student. You were 2 feet away. You pointed and screamed at the boy.

DOROTHY GREENLEAF
Who are you?

STEVE WINCHESTER
I'm Agent Steve Winchester of the
FBI.

Dorothy Greenleaf looks at Principal Peoples.

DOROTHY GREENLEAF
You've sent an FBI agent to spy on
me? I quit this stupid job. You
don't like me because I'm a white
person.

STEVE WINCHESTER
Let's talk in Principal People's
office.

Dorothy turns away from Principal Peoples and Steve
Winchester. She runs toward an exit.

EXT. DETROIT METRO AIRPORT - AFTERNOON

INT. DELTA AIRLINES TICKET COUNTER - AFTERNOON

Steve sees the long lines at Delta. His phone vibrates and he
looks at it and whispers to himself.

STEVE WINCHESTER (V.O.)
No pre-boarding on flight 1203 to
Washington D.C.... some kind of
computer glitch from Delta - do
what you need to do. Get on the
plane.

Steve goes to the front of the line and shows his FBI badge
to the person just behind him, OSCAR DELANY, 44, 6' 5", 260
pounds, dressed in biker clothes.

STEVE WINCHESTER
Steve Winchester, FBI.

OSCAR DELANY
My twin brother has 3 pounds of
coke taped around his stomach, not
me. I have 2 joints in the heel of
each shoes. Frank is about 15
people back, dressed in a grey
suit.

STEVE WINCHESTER
You sure of all that?

OSCAR DELANY
Yeah.

STEVE WINCHESTER
Ok. Don't look around or say
anything. Don't move. You help me
now and I'll help you.

Steve walks up to the ticket agent and discreetly shows her his badge. Steve whispers to her.

STEVE WINCHESTER (CONT'D)
Delay things here for 3 minutes.
Understand?

NATALIE WALKER, 60's, responds to Steve, by nodding her head "yes". Natalie speaks to the crowd.

NATALIE WALKER
(Loudly) Delta Airlines has a
slight delay of flight 1203 to
Washington D.C. Departure time will
be moved back 3..

Steve Winchester raises his hand showing Natalie 5 fingers.

NATALIE WALKER (CONT'D)
Make that 5 to 7 minutes, due to a
the late arrival of a fuel truck.
We are sorry for the delay.

Steve anxiously looks for a police officer and finds OFFICER WANDA STOPPER, 50's. Steve discreetly shows Wanda his badge then whispers to her for 5 seconds. Steve and Linda walk up to Frank Delany. Wanda has her hand cuffs ready and stands to the right side of Frank Delany. Steve approaches Frank from the front.

STEVE WINCHESTER
Delta Airlines... are you Frank
Delany?

FRANK DELANY
Yeah, I'm Frank.

Wanda handcuffs Frank.

OFFICER STOPPER
You are under arrest for possession
of an illegal substance and intent
to distribute.

FRANK DELANY
Little lady, you can't stop me.

Frank takes 2 quick steps. Wanda trips him. Frank falls on his face, bloodying his nose. Wanda shows no reaction to Frank as she calmly speaks into her shoulder microphone, as she puts her right knee on Frank's back.

OFFICER STOPPER
Code 3 near the Delta ticket counter. Code 3. Bring a medical kit.

FRANK DELANY
I tripped or I would have gotten away.

STEVE WINCHESTER
Officer Stopper, do you need me here or may I go about my business?

OFFICER STOPPER
I'm good. Thanks.

Steve Winchester goes to the front of the Delta ticket line, shows his badge and disappears into the crowd headed to the jet. He walks to the jetways and shows his badge to the ticket person. Steve walks onto the jet.

INT. FBI LARGE MEETING ROOM - DAY

ALAN JABLONSKI, 50's speaks to the crowd of 150 people.

ALAN JABLONSKI
Notes and videos will be in all of your emails. Any questions? I'm easy to find... that's a law enforcement joke.

A few chuckles roll out from the crowd.

INT. THE ONION RESTAURANT - EVENING

FBI officers ROBERT HENNING, 30's and DAVID GUTIERREZ, late 20's, eat dinner with Steve Winchester.

OFFICER ROBERT HENNING
You guys learn anything today?

STEVE WINCHESTER

I always pick up something. Couple of big things stuck. How about you Gutierrez?

OFFICER DAVID GUTIERREZ

I'm 26. I learn new FBI info every day. Tonight you guys are going to learn something.

STEVE WINCHESTER

You've got my attention, Mr. G. What're we going to learn tonight?

OFFICER DAVID GUTIERREZ

There is one room available in our hotel. The Radisson. Some big football game in town. No houses to rent. Nothing... so we share a room. 2 beds and a roll in bed. Plus, I snore. Not real, loud, but I do snore.

STEVE WINCHESTER (V.O.)

My nightmares. These guys can't see and hear my nightmare problems. Think. I need to get out of the room without them getting suspicious.

OFFICER DAVID GUTIERREZ

You look stunned Winchester, you OK?

STEVE WINCHESTER

Well,... I'm a light sleeper. I get up and move around in bed.

OFFICER DAVID GUTIERREZ

Takes you a while to get comfortable?

Steve looks directly at Officer Gutierrez. At the same time the waitress walks up to the table, behind Steve Winchester.

STEVE WINCHESTER

(smiling) Almost looks like I'm making the bed... while I'm in it.

A slight smile takes over Gutierrez's and Henning's face. The waitress walks away.

OFFICER DAVID GUTIERREZ
You are painfully honest,
Winchester.

STEVE WINCHESTER (V.O.)
The visionary lies to himself, the
liar only to others.

OFFICER ROBERT HENNING
The wife happy with your excessive
movement, Special Agent Winchester?

STEVE WINCHESTER
My wonderful other qualities
outnumber my weaknesses. Plus, my
wife sleeps like a log.

AGENT ROBERT HENNING
Steve... Figure out something, for
tonight. David, try propping your
head up... I saw some videos on the
internet about snoring. I'm with a
toss and turner and a snorer. But,
both of you and I are on the same
team. Your assets outweigh your
small liabilities.

STEVE WINCHESTER
Gutierrez - what's our room number
at the Radisson?

AGENT DAVID GUTIERREZ
312.

STEVE WINCHESTER
Gentlemen... I've got to take
care of something. Personal.

AGENT GUTIERREZ
Family OK? You OK.

STEVE WINCHESTER
It's... personal.

INT. RADISSON HOTEL, FRONT DESK. - DUSK

Steve approaches the reception counter. Steve shows his FBI badge to the receptionist. The receptionist looks over his shoulder and sees, THOMAS FELDMAN, 60. Feldman takes a few steps and leans forward to Steve. Feldman speaks.

THOMAS FELDMAN
I'm Thomas Feldman, the hotel
manager. How may I help you?

Steve takes his FBI badge out of his pocket and shows it to
Thomas Feldman.

STEVE WINCHESTER
Tonight and early morning, I will
be in north side of your parking
lot in a black Dodge Challenger.
Alert your security not to approach
the car. I will be leaving early in
the morning. Understood?

THOMAS FELDMAN
Yes. Understood.

Steve walks away from the desk.

INT. RADISSON HOTEL, ROOM 312 - NIGHT

STEVE WINCHESTER
You guys are settled in. Looks like
the honors dorm at an Ivey league
university. Gutierrez at the desk
with his laptop and Henning reading
in bed.

