

AFTER THE RAIN

By

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Ext. FIELDS - day - cloudy

BAKAI (53) a solid man walks from the yellowing field, gliding his hand over the wheat and holding a hoe over the other shoulder. Dignity defines this hardworking man. From the field's edge he stops to look down the road.

2 EXT. ROAD - DAY

The empty road leads to a rural village. Shepherds in the distance gather sheep.

3 INT. SUIYUN'S HOUSE - ARSTAN'S ROOM - DAY - CLOUDY

ARSTAN (30), a tall good looking man, presses his face close to the paper as he writes a letter.

He writes: Dear Suiyun.....

He looks disturbed, something is bothering him. He places the pen on the table and lifts his left pant leg. There is a small silver bracelet with three beads hanging from his ankle. A picture frame sits at the corner of his desk where two young boys and a girl stand smiling.

CLOSE ON ARSTAN

HE TURNS TO THE PICTURE AND GAZES AT THE LITTLE GIRL IN THE PICTURE, SMILING SADLY. He gently taps his finger on her face then slowly turns back to his letter.

URMAT (27), tall and thin with a serious face, passes by. He stops at the door and watches his brother write for a while until he grows upset and invites himself in.

URMAT

Are you really going to do this?

Arstan, startled, stops his pen and turns toward Urmat as a reflex. He takes a moment, pausing, before looking up with a slight smile.

ARSTAN

...yes.

URMAT

But.. but.. if you..

ARSTAN

I know, but I promised. This is the only way.

URMAT

But...

Arstan keeps his intense smile and goes back to writing. Urmat stands where he is, looking dazed for a moment, before quickly turning away and looking down in frustrated embarrassment. He soon exits.

At the same time, Arstan finishes the letter and folds it into an envelope. The SOUND OF THUNDER roars in the distance.

Arstan packs something into a suitcase, takes it, and leaves.

4 EXT. SUIYUN'S HOUSE - PORCH - AFTERNOON - CLOUDY

Bakai, looks tired, he is sitting on a chair outside his house with a blanket wrapped around him. A small old gold book opened on his lap. A small compressed flower is placed in the middle of the open page. His hands hold the flower and gently plays with it. A cup of tea and teapot sit next to him on a small wooden table. His eyes are red and dry, but he keeps them open and staring out toward the fields stretching into the horizon.

Arstan walks pass the fields in the distance and disappears. Bakai gazes at his sons's leaving.

He suddenly looks determined. He grabs his kalpak, stands up, and leaves his spot.

5 EXT. CLUB HADES - EVENING - RAINING

Arstan stands in front of a nightclub illuminated with bright neon lights displaying a devil's fork. He's holding the suitcase and protecting the letter. He pulls out his phone and makes a call.

6 INT. POLICE OFFICE - EVENING

COMMANDER BATYR (30) sits at his desk in his white office. There is a pile of paper he is reading through. His phone rings buried under the pile of paper. He digs through it trying to find his phone, then picks up, obviously stressed.

COMMANDER BATYR

Hello?

With one hand he starts piling up the papers.

7 EXT. CLUB HADES - EVENING - RAINING - CONTINUOUS

ARSTAN
Hello? Batyr, it's me.

COMMANDER BATYR (V.O.)
Ah.. Arstan?

ARSTAN
Im standing out front. I'm about to
go ' in.

8 INT. POLICE OFFICE - EVENING - CONTINUOUS

COMMANDER BATYR
(Interrupts. Annoyed and
uncomfortable)
Look, Arstan... Wait. You, you
can't do this. You don't know what
you're getting yourself into!

ARSTAN
(more determined)
I know. But I'm going in no matter
what.

COMMANDER BATYR
(Interrupting)
Arstan, you're acting crazy!
They're planning something against
you! I cannot help you if you do
this! It's out of my power. They
are going to go after you at all
costs!

Batyr looks at the papers he is holding. Something about the
picture makes him distressed.

ARSTAN
Then, goodbye my friend.

Arstan hangs up.

COMMANDER BATYR
Wait, Arstan? Arstan!! Damn it!

Batyr hangs up his phone and tosses it back into the pile of paper, shaking his head in annoyance. He finishes stacking papers. Obviously troubled he shoves an album aside to make space for the stack. The album falls off the shelf with two pictures sliding out onto the floor. He picks up a picture and is visibly moved by the contents.

INSERT picture of Younger Arstan and Younger Suiyun with Batyr. It looks like Suiyun's high school graduation picture.

Commander Batyr is still in the same place, when someone KNOCKS ON THE DOOR. He answers without looking at who it is.

COMMANDER BATYR (CONT'D)

Yes.

Bakai enters wearing his traditional folk Kyrgyz hat drenched with rain and sorrow. He is supported by Elnura. Batyr looks up... startled.

COMMANDER BATYR (CONT'D)

Sir! How are you sir. Please. Sit.

Bakai greets him with a weary smile.

9 EXT. CLUB HADES - EVENING - RAINING - CONTINUOUS

Arstan gathers his strength. His face becomes more and more determined to follow through with some plan. Slowly he walks toward the club.

10 EXT. VILLAGE STREET - EVENING - RAINING (DREAM SEQUENCE)

Sound of RAIN DROPS AND A CHILD CRYING.

Blurred vision of wet dirt focuses out to a small village. (quick shots of various scenes) There is a pool of blood on the ground. Two children in a barn hiding. The figure of a man opening a door. Light flows from behind his silhouette.

END DREAM:

11 INT. CLUB HADES - VANITY ROOM - EARLY EVENING - RAINING

SUIYUN

Ahhh!

SUIYUN (21) wakes up with tears in her eyes. She has long black hair, a fairly thin body and tanned skin. She sits up in a cold sweat in a small dark room filled with women wearing dirty, thin pieces of clothing. None are disturbed by her scream and most remain sleeping around her on thin mats across the floor. A small broken window too small to crawl out brings in a ray of light. The walls are all cracked with black fungus growing around the corners. The sound of DANCE MUSIC can be heard in the background. She holds her head with one hand, distressed, trying to brush away the dream.

SUIYUN (CONT'D)
 (Whispers to herself)
 Sigh.. Three years.. and still the
 same dream.

She goes to the bathroom to wash her face then sits down at her vanity table. There is a small plant on it. The plant looks delicate and oriental. However, the leaves hang loose, all dried up. She waters it and cleans each leaf while whispering to herself.

SUIYUN (CONT'D)
 The harvest is white... but few
 good hands...

She hears the rain from outside. She looks toward the window and watches the raindrops hit the glass. Suiyun whispers to herself **in a sad melody.**

SUIYUN (CONT'D)
The sunrise after the rain, shines
the brightest..

She stops. Something about the song is bothering her.

SUIYUN (CONT'D)
Father's riddles..

She starts to put her makeup on.

Someone KNOCKS. A fellow prostitute comes in.

BERMET
 Suiyun! Someone's here to see you.

SUIYUN
 (putting eyeliner on)
 My shift's not for 30 minutes!

BERMET
 No.. not one of them. It's Arstan.

Suiyun freezes. Her eyeliner drops from her hand and hits the floor! She slowly turns her head around.

SUIYUN
 Who..?

BERMET
 He said Arstan.

Suiyun picks up the eyeliner and turns back to the mirror stiffly.

Although she manages to put on a blank face, her maintained rigidness and unnaturally calm demeanor hint that she's been affected by the message.

SUIYUN

I don't know who that is. Tell him
I'm not here.

Her cheek begins to quiver and she returns to drawing a dark line across her eyelids. The prostitute looks at her with concern and opens her mouth to say something but stops. Instead, she grabs the door handle and starts to close it, but not before casting one more glance at Suiyun.

The door slowly closes

Suiyun immediately puts her eyeliner down and looks into the mirror. She seems strained but determined. She breathes hard.

SUIYUN (V.O.)

Who would have known.. That this
would be the day that I would
finally understand those silly
riddles.

12 EXT. STREET - EARLY EVENING (DREAM SEQUENCE)

FROM BLACK -- RAIN DROP AND A CHILD CRYING.

CLOSE UP on the hand of a woman on the wet ground. She's covered with blood.

DOLLY TO a parked car's wheel.

A man in a suit stands in the rain. He covers his mouth in shock.

In the distance a man on a horse rides away in the rain.

13 INT. BARN - CONTINUOUS

The silhouette of a man opens a door.

END DREAM:

14 INT. SUIYUN'S ROOM - MORNING

TEXT: THREE YEARS EARLIER

Suiyun (18) wakes up SCREAMING and sweating with tears in her eyes.

SUIYUN (18 YEARS OLD)

No!! NOOOO!!

Her room is bright and her window is slightly open. A fresh breeze is blowing in mixed with the sunlight. She wipes her tears and gives a big sigh of relief. The same silver bracelet that Arstan wore shines on her left wrist as she combs her hair with her fingers, trying to fully wake up from the nightmare.

SUIYUN (CONT'D)

Ujas..

She gets out of her bed. She suddenly remembers something. She runs to her white cotton tote bag tossed on the floor, and looks inside for something. She pulls out a black notebook. She slowly opens it and finds a postcard of flowers, and on the bottom it reads 'Switzerland.'

She smiles, takes the postcard, then goes to her wall next to the window. She tries to read it.

SUIYUN (CONT'D)

Swi.. switz.. Switzerlan..d.

The wall has a collection of postcards with flower pictures, all from different countries. She places her postcard and pins it next to Kyrgyzstan's postcard. Kyrgyzstan's postcard has a picture of a red flower field expanding across the mountains. She admires her wall of postcard collections then walks to the window and opens it fully.

On the ledge sits a small plant on her window that's mostly withered. She sees the plant and looks at it for a second, but is quickly distracted by the morning breeze. She breathes it in and gazes at the view. The mountains stretch across the horizon beyond the ocean of green fields covering the earth.

A herd of sheep shepherded from behind make their way away from Suiyun's POV.

SOUND OF BLEATING

SUIYUN'S POV - BARN

SUIYUN (CONT'D)

Oh no!

Suiyun bolts for the door as her mother calls her from downstairs.

ELNURA (V.O.)
 Suiyun! Saat 11 boldu. Sasyp
 jatasyaby? Could you come give me
 some help?

15 INT. KITCHEN - MORNING

SOUND OF BOILING WATER, KNIFE CUTTING CARROT

Suiyun's mother, ELNURA (50), cuts carrots and boils a pot full of potatoes. Her face still has traces of the beauty she once had.

Arstan, wearing a hastily thrown on apron over his clothes, helps her peel potatoes. From his speed and sloppiness, it's obvious he's in a hurry.

Suiyun explodes through the kitchen from one door to the other causing quite a STIR.

ELNURA
 Suiy-

SUIYUN
 Wait!
 (Azyr!)

Suiyun is gone out the other door as fast as she came.

Elnura and Arstan look at each other with puzzled looks.

ELNURA
 What.. happened?

Arstan just shrugs with a confused face. Elnura simply shrugs her shoulders returning back to her work.

NURGUL (50), an old lady, enters the house looking back at Suiyun, a bit curious. She turns to Elnura.

NURGUL
 Hello? Elnura, how are you?

ELNURA
 Nurgul! Come in come in. How are
 you?

Elnura stops cutting the carrots and goes to the door to greet her as she wipes her hands on her apron.

16 EXT. BARN - CONTINUOUS

Suiyun races to the barn, noticing the herd of sheep on the other side of the yard.

17 INT. BARN - CONTINUOUS

Suiyun bursts into the empty barn and sees nothing. Then we hear BLEATING. She turns to find one tiny lamb all alone, with a foot stuck between the boards on the floor in a cow stall beside massive cow legs. She walks quietly, obviously knowing how to keep the lamb calm.

SUIYUN

What are you doing way over here?

With gentle care she frees the lamb and picks it up.

18 EXT. BARN - CONTINUOUS

Suiyun exits the barn and follows the herd. The lamb, now relaxed, sucks Suiyun's pinkie finger.

SUIYUN

(to lamb)

Let's find mommy.

She looks up and sees Arstan looking at her from the kitchen window.

19 INT. KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

Arstan smiles as he turns from the window, letting the curtain fall back into place. Elnura notices as Nurgul says

NURGUL

...I just came by to give these to you.

Nurgul hands over a bag of fruit and walnuts.

NURGUL (CONT'D)

It's.. it's not much. But this is all I could afford... to say thank you.

ELNURA

Ayee.. Nurgul, you don't need to!

NURGUL

No no.. please accept it.

20 EXT. OUTER YARD - CONTINUOUS

Suiyun unites lamb and ewe who connect like magnets. Then Suiyun looks playfully disapprovingly at the embarrassed shepherd.

NURGUL (V.O.)
I'm sorry.. that.. I don't have
much to give for saving my
daughter's life.

Suiyun turns her attention back to the house, sees something and smiles shyly.

BACK TO SCENE

21 INT. KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

This time Elnura is turning away from the window with a smile. Arstan is absent. Nurgul insists that reluctant Elnura take the bag. She won't, so Nurgul leaves it on the counter.

ELNURA
Tell me next time you need
medicine. Ok?

Nurgul tears up, and turns to wipe her tears.

NURGUL
(shaky voice)
Peace be upon you and your good
soul. God bless you and your
family.

Elnura draws near to Nurgul and holds her tightly in a long, warm embrace.

ELNURA
Kudaiga shugur. I'm glad she is ok.

Nurgul tears up and gives the silent Kyrgyz nod of thanks.

Elnura looks into her eyes and gives a warm smile. Nurgul is overwhelmed.

NURGUL
May the help you give others come
back to you many fold.

Nurgul turns her face to wipe her tears. She laughs in embarrassment.

Arstan stops peeling.

ARSTAN
Good bye eje!

NURGUL
Ah, Arstan you charmer. Aliah's a
lucky girl. Good bye.

Arstan smiles shyly.

ELNURA
Goodbye!

Nurgul smiles then turns to the door and leaves.

Elnura walks back to the carrots and starts cutting again.

22 EXT. SUIYUN'S HOUSE FRONT - MORNING

Nurgul walks out of the house. Suiyun, returning from the
sheep, greets her with a smile.

SUIYUN
How are you Nurgul eje?

NURGUL
Good good. How are you? Good?

SUIYUN
Yes, yes. Good bye.

NURGUL
Bye dear - баp бол.

23 INT. KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

Suiyun returns. Suiyun pops her head into the kitchen door.

SUIYUN
Apa! (Mother)

ELNURA
Ah! My shepherdess!

Suiyun's bashful smile is beautiful.

ARSTAN
(interrupting)
Hey! Quick!! Grab this! Let me go
wash.

Arstan steps away from his place to make room for Suiyun, then shoves three cleaned potatoes into her arms and throws his apron over her head.

SUIYUN
(surprised)
Ahhh!

Startled, she tries to grab the potatoes but drops them.

Arstan grabs her face firmly with both hands then slaps her firmly yet gently - as only an older brother can do.

ARSTAN
Wake up little sister!

SUIYUN
Woah! Heyy!! Arstan baike!

Arstan laughs at her as he picks up the potato. He gives it back to her, **shake his hand on her head**, and runs off to the other room. Suiyun steps into Arstan's place and starts peeling.

Then she gets another idea. Turning to her mother with playful eyes, Suiyun suddenly grabs onto and clings to Elnura, acting like a child.

SUIYUN (CONT'D)
Apaaa, can you hug me?

ELNURA
Ahh, what in the! Get away from me!

Elnura pretends she's running away from Suiyun.

SUIYUN
Aww Apa! Apa!

URMAT (24) walks into the kitchen, all dressed up and ready to leave. He is tall and skinny with dark hair and dark eyes. He gives a cold glare at his sister.

URMAT
Ujas, can you stop acting like a child? Make yourself useful.

Suiyun and Elnura looks to Urmat, but Suiyun continues holding onto her mother even more to annoy Urmat, making louder whining sounds until Elnura smiles at her and gives her a kiss. Urmat is disgusted and annoyed.

ELNURA
Ok, ok now come, give me a hand.

Suiyun slowly starts to tie her apron and peel a potato. Despite her immature display, she peels the potatoes with dexterity and skill.

Her mother watches Suiyun and tsk-tsk at her as she smiles and shakes her head.

ELNURA (CONT'D)

If it were the old days, you would have already..

SUIYUN

(interrupts)

'Been married and had children' Yes mother, I know.

Suiyun giggles as peels the potatoes.

SUIYUN (CONT'D)

But I want to see the world before that. I want to travel the world like Ata and help people.

ELNURA

(giggles then sighs)

You sound just like your father.

Suiyun and Elnura exchange smiles.

URMAT

(grumpy)

Нмрһ. Ошондуктан кеееечге чейин жыргап жатасың ээ? Элдер эмне ойлойт?

Suiyun, annoyed, puts down her potatoes and sharply turns to her brother.

ELNURA

Ha, that's enough you two. Урмат сен дагы жыргап сиңдинди тийвей эле сабакка барсаң жакшы болмок ээ?

Elnura giggles under her breath. Urmат shakes his head in discontent at his sister, grumbles under his breath. Suiyun smiles, seemingly unfazed by her brother's discontent.

ELNURA (CONT'D)

And Suiyun.. It takes more than passion to help people in the world. It takes character.

Elnura frowns at her son. Urmат acts like he doesn't notice her glare.

URMAT

A character that wakes up early
even though it's summer break.

ELNURA

Suiyun, understand?

Suiyun secretly stuffs food into her mouth as her mother speaks.

SUIYUN

Yes Mother.

She smiles to herself for getting away with it, before
quickly going back to peeling the last potatoes.

Unbeknownst to her however, her mother does see Suiyun, but rather than scold her, she shakes her head at her daughter again and GIGGLES. Urmat's glare isn't so gracious.

Arstan runs back into the kitchen dressed nicely in a suit with hair gelled back. He holds a tie around his collar.

ARSTAN

Suiyun! Tie this for me?

Suiyun, startled, quickly swallows the food and CHOKES.

SUIYUN

Gah!(cough) Ehem.. Ok, give it here.

She takes his neck tie and starts making a knot.

ELNURA

Haha look at how happy he is to go see Aliah.

ARSTAN

Apa (Mother) are flowers too cliché? Or.. cake? Ahh!! Hopefully it won't rain today so that we can....

24 ARSTAN'S VOICE FADES OUT, SOUND OF RAIN FADES IN

Suiyun zones out as she ties Arstan's neck tie.

FLASHBACK - YOUNG URMAT CARRIES YOUNG SUIYUN IN THE RAIN TO THE BARN.

SUIYUN (V.O.)
Rain.. You know.. I had a weird
dream last night. It was raining
hard; I saw blood on the ground.

BACK TO SCENE

ARSTAN'S VOICE continues in the background. She slowly speaks.

SUIYUN (CONT'D)
I was a kid hiding in a barn
crying.

Arstan stops talking, her mother stops cutting food, Urmat freezes. Suiyun is clueless and just looks around. The sound of BOILING WATER echoes through the kitchen.

SUIYUN (CONT'D)
Whats wrong?

ARSTAN
Oh, uhh... should I take my
umbrella?

