Slashed

written by

Vicky L. Neal

3024 Apple Knoll Lane Middletown, Ohio 45044 (513) 539-0258 vickyneal5@yahoo.com www.vickylneal.com

FADE IN:

EXT. COUNTRY ROAD - DAY

TINA (17) walks along the side. Her feet drag and she sweats. A pack hangs from her back.

A car approaches from behind.

Tina turns backwards, holds out a thumb.

The car stops. Tina jumps inside.

INT. CAR - PARKED - DAY - CONTINUOUS

Tina removes her backpack and turns to the unseen driver.

TINA

Hi. I'm Tina. Where ya` heading?

No response.

TINA

The quiet type. That's cool. Just take me as far as you can.

She removes a portable CD player from her pack.

TINA

You don't mind if I listen to some Metal, do you? Long car rides are so boring.

She places on the headphones. Pushes "Play." Her backpack gets tossed into the rear seat. She moves to upbeat music. Passes the driver a grin.

EXT. ROAD - DAY - CONTINUOUS

The car drives away.

EXT. WOODS - DUSK

A shadowy, unrecognizable FIGURE digs a large hole.

He drags Tina's bloody corpse, cuts everywhere, to the hole and dumps her inside. Her backpack lands on top. Dirt strewn by a shovel accumulates on both.

INT. REYNOLDS KITCHEN - DAY

KARI REYNOLDS (39), efficient-looking, sits at the table along with her husband, JIM REYNOLDS (42), friendly.

Across from them is JAKE REYNOLDS (10), mischievous-natured. The three eat breakfast. A full plate of food lies in front of a vacant chair.

KARI

(calling)

Megan. Hurry up. Breakfast's getting cold.

MEGAN (O.S.)

I'm coming!

FOOTSTEPS run their way. MEGAN REYNOLDS (17), a pretty girl with a depressed nature, enters. She carries a backpack, which she slings to the floor as she sits at the empty setting. She gobbles down food.

JIM

What took you so long?

JAKE

She wants to look perfect for Billy Hinton...

(mocking)

... the hottest boy in school.

Megan passes him a heated look.

MEGAN

Shut up, Geek.

KARI

Megan.

MEGAN

But he is a geek, Mom. Always gets A's, lives on his computer.

KARI

It wouldn't hurt you to be a little more like that.

MEGAN

And lose my social life? No way.

JAKE

What social life? You spend Saturday nights watching Lifetime... for women.

He snickers.

Megan bolts to her feet.

MEGAN

You're so dead.

Jim grasps her wrist, pulls her back down into her seat.

JIM

Sit.

MEGAN

But, Dad...

JIM

I know how annoying little brothers can be. Your uncle Steve is lucky he reached adulthood, but you two will be best friends when you're grown, like I am with my brother.

Megan and Jake share a disgusted look.

JAKE

Yuck. I'll never like her, and you can't make me.

MEGAN

Same here.

Kari grins. Jim returns it.

JAKE

You two will surprise yourselves one day. You'll see.

The kids eat in silence.

KARI

Megan, straight home from school today. We're leaving by five.

MEGAN

Do I have to go? Couldn't I just stay here and watch over the house?

JAKE

You mean "invite Billy over and watch him?"

MEGAN

Shut up.

KARI

You're going, Megan. Deal with it.

MEGAN

But camping with my family, that's so... retarded.

(to Jake)

Right up your alley, Loser.

Jim slams down his fork on the table. All attention goes to him.

JIM

I've had enough, Young Lady. I don't know what's gotten into you these past few months, but you start showing this family some respect. Am I clear?

MEGAN

Okay, Dad. Geez. Don't have a cow.

Everyone returns to eating. Megan eyes the others.

A KNOCK at the back door. Megan rushes to answer it.

BRANDY FULLER (17), a down-to-earth tomboy with a strong appearance, steps inside. She carries a backpack over one shoulder.

BRANDY

Ready?

MEGAN

Yeah.

She grabs her backpack.

BRANDY

Hi Mr. and Mrs. Reynolds.

KARI

Good morning, Brandy. How are your parents?

BRANDY

They're fine.

MEGAN

Gotta go.

She returns to Brandy at the door.

JIM

Straight home, Megan.

Megan sighs.

MEGAN

Fine.

The girls leave.

INT. HIGH SCHOOL CAFETERIA - DAY

Lunchtime. Packed full of students.

Megan sits with a group of girls her age - Brandy, CINDY, TRICIA, KIM and others. Cindy and her small group of followers (excluding Tricia and Kim) are total prep-types.

CINDY

Hey, that new slasher flick came out today. Anyone want to go?

MEGAN

It's rated 'R'. We need an adult.

CINDY

Give me a break, Reynolds. I have a friend who works at the cina-plex. She'll sneak us in.

BRANDY

But you could get in trouble for that.

CINDY

I expect that from you, Fuller, but I thought Reynolds was on her way to being cool. Must be wrong.

MEGAN

I'm cool.

CINDY

Then you wanna go?

MEGAN

Sure. No, wait. I can't.

One of the girls makes chicken sounds. Others giggle.

CINDY

I knew you were a pussy.

MEGAN

No, I'm not. Really. I have to go camping with my family.

Cindy and her gang laugh.