Steve puts earbuds in and watches TV. He laughs at a show.
Then Steve pumps his fist while watching a basketball game.
Gutierrez then watches TV as Steve works at the desk. Henning
talks discreetly to his wife. All 3 men watch a hunting show.
Henning shows off his dance moves. Through a window, the sun
sets. Steve sits up in bed. He quietly puts his street
clothes on. He speaks.

STEVE WINCHESTER (CONT'D)
Gentlemen... I need to leave. I
will see you tomorrow morning.

AGENT GUTIERREZ
What's up, Steve? Work?

STEVE WINCHESTER
No. Personal.

Steve looks at himself in the mirror, grabs his credentials
and suitcase and stops at the doorway.

STEVE WINCHESTER (CONT'D)
I will see you gentlemen at the
meeting.

Steve steps outside of the room and walks down the steps. Steve walks, suitcase in hand, to the parking lot.

INT. PARKING LOT OF RADISSON HOTEL - NIGHT

Steve sees his car, walks to it and open the driver's door. He gets inside and places his suitcase on the passenger seat. He extends the driver seat backward and sits down. He puts his hands together and whispers.

STEVE WINCHESTER

Lord, Thank you for my wife, my son
and all the other ways that you let
me have a wonderful life. Amen.
Also, when you see that it is time
for these nightmares to leave me, I
will thank you again. Amen.

Steve closes his eyes, lays back and falls asleep.

EXT. 2018 DODGE CHARGER ON WOODWARD AVENUE, PLEASANT RIDGE,
MICHIGAN - MOMENTS LATER

At a red traffic signal, Steve is seated in the car as smoke suddenly comes in from the vents on the dashboard. The car quickly fills up with smoke. Steve coughs. Flames come out of the vents. Steve tries to cover the cover the vents with his hands but the flames and heat make him pull his hands back. He tries to open the door, but the doors are locked. The flames are now huge on the inside of the car. Flames are coming from the edges of the hood and front of the car

EXT. WOODWARD AVENUE, PLEASANT RIDGE, MICHIGAN - MOMENTS
LATER

The second Steve Winchester is walking along Woodward Avenue. Steve sees a 2018 Dodge Charger on fire and runs to help, but the flames are too big for Steve to get near the car. He stands 15 feet away and looks at the car.

INT. 2018 DODGE CHARGER ON WOODWARD AVENUE, PLEASANT RIDGE,
MICHIGAN - MOMENTS LATER

Steve Winchester is banging on the windows with his fists as flames fill the inside of the car. His face shows anguish. He speaks.

STEVE WINCHESTER #2

Hey mister FBI agent. Help me. Help
me.

EXT. WOODWARD AVENUE, PLEASANT RIDGE, MICHIGAN - MOMENTS LATER

Steve Winchester walks to within 5 feet of the window where Steve Winchester #2 is burning. Steve Winchester takes another step, but the heat and flames are too hot.

STEVE WINCHESTER
I can't help you. I can't help
everybody. Some people die. I can't
help everybody. Some people die.
Some people die.

INT. 2018 DODGE CHARGER ON WOODWARD AVENUE, PLEASANT RIDGE, MICHIGAN

STEVE WINCHESTER #2
You can't help me. Some people die.
Walk away.

Steve Winchester walks away as the car blows up into a giant flame. He turns around to see car parts and Steve Winchester flying through the air.

INT. RENTAL CAR, RADISSON HOTEL PARKING LOT - MORNING

Steve Winchester gets up to the ringing of a cell phone alarm. In casual clothes, Steve leaves the car.

INT. FBI LARGE MEETING ROOM- DAY

FBI officers are filling up the meeting room.

OFFICER ROBERT HENNING
It's Steve Winchester, FBI agent
extraordinaire!

Steve smiles. Agent Gutierrez quietly claps as he smiles.

STEVE WINCHESTER
Thanks for the wonderful pre-
meeting morning greeting.

OFFICER ROBERT HENNING
Personal problem, resolved?

STEVE WINCHESTER
In process.

Steve sits down and looks to the front of the room as the speaker begins to talk. Steve closes his eyes. Steve opens his eyes.

EXT. STEVE'S TRUCK ON THE PANTERRA RESERVATION - DAY

STEVE WINCHESTER (V.O.)

My phone can zoom in or do a wide shot. I'll watch people - the fancy FBI word is "surveillance" - from up to a 100 yards away - sometimes I'm in a different vehicle - wearing big sunglasses and special "non famous" baseball caps. I probably have 100 caps. My Grandfather gave me an Eastern Michigan University cap. I wear it to honor him and to avoid people starting conversations with me. People start conversations with a famous name cap. They say things like: They should win the Big 10 in basketball this year or - the Pistons are the Bad Boys. Or, Notre Dame has a great running back. So - I don't wear those famous name caps when I'm doing surveillance.

EXT. ACROSS THE STREET FROM MEETING PLACE RESTAURANT - DAY

STEVE WINCHESTER (V.O.)

Today I'm doing surveillance, first at the garage of John Winter - Chief Whitecloud, gave me that tip. Then off to the Meeting Place Restaurant. Business meetings take place here. Friends. Marketplace deals. All kinds of meetings... cheating spouses usually meet in the back room. Today I'm watching the Chief, the cook - Howard Sky and the waitress. I record video and voice notes.

The small home and worn garage of John Winter is 40 yards away from the Meeting Place Restaurant. The wooden garage has a garage door and entrance door with a window on the north side, visible from the public sidewalk near the Meeting Place Restaurant. From his rear pants pocket, Steve takes out his micro binoculars and looks into the garage through the window in the door of the garage.

He sees 6, 8 x 11 images of small children, 3 boys and 3 girls, tacked to the back wall of the garage. Each image has a balloon pinned to it and a piece of tape at the top, with numbers written on the tape. Steve can't read the numbers. He speaks into his portable recording device.

STEVE WINCHESTER (V.O.)
Garage of John Winter. Images of 6 children, 3 boys and 3 girls, approximate ages 5 to 9 years old viewed from public property. Each image has a balloon attached to it along with tape and undistinguishable numbers.

Steve Winchester records the Chief walking into the Meeting Place Restaurant, greeting people and sitting down to eat. 2 men and 1 woman stop by his table. Each person chats with the Chief for a few seconds. They all smile and the Chief continues eating.

EXT. PANTERRA TRIBE RESERVATION WOODED AREA - MOMENTS LATER

Steve, hidden from view, watches as the Chief walks along the small river that runs through the reservation. Steve speaks into his phone recording his own voice.

EXT. PANTERRA TRIBE RESERVATION WOODED AREA - MORNING

Steve builds a hunting blind with a small opening to view people. Steve sets up 4 cameras around the area where the children were found.

STEVE WINCHESTER (V.O.)
I'm a hunter - I'm talking about hunting for deer and in-season animals - that I eat. I know how to build a blind so I can watch people without them seeing me. I'll sit and watch. People return to the scene of the crime to... re-experience the action, for emotional excitement, the thrill. Could be validation. Taunting the authorities. Some come back to remove evidence. I almost forgot to mention - the day after the deceased children were found I set up cameras...

STEVE WINCHESTER (V.O.)
 hat sense motion and automatically
 take images - infrared - even at
 night. Plus these cameras record
 sound. (pause) 5 days have passed.

Steve presses a button on the video unit and sees the Chief
 walk up to the area of the partial burial.