ELNURA
Oh, yes.. yes! Over there in
father's room by the cabinet.

ARSTAN
Right.. Suiyun can you go get it?

SUIYUN
Ugh, ok...

Suiyun leaves the room. Arstan looks to his mother with concern. Elnura's face is blank and Urmat is looking back and forth from his mother to Arstan.

25 INT. BAKAI'S ROOM

Suiyun walks into the room to look for the umbrella. Suiyun stops to think about her family's reaction. Then she gets distracted by her childhood pictures are on the wall. She stops to look at them.

Pictures of Suiyun in her father's arms; all three children on the ground smiling with teeth missing here and there; Urmat frowning next to a football and looking longingly at his father; Arstan holding hands with Suiyun; Suiyun hugging her mother, both of them laughing at each other.

Suiyun walks past them all without a thought until she gets to the picture of her and her father.

ON PICTURE

Bakai stands tall with a warm smile that gives off an assuring peace. His eyes gleam with a presence of fatherly strength. The young Suiyun in the picture, a small girl in a little white dress with pig tails tied in blue ribbons, holds onto her father's hand while smiling beautifully, even with her two front teeth missing.

Suiyun smiles back at the picture and holds the frame for a moment before remembering why she came to the room. After setting the picture down, she picks up the umbrella from atop the wooden wardrobe then leaves.

26

INT. KITCHEN

The sound of WATER BOILING grows louder and louder, but all three remain standing in silence ignoring it.

Suiyun reenters, yawning.

All three look at her while trying to act natural.

SUIYUN

Here. Make sure it works and doesn't have holes...

Awkwardly, Arstan overacts, laughing and clumsily grabbing the umbrella out of her hand, almost knocking a jar down from the table.

ARSTAN

Ok, thanks, thanks, how do I look?

Arstan stands tall and juts his chin and chest out. Suiyun crosses her arms.

SUIYUN

(sarcastically)

Stunning.

ARSTAN

Beautiful, aren't I? Haha

Suiyun and Elnura roll their eyes while Urmat laughs quietly. The tension has obviously dissipated and everyone resumes their morning routines.

ARSTAN (CONT'D)

Ok! Urmat, let's go! I'll drop you off on the way.

Urmat quietly **grabs his sidebag** then kisses his mother before heading out. Afterwards Arstan also kisses his mother and Suiyun before exiting. As they go, Elnura hands Suiyun the basket of food and speaks with Suiyun.

ELNURA

Suiyun, here, your father has been in the fields since dawn. Make sure he eats all the carrots!

SUIYUN

Father is at the fields alone again?

ELNURA

(giggles)

You know him. even if you tie him down, it wont stop him from going to his fields.

SUIYUN

Sigh. Ata should just have the workers to it.

Suiyun gives a worried look. Then she looks at the basket with food.

SUIYUN (CONT'D)

Did you pack some for me too?

ELNURA

(Laughs)

You and your love of food.. I've packed enough for the both of you. Oh wait, here take these too.

Elnura walks her to the door where she picks up an older umbrella for her daughter. She also gives her a small old golden book for her father to read.

ELNURA (CONT'D)

Your father will appreciate this.

Suiyun looks at the book. She smiles.

27 INT./EXT. SUIYUN'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Suiyun takes both lunch and book after putting her shoes on then heads out. She goes to her horse tied unto a tree. She strokes it's head smiling as the horse pushes it's head toward her asking for more. She gets on it and heads toward the road.

Elnura returns to cooking, cutting some vegetables. The sound of her cutting slows down. She casts long looks. Something is on her mind.

CUT TO:

28 EXT. SNOW-CAPPED MOUNTAINS - ESTABLISHING - DAY

SLOW PAN FROM TRANQUIL SNOW-CAPPED MOUNTAINS TO CLEAR STREAM TO CONTENT YEARLING LAMB DRINKING FROM STREAM

29 EXT. DUSTY VILLAGE BAZAAR - DAY

Sheep are bleating in the animal bazaar. Many men walk around looking at sheep, cows, and chicken. There is one skinny sheep tied to a pole that bleats weakly.

AIBEK (V.O.)

I'll take that one.

Some hands untie the sheep and takes it away. Money passes hands. Two men (faces unseen) throw the tied sheep into the trunk of a black Mercedes.

YEARLING'S POV - AIBEK (23) and CHAYAN (34) with faded shirts, dusty hair and cheap cigarettes look at the lamb before closing the trunk, BAM!

CUT TO BLACK:

30 EXT. ROAD - DAY

The fields blow in the wind. Distant mountains look picture perfect. Suiyun walks toward the fields.

She passes by the trees and enjoys the scenery, then stops, looks up to the sky and breathes in.

In the distance, three men in a car speed down the road.

31 INT./EXT. CAR - MOVING

The Black Mercedes makes a trail of dust as it cruises up the rural road.

Aibek lights a cigarette in the passenger seat. His pitch black hair is teased by the wind, but his dark brown eyes are cold. His two other friends, SANJAR (23) and JOKER (23), in the back are much less serious in appearance and demeanor, Joker is sleeping with a hat covering his face, but the driver, Chayan, has been around. He's got an ugly scar beside his eye. Looking to Aibek, he asks,

CHAYAN

Back from the city eh? What did you do?

ANGLE ON HANDS LIGHTING A CIGARETTE.

Aibek inhales, then inclines his seat. He rests his arm on the window as he exhales a cloud of smoke as if he was the GodFather in a limo.

AIBEK

It's expensive.

CHAYAN

Haha! Expensive vodka, expensive women, expensive clubbing. Haha, eh Aibek ustat?

Annoyed, Aibek raises his voice.

AIBEK

Shut up and drive.

CHAYAN

Hahaha. If you knew how to play the city you would be driving your own car... like me.

A herd of sheep cross and block the road. An old shepherd comes behind them with a long walking stick.

SANJAR

Hey hey watch out.

The car stops and HONKS.

CHAYAN

Gah, The herds are coming down from the mountains too early this year..

AIBEK

(SIGHS) Bliin.. These ones look better and fatter.

The car waits until all the sheep pass by, then speeds ahead. It's not long though before they encounter a herd of cattle.

AIBEK (CONT'D)
Are you serious! Ujas!

CHAYAN
Ah, life is about patience Aibek.
You need to wait for the right
moment. And.. "pow" the real meat.

Chayan motions a gun shot to one of the cows. Chayan turns his face to Aibek with a smirk.

CHAYAN (CONT'D)
You still have much to learn. The
way of how to be a real man.

Chayan shakes his hands on Aibek's head as if he was a little boy. Aibek hit's Chayan's hand away, Chayan smirks.

AIBEK
Whatever.

Aibek turns his head in annoyance he looks defeated. The car waits again then speeds off as soon the cows give enough room.

32 EXT. ROAD

Suiyun starts crossing the street when the car approaches. Although they can see her, Chayan doesn't slow down. His foot on the accelerator pushes down more.

33 INT. CAR - CONTINUOUS

Chayan looks straight ahead.

CHAYAN
Ah, now this is the type of meat I
pick up.

He motions a gunshot at her with his hands. He nods to Aibek while HONKING violently.

34 EXT. ROAD - CONTINUOUS

Alarmed, Suiyun jumps back to the side of the road and yells

SUIYUN
Ahh! Are you blind?!

Aibek sticks his head out the window and blows kisses to her. Suiyun grimaces back at him and the men laugh and drive off.

SUIYUN (CONT'D)

Ugh pervert..

Suiyun turns away and continues walking toward the fields.

35

INT. CAR - CONTINUOUS

Chayan GIGGLES like a teenager.

CHAYAN

eh~ mastering your lovin' skills
eh?

AIBEK

Ha. Who was she?

Silence. Then Sanjar shifts his position a bit.

SANJAR

Suiyun Sultanbekova. The daughter
of Bakai Sultanbekov.

CHAYAN

Eh? She's a Sultanbekova?! How do
you know her?

SANJAR

I used to work for her father. He
is such a good man.

AIBEK

Sultanbekov? Who is that?

Aibek looks in the side mirror and watches Suiyun until they
get too far away.

SANJAR

You don't know them? He owns a lot
of the land here. Used to be a
diplomat but now he's retired and
working his field like a-

AIBEK

She married?

CHAYAN

Haha why?

SANJAR
 (to Aibek)
 Haha! You with her?! Hahaha! She's
 out of your league, bro. She's not
that type of girl.

Sanjar jokingly hits Aibek's head from the back seat. Aibek, annoyed, gets nasty and hits Sanjar's hand away.

SANJAR (CONT'D)
 Don't waste your time.

AIBEK
 Hmph...

CHAYAN
 Ay, classy girls like that don't go
 for street shit like you. But, if
 you're lucky to get one, you hit
 the jackpot with her!

Chayan looks at Aibek with a smirk.

CHAYAN (CONT'D)
Ah, but we're talking about you
here. I'd rather bet on a donkey.

Aibek is affected by these jokes, but tries to not show his hurt by puffing out a cloud of smoke.

AIBEK
 Whatever, man.

Chayan sneers at his sarcasm and hits Aibek's head. Aibek dodges and tries hard to play cool by looking away and smoking, but behind the smoke his eyes tell a different story. Aibek looks into the side mirror again. He looks deep in thought.

Flicks his cigarette out the window.

FOCUS ON THE SMOLDERING SMOKE AND STUB

36 EXT. FIELDS - DAY

Suiyun walks into the fields with her horse following along.
 The fields are green and about to turn gold.

In the distance she sees her father working alone.

She draws near him, watching how he mends even one stock with such care. He carefully cuts out the weeds from the wheat.

She smiles and CALLS OUT.

SUIYUN

Ata!

He turns, smiles, and embraces her.

BAKAI

My girl! Just in time as always.

SUIYUN

Why are you alone... again?

BAKAI

(jokingly. And then
reciting a French poem
with SUBTITLES)

La moisson est blanc, mais la façon
dont les bonnes mains peu... The
harvest is white, but how few the
good hands.. Each crop needs such
care.

SUIYUN

(she rolls her eyes, but
grins)

Sigh.. You should just retire and
be the next great Chingiz Aitmatov.

BAKAI

Maybe, God willing. Come, let's go
eat together on our **place**.

Bakai takes the horse strap from her daughter then holds his
daughter and squeezes her against him with the other hand.

They walk together toward a small hill in the distance. They
GIGGLE together as she playfully tries to escape him and he
holds onto her tighter.

37

EXT. HILLTOP - DAY

The two sit at the top of a small hill, eating their
breakfast together. The horse is tied to a tree next to them.
Bakai is picking the carrots out of his bowl and is placing
it on Suiyun's. Suiyun eats the carrots.

SUIYUN

Ata, you don't need to work so hard
anymore. Just have the hired
workers do it.

BAKAI
Plentiful, productive, and fruitful
fields, but good hands are few.

SUIYUN
Come on dad...

Bakai smiles and pinches her cheek.

BAKAI
This is nice.

He looks out at his handiwork and tosses a grape into his mouth before patting his stomach and sighing contentedly. Suiyun takes a few kishmish, throws one in the air and catches it with her mouth.

BAKAI (CONT'D)
Kyzym, if you had to choose one
thing in life, what would it be?

Suiyun chokes on some of the grapes.

SUIYUN
Gahh,
(coughs)
ugh,
(whinnying)
dad..! its too early for your
philosophy lessons!

BAKAI
Tell me! Money? Fame? Food? Oh, you
will definitely choose food no?

Bakai pokes her cheeks that are stuffed with the grapes.

SUIYUN
Wow! Ata!

BAKAI
Hehehe

Suiyun swallows the grapes that she was chewing.

SUIYUN
Was this all you did while working
in France?

BAKAI
Tell me, what would you choose?

She pauses and starts to think hard as she takes more grapes.

SUIYUN

Mmm... sigh.. let's see.. I need to
be philosophical.. hmm...

She continues to think. Bakai waits for her answer. Moments later, she smiles to herself with her mouth stuffed.

SUIYUN (CONT'D)

Mmm.. above everything.. I think I
would want to choose.. love.

Bakai stops smiling, and pauses for a moment. His expression becomes more serious and he leans closer to listen intently.

BAKAI

Love?

SUIYUN

Mm.. yea.

Bakai starts to freak out.

BAKAI

WHY?! YOU HAVE A BOYFRIEND!?

Trying to think hard while downing more grapes.

SUIYUN

Haha no, Ata. Mmm.. I think Chingiz Aitmatov said that "When one's life is without love, then that life is empty." (Бир адам өмүрү сүйүсүз калса, андан ары ал өмүрү бош) At the end of the day.. The greatest thing we can learn is just to love, and be loved.

Bakai is astonished. He has a smile on his face.

BAKAI

Hmm. Tu avez déjà trouvé le secret
de la création.
(You have found the secret
of creation)

SUIYUN

Huh?

Bakai just smiles. Suiyun stuffs the last handful of grapes into her mouth.

BAKAI

But have you achieved this goal in your own life, or are you simply a philosopher?

Suiyun rolls her eyes and lies down on the grass as he speaks. She picks a little white flower, smells it, twirls it in her finger, then sticks it inside the gold book gently and closes it.

He watches her. She looks at him.

They sit in peaceful silence for a moment. He obviously wants to hear her answer, but nothing.

AREAL POV - THE TWO UNDER THE TREE SIDE BY SIDE

Suiyun sees the sunlight seeping through the tree leaves.

SUIYUN

Ata, I had a weird dream last night.

BAKAI

Mm? What kind of dream?

SUIYUN

I was a little girl in the rain, hiding in a barn, then someone opened the door and I woke up screaming.

Bakai tenses up for a split second, but then calmly responds.

BAKAI

Looks like you had a nightmare. You feel ok now?

SUIYUN

Yes, but.. It felt so real. Not like other dreams.

BAKAI

What do you think it means?

SUIYUN

I don't know..

Bakai looks off into the distance.

BAKAI

Hmm.. You know, its strange how
after it rains, the sky always
clears, and the sun always comes
out shining without fail. And the
sunrise after the rain is the
brightest of them all.

As Bakai speaks, Suiyun looks bored and covers her face with the book.

SUIYUN

That.. was so deep that I did not understand a single word you said.

BAKAI

It will make sense when the time is right. Just keep them in your heart, later they will take root deeply and sprout.

SUIYUN

That's not even a Kyrgyz saying! I don't speak plant language.

As Suiyun complains, Bakai takes a piece of grass and sticks it in her ear and tickles her.

SUIYUN (CONT'D)

Ahhhhhh! What was that?!

Suiyun jolts up with a terrified face. The book falls to the ground but is still closed. Bakai sticks the piece of grass to her face as he teases her.

BAKAI

Hahaha, There! Now you will start to understand plant language.

SUIYUN

(extremely annoyed)

ATA!!!

38 EXT. AIBEK'S HOUSE

Aibek ties the lamb tightly to the front post.

39 INT. AIBEK'S HOUSE - EVENING

He opens the front door. The house is empty and dark. The room is filled with gloomy shadows.

AIBEK

Anyone home? Jumabek! Mom!

No one answers. Aibek puts his luggage down and walks deeper into the house. As he gets close to the living room, the SOUND OF THE TV grows louder. His brother, JUMABEK (29), is sprawled out on the floor unconscious, snoring. There are more than a few empty bottles on the floor around him. Aibek kicks his brother.

AIBEK (CONT'D)

Hey, Jumabek! Get up.

JUMABEK

(groans)

Jumabek scratches his stomach but doesn't wake up.

AIBEK

Pathetic..

Aibek makes a disgusted sigh, rolls his eyes. He kicks his brother aggressively one more time, then walks around the rest of the house.

Everywhere he goes it's a complete mess. The kitchen is filled with old and rotting food. Aibek looks around at the chaos and seems to grow angry.

He kicks an old wooden chair in the kitchen to have it face his direction then drops into the seat. He leans on it for a moment then takes out a cigarette and lights it. He takes a sip and breathes the smoke out as he hangs backward.

40

EXT. SUIYUN'S HOUSE - GARDEN - EVENING

Suiyun, her mother and Urmat prepare dinner together in the outdoor kitchen. Urmat chops the potatoes while Suiyun and her mother stir and fry vegetables and meat.

Suiyun's father rests at the dining table outside the house after setting the table with Arstan. Bakai is wearing his Kalpak hat. The table sits at the edge of the grass field next to a big walnut tree. A white tent covers the table.

Suiyun brings a plate of food to the table. She is wearing her small silver bracelet around her left wrist. Arstan notices it.

ARSTAN

You still have that on you?

SUIYUN
Oh, this?

BAKAI
Mm? What is that?

(ERASED ISSUKOL FLASHBACK)

SUIYUN
Remember Ata, this is what we made
together when we were little.
(to Arstan)
Where is yours!?

ARSTAN
Hehe, here.

Arstan lifts his pant leg and to point out the bracelet on
his left ankle.

SUIYUN
Eee... Why is that there! That's so
gross.

ARSTAN
Uh...!! Where would I put it then!?
I'm a man! What will people think
of me if I have this on my wrist!?

BAKAI
Uh huh.. So.. your solution was to
put it on your ankle?

ARSTAN
I.. uh.. well.. yes.

BAKAI
(sarcastically)
Kudai saktasyng..

SUIYUN
Oh God..
(In russian)

Suiyun shakes her head with her father and together they
laugh at him. Arstan stands there, half smiling half frowning
with his mouth open. From a distance, Urmat hears them and
pauses from cutting the potatoes. Looking around to check if
anyone can see him, he lifts up his pant leg. The same
bracelet is also on his right ankle. He smiles to himself
briefly before going back to his chores, acting as if nothing
happened.

Elnura sees him however and laughs to herself.

Suiyun returns to Elnura to get more food.

Bakai turns, takes off his hat and leans forward to Arstan.

BAKAI

Does Aliah know you have that?

Arstan smiles. Leans back and looks up.

ARSTAN

Haha, Aliah already knows.

BAKAI

Oy, and she approves? You two
make.. quite an interesting
couple..

Bakai shakes his head, smiling and looking at him as if he
were a silly little boy.

BAKAI (CONT'D)

(gently chuckles)

Reminds me of how your mother and I
were back when we were young.

Bakai glances over to Elnura's direction. His love-filled
eyes rests upon her as he watches her busy with cooking.
Arstan smiles as he watches his father.

BAKAI (CONT'D)

I don't know what I would do
without her.

Bakai turns his gaze back at Arstan who is grinning at the
sight of his father's heart. Bakai smiles back.

BAKAI (CONT'D)

I'm happy for you son. I can't wait
for the wedding.

Arstan stops smiling. He lifts his head up, all traces of
giddiness gone. He sits up straight and speaks gently.

ARSTAN

Ah! Me too! Just three more months!

BAKAI

Hurry up and make me a grandfather!
I expect a little princess by next
year!

ARSTAN

Dad, enough! (Ata koi chu!)

BAKAI
I'm serious!

Arstan is smug at his father's reaction. The two chuckle at each other.

Elnura turns her eyes and watches her husband and son laughing with each other. She smiles at the sight with great delight. Urmat also watches them, there is something sad in his eyes. A deep longing sadness. The pace of his work slows for a little while, but he quickly goes back to his work.