CHIEF KEN WHITECLOUD
 Almighty Spirit - the 2 children
 have been taken from us. They are
 now safe within your arms. Please,
 Almighty Spirit, guide those
 looking for the person who took the
 children's lives. Guide Mr.
 Winchester and his people to find
 this person and bring justice to
 your holy land. Please help if it
 is your will.

An eagle swoops down and completes 2 circles above the Chief.
 The Chief cries and walks away.

CHIEF KEN WHITECLOUD (CONT'D)
 (quietly) The messenger from the
 Heavens... thank you God, almighty
 spirit.

The Chief, smiling, looks skyward.

CHIEF KEN WHITECLOUD (V.O.)
 God's only creature that moves
 between Heaven and Earth.

Steve speaks into his handheld recording devise.

STEVE WINCHESTER
 Regarding the Chief. No probable
 cause. Nothing suspicious. No odd
 movements or gestures.

Steve gets into his truck and sees John Winter parking his
 motorcycle at the "Handy Hardware Store". Steve gets out of
 his truck and approaches John Winter.

STEVE WINCHESTER (CONT'D)
 I have a few questions for you Mr.
 Winter.

John Winter shows Steve Winchester the middle finger of his
 right hand.

STEVE WINCHESTER (CONT'D)

You are now a person of interest in the murders of 2 children. You can answer few questions now or I will detain you and take you in for questioning. You are not being arrested. (pause) If you are innocent - you have nothing to fear. Your choice, Mr. Winter.

John Winter walks within 5 feet of Steve Winchester and talks.

JOHN WINTER

Lawyer... I want to see a lawyer.

Steve drives away with John Winter in the back of his truck.

EXT. HIGH ABOVE THE PANTERRA INDIAN RESERVATION - MORNING

The sun rises above the horizon. Steve is seen walking to the area where the children were murdered. He stops walking and picks up the trail cam and pushes the play button. Steve looks at video and listening to audio of the area. The cook, Howard Sky appears. Howard walks around smiling. Howard speaks to the ground where each child was buried.

HOWARD SKY

Goodbye, little boy. Goodbye little girl. You will never be in this world again.

Howard cries.

HOWARD SKY (CONT'D)

(crying while talking) I can't have children. Your parents will feel the pain of no children. (with anger) Me - I'm the boss. Some children get balloons. Some die. I decide who lives and who dies. I decided. My hands took your lives.

Howard looks at his right hand. He turns it into a fist. He looks at his groin and hits himself in his groin with his fist, with fury, 10 times. Blood stains appear in his zipper area of his beige pants. He turns away and tilts his head down, doing a self examination. He simultaneously reaches in both of his pockets and pulls out a restaurant napkin. Unbeknownst to him, a red balloon comes out of his pocket and onto the forest floor. He takes the napkin and places it in his underwear on the open wound.

STEVE WINCHESTER
I've got him.

Steve uses a twig to pick up the balloon. He takes a small evidence bag out of his truck and puts the balloon inside. He writes on the bag and puts the bag on the passenger seat of his truck.

I/E. STEVE'S TRUCK ON THE PANTERRA RESERVATION - DUSK

Steve types a number into his phone. SHEILA PROMO, 32 answers Steve's video call.

SHEILA PROMO
Assistant U.S. Attorney Office.

STEVE WINCHESTER
Sheila, good afternoon.

SHIELA PROMO
Good afternoon, Agent Winchester. I see that you are smiling.

Steve's smile gets slightly bigger.

STEVE WINCHESTER
I have a recorded murder confession. Could I please speak to Mr. Mike Wampler, please?

SHIELA PROMO
He's about to go out for lunch. Let me see if he can take your call.

4 seconds pass. MIKE WAMPLER, 63, speaks on the video call.

MIKE WAMPLER
Corned beef on rye, with a pickle will wait, Agent Winchester. What do you have?

STEVE WINCHESTER
An uncoerced confession of a double murder suspect, Howard Sky, mid 40's, on video, plus probable fingerprints of the accused on an item of importance. Similar items of a secondary nature were given to children of the same age where the accused works.

MIKE WAMPLER
Proceed, Agent Winchester.

STEVE WINCHESTER
2 children's bodies were found at
the Panterra Native American Indian
Reservation on April 3, 2025. The
accused was recorded at the same
location 2 days after the 2
partially buried children were
found.

MIKE WAMPLER
Run the video.

Winchester runs the video.

MIKE WAMPLER (CONT'D)
You have sufficient evidence and
probable cause. At this point the
balloons have no bearing on the
warrant. Judge Rubin Weiss will be
calling you, I would say, within...
1 to 3 hours.

STEVE WINCHESTER
Thank you, Mr. Wampler.

INT. JUDGE RUBIN WEISS'S OFFICE - LATER

JUDGE RUBIN WEISS, 69, talks to Steve Winchester

RUBIN WEISS
Good afternoon, Agent Winchester.
This is Judge Rubin Weiss. I was
told that you have some video to
show me.

STEVE WINCHESTER
Yes, sir.

RUBIN WEISS
Will you run that video now?

STEVE WINCHESTER
Yes, sir. Ready, sir?

RUBIN WEISS
Run the video.

Steve runs the video while the judge eats a carrot.

RUBIN WEISS (CONT'D)
Agent Winchester, the balloons are
merely coincidental.

(MORE)

RUBIN WEISS (CONT'D)
However, warrant approved. Nice
work, Agent Winchester. Please
arrest this man.

STEVE WINCHESTER
Tomorrow morning, sir. I will
arrest him tomorrow morning. Have a
good evening, Judge.

RUBIN WEISS
Good bye, Agent Winchester.

Steve Winchester ends the call and punches in numbers on his
phone. RON GRAYMAN, 30's answers.

RON GRAYMAN
Agent, Ron Grayman.

STEVE WINCHESTER
Mr. Grayman, Steve Winchester here.

RON GRAYMAN
Business call or social call?

STEVE WINCHESTER
Business.

RON GRAYMAN
Go ahead.

STEVE WINCHESTER
I need backup for the arrest of a
suspect tomorrow morning, 5:45 at
the Meeting Place Restaurant on the
Panterra Tribe Reservation. The SAC
wanted me to ask if you have time.

RON GRAYMAN
Yes. Go with you?

STEVE WINCHESTER
Yes, sir.

RON GRAYMAN
I will assist and read rights...
OK?

STEVE WINCHESTER
Yes.

RON GRAYMAN
Lay of the land... and suspect
info, sir.

STEVE WINCHESTER

We will come in the back door, which is usually open. Suspect is a cook, just starting his day. Suspect is 5 foot 10, about 185 pounds. Most likely a weapon strapped to his leg. I will approach him from the front and you the back. Other than that info - standard protocol. Questions? Thoughts?

RON GRAYMAN

A cook has access to knives and pans that could be weapons.

STEVE WINCHESTER

Hot oil... and he could have hidden fighting skills. (pause) I will read him his rights after you cuff him. Are we both on the same page?

RON GRAYMAN

Yes sir.

STEVE WINCHESTER

I will pick you up at the office at 15 to 5 tomorrow morning.

RON GRAYMAN

Good. See you then.

EXT. REAR DOOR OF THE MEETING PLACE RESTAURANT - MORNING

Steve Winchester and Ron Grayman walk through the open backdoor of the Meeting Place Restaurant. JOHN DYER, 30's, has his back to Steve and Ron. John is frying eggs, sausage and hash browns on the griddle. John wears a floppy chefs hat and latex gloves. Ron cuffs John and pats him down.

JOHN DYER

(startled) What the hell. I'm cooking. Get your hands/

RON GRAYMAN

He's cuffed. I'm patting him down.

Ron finds a medium size knife in a leather sheaf strapped to John's leg. Ron also finds a Glock G43. Ron turns the man around to face Steve.

STEVE WINCHESTER

You have the right to... be uncuffed and accept our sincere apologies. Not the suspect, Agent Grayman. Uncuff this gentleman.

RON GRAYMAN

The knife. What about the knife and the gun?

STEVE WINCHESTER

Chefs use knives and people are allowed to carry a concealed weapon. Most important? This gentleman is not Howard Sky.

JOHN DYER, 35, speaks.

JOHN MOON

I'm John Moon - the cook, and the owner.

STEVE WINCHESTER

What happened to Howard Sky?

JOHN MOON

I don't know. I'm a business owner, cook... not a travel agent.

STEVE WINCHESTER

Mr. Dyer, if you would, please tell me 2 things stick out in your mind about Howard Sky.

JOHN MOON

Well, one is nice and the other thing isn't so nice. Sky only likes Native American Indians. He said that everybody other than natives were...

STEVE WINCHESTER

Were what...?

JOHN MOON

Shit. Leaches. Every time he saw people other than Natives he said something nasty. But, he would give kids - of any ethnic background a balloon - or even extra food.

STEVE WINCHESTER

What was the good thing?

JOHN DYER

Great cook. A master at cooking. He said that cooking was the noblest of professions. Sky could take just a few ingredients and make something that you would order again and again.

Steve looks around the room and sees a waitress coming into to get a food order. NANCY PINE, 38 and shapely, looks at Steve.

NANCY PINE

Customers are not supposed to be back here.

STEVE WINCHESTER

I'm a customer, but I am also an FBI agent. Special agent, Steve Winchester.

NANCY PINE

What do you need from me Mister Winchester?

STEVE WINCHESTER

It's Agent Winchester. (pause) I'm here to ask you about Howard Sky. What can you tell me?

NANCY PINE

Howard Sky hates being near other ethnic groups. As for cooking? He could make a peanut butter and jelly sandwich that royalty, the president, poor people and rich people would love to eat. A genius with food.

STEVE WINCHESTER

Thanks, Miss Pine. Anything, else to tell me... or to ask me?

NANCY PINE

Sky didn't like being referred to as Hispanic, Italian, Black or Middle Eastern. He would yell at people if they didn't mention him as being a Native American.

STEVE WINCHESTER

Thanks, again, Ms. Pine, Mr. Dyer.

Steve exits the building and speaks to Ron Grayman.

EXT. PARKING LOT OF MEETING PLACE RESTAURANT - DAY

STEVE WINCHESTER

At the risk of me saying this is going to be really ea....

RON GRAYMAN

Don't finish that sentence, Steve. You don't know what you don't know.

RON GRAYMAN (CONT'D)

I did some quick research when I knew that I was working with you today at a Native American reservation. There are about 330 reservations and 574 federally recognized tribes.

STEVE WINCHESTER

So...

RON GRAYMAN

Both of us are not Native American Indians. We are outsiders... looking in. We are peace officers - so, have you learned that many people don't want to help us... even though we are on the side of what is good and righteous? Our work isn't easy.

STEVE WINCHESTER

Ron. You. Are. Correct.

RON GRAYMAN

I was preaching.

STEVE WINCHESTER

Very good preaching.

Steve takes out his FBI recording devise. He speaks into the unit without pushing the record button.

STEVE WINCHESTER (CONT'D)

Note regarding the arresting of Howard Sky. It is most likely that Mr. Sky will not coming running up to me or Ron Grayman, or any member of the FBI, put his hands behind his back and asked to be cuffed and arrested.

Steve Winchester moves the recording devise away from his mouth to the side of his body.

RON GRAYMAN

Your funny... funny looking.

STEVE WINCHESTER

I'm going back to the office to get the wheels in motion before anything gets cold. First... the plan of action. Any insights you might want to add?

RON GRAYMAN

At the risk of having you cut me off mid sentence/...

STEVE WINCHESTER

Funny. Go on...

RON GRAYMAN

The plan should have officers in each region check on reservations that just hired a new chef.

STEVE WINCHESTER

An in person check, in case there are sympathizers present. An image of Howard Sky would be sent to each regional FBI office. Plus we should find out where the new chef lives. I'll finalize a plan.

RON GRAYMAN

We should check to see if he sold his car and if new transportation was purchased. Flight, train and bus records.

STEVE WINCHESTER

Charge cards and balloon purchases within 50 miles of reservation. Good input, Ron. I will finish off the plan and get the wheels moving.

INT. FBI OFFICE - AFTERNOON

Steve is sitting at his desk looking at his computer that has outline style text on the screen. S.S.A. PHIL SOMMERS, 50's, medium build, walks up to Steve Winchester. Steve sees Phil approaching his desk.

PHIL SOMMERS

How's the arrest plan coming along Agent Winchester?

STEVE WINCHESTER
Good, S.S.A. Sommers. I'm
forwarding it to you for the
manpower and estimated hours
approval.

PHIL SOMMERS
Do you need 6 hour approval or can
you wait up to 12?

STEVE WINCHESTER
6, SSA Sommers.

PHIL SOMMERS
Done, within 6, Agent Winchester.

EXT. MEETING PLACE RESTAURANT PARKING LOT - MORNING

Steve Winchester exits his truck and walks toward the door of
the restaurant. Chief Ken Whitecloud meets Steve in the
parking lot.

CHIEF KEN WHITECLOUD
Great minds think alike.

STEVE WINCHESTER
(smiling) What does that statement
have to do with me? Good to see you
Chief.

Steve and the Chief shake hands. They walk into the
restaurant.

INT. MEETING PLACE RESTAURANT DINING ROOM - MORNING

Steve and the Chief sit at a table near the front window. A
waitress gives them each a menu. She walks away. The Chief
stares for 2 seconds at Steve's face.

CHIEF KEN WHITECLOUD
Agent Winchester... It is both of
our jobs to have peace on the
reservation.

STEVE WINCHESTER
Well said, Chief.

CHIEF KEN WHITECLOUD
With that said, I have to leave our
breakfast meeting abruptly to speak
to 3 teenage boys, all 13 years
old. They were caught throwing
stones at a home.

STEVE WINCHESTER
Understood, sir.

CHIEF KEN WHITECLOUD
They are at our tribal police
station... being scared. All 3 are
crying. I had them placed in a
holding cell... without their cell
phones!

The Chief stands up. Steve stands up. The men shake hands.
Steve speaks with a slight smile on his face.

STEVE WINCHESTER
You are cruel. A little negative
reinforcement and a talk from "the
boss" should get them on the right
path.

The Chief exits the restaurant. Steve sees OFFICER OSCAR
HILLTOP, mid 40's, and waves him to his table. Oscar is
wearing a police uniform. Oscar walks over to Steve's table
and sits down.

STEVE WINCHESTER (CONT'D)
How's business?

OFFICER OSCAR HILLTOP
Sad to say... always busy. And you,
Agent Winchester?

STEVE WINCHESTER
Same for me. Double murder case is
top priority right now.