Arstan leans back and looks up to the sky with a smug.

(ERASED bakai and arstan convo)

CLOSE UP OF ARSTAN LAUGHING

41 INT. AIBEK'S HOUSE

Aibek rummages through the kitchen pantries and cabinets until he finds some old bread, tea and some butter. He takes them back to the living room to eat next to his blacked out drunk brother.

He grabs a toshok* from the corner of the room and sits on the floor with it, then engages into the old soviet movie thats PLAYING ON THE TV.

Not long after, AIBEK'S MOTHER (47, but looks like she's 60) comes in with a load of grocery bags.

Aibek ignores her and seems to prepare himself for conflict.

AIBEK'S MOTHER
 Oh, you came back from the city?
 Beside the scrawny lamb, how much
 did you bring?

AIBEK
Mom, I'm eating. Let me be.

AIBEK'S MOTHER
 Excuse me?! I work all day long
 trying to bring in some money to
 have bread on the table and this is
 how you treat me?!

AIBEK
 Money money money, is that all you
 think about?!

AIBEK'S MOTHER

Oh? Whose money bought that bread
you are eating? If you don't have
the guts or brains to go and be a
man to earn anything for this house
then leave!

Aibek stands up and throws the bread onto the table. He pulls
out 150 som from his pocket.

FOCUS ON THROWN BREAD

AIBEK

HERE! THIS IS ALL I HAVE! TAKE THE
FREAKING MONEY YOU LOVE! I used the
rest to buy the lamb. I'll fatten
it and resell it for MORE MONEY.

Aibek throws the money onto the table and storms out of the
house. He slams the door. His mother continues to curse.

AIBEK'S MOTHER

Useless idiot, just like your
father...!
(in russian)

42 EXT. AIBEK'S HOUSE FRONT DOOR

Aibek stands outside the front door for a while until he
turns around and PUNCHES the wall. Although the sound is
muffled, his MOTHER'S CURSING words continue to flow to him
through the shut door.

His eyes water up and he wipes them away angrily as he walks
away.

CUT TO:

43 EXT. STREET - DAY - RAIN (DREAM)

A boy CRIES in the dark. Two children run in the rain. A man
grabs his horse. A woman's SCREAM echoes in the distance.

END DREAM:

44 INT. SUIYUN'S ROOM - MORNING - RAINING

SUIYUN

Ahhh!!

Suiyun wakes up sweating and screaming. She buries her face in her hands. Moments later Arstan bursts into the room.

ARSTAN

What happened?!

Suiyun shakes her head.

SUIYUN

No.. just, just a bad dream.

As she answers Arstan's question, Urmat also comes into the room.

URMAT

What's going on?

SUIYUN

Just a.. a bad dream. Its nothing.

ARSTAN

Oy.. what is up with you and your dreams lately?

SUIYUN

I don't know.. its the same dream over and over again.

Arstan and Urmat share a worried glance, but Urmat seems more annoyed than worried. Arstan however is obviously closer to Suiyun.

URMAT

What did you see? Tell it in more detail.

SUIYUN

Its.. a rainy day, and I'm in a barn crying. Then I hear a woman screaming in the distance. Then a man comes and opens the door and I'm screaming.

Urmat seems annoyed by Suiyun, but not Arstan.

URMAT

And?

SUIYUN

And.. That's all I can remember.

URMAT

You..

Arstan, notices Urmat's irritation and tries to quickly ease the situation.

ARSTAN
(Interrupts)
Hehe have you been watching a lot
of Korean dramas lately? Urmat can
you go get a cup of water?

Urmat is obviously unsettled by the description of Suiyun's dream. He does as he's asked and leaves the room to get the water.

Arstan turns to Suiyun.

ARSTAN (CONT'D)
Suiyun, is something bothering you
lately? How are you?

SUIYUN
No.. there's really nothing. I
really don't understand.

45 INT. KITCHEN - MORNING - RAINING

Urmat pours water in a cup. He stops a moment and looks frustrated.

URMAT
Jindi..

INT. SUIYUN'S ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Urmat returns with the water back. He hands it to Arstan. Arstan tenderly gives it to Suiyun. His posture resembles Suiyun's when she was helping the lamb.

ARSTAN
Here, drink. Rest a little ok? I'm
going to go help mother with the
cooking.

Suiyun drinks from the cup. Arstan stands up and then he rubs his hand on her hair like toward a child. As Suiyun is distracted, Arstan passes by Urmat and holds his shoulder.

ARSTAN (CONT'D)
(Firmly shakes his head,
whispers)
Not yet. She's not ready.

Urmat looks unsatisfied with Arstan's instructions. Arstan leaves to the kitchen.

Urmat, however, stays behind looking down on his sister. He closes the door, looks around, and lowers his voice.

URMAT
How are you?

SUIYUN
Better.

URMAT
You.. really don't remember?

SUIYUN
Huh? Remember what?

Urmat stops for a moment. He opens and closes his mouth a few times as if hesitating to continue.

URMAT
Do you remember anything that happened?

SUIYUN
What are you talking about? What happened when?

Urmat locks eyes with her, as if trying to dig out memories, but gives up and shakes his head in disappointment.

URMAT
Sigh.. I guess.. you were too young.. never mind.

SUIYUN
(confused)
Wait... what? Wait!

Urmat gets up from the bed and leaves the room.

SUIYUN (CONT'D)
Wait! Urmat Baike! What are you talking about?

Urmat lingers for a brief moment then sighs.

URMAT
Nothing. Just rest.

Urmat opens the door and turns to exit.

SUIYUN
(confused and annoyed)
What.. what the heck...?

Suiyun stares intensely.

MATCH TO:

46 INT. CLUB HADES - VANITY ROOM - PRESENT DAY SUIYUN

Suiyun's aged face is dozed off looking at no particular direction. Her mind is still drifting off to her memories. Dance music rings muffled through the door. She regains attention to the present and starts to put on a short promiscuous dress.

Someone comes opens the door before opening it, allowing the MUSIC to flood the room. Suiyun (21) stops zipping up her dress to see who it is. The prostitute from earlier stands in the doorway.

BERMET

Uh.. Suiyun, that guy left you a letter. Here.

She hands her a white envelope. Suiyun stops. But ignores and goes back to dressing herself.

SUIYUN

(bluntly)
Throw it away.

Despite Suiyun's harshness, the prostitute doesn't move.

BERMET

Suiyun. What is wrong? Speak.

Suiyun looks away, trying to avoid eye contact.

BERMET (CONT'D)

What is going on? Who is he? If the boss finds out he's going to kill you and him! Whats going on?

Suiyun stands frozen.

BERMET (CONT'D)

(Sighs, rolls her eyes)
Fine. Whatever.

The prostitute tosses the letter on the small side table right next to the door. Then, she leaves the room shutting the door behind her. Suiyun sits at the vanity table. Picking up her lip stick, she tries to put it on, but her hands are shaking hard.

She suddenly gets up, crumble the letter, throws it in the trash, opens the door and leaves.

INSERT LETTER IN TRASH CAN

47 INT. CLUB HADES - DANCE FLOOR/BAR - CONTINUOUS

Lights flash around the dance floor revealing shadows of women in short dresses and men hunting around for something to grab. In the corner a woman whispers seductively into a man's ear while another sits on his lap. Men here and there are escorted into private rooms by some of the prostitutes.

Suiyun walks up to the bar. A bar tender comes to her waiting for her request.

SUIYUN

Vodka.

The bar tender smirks at her and pours out vodka in a shot glass. He places it in front of her. Suiyun takes the glass and swallows all of it at once. She slams the glass on the bar table.

BAR TENDER

What the!? What is wrong with you?
(In Russian)

SUIYUN

PLEASE. Shut the fuck up and leave
me alone! (Yells in Russian)

The bar tender is shocked. He glares at her confused. With anger Suiyun leaves the bar and heads to the dance floor.

Suiyun dances haphazardly and wildly, catching the eyes of several patrons.

PATRON'S POV - SUIYUN DANCING

As she dances, she has flashbacks

48 EXT. OUTDOOR KITCHEN - DAY (FLASHBACK

Urmat plays a card on the table and smiles triumphantly

Elnura throws her cards down defeated.

Bakai laughs with 18-year-old Suiyun leaning on his shoulder.

BACK TO SCENE

All at once she stops dancing and tears up. Turning awkwardly toward her room, she makes her way back a moment before the patron approaches her. She doesn't notice and pushes through the crowd.

49 INT./EXT. VANITY ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Back in her room, the letter still sits in the trash.

Outside her room she reaches for the doorknob.

MATCH TO:

50 INT. SUIYUN'S ROOM - MORNING - RAINING

SLOW MOTION Suiyun (18) Sits on her bed with her forehead creased, trying to remember.

51 EXT. YOUNG URMAT'S OLD HOUSE RAOD - RAINING (FLASHBACK)

Young Suiyun running in the rain with her brother Urmat.

They find a barn and hide inside but can't stop themselves from crying.

Through a crack in the door young Suiyun sees a woman running. Suiyun and her brother continue crying silently in the barn.

52 INT. OLD HOUSE - DAY

The same woman that had been running is being beaten by a man.

BACK TO SCENE

Suiyun starts to realize the truth. Her eyes opens wide.

MATCH TO:

53 INT. CLUB HADES - VANITY ROOM - AFTERNOON

Suiyun opens the vanity room door and reaches for the letter.
(slow motion)

MATCH TO:

54 INT. SUIYUN'S ROOM - MORNING - RAINING

Suiyun (18, 3 years ago) runs out the door and grabs Urmat's arm. (slow motion)

MATCH TO:

55 INT. CLUB HADES - VANITY ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Suiyun (Present) grabs the letter. (slow motion)

MATCH TO:

56 INT. SUIYUN'S ROOM - MORNING - CONTINUOUS

Suiyun (3 years ago) grabs Urmat's shirt screaming, CRYING demanding answers. (slow motion)

URMAT

(Echo effect)

YOU WANT TO KNOW?!!

MATCH TO:

57 INT. CLUB HADES - VANITY ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Suiyun (Present) slowly opens the letter. As she reads, she holds her hand over her mouth and starts to cry. (slow motion)

MATCH TO:

58 INT. SUIYUN'S ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Suiyun (3 years ago) is traumatized by what her brother is telling her. She violently shakes her head in denial.

Arstan and Elnura run to them to split them apart. (Slow motion)

MATCH TO:

59 INT. CLUB HADES - VANITY ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Suiyun (Present) drops the letter and runs out the door. The letter falls to the ground. (slow motion)

SUIYUN (V.O.)

No! No.. no!!!

MATCH TO:

60 EXT. SUIYUN'S HOUSE FRONT - AFTERNOON - RAINING

Suiyun (3 years ago) is so shocked she runs out into the rain. URMAT'S VOICE rings through her head.

URMAT (V.O.)
That is who we are!!!

MATCH TO:

61 INT. SUIYUN'S ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Urmat eyes are watery and intensely red bursting with anger. Suiyun stands in shaking her head in denial.

URMAT
You idiot! Do you have any idea!?

Urmat pushes her off and starts to speak about the past.

Arstan tries to pull Suiyun away. Elnura holds onto Urmat, but he collapses against the wall.

URMAT (CONT'D)
Our real father is a drunk and a murderer!

Suiyun's jaw drops as Urmat's word ECHO in her head.

CUT TO:

62 INT. YOUNG URMAT'S OLD HOUSE - DAY (FLASHBACK)

Urmat's father KAMCHYBEK (45) comes home drunk and starts beating NAZGUL (29).

YOUNG URMAT (6) carries YOUNG SUIYUN (2) to the other room and hugs her.

63 INT. YOUNG URMAT'S OLD HOUSE - LATE EVENING

At night, the whole family sleeps in one room on the ground with blankets. He watches his mother tending to her wounds in the corner as his father sleeps. Nazgul sees Urmat.

NAZGUL
(Softly, smiling)
Sleep. I'm ok.

She gives a big assuring smile, then returns to her mending. Urmat continues to watch then a moment later turns and lies down frowning. There is a small twinkle of a tear forming in his eyes.

64 INT. YOUNG URMAT'S OLD HOUSE - NIGHT

Nazgul WEEPS at night in the other room quietly.

Young Urmat hears her from his floor bed. He lies there with his eyes open trying to hold back his tears of anger.

Young Urmat's POV - Young Suiyun peacefully sleeping next to him. He holds her hands. He sees his father lying on the floor sleeping with his mouth open beside an empty bottle with a hand stretched across the floor toward Urmat. Urmat gazes at his father's hand as tears fall from his eyes.

65 EXT. YOUNG URMAT'S OLD HOUSE ROAD - DAY

Urmat and Suiyun are playing in front of their house. His father steps out of the house, he looks a bit sober. Urmat looks at him and runs to get a cup of water for him.

He hands the cup to his father. His father takes it looks at him in the eyes. He's about to say something.

KAMCHYBEK

Son..

He's interrupted by a mother and child passing by. When they see Urmat's father, the mother gasps and hurries her child to pass quickly. Urmat is disturbed by their reaction. His father spits to the ground, then looks at his son.

KAMCHYBEK (CONT'D)

Do you know why they ran like that?

He points to the woman and child. Urmat just looks and shakes his head with fear.

KAMCHYBEK (CONT'D)

Because of how messed up I am.

He points to himself violently with anger and what seems to be regret. Suddenly he grabs Urmat and hold him close to his head.

KAMCHYBEK (CONT'D)

Remember son. Don't be a disgrace like me.(Mendei uyat bolbo) You hear? You have to be good.

END OF FLASHBACK

66 INT. SUIYUN'S ROOM - AFTERNOON

Suiyun stands in shock, she covers her mouth with her hand as she watches Urmat fall to the floor in tears shouting out the truth. Arstan and Elnura look with compassion at Suiyun.

She can't look them in the face.

URMAT (V.O.)
DON'T YOU UNDERSTAND?!

CUT TO:

67 INT. YOUNG URMAT'S OLD HOUSE - DAY (FLASHBACK)

Kamchybek waves a knife toward Nazgul.

She screams and begs him to stop. Shattered pieces of broken glass bottles are strewn around the room. In the corner, young Urmat and young Suiyun are crying, holding onto each other. A faded pink teddy bear is on the ground torn in pieces.

A shadow of Kamchybek stabs Nazgul. Urmat's eyes open wide in shock. He holds Suiyun tight covering her eyes. Nazgul falls to the ground at first, but manages to get back up.

NAZGUL
URMAT! TAKE SUIYUN.. RUN!! HIDE!

Young Urmat quickly runs out the door with young Suiyun.
Suiyun grabs the ripped pink teddy bear as she is dragged out.

68 EXT./INT. YOUNG URMAT'S OLD BARN - AFTERNOON, RAINING

Young Urmat carries young Suiyun out into the rain. They run into the barn. Inside, he finds a small door where they crawl inside. He closes the door.

Moments later his mother runs out to the barn where she finds them. From outside her husband SCREAMS.

She kisses young Urmat.

NAZGUL
Good boy.

URMAT
Mom.. mom..

He is scared and confused, tears glisten in his eyes.

NAZGUL

Shh.. it's ok. Just stay here. Ok?
I will be back.

URMAT

But..

NAZGUL

Be a good boy yes? I'm ok. Take
care of you sister ok?

She smiles as she tries to hide the pain. Urmat nods.

NAZGUL (CONT'D)

Baikushum..

She caresses Urmat then young Suiyun starts to cry with her
teddy bear tightly grasped, but Nazgul motions to her to
SHHH!

Suiyun calms down.

NAZGUL (CONT'D)

Altynym...

Nazgul smiles and kisses young Suiyun on the forehead then
closes the door and runs out.

69 EXT. YOUNG URMAT'S OLD VILLAGE ROAD - RAINING

Nazgul runs into the road, leading her husband away from
their children.

Her husband leaps onto his horse and rides after her. He has
a gash on his arm and holds a unbroken beer bottle. As he
comes upon her, he raises it to hit her.

70 INT. YOUNG URMAT'S OLD BARN

Young Urmat and Young Suiyun are still inside. Through the
crack he sees his mother running away and his father riding
the horse after her. They soon disappear from his sight.

Not long after, he hears his mother SCREAM and a car HONK and
hit the BRAKES. His father rides back, fleeing the scene.

71 EXT. STREET - DAY - RAINING

YOUNGER BAKAI gets out of the car and sees Young Urmat's
father riding away.

He runs to Nazgul. She is covered in blood and barely alive.
A broken bottles lies beside her.

YOUNGER BAKAI can barely hear what she SAYS. He leans his ear
toward her face to listen.

NAZGUL

Please.. In barn.. my children.. my
poor children.. In barn..

She points to the direction of the barn with her shaking
hands and then faints.

YOUNGER ELNURA comes out of the car with young Arstan (10)
and gasps. YOUNG ARSTAN (10) looks scared and holds onto his
mother.

BAKAI

She said there are children.
Elnura, she's hurt!

Elnura runs to Nazgul. She see's the blood. Elnura runs to
the car trunk.

Young Arstan stands there watching. Bakai sees his son eye to
eye. Young Arstan nods to his father. Bakai nods and heads
toward the barn. Arstan runs to Nazgul, takes off his jacket,
and tries to cover her from the rain.

Elnura grabs a cloth and rips it. She comes and wraps it
around Nazgul's head.

ELNURA

Arstan! I'm going to find some help
to call the ambulance. Stay with
her!

Arstan nods. Elnura runs toward a house. Nazgul barely opens
her eyes. She sees Arstan, smiles, and with her last breath
says,

NAZGUL

Her name is Suiyun..

ARSTAN

Suiyun...?

NAZGUL

Please love her.. as your own
sister. Pr..Protect.. her..

Nazgul, comforted, slowly releases her last breath.

ARSTAN
Eje! Eje!!....

Arstan tries to shake her, but realizes she's already left this world. Nazgul lies dead on the road with her eyes open. Arstan cries and closes her eyes for her.

AREAL SHOT: Nazgul on the ground beside Young Arstan and the car.

72 EXT./INT. BARN - RAINING

Bakai runs to the barn. He searches desperately for them and grows more and more concerned, then he hears CRYING and finally spots the small door.

YOUNG URMAT'S POV - the figure of a man opening the door, then light bursts in. Bakai's silhouette gleams.

Urmat looks scared and tries to protect his sister. When he sees the kind look in Bakai, he slowly starts to trust him.

Young suiyun pops her head out from Urmat's arms. She turns and looks up at Bakai, rain soaking her precious face.

He is smiling with outstretched arms.

She lets him pick her up.

END OF FLASHBACK:

73 EXT. FIELDS - DAY - RAINING

Suiyun runs toward the field, ignoring the rain and crying.

URMAT (V.O.)
You see? You see who we really are?
Now so stop acting like a stupid
child. Stop shaming us!

Someone rides a horse on the road. Suiyun, not looking, almost gets run over. When she looks up, its Aibek.

After regaining control of his horse, Aibek looks down at her angrily before noticing her emotional state. He tries to say something to her, but then she picks herself up and starts to run.