OFFICER OSCAR HILLTOP
7 break in's on the south side of
the reservation. Same MO for all of
'em. I'll find these people.

Oscar pauses and looks directly at Steve's face for a moment
without talking.

OFFICER OSCAR HILLTOP (CONT'D)
Steve, our relationship is based
upon blunt honesty and respect. Do
you feel the same way?

STEVE WINCHESTER

Yes. Of course.

OFFICER OSCAR HILLTOP

A person's eyes are the windows to their spirit. Your eyes say sad and tired. Your face looks tired.

STEVE WINCHESTER

I'm tired today.

Steve forces a slight smile.

OFFICER OSCAR HILLTOP

Your acting ability is very limited. If you feel that it would help, my friend, unload your burden.

Oscar eats a bite of food. Steve looks at the Oscar for a few moments. Steve then slightly tilts his head down and rubs his face with both hands. Steve then takes in a big breath and exhales. Steve then speaks.

STEVE WINCHESTER

I am not sleeping well.

OFFICER OSCAR HILLTOP

For how long?

Steve inhales the exhales a long breath.

STEVE WINCHESTER

10... years.

OFFICER OSCAR HILLTOP

If you tell me why, perhaps, I can help you.

STEVE WINCHESTER

Nightmares. 5, 6... sometimes 7 days a week.

OFFICER OSCAR HILLTOP

Hmmm. That's the end result of something that's eating at you. Do you care to tell me why, you think, that the nightmares are showing up most nights. You could also tell me to back off if it's too personal.

Oscar aggressively salts his food.

STEVE WINCHESTER
 In my jobs as a police officer,
 deputy sheriff and as an FBI
 officer I've seen...

Steve gets choked up. His eyes get watery and his face becomes scrunched and flushed.

STEVE WINCHESTER (CONT'D)
 I've seen...

Steve takes 2 deep breaths and exhales.

STEVE WINCHESTER (CONT'D)
 This stuff is sickening, Oscar. Do
 you really want to hear it?

Oscar slightly nods his head "yes".

STEVE WINCHESTER (CONT'D)
 Raped baby girls, 5, if I remember
 correctly. Children - 8, 9 and 10
 years old beaten with a belt so
 badly that you could see their
 bones. 15 or 20 dead people who
 died in their homes - alone and
 became part of the furniture.

Steve eats a small bite of his pancakes.

STEVE WINCHESTER (CONT'D)
 Do you want me to go on?

OFFICER OSCAR HILLTOP
 Yes.

STEVE WINCHESTER
 2 splattered bodies from people
 jumping off of buildings, 4 people
 who burned to death in cars because
 the flames were too big for me to
 help. Screaming while they were
 dying.

Oscar sheds a tear and leans back in his chair.

OFFICER OSCAR HILLTOP
 I can help you.

STEVE WINCHESTER
 (warmly) You can help me?

OFFICER OSCAR HILLTOP
Yes. If you give me 4 hours and
follow my guidance.

STEVE WINCHESTER
I just don't know.

OFFICER OSCAR HILLTOP
(warmly) You just don't know...
what?

STEVE WINCHESTER
I just don't know.

OFFICER OSCAR HILLTOP
Do you mean... believe?

STEVE WINCHESTER
I'm guarded. And you, Oscar Jones,
you've never steered me wrong.
So... what are you going to give
me... or... - just tell me. Please.

OFFICER OSCAR HILLTOP
Steve, It's called a sweat lodge.

STEVE WINCHESTER
I've heard the words sweat lodge,
but, I..., think I... explain.

OFFICER OSCAR HILLTOP
A sweat lodge is a place where a
person goes for purification,
prayer and healing. You must be
100% involved. 4 hours of focus.
And... it won't be easy.

STEVE WINCHESTER
If you really think a sweat lodge
will work for me, I will give it a
try.

OFFICER OSCAR HILLTOP
No.

STEVE WINCHESTER
No? You think a sweat lodge won't
work for me?

OFFICER OSCAR HILLTOP
No... I don't want you to give it a
try. Your heart must be 'Yes' or
'No' - the moment has no shadows.
No gray.

Steve pauses. Steve slightly leans towards Oscar.

STEVE WINCHESTER
(strongly) In. I'm in.

OFFICER OSCAR HILLTOP
Good... for you. Please pass the salt.

STEVE WINCHESTER
Oscar, I think that you need to save some of that salt for the winter roads. The moment of over indulgence is the moment of negative returns.

Steve gives the shaker of salt to Oscar. Oscar holds the shaker of salt for 3 seconds, then puts the shaker on the table and pushes the salt away from his body.

OFFICER OSCAR HILLTOP
A man is defined first by his choices, then his actions.

STEVE WINCHESTER
When do I go to the sweat lodge?

OFFICER OSCAR HILLTOP
This upcoming Saturday. Noon. Meet me here at 11:30 A.M.

STEVE WINCHESTER
I will be here. What should I wear?

OFFICER OSCAR HILLTOP
Shorts with underpants. No shirt, gloves, socks, shoes or any kind of jewelry. Don't look up sweat lodge on the internet. Or ask anybody about a sweat lodge.

STEVE WINCHESTER
I will be here, before 11:30, ready. I appreciate the help and invitation, Officer Jones.

OFFICER OSCAR HILLTOP
If you want to see the sweat lodge covered and the work that goes into it, be there at 9:00.

STEVE WINCHESTER
9, it is. May I help?

OFFICER OSCAR HILLTOP
No. You will watch and focus. It's
time for me to go. I have another
matter to attend to.

Oscar stands up. Steve stands up.

STEVE WINCHESTER
I need to take care of some work at
the office. Thanks again, Officer
Jones.

The men shake hands and exit the restaurant.

INT. FBI OFFICE, DESK AREA OF STEVE WINCHESTER - LATER

Steve sits at his desk types in SAC Sommers. He then pushes
the "enter" button on his computer.

INT. FBI OFFICE, DESK OF SAC SOMMERS - MOMENTS LATER

SAC Sommers reads the email sent by Steve Winchester. As he
reads, SAC Sommers scrolls through the correspondence. He
smiles as he punches 4 numbers on his phone.

INT. FBI OFFICE, DESK AREA OF STEVE WINCHESTER - MOMENTS
LATER

Steve Winchester answers his phone.

STEVE WINCHESTER
Agent Winchester.

SAC SOMMERS
Agent Winchester, I just read over
your arrest plan with the images of
Howard Sky attached to it.

STEVE WINCHESTER
Thank you, sir.

SSA SOMMERS
The plan is excellent. Well thought
out. I didn't know how many native
American reservations are on
American soil. 330?

STEVE WINCHESTER
Yes, sir - 330... most are in the
south west and west area of the
U.S.

(MORE)

STEVE WINCHESTER (CONT'D)

I figure that 33 agents could each cover 10 reservations over 2 point 5 days.

SSA SOMMERS

The map with the locations of the reservations and nearest FBI office is helpful. Good work Agent Winchester. I will let you know what develops.

STEVE WINCHESTER

Thank you, SSA Sommers. Sir, by the way, I know I'm on call, however Agent Heflin will cover my on call for Saturday.

SSA SOMMERS

That's fine.

STEVE WINCHESTER

Understood, sir.

Steve Winchester sits at his desk and leans back in his chair as a small smile comes over his face.

EXT. PANTERRA TRIBE RESERVATION, NEAR MEETING PLACE
RESTAURANT - MORNING

Steve pulls his truck up near the restaurant. He looks at his phone and reads the message quietly to himself.