He stares after her then looks around trying to figure out what's happened to her. He gives a sly smile at the view of the house. Then he turns back to the direction Suiyun is going. He taps his horse with his feet to slowly follow after her.

Suiyun finally collapses under a tree. She steadies herself with her hand, exhausted. Her breathing is more like gasps by this time.

Moments later, a man with an umbrella comes next to her and covers her with it. She looks up to see her father's warm countenance. She turns away and walks into the rain.

Bakai follows her, still covering her with the umbrella. They walk in silence for a while.

SUIYUN
Is it true?

BAKAI
...Yes.

SUIYUN
Why didn't you ever tell me?!

BAKAI
..You were an innocent child. I
didn't want the past to hold you
down. I wanted your roots to grow
unhindered.

SUIYUN
So.. I'm not.. your daughter?

Bakai stops. Suiyun slowly stops as well. Her face is in deep agony and confusion.

BAKAI
Child.. You ARE my daughter. I took
you in as my own.

SUIYUN
So you pitied me...? I'm some
baikush child you chose to save.

BAKAI
What? Why do you twist my words..?

SUIYUN
You.. All this time, all of you
knew.. except me! This is crazy...

Suiyun tries to turn and run away. Bakai drops the umbrella and grabs his daughter and looks into her eyes. His gentle deep voice flows out with love as the rain pours down on both of them.

BAKAI
 Suiyun. Look. When I first saw you
 in that barn..

CLOSE UP ON BAKAI'S LOVING GAZE

MATCH TO:

YOUNGER BAKAI'S LOVING GAZE

74 EXT. BARN - RAINING (FLASHBACK)

Young Suiyun and young Urmat are in the little door crying.
 Bakai holds his hands out to young Suiyun.

BAKAI V.O
 You were so scared. You came into
 my arms and held me so tight.

She comes into his arms and buries her head into his
 shoulder. Her small little hand grip his shirt very tight and
 with the other she holds tight to her pink teddy bear.

SOUND OF SMALL HEART BEATING FAST THEN SLOWING DOWN.

CUT TO BAKAI LOOKING SURPRISED THEN CLOSSES HIS EYES WITH A
 SMILE, HOLDING SUIYUN TIGHT.

END OF FLASHBACK:

75 EXT. FIELDS - DAY

Bakai looks longingly at his daughter.

BAKAI
 I can never forget how your tiny
 little hands held me so tight. I
 felt your small little heart melt
 into mine..

Suiyun, avoiding eye contact, holds back her emotions.

BAKAI (CONT'D)
 Can't you see? You are a gift to
 me. A precious precious gift. The
 day I found you was the day you
 completed my heart. You are my
 precious daughter no matter what.

Suiyun's head drops. She breathes hard and shakes it hard.

SUIYUN

..I can't belie....This is
ridiculous.. I don't know who I am
anymore..

BAKAI

My child, come..

He tries to hug her, but she turns away. Bakai pulls something out from his jacket. Its the pink teddy bear Suiyun had when she was a child. The ripped teddy bear is mended and fixed. He gives it to her.

Suiyun looks at it weeping. She holds it tight. But she gives it back and starts walking away.

Bakai grabs the umbrella and places it over her as he follows her.

BAKAI (CONT'D)

I'm sorry kyzym...

Suiyun stops and stands there for a moment. Without turning around she says in a broken voice.

SUIYUN

Please don't call me kyzym anymore.

Suiyun runs away into the rain.

Bakai stands with the umbrella then slowly drops it. He watches Suiyun run off.

AREAL SHOT: SUIYUN RUNS THROUGH THE FIELD. BAKAI STANDS ALONE

In the distance, Aibek watches on his horse.

He takes out his phone and calls someone.

AIBEK

Hello? Its me, we need to talk.

CUT TO:

76 EXT. SUN RISE ON MOUNTAINS - MORNING

77 INT. SUIYUN'S ROOM - MORNING

The morning sun rises, the sky has cleared. Suiyun tosses and turns in bed from more nightmares. Her eyes slowly open.

SUIYUN'S POV - she sees her empty room, the wind blowing in her window with sunshine. But the room is filled with echoes voices.

URMAT (V.O.)
You see!? You see who we really
are?

NAZGUL (V.O.)
AHHH!

BAKAI (V.O.)
You are my daughter.

Suiyun lies on her bed lifeless, she slowly closes her eyes with tears coming out.

NAZGUL (V.O.)
Urmat! Take Suiyun and hide!

URMAT (V.O.)
So stop being a stupid child
bringing shame!

Suiyun turns the other way.

BAKAI (V.O.)
Child.. You ARE my daughter. I took
you in as my own.

NAZGUL (V.O.)
Altynym..

BAKAI
Kyzym..

Suiyun jolts up in bed.

SUIYUN
....No....

She turns over and kneels on her bed. She buries her head into the pillow and grips the bed sheets.

78

EXT. ROAD, SIDE OF THE HOUSE

The sky is sunny and a gentle breeze blows. An old black Mercedes pulls up. The windows are tinted so nobody can be seen. The car parks on the roadside opposite Suiyun's house and waits.

79 INT. SUIYUN'S ROOM - LATE MORNING

Suiyun sits on her bed for a long while before finally getting up. She looks pale and sick but determined. She looks out the window then at the dying plant. She stares at it with a blank face.

80 INT. WASH ROOM

In the bathroom, she brushes her teeth and washes her face. She looks at herself in the mirror. She ties her hair, puts her clothes on, then goes downstairs to the kitchen.

81 INT. KITCHEN - LATE MORNING

Her mother is setting the table, but when she sees her daughter enter she stops and walks over with open arms.

ELNURA

Kyzym. Come.

Suiyun pushes her mother away before she can. Surprise then pain registers on Elnura's face.

Suiyun sits down in silence. Elnura breaks the newly cooked lepyoshka bread and offers it to Suiyun. When she doesn't take it, she puts it on her daughter's plate, then takes Suiyun's cup and pours tea into it and sits down.

ELNURA (CONT'D)

How did you sleep?

SUIYUN

Why didn't you ever tell me.

Elnura bites back tears.

ELNURA

Child, because we love you.

SUIYUN

Love? What is this love are you talking about? If you loved me, shouldn't you have told me?

Elnura reaches for Suiyun's hand.

ELNURA

..We were waiting for the right time to tell y-

Suiyun pulls her hand away and interrupts.

SUIYUN

So all this time you just pitied me
as a pathetic lost child?

Elnura sits in silence for a moment, her heart is breaking.

ELNURA

How can you confuse love with pity?

SUIYUN

How can I trust anything you all
say to me anymore? I.. I don't know
what to believe..

Suiyun's eyes are filled with hesitation. She slowly rises
and puts her untouched plate into the sink.

ELNURA

Kyzym..

Suiyun leaves the kitchen without another word and goes
outside. Elnura remains in her chair. She looks old and
tired.

82 EXT. INFONT OF SUIYUN'S HOUSE - MORNING

Suiyun walks out of the house. She walks then suddenly stops.
Arstan is standing in front of her.

ARSTAN

Theres something I want to show
you.

Suiyun stares back lifeless.

83 EXT. NAZGUL'S GRAVE - AFTERNOON

Suiyun and Arstan walk through a grassy hilled area. A stream
of water flows through the life-filled ground. A giant tree
with three trunks looks over the scenery. A small tomb stone
stands under the tree. It reads "Nazgul." A few dried flowers
lie on the stone.

SUIYUN

Is this...

Arstan nods. They both stand in silence. Suiyun gazes into
the name and carasses it. She sees the flowers.

SUIYUN (CONT'D)

Did.. did some one put these here?

FOCUS ON ARSTAN.

ARSTAN

Her last words.. She asked me to
love you and protect you, as my
sister. She smiled as she spoke.

Pain registers. Tears start to flow from Suiyun's eyes.

ARSTAN (CONT'D)

She risked her life to save you.
Till her last breath, she was
trying to protect you.

She starts to weep. Arstan stands still watching his little
sister finally meet her birth mother.

84

EXT. BAKAI'S SEAT - AFTERNOON

Arstan and Suiyun are standing looking at eachother.

ARSTAN

Are you okay?

Suiyun nods. She slowly comes to him and hugs him.

SUIYUN

Thank you.

He hugs her tightly.

ARSTAN

Everything is going to be ok. We're
a family. You got that? Nothing is
going to change.

Suiyun nods as she tears up. They stand there for a moment,
then Arstan looks at her and gives his usual brotherly hand
shake on her hair making it all messy. They both giggle.

ARSTAN (CONT'D)

I have to go help father in the
fields. Are you going to be ok?

SUIYUN

Yes.. I.. I just want to walk for a
bit.

Arstan looks into her eyes with a brotherly worry. But he
smiles and nods. He shakes his hand on her head once again
and leaves her. Suiyun smiles, but it quickly disapears once
her brother leaves. She gives out a big sigh.

85 EXT. ROAD, SIDE OF THE HOUSE

Suiyun walks nowhere in particular.

86 INT. INSIDE THE BLACK CAR

The driver is Chayan with the scar. He sees Suiyun step out of the road. Sanjar and Joker and another guys are in the car GOOFING around. When Chayan spots her though, he quiets them down.

They watch her walk alongside the road. Chayan TURNS ON his car and follows her.

87 EXT. ROAD - CONTINUOUS

Although Suiyun appears to be out of it, she notices the car behind her and steps aside so it can pass.

Chayan, however, has other plans. He drives up beside her then stops and the others jump out and grab her.

SUIYUN

Who..? AHFFF! LET GO! No!

Suiyun pulls her arm away and tries to fight off. She kicks one of the men on his shin. For a split second shes free and tries to run away. But the men overpower and pull her into the car within seconds before driving off, leaving nothing but a cloud of dust to testify of the kidnapping.

88 EXT. HARVEST FIELD - CONTINUOUS

Bakai and his sons work in the field. They hack down the weed with sickles. Bakai stands to stretch and wipe his brow when he hears A CAR SPEEDING off. He turns his head just in time to see a black car disappear beyond the curve leading away from the village. Without a second thought, he goes back to work.

89 INT. CAR - CONTINUOUS

Suiyun continues struggling within the car, but the men are too strong for her. She SCREAMS for help and mercy, but the men just joke around LAUGHING.

JOKER

Woah woah, shes a tough one! Haha,
Aibek will have fun with her!

Another man makes a call on his cellphone.

CHAYAN

Aibek! We got her, we're on our way now.

90 INT. AIBEK'S HOUSE LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Aibek holds the phone to his ear and nods.

91 INT. CAR - CONTINUOUS

Suiyun, stretched across the laps of the men in back, kicks to no avail.

SUIYUN

No!! Nooo!! Please! Let go! No!!

Sanjar, who was in the car with Aibek when he returned from the city, sits in the passenger seat looking at Suiyun with troubled eyes.

SANJAR

I don't know about this.. This isn't right.

CHAYAN

Shut up man! Erkek bol!

Sanjar quiets down in defeat, but looks back at Suiyun who is still SCREAMING and struggling.

Suiyun's terror filled eyes meet with his. He looks intently to her as if he is trying to speak to her through his eyes. HER CRIES ECHO as the scene fades out.

CUT TO BLACK:

92 EXT. SUIYUN'S HOUSE - EARLY EVENING (6PM)

FADE IN:

The old Russian clock on the wall reads six. Suiyun's family gathers at the dining table drinking tea. Suiyun is noticeably absent. They all sit in silence.

Bakai rises from his seat to stand in front of the window, waiting for his daughter to return.

The sound of the CLOCK'S TICKING grows louder.

CUT TO:

93 EXT. AIBEK'S HOUSE FRONT DOOR - EARLY EVENING

The car stops and Suiyun keeps screaming, begging for them to let her go. She tries to fight the men dragging her, but most of her energy was spent in the car.

Her face is a mess of tears, sweat and hair - and underneath it all her features are contorted in terror. Her voice cracking, she begs them to let her go,

SUIYUN
LET ME GO!!!

But the men only delight in her fear as if it were a joke and keep pulling her toward the house.

Women start to come out of the house. Some clapping, some GIGGLING among themselves. They're all dressed in long, old dresses with Kyrgyz handmade vests and scarves on their heads signifying their long days labor. Everybody LAUGHS and smiles as if her kidnapping is cause for celebration.

Suiyun searches for a sympathetic face, a sane rescuer, but finds none.

SUIYUN (CONT'D)
NO, PLEASE LET ME GO!

JOKER
Haha hey grab her leg! Hold tight!

AIBEK'S AUNT
Oho~ She's here! Bring her in
hahaha

SUIYUN
NO!! LET ME GO!!! Someone! HELP!

CUT TO:

94 INT. AIBEK'S HOUSE - EARLY EVENING

The men and women together drag Suiyun through the front door. She tries hard to resist. Her face is soaked with tears. Some of the neighboring women peak through the doorway watching the entertainment with delighted faces.

SUIYUN
Please! Let go!

Nurgul walks by with a bag of apples when she sees the crowd of people and approaches the house to see what all the commotion is about.

She pushes through the crowd until she sees Suiyun being forced inside. At first the girl's back is to Nurgul and she just watches wondering who she could be, but then she catches sight of Suiyun's face as she tries one more time to escape. Nurgul drops her apples.

NURGUL

Suiyun!?

Flabbergasted, she turns to one of the women beside her.

NURGUL (CONT'D)

Is that.. Suiyun?? Sultanbekova?
What is going on?

AIBEK'S NEIGHBOR'S WIFE

Haha I think so! Aibek kidnapped
her to be his bride! It's a mairam!

NURGUL

What..? Does her family know?

AIBEK'S AUNT'S FRIEND

Who cares? Now she's under Aibek's
household, haha.

NURGUL

What...?

Nurgul, shocked, pulls away from the crowd. She hesitates before pulling out her old Nokia phone and dialing.

NURGUL (CONT'D)

Pick up. Come on, pick up!

95 INT. SUIYUN'S HOUSE - EVENING

The family sits at the table still waiting for their daughter. The food is left untouched. Bakai remains standing at the window looking for her.

ARSTAN

Father...

Bakai shakes his head. He knows something worse has happened.

URMAT

Father, don't worry, she's just
being childish.

ELNURA

Urmat.

Urmat, unemotional, almost smirks, but stops speaking.

Arstan watches his father. His usually cheery face is downcast. Finally, Bakai gets up and grabs his jacket.

ARSTAN

No Father, I'll go look for her?

Bakai shakes his head.

ELNURA

Bakai, let him go.

Bakai turns to Arstan.

BAKAI

You know how to find a stray lamb,
(pointing to his head for
wisdom)
but she is different, my son.

Arstan is almost out the door with his jacket when his cellphone rings. He stops and turns toward the phone and answers.

ARSTAN

Hello? Yes? ah! Nurgul eje!

The family watches him speak with her.

Suddenly, Arstan's face turns white.

ARSTAN (CONT'D)

WHAT?!

The family's attention turns to him. Arstan barely manages to hold onto the phone. He slowly turns toward his father with gapping mouth. Bakai looks at his son and sees that he has lost all color to his face.

BAKAI

No...

96

INT. AIBEK'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - EVENING

The men bring her to the living room and dump her in a corner before leaving. A group of 5 women have been waiting for her. Aibek's mother is among them as well.

One old lady holds up a white scarf and tries to pull it over Suiyun's head but she fights it off. The other women grab her arms and force her into the scarf.

Suiyun rips it off and breaks away from them and tries to run, but the women latch back on with vice like grips. She SCREAMS, CRIES and begs them to let her go.

SUIYUN

No please, I will not stay.

AIBEK'S AUNT

Yes, you will, you will stay!

SUIYUN

No! This isn't right!

AIBEK'S NEIGHBOR'S WIFE

Your life will be good here. Stop acting like a child! Stop bringing shame to your family!

AIBEK'S MOTHER

Stay still; take the scarf.

SUIYUN

No! NO! PLEASE!!! No!!!

The women LAUGH as if it's all a game while they continue to restrain her and yell at her. As Suiyun continues to resist the festive mood begins to dwindle.

Aibek's mother finally signals for the eldest woman to come then takes the scarf from her and approaches Suiyun. She tries to put the scarf on her.

ELDER WOMAN

Hold her down. You, quiet down. Do you have no shame?

SUIYUN

How can I marry someone I never met!

ELDER WOMAN

Are you not Kyrgyz? Staying is your duty to uphold your family's honor! What have they taught you?

SUIYUN

No!!

ELDER WOMAN

Shut up! You dare not defile an elder!

SUIYUN

Please...!!

The elder grabs her hand. Her bracelet dangles. Suiyun fights back.

BOOM!

The door slams open, Bakai comes in with fury in his eyes.

BAKAI
GET YOUR DIRTY HANDS OFF MY
DAUGHTER!

SUIYUN
Father!!

Suiyun pushes her way out of the crowd of women and runs into her father's arms. The women remain where they are, frozen in shock. Arstan comes in from behind with a grin. Urmat slinks in as well, keeping his head down in embarrassment.

BAKAI
Are you okay? Did they hurt you?

SUIYUN
(weeps)
Ata...

BAKAI
You're safe now. No one is going to
take you away from me.

Bakai looks to the women.

BAKAI (CONT'D)
Do any of you have any sense of
dignity!? This is my daughter! This
is completely barbaric! If any of
you touch her again, I will have
you arrested!

Bakai glares at the women. Then he turns to Suiyun.

BAKAI (CONT'D)
Wait here with your brother. I'll
go settle things. Arstan, come.

Arstan nods. Bakai glares at the women one more time before leaving the room. Arstan comes to Suiyun before following Bakai.

ARSTAN
Suiyun, are you ok?

SUIYUN
 (Continues to weep)
 Arstan baike...

She weeps in his arms trying to brush away the terror.

ARSTAN
 Shh..Its ok. We'll take care of it.

Arstan looks to the women as he holds his sister in his arms.

ARSTAN (CONT'D)
 Don't you know this is against the
 law!? All of you.. You have no
shame!
 (to Urmat)
 Urmat, stay here with Suiyun.
 Protect her.

Arstan comforts Suiyun one last time and brings her to Urmat.
 Arstan leaves the room. Urmat draws near his sister. He
 crosses his arms as he bends down to her eye level. Suiyun is
 wiping her tears trying to brush away the terror.

AIBEK'S MOTHER
 (to Urmat)
 My god! What shame is this!? Why I
 never heard of such an insult! What
 kind of child is this?

As Aibek's mother complains she leaves the room to go after
 Bakai. Urmat watches Aibek's mother leave the room, then
 turns back to Suiyun still crossing his arms.

URMAT
 Oy jindi, what happened?

SUIYUN
 They.. they just came out of
 nowhere and took me.

URMAT
 Is it someone you know?

SUIYUN
 No! I don't even know who the guy
 is.

URMAT
 (Sighs) Ujas. Look at this
 mess.

AIBEK'S AUNT

You should be thankful that my
nephew actually wants you!

AIBEK'S AUNT'S FRIEND

You dare to leave? You will be
cursed! Your family will be cursed!