STEVE WINCHESTER

I saw you pull in. Please stay in your truck. I'll see you in 2 minutes and walk you to the sweat lodge. You're here at 8:30... good. When you're finished with the sweat lodge you will be good.

OFFICER OSCAR HILLTOP walks up to Steve's truck. Steve gives Oscar a slight wave.

OFFICER OSCAR HILLTOP

Good morning, Steve.

STEVE WINCHESTER

Good morning, Oscar. Thanks for doing this for me.

OFFICER OSCAR HILLTOP
 Keep your shirt and shoes on until
 it is time to go in the sweat
 lodge. This is going to be tough
 but good. Let's walk over to the
 frame of the sweat lodge.

The men walk the 50 yards in silence.

EXT. SWEAT LODGE FRAME AREA - MOMENTS LATER

33 Willow branches make up the frame of the 100 square foot dome shaped sweat lodge that is 15 feet from one side to the other. 3 native men place animal skins over the willow branches. A door, 4 foot high and 3 foot wide is the entrance and exit. 30 foot away from the sweat lodge, the same 3 native men make a fire consisting of dried pieces of wood. 100 grapefruit shaped rocks are put on the fire. MEDICINE MAN PAUL GOODBLOOD, mid 60's walks into the scene. He walks up to Steve and extends his hand.

MEDICINE MAN PAUL GOODBLOOD
 Good morning, Mr. Winchester, or
 should I call you Agent Winchester?

STEVE WINCHESTER
 What ever you prefer, sir. And you,
 sir, what should I call you.

MEDICINE MAN PAUL GOODBLOOD
 Paul, Mr. Goodblood, Medicine Man,
 Davis are all fine with me.

STEVE WINCHESTER
 Medicine Man.

MEDICINE MAN PAUL GOODBLOOD
 This will be challenging. You will
 be pushed beyond your believed
 limits.

STEVE WINCHESTER
 (humbly) This is why I am here.

Animal skins have just about covered the willow branch frame. Steve puts the palm of his right hand about 3 feet from the pile of rocks on the fire.

STEVE WINCHESTER (CONT'D)
 Getting hot.

Steve walks around the sweat lodge and speaks to Officer Oscar Hilltop and the Medicine Man.

STEVE WINCHESTER (CONT'D)
No light is getting in there.

OFFICER OSCAR HILLTOP
Only between rounds. You will learn
what a round is in a few minutes.

The sweat lodge frame is now totally covered in animal skins and a small opening 2 and a half foot by 3 foot has been made. 2 indigenous men go in the sweat lodge and dig a hole about 4 feet wide and 18 inches deep. They then bring in about 50 very red hot rocks and places them in the hole.

OFFICER OSCAR HILLTOP (CONT'D)
Steven, remove your shirt, shoes
socks and jewelry. I will guide you
in and tell you where to sit.

A native man opens the door flap while the Medicine Man, Steve Winchester, OFFICER Oscar Hilltop, RAYMOND STONE, mid 30's, and CECIL WARMAIR, early 20's, all enter the sweat lodge wearing just short pants and underpants. With the door still open, the Medicine Man pours water over the rocks. The rock glow a deep red and yellow color.

OFFICER OSCAR HILLTOP (CONT'D)
Close the door, Fire Keeper.

The Fire Keeper closes the willow framed skin covered door and places 3 more skins over the door to keep out light. The Medicine Man begins to chant, while Raymond Stone hits a drum to the cadence of the chanting.

MEDICINE MAN, PAUL GOODBLOOD
Ayyyyy, ya ahhhh yya , oh ya ahh.
Ayyyyy, ya ahhhh yya , oh ya ahh.

Steve Winchester joins in the chant.

INT. MONTAGE OF MEN SWEATING - MOMENTS LATER

STEVE WINCHESTER
Ayyyyy, ya ahhhh yya , oh ya ahh.
Ayyyyy, ya ahhhh yya , oh ya ahh.

MEDICINE MAN
Good, Steven. Very good. Keep on
letting your inner spirit flow past
your lips. Steven - Chant...
pray... give thanks. Be here in
this moment. Now... feel the heat
and steam.

Steve Winchester speaks.

STEVE WINCHESTER
 God that is all, I thank you for
 letting me be here with my
 brothers. Thank you for...

Steve begins to cry and slightly gasps as he speaks.

STEVE WINCHESTER (CONT'D)
 My wife and my son and my mother
 and my father who is with you now.
 Thank you for my grandparents here
 on earth. Thank you for my/

Steve gets choked up and cries.

STEVE WINCHESTER (CONT'D)
 3 brothers, Jack, Larry and Robert.

MEDICINE MAN
 God, the steam and heat rise and
 take Steven's message of thanks to
 you.

The sound of slightly labored breathing fills the sweat lodge. The rocks glow a deep red and yellow color. OFFICER OSCAR HILLTOP prays silently as a drumbeat accompanies his words. The Medicine Man speaks.

MEDICINE MAN (CONT'D)
 God... helping people with their
 problems is what I do. God... I
 fall short. Sometimes I don't know
 what to say or do. Sometimes I am
 not worthy of being the Medicine
 Man. I need to be a better man. I
 am only a hollow bone, as all
 wisdom comes from you... then
 through me. More wisdom from you...
 please shower your knowledge on me
 and through me.

Water is poured on the stones. The stones hiss. Sage, cedar, and sweetgrass are placed upon the rocks. Water is delicately poured on the stones. The rocks glow. Sweat is now pouring out of the bodies of the men.

OFFICER OSCAR HILLTOP
 The sacred herbs wash away negative
 energy. Ayyyy, ya ahhhh yya , oh ya
 ahh. Yyyy, ya ahhhh yya , oh ya
 ahh.

Steve Winchester and OFFICER OSCAR HILLTOP join in the chant.

STEVE WINCHESTER

Ayyyyy, ya ahhhh yya , oh ya ahh.
Ayyyyy, ya ahhhh yya , oh ya ahh.

OFFICER OSCAR HILLTOP

Don't try to think your way out of the heat. Feel it deeply... past your skin into your blood, muscles and bones. Let the heat... and steam take you to the next level. Let us be silent for 3 minutes. I will count the seconds. Focus on prayer. Focus on thanks to God. Focus.

The men sweat. Their pants are soaked with sweat. Steve sees images in his brain.

INT. INSIDE STEVE WINCHESTER'S BRAIN - MOMENTS LATER

Steve sees a Honda Civic wrapped around a telephone pole with 2 middle aged women, bloody and pressed against the glass. Steve tries to take a step forward a sees that both of his feet a shackled with heavy chain to the concrete. Steve sees 10 tiny closed coffins inside of a funeral home. Steve hears pounding sounds coming from 1 then 2 then 5 then 8 then all 10 coffins. Steve try's to open a coffin but can't. He then hears voices from all 10 CHILDREN, 2-5 years old speaking in unison.

10 CHILDREN

Help me. Help me. Help me. Help me.

Steve tries to move but he can't move.

I/E. PANTERRA TRIBE RESERVATION, AT SWEAT LODGE - MOMENTS LATER

STEVE WINCHESTER

(exasperated) I'm going backward in my brain, Medicine Man. Backward. I want to move forward.

PAUL GOODBLOOD

Our paths to being 1 with God sometimes have pebbles in the way. Sometimes big boulders. You are here to move those boulders.

STEVE WINCHESTER
I want to move forward.

OFFICER OSCAR HILLTOP
(chanting) I want to move forward.

A drumbeat goes along with the chanting.

MEDICINE MAN
Oscar hears you. (pause) Drumbeat
man - louder. The drumbeat is the
heart of Mother Earth. All here:
(chanting) I move forward.

GROUP CHANT
(chanting) I move forward. I move
forward. I move forward. I move
forward. I want to move forward. I
move forward.

MEDICINE MAN
(loudly) Fire Keeper... we have
room for 10 more pieces of Mother
Earth. Bring the heat from the
Sacred Fire into the womb.

Almost immediately the door flap is opened. Only bright daylight is seen by the 5 people inside of the sweat lodge.

INT. FBI OFFICE, DESK OF STANLEY KOWALSKI - MORNING

The computer screen of ASAC Stanley Kowalski is empty and white. ASAC STANLEY KOWALSKI, late 50's , muscular, taps a button on his computer keyboard. Images of 33 FBI agents fill the screen. 4 are black women, 4 are Hispanic women, 8 are black men, 17 are Caucasian men.

ASAC STANLEY KOWALSKI
Good morning, Agents. I'm ASAC Jack
Murray. I see that you are all
here. You all have images. The
target is a confirmed double
homicide suspect, considered to be
armed and dangerous. All 33 teams
are to maintain silence until the
execute order is broadcast. Ensure
that your local perimeter is
sealed. Report at the end of
surveillance. Text **perimeter sealed**
ASAP. Go! Go! Go!

Almost immediately "perimeter sealed" shows up next to a team number on the computer screen of Stanley Kowalski.

After 8 seconds all 33 teams report with perimeter sealed on the computer screen. ASAC Stanley Kowalski, types 'Is green" on a handheld devise.

EXT. ROADS ACROSS AMERICA - MOMENTS LATER

33 FBI agents drive to the main restaurant in reservations or pueblos across America. Each car has 3 agents in street clothes. Reports come into the computer of Stanley Kowalski. 1 by 1, the words: "Negative contact on the target" show up on a corresponding number on the computer screen on the desk of Stanley Kowalski. The numbers get filled in over a 90 minute period. The number "3" is left open. ASAC Kowalski calls FBI AGENT JOHN TRIDENT, late 20's.

ASAC KOWALKSI

Agent Trident, I've not received your report.

FBI AGENT JOHN TRIDENT

Became available 3 seconds ago. We are in a hostage situation with Howard Sky, who has kidnapped 2 children. The target, has 2 children, a female age 7 and a male age 6 held hostage in the rear room of a home at 8450 Bueno Vista here in Tesuque Pueblo, near Santa Fe, New Mexico.

INT. SWEAT LODGE PANTERRA RESERVATION - MOMENTS LATER

The Fire Keeper opens the door of the sweat lodge and enters with a pitch fork. He removes the old cooler rocks. He replaces the rocks with 12 very hot rocks. OFFICER OSCAR HILLTOP pours water on the rocks. The rocks (snd effect) hiss. Medicine Man places sage, cedar, and sweetgrass on the rocks. Water is dripped on the plants and rocks. The rocks glow a deep red and yellow color. Steam slowly fills the area.

MEDICINE MAN

Close the door. No light. We return to the womb of Mother Earth.

The door is closed. Skins cover the opening.

OFFICER OSCAR HILLTOP

Steven - talk to God. Ask him.

STEVE WINCHESTER
 God melt these thoughts - these
 nightmares away from me. Take these
 bad dreams away.

Sweat drips from the chin of Steve Winchester.

OFFICER OSCAR HILLTOP
 (chanting) God, take these dreams
 away.

The drummer taps out a beat in cadence with the words of
 OFFICER OSCAR HILLTOP.

OFFICER OSCAR HILLTOP, MEDICINE MAN
 Ayyyy, ya ahhhh ya, oh ya ahh.
 God - Take these bad dreams away.
 Ayyyy, ya ahhhh, ya, oh ya ahh.
 Ayyy, ya ahhhh ya, oh ya ahh
 God - Take these bad dreams away.
 Ayyyy, ya ahhhh, ya, oh ya ahh.

STEVE WINCHESTER, OFFICER OSCAR
 HILLTOP, MEDICINE MAN
 God - Take these bad dreams away.
 Ayyyy, ya ahhhh, ya, oh ya ahh.
 Ayyy, ya ahhhh ya, oh ya ahh
 God - Take these bad dreams away.
 Ayyyy, ya ahhhh, ya, oh ya ahh.

STEVE WINCHESTER
 (gasping between breaths) I leave
 (gasp) my pride (gasp) at the door,
 God. I ask my (gasp) mind to (gasp,
 gasp) be made clean. Forgive
 (gasp)my (gasp) sins. Forgive my
 (gasp) disrespect. Forgive (gasp)
 my anger. Forgive me (gasp) for
 thinking (gasp) of myself when
 others needed me.

OFFICER OSCAR HILLTOP
 Go deeper, Steven. Deeper. Talk to
 God.

Steve Winchester cries and gasps. Steve hugs himself into a
 ball of flesh on the floor.

MEDICINE MAN PAUL GOODBLOOD
 Open yourself to God. You protect
 yourself. Be on your back.

Steve uncurls and lays on his back as sweat rolls from his
 arms legs and chest onto the dirt.

STEVE WINCHESTER

Every hand out that I didn't reach. Every time I was not good to my family... to my neighbors. All of it is too heavy for me to carry. My mind overflows. God - please take this heaviness from me. I am breathing out every problem I've caused... every mistake I've made, leaving them in the stones.

The stones loudly hiss (sound effect for 9 seconds} immediately after Steve Winchester speaks. Sweat rolls down the legs of Steve Winchester. 2 stones loudly crack (sound effect).

INT. FBI OFFICE, DESK OF ASAC STANLEY KOWALSKI - MOMENTS LATER

ASAC KOWALSKI

Agent Trident, you know what to do regarding protocol for a hostage situation. Proceed at will.

AGENT TRIDENT

Proceeding.

EXT. 8450 BUENO VISTA, TESUQUE PUEBLO, NEAR SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO - MOMENTS LATER

AGENT TRIDENT

This is Agent Trident of the FBI. The children need food and water. You need food and water. Do you want some food and water? I'll bring it to the door. OK with you, Howard?

HOWARD SKY

Drop everything at the door.

AGENT TRIDENT

About 40 minutes... Do you want your water now?

HOWARD SKY

Ok. Bring it.

AGENT TRIDENT

On it's way.

AGENT BARBARA HOWELL, 30's comes to the front of the building with a large paper sack in her right hand. AGENT SUSAN WREN, 40''s walks with another paper bag in her right hand to the front of the building.

AGENT HOWELL
(loudly) Those burgers smell great.
I'm getting some later.

The Hostage Rescue Team approaches the door as Howard Sky peeks out from behind a window shade.

AGENT HOWELL (CONT'D)
Sevare vitas!

Agent Howell quickly attaches an explosive devise to the door and stands back 5 feet and turns away as does Agent Wren. The devise loudly (sound effect) explodes inward to the living room of the house. 7 Flashbangs (loud crack sound and white lite effect) fill the room with white light and loud bangs.

AGENTS WREN AND HOWELL
FBI! Hands! Hands! Show your hands!

Howard Sky looks at the agents with his eyes wide open.