The words of the women start to affect Urmat. He starts to
breath heard.. almost as if he's sweating. He looks around,
listening to the comments of the women around him, clearly
sinking in. Pain strikes his face. The women continue to
complain in the background.

URMAT

Sigh. Suiyun. Look what you've
done..

Suiyun looks up at Urmat with shock. Urmat looks at Suiyun,
and then looks around at the women, and then back at Suiyun.
There is worry in his eyes.

SUIYUN

Urmat baike.. how could you think
this is my fault!?

URMAT

Father is never going to let you
stay. But do you have any idea what
people will gossip about now!

SUIYUN

But..?! What are you talking about?

URMAT

You know exactly what I'm talking
about. Father is risking his entire
honor for you. Just so that you can
be free.. again.

SUIYUN

So what are you trying to say to
me?!

URMAT

(sighs)
Suiyun..

SUIYUN

You just want me to stay just for
the sake of honor don't you?!

Urmat does not answer but just looks into her eyes.

SUIYUN (CONT'D)

You're so cruel! How can you want that for your sister!

URMAT

Suiyun..

SUIYUN

Do you think I wanted to be kidnapped?! I never asked this! I never asked to be adopted! I never asked to be a burden! I never asked any of this!

Urmat is frustrated at her fuss and aggressively holds her arm. He hangs his head low as he breathes hard.

URMAT

Do.. do you know what it was like to grow up knowing you came from a father that was a murderer..? So many people said so many horrible things about us. Do you have any idea what its like to watch father defend us and hear horrible things from people, just because of who we are? Do you know how much father and mother sacrificed for us and how much shame they got!? Do you have any idea!

Suiyun just listens, tears flowing through her eyes. Urmat breathes hard.

URMAT (CONT'D)

You.. were too.. too young to even remember or to know what they've gone through because of us! We used to live in Bishek.. but Father and mother even moved to a different village, just so that they can protect us from everything. Especially you! They wanted to make a better life for you and me! And they are going through it again.. Why is it that you and I are always a burden to everyone?!

She stares at Ypmat in confusion and agony. Urmat looks very stressed and in internal emotional pain.

URMAT (CONT'D)

Suiyun.. why do we always end up in this kind of situation..?

Suiyun starts to look down toward her brother, who is hanging his head low.

URMAT (CONT'D)

Our real mother died trying to save us. Father and mother made so many sacrifices for us already.. Why do we always end up doing this to every family we are with...? Why...?

SUIYUN

I.. don't know..

URMAT

Suiyun.. Maybe.. It's time we stop being a burden to them.. Uyat bolbosh kerek, alar uchun.

SUIYUN

But..

URMAT

If we love them.. It's now our turn to make sacrifices.

SUIYUN

But..

The white scarf lays on the ground at Suiyun's feet.

97

INT. OTHER ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Bakai furiously YELLS at all the men of the household, demanding to know who the person behind this is.

BAKAI

Who did it?! Where is the coward?!

Aibek appears from another room and greets him, trying to speak amicably with Bakai. Aibeks friends are just hanging around not knowing how to respond. Aibek's mother also enters the room. Aibek comes with a confident, almost smirking face.

AIBEK

Asalam alaykum.

BAKAI

Who the hell are you? Who the hell do you think you are thinking you can steal my daughter?!

Aibek, smirks, cocky but tries to act cordial. Arstan walks into the room. He looks around the crowd of the boys who kidnapped Suiyun. On the corner of the wall, Chayan leans against it with a smirk on his face. Arstan and Chayan meet eye to eye. Chayan smiles at him with an evil look. Arstan stares at him.

AIBEK

Sir, sit down, have some tea. (In Russian)

BAKAI

TEA!? You kidnap my child and you want me to sit and drink tea with you?! Is this some sick joke?

Aibek starts to loose confidence.

AIBEK

No.. No! I assure you, I can take care of her. (In Kyrgyz)

BAKAI

Take care of her? My daughter?! So you plan to do that by stealing her as if she is some animal! You're not worthy for her!

AIBEK

Sir.. I-

BAKAI

Enough! I am taking my daughter back. You dare steal her again, I will have the full force of the law come against you. You will regret it.

AIBEK'S MOTHER

LAW? This is Kyrgyz tradition! This is the way things are done!

There is no power on earth that can stop Bakai. He snaps at her. He speaks sternly.

BAKAI

A tradition that steals daughters from their families?! You honestly think this is Kyrgyz? Or even humane? How would you feel if I stole your cow! Huh?! Is a daughter less than a cow?! What ever happened to dignity and humanity in our country?

(MORE)

BAKAI (CONT'D)
 Its because of people like you, our
 nation still has so much suffering.
 You should be ashamed of
 yourselves!

Айбек's mother falls silent. Everyone stands silenced.

BAKAI (CONT'D)
 I warn you.. You dare harm her
 again.. Even if I have to loose my
 honor or my life, I will make sure
 you will regret it.

Aibek's mother stays mute. Bakai storms out of the room with Arstan. They pass through the hallway with Aibek and his friends following after with solemn faces.

Surprisingly though, the sound of women LAUGHING and celebrating comes from the room where Suiyun is. Bakai stops, looking confused. He frowns at the sound and quickly opens the door.

98 INT. LIVING ROOM

The door opens. Suiyun is sitting on the floor with a white scarf wrapped around her head. The women around her are happy TALKING with one another.

Bakai is in utter shock.

BAKAI
 What?! What is this..? What is
 going on?

A woman approaches him and tries to lead him out the door for the arrangements.

AIBEK'S AUNT
Come come!

Bakai wrenches his arm out of her hands.

BAKAI
 Get off me! Suiyun! What is going
 on?!

Urmat approaches his father trying to calm him down. He speaks proudly as if he had done Bakai a favor.

URMAT
 (Smug)
 Father, she decided to stay.

ARSTAN
What...!? Why? How?

BAKAI
Kyzym! What is the meaning of this?

SUIYUN
...Father, please.

BAKAI
Who talked you into this?!

SUIYUN
I just want.. I just want to do
what is right.

BAKAI
(flabbergasted)
What...?!

AIBEK'S NEIGHBOR'S WIFE
She is wise! See how she prevented
you from shame!

URMAT
Father.. Come-

Ypmat tries to convince his father of the arrangement, but
Bakai snaps at him.

BAKAI
(interrupts)
Is this your doing Ypmat?!

Urmat is silenced and confused.

URMAT
But.. but father this is for you!

BAKAI
Urmat! How can you think this is
for me!? How can you not understand
me!

Urmat looks down as his father yells at him, greatly saddened
realizing he failed to please his father. **Confusion** form in
his eyes.

URMAT
But.. but..

Suiyun screams from where she sits and buries her face in her
hands.

SUIYUN

(Screaming)

ENOUGH!! Just go away! I don't want to be a burden to anyone anymore! I don't want to be living a lie, I don't want you to suffer because of me anymore!

Bakai is finally at a loss for words and stands torn and confused.

Arstan retains a calmer demeanor, but it's clear that he is also dismayed.

BAKAI

Kyzym.. What are you talking about?

SUIYUN

Please.. no more..

BAKAI

Kyzym! You were never a burden to me! Who told you that?!

SUIYUN

You don't need to hide the truth anymore! I know how much you sacrificed for me and Urmat baike! Please.. stop trying to protect me from the truth!

BAKAI

I am not lying! I never considered you as a burden! You are my daughter!

SUIYUN

I'm not your kyz!! I never was! Please stop fooling yourself! I can take care of myself! JUST GO!

The women pick up the gossip,

WOMEN

"She's not his daughter."

Bakai hears them but is unshaken. Urmat nervously looks at the women. He turns to Suiyun again with a pain struck face. A twinkle of tears are in his eyes.

BAKAI

Why are you doing this?!

SUIYUN
Please! LEAVE!

A woman comes to Bakai trying to ease the situation.

AIBEK'S AUNT'S FRIEND
 She is right! Now come, get ready
 for tomorrow's wedding!

Bakai, flabbergasted and shamed, storms out of the house in tears. Urmat looks at Suiyun and frowns in bitterness to Suiyun. He slowly follows after Bakai.

Arstan silently looks back at Suiyun and stares at her forlornly.

Suiyun slowly lifts her teary face out of her arms and looks into Arstan's eyes. Her face is filled with a mix of emotions; sorrow, bitterness and confusion.

The women are still TALKING about Suiyun not being Bakai's daughter.

WOMEN
 ...not his daughter...

Arstan hears, but it doesn't affect him. He just looks straight at Suiyun. He tries to say something, but stops and leaves the room, then comes back

ARSTAN
 Suiyun.

Suiyun looks up to him through tears. Arstan's eyes are filled with longing.

Suiyun doesn't respond, but sits with a lifeless face. Arstan leaves with grief.

The women continue surrounding her with joyful faces, ignorant or unconcerned about the turmoil going through her heart.

Moments later, Aibek enters the room with a pleased smirk. He closes the door behind him.

FADE OUT:

Many women come together around Suiyun putting a wedding dress on her. Suiyun's face is lifeless.

100 EXT./INT. WEDDING CAFE - LATE EVENING

A white benz car arrives at the outside of a cafe. Aibek comes out of the back seat and comes around the other side to open the door.

As the door opens, Suiyun sits in a white dress with a lifeless face. Aibek smirks proudly as he gives his hand to her. Suiyun looks at his hand for a moment, she's hesitant to leave but forces herself to cooperate. She holds his hand and comes out of the car.

101 EXT./INT. WEDDING CAFE - LATE EVENING

Guests are filled in the wedding cafe. Some of the older men from Aibek's village are drunk, shouting, and being obnoxious.

Suiyun and Aibek arrive and walk down the aisle.

The moment they step in, Bakai and Elnura look away in grief. Arstan watches with an unpleased face but tries to maintain stature. Urmat seems awkwardly pleased. No one in Suiyun's family enjoys the festivities, but all the other guests APPLAUD at the feast.

After a while, Bakai cannot bear the sight any longer and leaves the ceremony. Elnura sees her husband and worriedly looks to Arstan. Arstan also sees his father and follows after him.

102 EXT. WEDDING CAFE - CONTINUOUS

Bakai steps out, taking a big deep breath, and looks up at the night sky. After a moment he sits down on the block. He starts to reminisce about his children's past.

103 EXT. FIELDS - DAY (FLASHBACK)

BAKAI'S POV - his daughter is pulling on his arms, wanting to run in the fields with him. To the side, he sees Urmat walking quietly beside him, staring at Bakai's hands with yearning eyes, but not daring to ask to hold them. Bakai stretches out his hand to Urmat. Urmat staves off reaching for them at first, embarrassed, but eventually he reaches up and grasps it tightly.

Farther ahead, he sees Arstan with his hands up, waving at his siblings.

END OF FLASHBACK:

104 EXT. WEDDING CAFE - NIGHT

Arstan comes near his father.

ARSTAN
Father..

BAKAI
(Sighs) Son.

ARSTAN
You want me to get you a cup of
warm tea?

BAKAI
She's so beautiful today.

Arstan stands appalled, there is sadness in his eyes. He stands in silence watching Bakai.

BAKAI (CONT'D)
(sigh) I wanted so much more for
her..

Bakai sits in silence - deep in thought.

YOUNG SUIYUN'S LAUGHTER

105 EXT. FIELDS - DAY (FLASHBACK)

The scenes of her childhood pass through Bakai's heart.

Suiyun is on Bakai's shoulders. Her tiny hands holding tightly to her father's big ones as he walks past the fields with his two sons. Urmat follows after his father. He looks intently at Bakai's hand and reaches out for it. Bakai squeezes his hand hard.

END OF FLASHBACK:

FADE TO BLACK:

106 INT. AIBEK'S HOUSE, BEDROOM

FADE IN:

Suiyun and Aibek are on their bed. But Suiyun is just lying there wide awake. There is no joy or life coming out of her eyes. Aibek remains sleeping, snoring. She looks at him, he still feels like a stranger, there is no love in her eyes. She puts her white scarf on. Her face looks lack luster and her body's grown noticeably thinner. Her once beautiful pale white skin is now dark and rough.

107 INT. AIBEK'S HOUSE - FRONT DOOR - EARLY MORNING

Suiyun stands on the doorway as she greets her mother in law good bye. Suiyun hands Aibek's mother an old big cloth bag. Suiyun tries to smile, but Aibek's mother barely looks at Suiyun, grabs the bag and leaves.

Moments later, Suiyun goes out to clean the doorway of the house.

108 INT. AIBEK'S HOUSE - KITCHEN

She cuts food and starts cooking.

109 INT. AIBEK'S HOUSE - BEDROOM

There is a small green grassy plant by the window. Suiyun comes and waters it. She gives good care to the plant, wiping each leaf with a cloth. She whispers to herself.

SUIYUN

So few good hands...

She stops and slowly bits her lips.

110 INT. AIBEK'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - MORNING

Suiyun sits with Aibek on the floor eating breakfast. The TV is on and Aibek is solely concentrated on the show. The two don't talk and Suiyun watches her husband with a stoic face.

SUIYUN

I think I want to buy more plants in the house. It will bring more life I feel no?

AIBEK

ok...

Aibek give little attention to Suiyun's thoughtfulness. Suiyun's face slowly dies. She just stares at him with a blank face.

SUIYUN

So.. What will you do today?

AIBEK

....Mm..

Aibek ignores her question in favor of his show.

Suiyun is discouraged and stares down at her food disinterestedly, but then at least manages to bring up a decent spoonful of food to her mouth. A few moments later Aibek finally speaks.

AIBEK (CONT'D)

So.

Suiyun's face lightens up.

SUIYUN

Mm?

AIBEK

Did you talk to your father?

SUIYUN

About what?

AIBEK

(raising his voice)

When he's sending the money!

Shes disappointed.

SUIYUN

...No... Why can't you just go out and find a job?!

Aibek SLAMS HIS FIST on the table and slowly but violently points his finger at her. Suiyun, in fear, ducks away trying to avoid his aggressiveness.

AIBEK

What?! What do you know!

He glares aggressively at her pushes his food away and storms out of the house. Suiyun sits in silence.

111 EXT. AIBEK'S HOUSE - FRONT DOOR - EARLY MORNING

Aibek steps out, pulling out a lighter and cigarette from his pocket. He lights it and takes a deep puff before exhaling a large cloud of smoke. He sighs. He looks around and walks off to the side where he dials a number on his phone.

AIBEK

Hello? Hi janym. Where do you want to meet?

He doesn't even try to hide his pleasure.

112 INT. AIBEK'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Suiyun hears her husband GIGGLING on the phone to someone. She sits in sorrow. She tears up a bit but quickly wipes them away and tries to smile and be strong. She slowly cleans up the food he's spilt.

113 MONTAGE - VARIOUS

A) INT. AIBEK'S HOUSE - MORNING - Suiyun washes all of the dishes.

B) INT. AIBEK'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - Suiyun cleans every part of the room. Her brother-in-law is sleeping on the floor drunk with multiple beer bottles next to him. She moves his feet to sweep the floor. She gets an idea. She places a bottle on his forehead and balances it carefully. She giggles to herself.

C) EXT. BARN - MORNING - Suiyun milks the cow.

D) INT. AIBEK'S HOUSE - Suiyun comes and wakes Jumabek up. He is startled and the bottle on his head falls off. He looks around looking confused then looks at her with half sleepy eyes. Suiyun taps him to follow her. Jumabek is still confused.

E) EXT. AIBEK'S HOUSE - DAY - Suiyun nails in the broken wood of a fence. Jumabek is holding some wood and the box of nails for her to use. He yawns, looking bored.

F) EXT. AIBEK'S HOUSE'S - FRONT DOOR - DAY - Suiyun carries buckets of water up the porch and fills a barrel. Jumabek carries it for her and they head to a certain direction.

G) EXT. RIVER'S EDGE - DAY - Suiyun washes clothes in the cold stream. Jumabek is draining the clothes she washes. He looks more alive, like a little boy.

H) INT. AIBEK'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - EVENING - Suiyun makes dinner. Jumabek is peeling the potatoes. He looks like hes never done it before. Suiyun comes and show how it's properly done. Jumabek is scratching his head.

114 INT. AIBEK'S HOUSE LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Suiyun sets the dining cloth on the floor and waits for her husband to come back as she drinks tea. All the food both Jumabek and her prepared are laid on the cloth. Jumabek is eating so happily. They look at each other and giggle.

She looks at the clock; it's past seven. She slowly reveals her bracelet from her sleeve. She looks at it with grief.

She wakes up from the table. She looks at the clock again, its 12:30. Aibek arrives, drunk. Suiyun rises and helps her husband to sit. She offers him a cup of tea that he drinks a little before collapsing onto the floor and falling asleep.

Suiyun collects the full dishes and cleans the table then covers her husband with a blanket.

END OF MONTAGE

115 INT. AIBEK'S HOUSE BEDROOM

She drops in to the blankets on the floor of traditional kyrgyz bed. She massages her hands that are dry and cracked. She massages her legs. **She sees her bracelet again. She hesitates for a moment then unties it from her wrist, but stops. She can't decide what to do with it.**

Before she can finish though, the sound of the FRONT DOOR OPENING and her mother-in-law's VOICE echo.

Suiyun gets up and leaves the room to greet her.

116 INT. AIBEK'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - LATE NIGHT

Suiyun greets her mother-in-law at the doorway, then both go into the living room. She looks at the house and sees how clean it is. She smiles, but then she sees her son drunk on the couch.

AIBEK'S MOTHER

Sigh. Bastard.

SUIYUN

Mother, take a seat. I'll go boil some water for tea.

AIBEK'S MOTHER

No need. I will not sit here with this bomush.

She quickly turns away from the doorway.

117 INT. AIBEK'S HOUSE - KITCHEN

The two women quietly sip their tea and have some bread with butter.

AIBEK'S MOTHER

Did Aibek find a job today?

SUIYUN
I.. I don't know.

AIBEK'S MOTHER
(Sighs) Stupid.. God! I'd rather
have the cows as my sons!

She takes the tea and drinks the whole cup before slamming it
on the table in frustration.

AIBEK'S MOTHER (CONT'D)
At this point, I think its best
that you go find something.

SUIYUN
Huh?

AIBEK'S MOTHER
Go into the city and find some kind
of job. I'd rather have you be of
some use.

SUIYUN
But.. Aibek will..

AIBEK'S MOTHER
The hell with that donkey! Or what?
You want to just sit around and be
a fool like him too!? God forbid!

Suiyun, exhausted, hangs her head low.

AIBEK'S MOTHER (CONT'D)
Either that or go ask your father!
Your father promised to send money
for Aibek! Why am I the only one
paying for everything!?
(beat)
Isn't he your father!?

Suiyun bites her lip and balls her hands into fists. A fire
lights up in her eyes and she glares at her oblivious mother-
in-law, but holds herself in.

Her mother-in-law eats her bread in discontent, MUTTERING to
herself about the uselessness of rich people.

AIBEK'S MOTHER
He's probably just feeding his own
belly. Useless aristocracy.

118 EXT. ROADSIDE - MORNING

Suiyun waits by the road to catch a bus over to the city.

She flags down a bus. The bus stops.

119 EXT. CITY ROAD - MORNING

Suiyun gets off the bus into the street. At first she looks around, trying to figure out which direction to go.

120 EXT. STORE DOORS - AFTERNOON

Suiyun goes door to door around the city, looking for a job, but every place she visits, the owners shake their heads.

121 EXT. CAFE DOOR - EVENING

Suiyun passes by a cafe window where she sees a family eating together; the parents, two sons and young daughter.

They eat happily smiling and laughing. She stares longingly at the couple and then at the three children until she notices their food. The little girl sees her and smiles. Suiyun smiles sadly back. She holds her stomach as if fighting hunger pain.

Suiyun enters the cafe and talks with the owner (UNHEARD). He looks at her, nods.

122 EXT. ROADSIDE - EVENING

Suiyun waits on the road, flags a bus, and gets on.

123 INT. BUS - EVENING

Suiyun is exhausted and slowly falls asleep.

124 INT. AIBEK'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Suiyun opens the door and steps in. She passes through the living room.

She walks past her room where Aibek is sleeping soundly.

125 INT. AIBEK'S HOUSE KITCHEN - NIGHT

She steps into the kitchen to find a pile of dirty dishes.

She sighs and collapses into a chair and buries her head in her arms. On the countertop behind her sits a dead, withered plant.

FOCUS ON PLANT; BEHIND PLANT IS BLURRED VIEW OF SUIYUN IN HER ARMS.

126 EXT. AIBEK'S HOUSE - EARLY MORNING

The morning sun rises. Arstan pulls up in his car and parks close to Aibek's small mud brick house. He carries some fruit and snacks with him.

Arstan opens the door of the house, snap! The handles fall off. He shakes his head and returns to pop the car's trunk. From inside, he grabs an old hammer and strides back to the handle.

Stooping down, he pries off a nail and, readjusting it, starts pounding it back in.

Aibek comes out looking annoyed at being woken. Arstan stops but remains crouched. An awkward silence ensues before Aibek breaks it.

AIBEK
(Annoyed)
Salam alaykum.

ARSTAN
Alaykum Assalam. How are you?

Aibek looks at the hammer.

Arstan returns to his self ordained task.

AIBEK
Good. What brings you here,
(rolling his eyes)
Again?

ARSTAN
I came to drop off some fruit from
our farm and also some money for
Suiyun.

With two direct blows Arstan redirects the last loose nail and secures the handle.

Aibek looks down on Arstan from his perch.

AIBEK

Ah, Yes, you can give it to me.

Arstan rises, slowly and deliberately.

CLOSE UP ON Arstan's strong neck and chiseled jaw.

PAN Down his tan, muscular arm still holding the old hammer.

ARSTAN

Where is Suiyun?

AIBEK

I am the head of the family, I will take it.

ARSTAN

It's our money, and we will give it to Suiyun. If you had ploughed your fields I wouldn't need to come care for you. Now tell me, where is she?

Arstan's eyes burn with fire.

Suddenly Aibek doesn't look confident. Scratching his head in puzzlement, he avoids eye contact.

127 EXT. CAFE - MORNING

Arstan drives up the street next to the cafe where Suiyun works. Through the window he sees his sister running around wiping the floor, carrying heavy loads of trays and busing tables. His face contorts at the sight.

Getting out of his car, he watches a bit longer. She notices from inside, shakes her head, then continues working.

He opens the trunk and takes out a bag full of grapes that spill over the edge. Keeping his face steady, Arstan walks to the back of the cafe.

128 INT. CAFE - BACK ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Arstan finds Suiyun's purse and stuffs as much of his bag in it as he can.

129 INT. CAFE - BACK ROOM - NIGHT - RAINING

Suiyun finds the fruit and money.

SUIYUN

Damn them...

Her shoulders sink and she tosses both fruit and money into the trash. She hangs her head, sighs, then takes a grape and slips the money into her pocket.

130 EXT. CAFE - NIGHT - RAINING

Suiyun leaves the cafe and heads out onto the road just as a bus pulls away. She chases it, but misses.

Suiyun looks beaten emotionally and physically. She wipes the rain, or a tear, from her face. It rains heavily while she waits. She looks at the time. Her thin, silhouetted figure makes her appear vulnerable.

CLOSE UP ON SUIYUN'S WET FACE

She looks at her watch and waits a little while longer, but when there's still nothing, she tries to flag a taxi.

A black Mercedes with a cheap yellow taxi sign drives up to her. She opens the door and speaks with him.

SUIYUN

Baike, how much to Kara... gasp!

Then she sees the driver with a scar by his eye. She looks at the car and then steps back.

CHAYAN

Listen girl, I know who you are.
You're the girl from Kara Bash whom
those assholes stole. They hired me
to drive them down to you.

Suiyun steps back again.

CHAYAN (CONT'D)

I'm going to Kara Bash. I'll take
you home for only 100 som. There's
no buses anymore at this time.

Shivering, she looks up at the black rain - doesn't know what to do.

CHAYAN (CONT'D)

Sit down, alright alright, I'll
take you for free, damnit.

131 EXT./INT. BLACK MERCEDES - CONTINUOUS - MOVING

Suiyun steps inside cautiously and sits down; shakes off the rain and pounds on her shoulders to release the pain from the day's labor. Traditional KYRGYZ MUSIC plays on the radio.

She lies back in her seat and lets out a long, exhausted sigh. Her eyelids begin to sink, but she's still keeping a weary eye on Chayan.

Chayan watches all this from the rear view mirror. Suiyun bobs her head a few times, waking herself up each time, but then she stops fighting the fatigue and fully falls asleep.

TRADITIONAL LAMENTING KYRGYZ MUSIC GROWS LOUDER

PAN ON MIRROR FROM SLEEPING SUIYUN TO CHAYAN'S HUNGRY EYES

CUT TO BLACK:

132 ELNURA' DREAM SEQUENCE - VARIOUS

A) EXT. FIELDS - DAY - Suiyun as a child running through the fields with her brothers

B) INT. Dark Ambiguous Room - Suiyun is crouched on the floor. She sinks into the darkness.

END OF ELNURA'S DEREAM SEQUENCE

133 INT. BAKAI AND ELNURA'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

ELNURA

Suiyun!....

Elnura shoots up from bed sweating. Bakai wakes up.

BAKAI

What's wrong?

ELNURA

Something is wrong with Suiyun...

134 INT. LIVING ROOM - MORNING

Shaking, Elnura finishes dailing

PHONE SERVICE (V.O.)

The phone number you have dialed is out of service.

Elnura hangs up and calls again - same message. She drops her phone. She sits there in concerned thought.

135 INT. KITCHEN - MORNING

Urmat and Arstan come out of their rooms, ready to leave for work and school. Elnura, still shaken, approaches them.

ELNURA
Have either of you spoken with
Suiyun recently?

Both of them look at each other with blank faces.

URMAT
No.. not at all why?

ELNURA
No.. I'm just wondering how she's
doing..

Elnura turns away with a worried glance. Urmat is oblivious to his mother's worries and continues to pack his bag. Arstan however, sees Elnura. He ponders.

136 EXT. AIBEK'S HOUSE FRONT DOOR - AFTERNOON

Walking, Elnura approaches Aibek's house. She calls out for her daughter and Aibek.

ELNURA
Suiyun! Aibek! Anyone home?

No one answers. She comes closer to the door and calls out again. From the corner of the house, Aibek's brother steps out with a broom, it seems he was cleaning.

JUMABEK
Who are you?

ELNURA
You don't recognize me?

Jumabek squints closely, he suddenly recognizes her.

JUMABEK
Oh... hello.
(In Russian)

ELNURA
Do you not speak your own mother
tongue? Aren't you Kyrgyz?

JUMABEK
.. I.. I do. (In Kyrgyz)
ehem.. come.. come in.

ELNURA
No, I just came to check on Suiyun.
Where is she?

Jumabek's face looks uncomfortable.

JUMABEK (V.O.)

Uh...um..

Elnura starts to look concerned.

137 EXT. CAFE - AFTERNOON

Arstan drives up to the cafe that Suiyun was working at, walks in, and talks to the waitress. We can't hear. The waitress shakes her head.

Arstan steps back with his mouth open - confusion.

138 EXT. CAFE - MOMENTS LATER

Dazed Arstan steps out of the cafe with his phone to his ear

PHONE SERVICE (V.O.)

This line is no longer in service.

Arstan hangs up, deep in thought.

139 INT. AIBEK'S HOUSE LIVING ROOM - EVENING

Elnura sits in the guest's spot of the room. Jumabek sits at the edge of the room looking uncomfortable and fidgety. He rocks back and forth. The room is filled with silence.

In the midst of this awkward confrontation, Aibek steps into the house singing to himself.

AIBEK

Mm..mmm.. Sen meni aldadyn aldadyn
dagy dagy aldadyn.. Mmm.. Mmm..

When he enters the living room and sees his mother-in-law. The song slips away.

AIBEK (CONT'D)

Ah...Jakshicizbi?

ELNURA

Sit.

Aibek sits opposite his brother.

ELNURA (CONT'D)

Where is my daughter.

AIBEK
 ..I don't know.

ELNURA
 How long has she been gone?

AIBEK
 ..I don't know.. a few weeks?

ELNURA
 AND YOU DID NOT EVEN GO SEARCHING
 FOR HER?

Aibek's looks away in annoyance squinting and grumbling under his breath.

ELNURA (CONT'D)
 (screaming)
 AND YOU ARE COMING IN SINGING!?
 WOULD YOU BE THIS CAREFREE IF YOU'D
 LOST A LAMB?!

Aibek snares at Elnura's words.

AIBEK
 Oh my God! Why do you care so much!
 She wasnt yours anyways! She
 probably ran off crying again.

Elnura sits in silence for a moment. Tension builds. Aibek seems a bit nervous. Elnura slowly speaks with gentleness but with chilling authority.

ELNURA
 How can you say such things after
 stealing her from me and giving her
 such a hard life. Do you have any
 love for her...? How can you be so
 cruel?

Aibek can't look in her eye. Jumabek head is low.

ELNURA (CONT'D)
 You may have stolen her away from
 me once, but this time.. I'm taking
 her back. Away from you. You are no
 longer part of this family or my
 daughter's life.

Elnura stands up with her bag and storms out of the house, Aibek, obviously disturbed, stands to stop her from leaving.

AIBEK
 Wait..

SMACK! Elnura slaps him.

ELNURA

Beting jok. Get your dirty face out
of my way.

Elnura leaves. The door shuts hard. Aibek is filled with
fury, he's breathing hard.

AIBEK

AGHHH!!!

Aibek furiously grabs one of his brother's empty bottles and
hurls it against the wall. CRACK. His brother ducks as
shrapnel flies.

140 INT. STORAGE ROOM - EVENING

Suiyun is tied up and gagged, crumpled like trash on the
ground in a small, dark, storage room that looks very cold.
Even unconscious she shivers.

Trying to cover herself with a blanket that doesn't exist,
Suiyun looks like she might wake up. She does.

Suiyun's POV There are blurry figures all over the room.

Her eyes are bloodshot and groggy, but when she pulls herself
together and realizes what state she's in, suddenly she's
alert and shocked and looking around.

Suiyun's POV - she is in the midst of many other girls tied
up. Some are knocked out on the floor. Suiyun tries to get up
but her head pulses with pain, making her groan.

UMUT

It's the drug they put on you.

A girl immerses out from the dark corner.

UMUT (CONT'D)

They keep us asleep.

SUIYUN

Where.. Where am I? Who are you?

UMUT

Some place worse than hell.

Suiyun's eyes widen.

141

EXT. SUIYUN'S HOUSE - GARDEN - EVENING

Arstan sits under an apple tree on an old stump with his head slumped. He picks an apple from the ground. Its beautiful.

ELNURA

What's up?

He looks up and shakes his head - obviously doesn't want to talk. Elnura gabs a Kyrgyz stool and sits next to him.

ELNURA (CONT'D)

How was it with Aliah today?

ARSTAN

I postponed the wedding...

Elnura nods. Slowly she puts her hand on his neck and then hugs him. He remains slumped.

ARSTAN (CONT'D)

I need to find her.

PULL AWAY TO the two of them under the tree.

INT. STORAGE ROOM - NIGHT

Suiyun tries to get up, but falls back over. Hands and legs are tied. Grimacing in pain, she violently tries to free herself. Umut comes close to her, Suiyun is cautious, but lets her come. Umut unties Suiyun.

UMUT

You okay?

SUIYUN

Who.. Who did this? What is this place?! What do they want!?

UMUT

I.. don't know. We were all kidnapped and woke up here.. just like you did. This is some kind of storage they keep us.

SUIYUN

What?!

UMUT

Some get used as slave labor, some get sold to other countries, and the worst, some.. to..

Umut hesitates to speak the word.

UMUT (CONT'D)

To.. Pros..

Suddenly, the door of the storage room opens and a small light filters in. At first it hurts her eyes and takes away what little she could see, but as her eyes adjust, a man comes into vision and, seeing her awake, comes over to her.

UMUT (CONT'D)

Quick, act like you're sleeping.

They both quickly lie down in the corner.

The man walks around and observes the girls. He comes close to one that is shaking in fear.

PIMP

Hey, this one. Over to the truck.
She'd make a fine prostitute. Nice
ass there. Haha

GIRL

No! No please! Please!

Another man comes in and grabs the girl. She screams, trying to resist but is too weak from malnourishment. He drags her out the door, her screams start to fade.

Suiyun, still trying to act asleep, secretly watches. The pimp still sticks around the storage room sneering around. Suddenly a different man enters the room.

Chayan enters the room! Suiyun quietly gasps.

CHAYAN

How's the new stock? We got a big
order for Club Hades.

PIMP

Nice and fresh. They'll be ready
for delivery in two days.

CHAYAN

Remember. Don't disappoint him like
last time. Pick out the youngest
and the most pleasurable ones.

PIMP1

Hah! Don't worry. And the rest? The
old ones?

CHAYAN

The owner said we'll sell some to
Dubai next week.

Both of them sneers with an evil pleasure on their faces and leaves the room.

Suiyun watches from the corner. The light from the door slowly shuts on her face into darkness.

CUT TO BLACK:

142 EXT. BAKAI'S SEAT UNDER THE TREE - EARLY EVENING

Bakai sits under his tree on the hill next to his house, with a magical view that looks over the golden fields. His eyes are red, looking old. Grief fills his face.

Elnura comes to him with a pot of tea.

ELNURA

I brought something warm.

Bakai doesn't look back nor does he respond. His eyes are fixed on the fields. Elnura places the tea on the small wooden table next to him.

BAKAI

Suiyun..

Elnura pauses, struck with pain. But she holds herself together.

Bakai sits still on his seat. A golden book is open on his lap. He twirls a dried flower, the flower that Suiyun placed. Elnura comes near him and grabs his hand tight.

ELNURA

We will find her.

Both of them gaze toward the open fields as the sun colors the horizon with rose pink.

143 INT. STORAGE ROOM - NIGHT

Suiyun is shivering. She looks scared. Umut rouses herself to speak with Suiyun.

UMUT

It will get numb after some time.

Suiyun looks to Umut confused.

UMUT (CONT'D)

The shock. It will get numb.

Suiyun looks down. Unintentionally she keeps playing around with her bracelet. Umut notices Suiyun's fiddling.

UMUT (CONT'D)

What's your name?

SUIYUN

... Suiyun. You?

UMUT

Umut. I would say "nice to meet you." But..

Suiyun gives a soft chuckle.

SUIYUN

How did you end up here?

UMUT

The same way you did. It was a long while ago. I was taking a taxi home and then I just woke up here..

Umut tears up looking hopeless.

UMUT (CONT'D)

The first few days I couldn't think straight.. I was just crying..

Suiyun just listens.

UMUT (CONT'D)

But now I'm just numb to all this.. Its not easy staying strong. I should be glad I'm alive.. but.. Can't really say that I am..

Umut gives out a big sigh. There is a moment of silence. Both girls seems to be deep in thought. Suiyun is fiddling with her bracelet. In the corner of the room, Alina (22) who looks so worn and tired listens to the two conversing.

SUIYUN

..Sometimes I wonder maybe it was better I wasn't.. alive.

Umut looks at Suiyun.

SUIYUN (CONT'D)

Maybe it would have been better if I was never born.. So many people in my life wouldn't have had to suffer..

UMUT

What are you talking about?

Suiyun is startled at Umut's question. She is unconsciously playing with her bracelet. She realizes shes just been speaking nonsense.

SUIYUN

N..Nothing.. I just..

UMUT

Who gave that to you?

Umut looks at Suiyun's bracelet. Suiyun is surprised that Umut noticed it.

SUIYUN

This..

UMUT

You've been touching it since you got here..

Suiyun can't reply. Her lips tremble as she remembers what memories the bracelet holds.

SUIYUN

It's nothing.. Just a reminder of who I used to be..

Both of them sit in silience for a moment.

SUIYUN (CONT'D)

Why are you helping me?

Umut gives a startled look. Then she smiles a bit.

UMUT

I.. I don't know. Maybe I just.. don't want to lose who I am.

Her words affects Suiyun. Suddenly a few rain drops fall on the metal ceiling of the storage room.

UMUT (CONT'D)

We're in luck. Looks like its going to be a cold night..

Suiyun slowly looks up to the dark ceiling and whispers to herself against the sound of raindrops.

SUIYUN

..The sunrise after the rain... is the brightest of them all..

UMUT

Huh?

SUIYUN

(Sighs)

Nothing.. just a silly riddle my
father would say all the time to
make me feel better..

Suiyun turns away as she lies down to sleep in hopeless despair. Something however, has pricked Umut's heart and mind. Umut is still sitting up.. thinking.

The pimp comes out of the camera room. He turns out the light in the storage room. The thunder roars.

CUT TO BLACK:

144 EXT. STORAGE DOORS - MORNING

Morning comes. The sun shines bright with birds chirping happily, unaware of the hopeless state of the girls. There are small puddles in the muddy ground. Small raindrops are falling from the roof of the storage into the ground where there are small flowers. All the girls are asleep. The pimp in the camera room is snoring.

145 INT. STORAGE ROOM - MORNING

In the storage room, Umut seems to be up the earliest. She sees the sunshine shining into the tiny window. She sits in deep thought.

146 EXT. SUIYUN'S HOUSE - MORNING

Arstan comes out with a pile of papers with Elnura and Bakai. The papers have Suiyun's picture saying "Missing." Batyr, wearing his commander's suit, comes close to them.

ARSTAN

Batyr.. thank you so much for helping.

BATYR

Of course. We'll find her. Don't worry.

ELNURA

Do you have any idea where she might...

They are interrupted by someone approaching them. Jumabek slowly walks toward them. He slowly puts his hat off and hold it with both hands. He looks shy but still builds to courage to come and talk to them.

JUMABEK

Sa.. Salamatsyngar..

The four remain silent not knowing what this means.

JUMABEK (CONT'D)

I.. I know you probably don't want to see me. But I.. I wanted to help look for Suiyun.