HOWARD SKY
Food. Food. Where is the food?
Water?

AGENT WREN
Get down! On the floor! Face down!

AGENT HOWELL
Don't move! Don't move! Don't move!

Agent Wren and Agent Howell both point hand guns at Howard Warren as he quickly kneels down and lays on his stomach. He pushes up with 1 arm. Agent Wren puts the tip of her handgun to the back of Warren's head.

AGENT WREN
Give me a reason and you are dead.

HOWARD SKY
Your just a scared little girl. You
don't have the guts.

A loud bang and flash (sound and lite effect) resonates in the room.

INT. BACK BEDROOM OF 8450 BUENO VISTA, TESUQUE PUEBLO, NEAR SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO. - MOMENTS LATER

MARY MARTIN, 9 and her twin brother GARY MARTIN, 9 sit huddled together on the floor. They are both crying and disheveled. 3 tears roll down the face of Gary Martin.

INT. SWEAT LODGE PANTERRA RESERVATION - MOMENTS LATER

MEDICINE MAN PAUL

Fire keeper. Remove these pieces of Mother Earth. Bring 15 more hot pieces of Mother Earth.

The door of the sweat lodge opens and 3 beads of sweat roll down the face of Steve Winchester. The Fire Keeper steps in and quickly removes the now warm stones. 15 more stones are brought in via a pitch fork. The rocks glow red and orange.

OFFICER OSCAR HILLTOP

Mean it now, ask for forgiveness and positive prayers to people we have seen as not our friends... Our enemies - up until now. We ask God to bless them.

Steve Winchester clears his throat.

MEDICINE MAN PAUL GOODBLOOD

The pain is in your nightmares. Release your pain through God.

STEVE WINCHESTER

I let go of any pain, from any person. I'm sorry, God for holding pain against any person.

MEDICINE MAN PAUL GOODBLOOD

Talk to God about these people.

STEVE WINCHESTER

God, (gasp)I forgive them all. Please (gasp) forgive (gasp) me (gasp) for carrying anger towards them. My hope, God, is that you give all of these people health and prosperity. Let me drop anger and frustration into Mother Earth. Let me not carry this hate ever again. Amen.

The rocks loudly hiss as water is dripped on them. Cedar, sweetgrass, sage and pine are placed on the hot rocks. Water drops are dripped upon the plant leaves, roots and stems.

INT. 8450 BUENO VISTA, TESUQUE PUEBLO, NEAR SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO. - MOMENTS LATER

A malfunctioning flashbang (sound effect) - flash/bang goes off. Howard Sky is hand cuffed by Agent Wren and patted down by Agent Howell. Agent Howell speaks.

AGENT HOWELL
You have the right to remain
silent...

INT. FBI OFFICE, DESK OF ASAC STANLEY KOWALSKI - CONTINUOUS

ASAC Kowalski sits at his desk, tightly gripping a mobile phone. He listens.

AGENT WREN
Suspect in custody. Hostages
secured.

ASAC Kowalski breathes a sigh of relief.

ASAC KOWALSKI
Good work. Good work.

INT. SWEAT LODGE PANTERRA RESERVATION - MOMENTS LATER

OFFICER OSCAR HILLTOP, CHIEF KEN
WHITECLOUD, STEVE WINCHESTER
Ayyyyy, ya ahhhh yya , oh ya ahh.
Ayyyyy, ya ahhhh yya , oh ya
ahh.Ayyyyy, ya ahhhh yya , oh ya
ahh.
Ayyyyy, ya ahhhh yya , oh ya ahh
Ayyyyy, ya ahhhh yya , oh ya ahh.
Ayyyyy, ya ahhhh yya , oh ya
ahh.Ayyyyy, ya ahhhh yya , oh ya
ahh.
Ayyyyy, ya ahhhh yya , oh ya ahh

CHIEF KEN WHITECLOUD
God, thank you.

OFFICER OSCAR HILLTOP
God, thank you.

STEVE WINCHESTER
God, thank you.

CHIEF KEN WHITECLOUD
Open the door Fire Keeper.

The 5 men walk out of the sweat lodge. Steve looks at both Officer Oscar Hilltop and Chief Ken Whitecloud. He shakes both of their hands.

STEVE WINCHESTER
Thank you and thank you. (pause)
(smiling) I am looking forward to
sleeping tonight.

Chief Ken Whitecloud and Officer Jones smile at Steve. The men walk away, 3 abreast away from the sweat lodge.

INT. COURTROOM - AFTERNOON

JUDGE RAYMOND SCOTT, mid 60's, sits at his desk above the floor of the courtroom. BALIFF JEFFREY VOLK, 30's, speaks.

BALIFF JEFFEREY VOLK
All rise for the sentencing.
Defendant, please rise.

Every person in the courtroom rises. Howard Sky, is shackled at his feet and hands. He does not rise. To Howard's right and left are 4 well muscled US Marshalls. The Marshalls rise. A trooper to the left and to the right of Howard, pick him up to standing level.

JUDGE RAYMOND SCOTT
(long pause) I have sat on this bench for 26 years. I've never seen a person with such an absence of remorse. You didn't just kill 2 people, you killed 2 children, in essence, ripping away their entire lives from themselves and their families. What could have happened with these children's lives? No one will know. Now you will spend the rest of your life in a small cell contemplating the choice you made. You will now serve 2 consecutive life terms. The defendant is remanded.

The courtroom is quiet, except for the rhythmic clanging of the chains on the body of Howard Sky head to the exit door of the courtroom. The parents of the 2 murdered children rush up to within 8 feet of Howard Sky. FATHER, 30's speaks.

FATHER

Judge, may we speak?

JUDGE RAYMOND SCOTT

Take as long as you need, sir and ma'am.

MOTHER

Look at me... you will see my children's light. You took away their breath. I will pray for you every night, not because I am good, I pray because I refuse to have your hate live inside me. I forgive you, not for you, but for me. Go to your darkness and may God be your only light.

HOWARD SKY

Go to hell lady.

FATHER

You aren't a man. You are a ghost and you are going to a place where ghosts are forgotten... a hell on Earth. I hope the quiet in your cell at night screams at you. You are on your way to a slow painful rot. Go rot in hell.

HOWARD SKY

Eat shit.

FATHER

(quietly and strong) Go to hell lady and eat shit? Hell isn't where my wife is going. You are going to hell. My wife will eventually smile and be happy. You will be in hell. Eating lots of suffering.

Steve Winchester walks up to Mother and Father. His back is to Howard Warren.

STEVE WINCHESTER

Howard Warren is now not an item of your daily life. (pause) May God bless both of you. Heal your minds then live.

(MORE)

STEVE WINCHESTER (CONT'D)
(pause) Do you want to speak to the
media or exit quietly with me?

Father looks at Mother. Father speaks.

FATHER
With you, quietly.

EXT. COURTHOUSE BUILDING - MOMENTS LATER

Steve leads Mother and Father out of the building into a
large black chauffeur driven SUV with darkened windows. Steve
walks to the driver's side window and speaks.

STEVE WINCHESTER
Avoid the media. Take them wherever
they want to go.

The SUV drives away.

INT. BEDROOM OF STEVE AND DIANE WINCHESTER- NIGHT

Steve and Diane are sleeping.

INT. STEVE'S BRAIN - CONTINUOUS

Black nothingness.

ROLL CREDITS
5/13/2026