All four of them are surprised and exchange looks with eachother.

JUMABEK (CONT'D)

Please. I just wanted to help.

Elnura smiles and slowly approaches him. She looks into his eyes with a motherly look.

ELNURA

Thank you.

Jumabek smiles shyly. Arstan comes to Jumabek and hands over a few posters. He presents himself with a manly welcome.

ARSTAN

Here. Thank you.

Jumabek smiles back. He takes the posters.

147

INT. STORAGE ROOM - EVENING

Some girls are quietly crying in the background. Suiyun looks around to the girls, then to the door. Then she sees some old wood planks and pipes lying around. She looks at the ceiling. There is a CCTV camera. Umut is watching Suiyun.

SUIYUN

(As she looks around)

Have you guys ever tried to escape?

UMUT

That's why they started to use the drugs on us.

SUIYUN

Huh?

UMUT

There was one girl that tried to escape a while back. They caught her and since then, they used the drugs to keep us weak or sleeping.

Suiyun listens in shock.

UMUT (CONT'D)

They take the will to fight out of us. To stop us from hoping.

Theres a moment of silence.

UMUT (CONT'D)

I used to hope for freedom.. but being trapped here for so long.. I just lost the reason to live. Even if I would escape.. then what!? My family would never accept me back after what I have become..

SUIYUN

How are you so sure?

Umut avoids eye contact.

UMUT

I dont know.. but no family in their right mind would take me back. Thats just the kind of reality we live in..

Suiyun looks away.

UMUT (CONT'D)

But..

Suiyun slowly looks back at Umut. Umut gives a big smile.

UMUT (CONT'D)

I have an idea.

148 EXT. STORAGE DOORS - AFTERNOON

A pimp is standing outside the storage doors looking bored as he puffs up a cloud of smoke.

SCREAM

The pimp quickly goes to the door and tries to unlock it as soon as he can. It opens!

149 INT. STORAGE ROOM - AFTERNOON

Suiyun is on the ground holding her stomach, screaming in pain. The pimp looks around to girls to see some sleeping, some looking scared. He slowly walks to Suiyun. He's walking carefully and suspicious.

PIMP1
Whats going on here?

SUIYUN
My.. Sto.. Helppp!!

The pimp slowly kneels down to her to check what is going on.

BAM!

Umut hits him on his head with the wood plank. He falls to the ground groaning.

SUIYUN (CONT'D)
Quick! Nows the chance! Everybody
run!

All the girls gets up and hurries outside the door.

150 EXT. STORAGE DOORS - AFTERNOON

All the girls run out the doors to the street and they scatter.

The second pimp is walking out the door of their room then he sees the girls escaping. He runs out trying to grab them.

PIMP2
HEY!! GET OVER HERE!

He grabs one girl, but another girl comes and punches him. He's overtaken and the girl is free. They run out the gates.

He goes to the door and blocks other girls from escaping. He keeps his arms wide open and gives a scary face to the terrified girls.

PIMP2 (CONT'D)
You think you can escape?

The girls hesitate.

151 INT. STORAGE ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Suiyun and the girls stand at the doorway not knowing what to do. But someone suddenly grabs Umut from the back! It's the pimp, he woke up!

 UMUT
Ahh!!! Help!!!

 SUIYUN
Umut!! Quick everyone, get out!

The girls hesitate, but some run away. Alina turns around not knowing what to do. She looks at Suiyun.

 ALINA
Suiyun!

 SUIYUN
GO!

Two girls get caught by pimp2. Alina ducks and runs away. Suiyun runs to the pimp1 and tries to beat him.

BANG!

A gun shot. Everyone looks toward the direction of the door. Chayan is standing holding the gun toward the sky.

 CHAYAN
That's enough.

Everybody is frozen with fear. Chayan has an evil grin mixed with anger.

 CHAYAN (CONT'D)
You're not going anywhere.

He points his gun toward Suiyun.

CUT TO BLACK:

152 INT. STORAGE ROOM - EVENING

SUIYUN'S POV - the girls all look blurred in the room.

She blacks out and comes to several times before her surroundings begin to focus. The door to the storage compartment opens, but she can't see the people coming in at first.

Two men walk in and around the compartment. One of them, The Owner, comes to Suiyun. He studies her features then points to her. Her vision dims out.

Someone lifts her out of the storage room. Through her blurry vision she makes out a glint on the floor; it's her bracelet. With the little strength she has, her droopy hand reaches out for the bracelet, but she's too weak. Too weak to fight or understand that Suiyun needs to, she allows herself to be carried with her eyes half closed, half open.

153 EXT. BAZAAR STREETS - CONTINUOUS

Behind a meat kiosk, Pimp #1 kicks opens a door to a truck and places Suiyun in. Suiyun's vision dims out. A few girls are in the truck. Suiyun blacks out.

CUT TO BLACK:

154 INT. ARSTAN'S ROOM - LATE AFTERNOON

Arstan, like before, is at his desk writing.

ON ARSTAN'S HAND WRITING A LETTER

ARSTAN (V.O.)

Dear Suiyun, beloved sister.. It's been three years since you disappeared.

Arstan sits on his desk writing the letter.

ARSTAN (V.O.) (CONT'D)

We have been in utter turmoil ever since. Father no longer goes to the fields anymore. He fainted with a stroke and was hospitalized. He was never the same. He became paralyzed, not being able to walk or talk.

FLASHBACK MONOTAGE

A) Bakai is walking around a road putting Suiyun's poster then suddenly, he grabs his heart and collapses on the ground.

B) Bakai is lying in bed, then tries to get up, but it seems half his body is paralyzed. He grabs his cane and tries to walk but collapses on the floor.

155 EXT. BAKAI'S SEAT - AFTERNOON

Bakai sits in his old chair with a golden book on his lap. He gazes into the fields.

ARSTAN (V.O.)
For a long while, he would pass his
days sitting on the porch
lifelessly, then suddenly, as if
he'd seen something, he'd try to
run to the fields only to collapse
and burst into tears.

Suddenly Bakai stands up and runs toward the field, but stumbles and fall to the ground. He quickly looks back up to the field.

Bakai POV - the field are blowing in the wind.

Bakai looks down to the ground and starts weeping.

156 INT. KITCHEN - AFTERNOON

Elnura sees Bakai from the window. She is saddened and hold her fingers over her lips. She trembles but tries to maintain herself.

ARSTAN (V.O.)
Mother is trying to stay strong,
but every night I hear her quiet
cries. Urmat may not show it, but
he misses you. We all do...

157 INT. ARSTAN'S ROOM - NIGHT

Arstan sits in his room looking at news papers, calling numbers, then crossing them out with frustration. He stops. He slightly turns his head as he hears Elnura's quiet cries. He is saddened, but then returns to his study.

158 EXT. CITY ROAD - AFTERNOON

Arstan puts up signs of Suiyun's picture with "Missing" on it.

159 INT. HOSPITAL HALL - DAY

Arstan talks to a nurse showing her the paper with Suiyun's picture on it. The nurse shakes her head.

160 INT. BAKAI'S ROOM - NIGHT

Urmat stands in the room with all the pictures of the photos on the wall. He stands there just gazing into the pictures.

161 EXT. OSH BAZAAR - EARLY EVENING - MONTHS LATER

Exhausted, Arstan walks through the bazaar with the posters in his hand, posting it everywhere he can. He is dirty, unshaven and looking as if he hasn't slept for days.

ARSTAN (V.O.) (CONT'D)
We called the police, but they could not find a trace so the search ended, but I could not bear the fact that you were gone. I still had hope that you were out there somewhere, so I continued to look for you for days, months, years... I was seeking every possible means to find you, even postponing my wedding with Aliah. You must be there with me, to celebrate together. It's been a long unsuccessful search until one day..

Arstan walks up to a store and buys some bread. He finds a seat on the corner of the street, takes the bread out of the bag and starts to eat.

In the distance a woman is passing by, she sees the poster, then stops walking. It's Alina. She looks closely at the poster and gasps.

ERASED SCENE WITH ARSTAN AND CHILD DIALOGUE

Arstan is eating the bread trying to see which area he should go next. Alina approaches him.

ALINA
Excuse me.

Arstan turns around startled.

ARSTAN
Yes?

Alina is a bit hesitant, but she pulls out the poster and show it to him. Arstan looks at it confused.

ALINA
Are you looking for her?

ARSTAN

Yes! Do you know her?

ALINA

We were captured in the same place
3 years ago. She helped us escape
and saved my life.

ARSTAN

Is she alive?!

ALINA

I.. I don't know. I don't know if
she escaped..

ARSTAN

Do you know where she is?!

ALINA

I.. know where she was.

162

EXT. OSH BAZAAR - NARROW ALLEY - EVENING

Arstan continues to follow a dark alley.

He comes upon a storage area with a few pimps guarding it. He
slowly approaches a small storage complex. Arstan squints
trying to identify the unit.

Then from the side alley, a black Mercedes drives up. Chayan
gets out, looking around to see if anyone is looking, then
opens the door.

Arstan recognizes him.

ARSTAN

Ch..Chayan??!!

A woman is at first sleeping in the car, but when she
realizes the car's stopped, she wakes up, yawning.

WOMAN

(yawn)

Where..where is this?

The two pimps come up to the car and roughly drag her out.
She SCREAMS and tries to fight back.

WOMAN (CONT'D)

AHHH! HELP! SOMEONE HELP ME

The pimp grabs her and injects a syringe and she immediately dopes out. The pimps and driver pick her up and throw her into the storage unit.

The Pimp then gives Chayan 500 som.

Chayan goes back and locks his black Mercedes then returns to the pimps at the storage door.

Arstan looks closely. The storage door, H215, is ajar. Arstan takes his phone and dials. As he dials, the pimps leave the scene.

ARSTAN

(into phone)

Hello? Batyr. It's me. I found something at the bazar, stall H215. I think Suiyun might be here.

CLOSE UP ON LOCK

163

INT. OSH BAZAR - STORAGE ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Arstan checks everything out and jumps from his hiding spot; goes to the door and opens it.

At first he can't make out much and gropes for a light switch. When he finds it, the dim bulb finally gives him a picture of the true horror. The unit is filled with about 20 girls lying on the floor, mostly unconscious. Some are still fully clothed, the others are in various states of undress. Three girls huddle in terror on a mattress in one corner. Umut is hiding in the corner scared. She watches Arstan. There is a truncated wall with a bed behind.

At the sight of it, Arstan tears up and starts to gag.

Arstan tries to sober himself up and starts going around from girl to girl, growing more and more despondent.

Arstan goes around the girls trying to find Suiyun.

He's about to panic as he approaches the last few girls, then suddenly he finds a girl with a silver bracelet.

ARSTAN

Suiyun?!

Umut recognizes the name! Arstan turns the girl over to see her face. Hope is in his eyes as he reveals her face from her hair, but no... it's not her. Suiyun isn't there. He's drops in despair.

Moments later, Umut crawls out of the corner. She slowly approaches him with caution and fear in her eyes. Arstan looks at her, confused.

She slowly comes up to him with her hand holding on to something. She wants to give him something. Arstan looks at her hand and hold his hand out.

She opens her hand, Suiyun's bracelet is revealed.

Arstan's eyes open wide, he jolts toward and takes it with great embrace. He is speechless with tears consuming his eyes. He looks at the girl then to the bracelet back and forth. He is desperate.

ARSTAN (CONT'D)

Where...!? Where did you get...?!

Where is Suiyun???

Umut is suddenly is struck with fear, she sees something behind Arstan.

Arstan see's her reaction, and he slowly turns around.

BAM!

Out of the darkness Chayan flies on Arstan and takes him to the ground. He pummels Arstan and gets a belt around Arstan's neck.

Arstan pushes Chayan's face back with one hand and tries to get slack on his neck with the other, but he doesn't stand a chance. The belt is tightening.

Suiyun's bracelet dangles from Arstan's strained fingers. Arstan's vision blurs from Chayan's face to the bracelet.

With an explosion of energy, Arstan rolls over and suddenly finds himself on top, but still choking.

Umut takes that opportunity to crawl up to Chayan and jab her fingers quickly and deep into both his eyes. Chayan pushes the girl off but falls to the ground.

Arstan gasps. He can breathe again. He grabs Chayan by the neck.

ARSTAN (CONT'D)

WHERE IS MY SISTER?

Chayan barely opens his eyes, but starts laughing like a maniac. Arstan shake him harder.

ARSTAN (CONT'D)
WHAT DID YOU DO TO HER?!

Chayan just laughs.

CHAYAN
You'll never get her back. It's
already too late.

SMACK! Out of anger, Arstan punches Chayan in the face.

ARSTAN
WHERE IS SHE! WHERE DID YOU TAKE
HER!

CHAYAN
You think I will tell you? HAHA
Even if I did, there's no way for
you.

SMACK! Arstan punches him again.

ARSTAN
WHERE IS SHE!

CHAYAN
Heh.. if I tell you, you will let
me go?

Arstan stops. He is debating what to do. But before he is even able to respond, suddenly Umut, venting some serious pent up aggression, kicks Chayan in the face before he can get up, then says to the bracelet.

UMUT
(silently)
They took her. To a place called
Club Hades 3 years ago.

ARSTAN
Clu.. Club Hades?

UMUT
To hell.

Arstan looks shocked.

POLICE SIRENS and approaching police CARS. Arstan looks to chayan, he's gone.

OFFICER (V.O.)
(through microphone)
THIS IS THE POLICE! HANDS IN THE
AIR! YOU'RE UNDER ARREST!

The pimp is cornered against the wall outside of the storage and holds his hands up.

Arstan steps away, finds a wall to lean. Arstan, uninterested in the pimp, remains on the ground. He starts beating the ground in agony. Commander Batyr approaches. Umut in the background slowly slips away to a different room.

COMMANDER BATYR

Arstan? You didn't find her?

Shaking his head. He pulls himself together and says,

ARSTAN

(with rage)

They made her a prost...

He can't say the word.

Batyr looks disappointed. Arstan's rage rises and turns to determination.

ARSTAN (CONT'D)

I need to find her. Batyr we need to go -

Batyr interrupts, shaking his head.

COMMANDER BATYR

(sighing)

Damn it Arstan! Do you really need to do this? Look at yourself.. You look like a maniac.

Arstan shoots his head up.

ARSTAN

(passionately)

What! How can you say that! How can I stop! She's my sister! and like a sister to you too!

COMMANDER BATYR

(Sternly)

Look. She is a prostitute now! They have her! Don't you see, the more we dig into this industry, you're risking your life! You almost died today! They will hunt you down until you're dead! They will hunt me and my family down! Even if you do find her, she can't live normally again. She'll never be the same. You know that.

ARSTAN

You are a police officer... a commander! You do your job and I'll...

COMMANDER BATYR

(interrupting)

Come on, Arstan. She never was your sister. It's over. Even if you do find her, will she ever be safe from the mafia? Go home and eat something, for God's sake. And marry Aliah.

Arstan, out of anger grabs Batyr.

ARSTAN

She is my sister! She's a part of me... I cannot live my life as if everything is okay. MY SISTER is trapped!!!

Arstan slowly hangs his head. His voice trembles.

ARSTAN (CONT'D)

Batyr.. my friend. Please...

COMMANDER BATYR

You have no idea what kind of war you are starting.

Batyr looks at the cuffed pimp.

COMMANDER BATYR (CONT'D)

This is not something like a fairy tale. If I hunt them down like this, the mafia will eventually hunt you and Aliah down, and even my family. They will kill you. Theres no end to it. I can't take that risk for one girl. Even if it's Suiyun. Marry, have a family, and find a new life to forget her.

Batyr slowly pulls Arstan off his shirt and walks away. He avoids eye contact with Arstan. Arstan notices.

164

INT. PIMP'S ROOM

Umut is gathering some documents in the pimps room. She looks around to see if there's any information she can gather. She stops at the sight of the CCTV screen. She looks for the tape recorder and takes it into a old ragged bag.

She leaves the room.

165

EXT. STORAGE DOORS

An officer lets the girls out of the storage shed. Batyr checks the pimp's pockets, finds his money, looks it over.

PIMP1

You think you've won!? You're both dead after this fiasco.

Batyr and Arstan look at each other. The officer approaches Batyr, who hands over the money.

COMMANDER BATYR

(to officer)

Make sure each girl gets at least 300 som and bring in any girls who need help, a ride home, or a cell to sleep in.

The officer takes the money and pulls **pimp** back to the others.

COMMANDER BATYR (CONT'D)

Rough him up.

With his finger **pimp** pretends to shoot Batyr.

PIMP1

You're a marked man. Boom!

ARSTAN

(to Batyr)

There are more, Batyr.

Batyr shakes his head.

ARSTAN (CONT'D)

It's too late. You're on their list now. It's we get them or they get us.

COMMANDER BATYR

It's not like that.

Watching the officers take the **Pimps** away.

COMMANDER BATYR (CONT'D)

These guys are scum. Sacrificed little pons. Nobodies.

Arstan stands lifeless with Suiyun's bracelet in one hand.
Then he lifts his shirt to reveal a massive scar on his side.

Batyr stares at the scar.

COMMANDER BATYR (CONT'D)
I'll give you a ride home.

PAN FROM SCAR TO BRACELET IN ARSTAN'S HAND

MATCH DISSOLVE TO:

166 INT. POLICE CAR - MOMENTS LATER

Arstan in the passenger's seat holding Suiyun's bracelet.
Batyr drives.

ARSTAN
I want to interview one of the
girls who may have known Suiyun.

Commander Batyr shakes his head in disbelief.

COMMANDER BATYR
Be realistic.

Batyr looks at Arstan.

COMMANDER BATYR (CONT'D)
I hate saying this, but you should
look at pictures of unclaimed
bodies and check the morgue.

ARSTAN
Done that. Been there.

A devil's fork is visible in the background as the car drives
by. Arstan notices the club. The sign reads, "Hades." His
eyes widen. But continues to converse with Batyr.

ARSTAN (CONT'D)
I might need to start looking
around the clubs..

COMMANDER BATYR
What? You walk in the front door
and ask a pimp, a bouncer, or a
prostitute about Suiyun and ask if
they've seen this girl? You think
they'll just lead you to her? They
are dangerous people!

(MORE)

COMMANDER BATYR (CONT'D)
If you fool around with them, they
will kill you Arstan! Stop being so
naiive!

Arstan can't answer.

167 EXT. CLUB HADES - NIGHT

Arstan stands in front of a club posting a flashing neon devil's fork.

ARSTAN (V.O.)
 Suyiun.. You were gone for so
 long.. but at last I've found you.

168 INT. CLUB HADES - CONTINUOUS

Arstan pays money and gets frisked by two massive bouncers. Its dark inside; the sound of MUSIC is deafening. The BASS reverberates around the floor and walls. He squints his eyes and sees men engulfing scantily clad women dancing on poles. Men stare greedily at them with wads of cash in their hands.

In the distance, the OWNER (45) sits on his luxurious leather couch. He's carefully observing a picture that he is holding as he smokes a cigarette. He's sitting with two other people. We only see the back of their heads.

OWNER
They're the ones that did it?

INSERT A picture of Arstan and Batyr talking to each other in front of the storage.

One of the men puts down his glass of vodka. We see the scar on the man's face. It's Chayan!

CHAYAN
Arstan Sultanbekov and Batyr
Omurov. Two idiots that ruined this
all.

OWNER
Isn't this one of your men?

The owner points to Batyr toward a middle aged man, big with a strong look.

LIEUTENANT TYNCHTYK
Ay. He's the commander. But he
knows nothing about us. I made sure
of it.

A glass of whiskey with ice sits on the table in front of him. There are a few more pictures of the storage scene on the table.

OWNER

Where are all the records and evidence?

LIEUTENANT TYNCHTYK

They were gone before my men were there. Even Batyr didnt have it. I don't know who took them.

OWNER

If someone exposes it..

LIEUTENANT TYNCHTYK

I know.. I'm working on it.

OWNER

Working on it?!? If we don't find it first it's the end of us! All of us! Find it! Even if it means everyone in the way has to die.

The owner slams his hand on the table. Both Chayan and the Lieutenant looks down.

Meanwhile, Arstan looks down, not knowing where to look. A prostitute sees him and comes up to flirt.

PROSTITUTE AIGUL

Hi janyyym! Whachu lookin' fo?

ARSTAN

Ah.. hello. I want a.. a private room with someone.

PROSTITUTE AIGUL

Ooo first comer janyym?

ARSTAN

No.. no! I just want to see my favorite.

PROSTITUTE AIGUL

Ohh! Is that so? Who you want?

ARSTAN

I.. I want.. Suiyun.

She looks at him with a bit suspicion.

PROSTITUTE AIGUL
 You mean.. "Malina"? She gave you
 her real name?

She looks more alarmed. Arstan notices.

ARSTAN
 (retaining enthusiasm)
 Yes.. yes..

Arstan pulls her close to him as if he wants to dance and
 gives her some money.

The Owner continues to sit on his couch frustrated. He looks
 up to think, then he suddenly sees Arstan. He looks at the
 picture, then back to Arstan. Chayan and the Lieutenant turns
 to Arstan's direction and watches.

OWNER's POV. Without looking up she moves so Arstan's body is
 covering the money. Then continuing the dance she whispers.

PROSTITUTE AIGUL
 Careful janym. Follow me, and I'll
 take that when we're on the middle
 step.

She leads him away from the dance floor and up the stairs.

The Owner looks at them disappear from the dance floor. He
 throws the picture onto the table and puffs out a thick cloud
 of smoke.

Chayan, has an idea and gives an evil smile.

LIEUTENANT TYNCHTYK
What is he doing here! We should
just go and kill him!

CHAYAN
There.. May actually be a better
way.

LIEUTENANT TYNCHTYK
What do you mean?

Chayan's evil grin grows wider.

CHAYAN
We can use his desperation to our
advantage.

The owner slowly smiles as he puffs up a cloud of smoke.

169 INT. CLUB HADES - HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

She escorts him up into a hallway where it suddenly becomes much quieter, leads him to a private room and opens the door.

PROSTITUTE AIGUL
Wait here sweetie, I'll go bring
her for you.

He steps into the room. She closes the door.

170 INT. PRIVATE ROOM - CONTINUOUS

The room is small with a couch and a bed. The lights are dimmed. He sits on the edge of the couch, playing with his hands and tapping his foot.

A woman enters the room wearing a short, sexy, black dress. She enters with her back turned to close the door.

SUIYUN
(flatly)
Hello, Janym. Sorry to keep you
waiting.

After closing the door,

she finally turns around to face her client, then gasps when she sees who it is. She covers her mouth with her hands, her entire body shaking. She looks terrified. Happy. Then mad.

Arstan rises from the couch, looking past the shame he stares strong into her eyes, and smiles, but his lips tremble from excitement.

ARSTAN
Suiyun....

He starts to cry.

ARSTAN (CONT'D)
I.. I finally found you. You're
alive.. Kudai'ga shugur.

Suiyun is still in shock, speechless.

Arstan comes and hugs his sister.

She remains silent and limp in his arms until suddenly she pushes him back and starts to sob loudly.

Arstan tries to hold onto her again, but she resists and starts hitting him on the chest.

ARSTAN (CONT'D)

Suiyun??

SUIYUN

No!! How are you here?

She continues hitting Arstan while sobbing and gasping.

ARSTAN

Suiyun..

SUIYUN

WHY DID YOU COME HERE?! Do they
know you're here?!

ARSTAN

Suiyun.. I've come to take you.
Come back home with me.

Arstan tries to grab his sister, but Suiyun jolts away in
sudden anger.

SUIYUN

No.. What have you done! They will
kill you! Go! Before they find out
who you are!!

Suiyun tries to leave, she looks torn and in pain. Arstan
stops her and grabs her by her arms.

ARSTAN

Suiyun... I'm not leaving without
you! Father is...

SUIYUN

I'M NOT ONE OF YOU! Please! I DON'T
WANT ANYONE TO GET HURT BECAUSE OF
ME!

ARSTAN

No! I'm not going to leave you
here!

SUIYUN

JUST GO! WHY DO YOU EVEN CARE!

ARSTAN

BECAUSE YOU ARE MY SISTER!

SUIYUN

Everyone that's ever tried to help
me got hurt! GO! I'm not worth your
suffering.

ARSTAN

Suiyun! Please.. we all miss you..
We still love you!

SUIYUN

HOW CAN YOU EVEN LOVE SOMEONE LIKE
ME?!

SILENCE. She just trembles and hangs her head low.

SUIYUN (CONT'D)

How.. how can you love.. someone
like me..? I have no real mother or
father... I'm an orphan... and now
a freaking prostitute. You dont
even know what I've been through.
You have no idea what crap I've
done.. how can anyone possibly want
me back...

Arstan weeps in pain beside her, looking longingly at his
sister.

ARSTAN

WE want you back. We always have,
and we always will. Why can't you
see it?! What happened Suiyun?

SUIYUN

CAN'T YOU SEE WHAT HAPPENED?! I'VE
BECOME A DISGRACE!

ARSTAN

I DON'T CARE. YOU'RE STILL MY
SISTER. I AM NOT GIVING UP.

Suiyun weeps sorrowfully. Nothing that Arstan says is helping
her come out of her pain. She is too blinded by it.

ARSTAN (CONT'D)

Suiyun, Come on. I will get you out
of here. Come with me. Father and
Mother wait everyday in tears for
your return...

Suiyun is exhausted.

SUIYUN

My life is already too messed up..
PLEASE... how can I go back.. It's
too late for me. Whatever
obligation you feel to my dead
mother...

(MORE)

SUIYUN (CONT'D)
 (waving her hand over him)
 You're freed from it.

ARSTAN
 YOU THINK THIS IS BECAUSE I AM
 OBLIGATED?!

SUIYUN
GO! You have no idea what they will
do! To your family! PLEASE! They
will kill you if you stay here any
longer!

ARSTAN
I will find a way!

SUIYUN
NO. GO Please! If you love me, then
LEAVE! Everywhere I go, people end
up dying..because of ME! My mother
died because of me! Umut is dead
because of me! Mother Father
already had to deal with so much
shame because of me.. and STILL
suffering because of me! I don't
want any more of it! Tell them I'm
dead! I already am! It's better
that way.

Arstan kneels with a gaping mouth. Angry and painful tears
stream from his eyes.

Arstan tries to grab his sister, but she pushes him away.
Arstan collapses onto the floor where he remains shedding
bitter tears.

ARSTAN
 (whispers)
 Please... sister.. come home..

SUIYUN
Please. JUST LET ME DIE ALONE!

Suiyun storms out of the room. Arstan buries his face in the
 carpet, soaking it.

ARSTAN (V.O.)
 They took you and made you into a
 prostitute and enslaved you. But
 the moment I saw you I felt a mix
 of joy and pain.

171 INT. CLUB HADES - HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Suiyun slams the door shut behind her. She walks a few steps with her hand over her mouth as if trying to keep her emotions from spilling out.

She loses her balance and falls against the wall to support herself. She breathes hard.

ARSTAN (V.O.)
Joy that I found you and that
you're alive, but also
indescribable pain knowing the
suffering you went through.

172 INT. PRIVATE ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Arstan, still sprawled on the floor, bangs his hand against the ground over and over.

ARSTAN (V.O.)
I desperately wanted to find a way
to save you.

173 INT. SUIYUN'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - EVENING

Arstan comes home with bloodshot eyes, dirty and exhausted.

Bakai is sick on the seat. Elnura rise from her seats in alarm at the sight of their son. Elnura rushes over to him to help him sit down.

BAKAI
Arstan!!!

ELNURA
Did you find her?!

Arstan collapses into the seat, but cannot talk. Arstan pounds his chest with pain-struck face. This man is devastated. Bakai tries to speak but barely makes words.

BAKAI
Su.. Suiyun??

ARSTAN
(looking up into his
father's eyes)
She was sold.. as a prostitute...

Bakai is struck with pain and his entire body is shaking. He grabs his chest near his heart and breathes hard. But he tries to hold it in.

ELNURA

Oh my... No.. No!!!!... God...!

ARSTAN

She was bought by a night club..

Overcome, all he can do is WAIT over his sister.

Urmat stands in the doorway listening to everything. His eyes are open wide and out of focus. He is shocked. The tray of tea cups he holds start to CLATTER as his hands shake.

Elnura quietly cries for her lost daughter.

Bakai tears up, but holds himself together. He tries to get up with his cane. Elnura tries to support him.

ARSTAN (CONT'D)

Fa.. Father..

Bakai speaks, but his paralysis makes it hard for him to form words.

BAKAI

We have.. to save her.... Arstan...

ARSTAN

(shaking his head)

It's too late, dad.

CLOSE ON ARSTAN'S DISPAIR

174 INT. CLUB HADES - HALLWAY

The Owner slaps Suiyun.

SMACK!

OWNER

The young man who was here
yesterday. Who is he?!

Suiyun can't speak, just shakes her head. The PROSTITUTE AIGUL that received money from Arstan stands behind the owner with a smirk.

OWNER (CONT'D)

You remember what happened last
time when you didn't behave...

He runs his hand over her throat as if slicing her throat.

OWNER (CONT'D)
No more second chances..

175 INT. SUIYUN'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Bakai looks intently at Arstan. Arstan returns the gaze for a long time. They seem to communicate strength to one another through this eye-to-eye moment.

ARSTAN
 Father.. I'm going to try to buy
 her back.. That is the only way..

Bakai nods. Urmat regains focus at Arstan's words. He looks disturbed and immediately leaves the doorway.

176 INT. SUIYUN'S HOUSE - HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Urmat takes the tray and VIOLENTLY places it on a side table in the hallway.

He leans against it with his head ducked. He BREATHES HARD with tears flowing.

URMAT
 Why... why!?

177 INT. SUIYUN'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Elnura sits in agony.

ELNURA
 Suiyun... Suiyun.....

Arstan and Bakai exchange looks, nods and leaves the room. As soon as Arstan leaves, Bakai collapses toward the floor. He is very weak and trembles.

ELNURA (CONT'D)
Bakai!

BAKAI
(weeps)
Suiyun..

The aged couple both weep on the floor.

178 INT. ARSTAN'S ROOM - LATE AFTERNOON

Arstan sits at his desk writing a letter. It's cloudy outside.

Urmat stands at the doorway looking upset. Finally, he invites himself in.

URMAT

Are you really going to do this?

Arstan, startled, stops his pen and turns toward Urmat as a reflex. Still, he takes a moment, pausing, before looking up with a slight smile that sees something others can't see.

ARSTAN

...yes.

URMAT

But.. but.. if you..

ARSTAN

I know, but I promised. This is the only way.

Surmising Urmat.

URMAT

But...

Arstan keeps smiling and goes back to writing.

Urmat stands where he is, looking dazed, before quickly turning away and looking down in embarrassment. He exits.

Arstan finishes the letter and folds it into an envelope. The sound of THUNDER roars in the distance.

179 INT. POLICE OFFICE - EVENING

A pile of papers are thrown unto Batyr's desk. Batyr looks up, it's the Lieutenant.

LIEUTENANT TYNCHTYK

Evidence of the storage room
breakout.

Commander Batyr immediately stands up and salutes him. The lieutenant salutes back.

LIEUTENANT TYNCHTYK (CONT'D)

See to it that you arrest the
suspect immediately.

COMMANDER BATYR

Yes sir.

The lieutenant comes near Batyr and pats him on his shoulder.

LIEUTENANT TYNCHTYK
You're doing our nation a great
deed. Make sure you get the job
done.

COMMANDER BATYR
Sir.

Cammaner Batyr salutes the lieutenant as he leaves the room.
Batyr sits and reads through the files.

CUT TO PICTURE OF ARSTAN IN STORAGE ROOM

Batyr is alarmed and scrambles through the papers.

CUT TO PAPER SAYING "SUSPECT: ARSTAN SULTANBEKOV, CRIME:
HUMAN TRAFFICKING"

COMMANDER BATYR (CONT'D)
NO.. NO.. This isn't right..!

Batyr's phone rings. He reads the screen. It says "Arstan."

180 EXT. CLUB HADES - EVENING - RAINING

Arstan stands outside of the club. He's holding the suitcase
and protecting the letter. He pulls out his phone and makes a
call.

ARSTAN
Hello? Batyr, it's me.

COMMANDER BATYR (V.O.)
Ah.. Arstan?

ARSTAN
I'm standing out front. I'm about
to go in.

181 INT. POLICE OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

COMMANDER BATYR
(annoyed and uncomfortable)
Look, Arstan... Wait. You, you
can't do this. You don't know what
you're getting yourself into!

ARSTAN
(more determined)
I know. But I'm going in no matter
what.

COMMANDER BATYR

(Interrupting)

Arstan, you're acting crazy!
They're planning something against
you! I cannot help you if you do
this! It's out of my power. They
are going to go after you at all
costs! Please don't!

Batyr looks at the papers he is holding.

ARSTAN

Then, goodbye my friend.

Arstan hangs up.

COMMANDER BATYR

Wait, Arstan? Arstan!! Damn it!

CUT TO:

182 INT. CLUB HADES - HALLWAY

Arstan stands holding a letter and suitcase. He asks a different prostitute to pass the letter to Suiyun for him. She seems more merciful.

ARSTAN

I NEED YOU to give this to her.

The prostitute at first appears skeptical, but when she sees desperate sincerity, she consents, takes the letter and turns.

ARSTAN (CONT'D)

Thank you.

She looks back and again we see his desperate need.

As the prostitute walks away, she briefly holds up the letter above to see what is inside.

183 INT. VANITY ROOM - PRESENT DAY SUIYUN

DANCE MUSIC rings muffled through the door. Someone KNOCKS on the door before opening it, allowing the music to flood the room. Suiyun stops zipping up her dress to see who it is. The prostitute from earlier stands in the doorway.

BERMET

Uh.. Suiyun, that guy left you a letter. Here.

She hands her a white envelope. Suiyun stops. But ignores and goes back to dressing herself.

SUIYUN
(bluntly)
Throw it away.

Despite Suiyun's harshness, the prostitute doesn't move.

BERMET
Suiyun. What's wrong? Speak.

Suiyun looks away, trying to avoid eye contact.

BERMET (CONT'D)
What is going on? Who is he? If the
boss finds out he's going to kill
you and him! Whats going on?

Suiyun stands frozen.

BERMET (CONT'D)
(Sighs, rolls her eyes)
Fine. Whatever.

The prostitute tosses the letter on the vanity table right next to the door. Then, she leaves the room shutting the door behind her. Suiyun sits at the vanity table. Picking up her lip stick, she tries to put it on, but her hands are shaking hard.

She suddenly gets up, crumbles the letter, throws it in the trash, opens the door and leaves.

INSERT LETTER IN TRASH CAN

CUT TO:

184 INT. DANCE FLOOR - PRESENT DAY SUIYUN

Suiyun gulps down a vodka then heads onto the dance floor where dances out of rhythm and erratic.

INSERT VIEW OF LETTER IN TRASH CAN

ARSTAN (V.O.)
Suiyun, no matter who you are, what
you did, what you've become..

185 EXT. SUIYUN'S HOUSE - AFTERNOON

Suiyun's father sits on the porch wrapped in a blanket, looking across the fields as if waiting for someone. He is pale. The old golden book is opened with the flattened flower bookmarked in the middle.

CLOSE UP on the flattened flower.

ARSTAN (V.O.)

Our love for you cannot stop. We
want you back. No shame, honor, or
power can stop us from loving you.

186 INT. SUIYUN'S ROOM - AFTERNOON

Urmat opens the door. Suiyun's room is clean, but empty.

He walks to her bed and sits down for a moment in thought. He pulls his pant leg up to look at his bracelet.

The plant at the window is completely withered. Urmat sees it and goes out to bring it water. He pours a bowlful into the pot.

SLOW MOTION CLOSE UP on water being poured into the pot.

ARSTAN (V.O.)

I write this letter to tell you
that I have made a way for you to
be free.

187 INT. KITCHEN - AFTERNOON

Elnura sits in the kitchen. She remembers...

188 INT. KITCHEN - DAY (FLASHBACK)

Suiyun clings to Elnura.

END OF FLASHBACK

CUT TO:

189 EXT. PARKING GARAGE - RAINING

Arstan arrives at a parking garage. He looks around nervously at the guards by the door. He puts his hand into his pocket and pulls out Suiyun's bracelet. He looks at it then back in his pocket. He looks down at his feet.

He kneels down and pulls out his bracelet from his ankle. He looks at it for a moment, then he places it on his right wrist.

Once he's ready, Arstan makes his way to the guards who were watching him. They pat him down then let him in.

INT. PARKING GARAGE - EVENING

The Owner of Hades nightclub, sits at the end of the parking lot on a chair. He sits in a nice black suit, with legs crossed and a snooty air about him. Four men in black suits stand guard next to him.

OWNER

Ah, Mr. Arstan Sultanbekov. I have to say. I'm surprised you walked in yourself. So, what is this important business deal you want?

ARSTAN

I want to buy Suiyun.

The owner orders one of the men to take the suitcase and open the suitcase.

It is filled with 5000 som bills!!!

OWNER

Haha, is she really worth this much to you? Must be some special mistress you have there eh?

190 INT. DANCE FLOOR

Suiyun starts walking back toward the vanity room.

ARSTAN (V.O.)

She's my sister. I want her back with my family.

191 INT. PARKING GARAGE - EVENING

OWNER

Oh? Is that the case? Well, just so you know she's not for sale.

ARSTAN

I am bringing you my entire wealth. All that I have.

The owner smiles viciously.

OWNER

I'm not interested in money. I make more with her in one month than with your entire wealth! Ha! Oh no.. I'm looking for something far more valuable than that.

192 INT. VANITY ROOM

Suiyun reads the letter. She trembles with tears. She turns and leaves the room.

The letter falls to the ground.

193 INT. DANCE FLOOR

Suiyun, in crisis, tries to make her way across the room through the crowd.

194 INT. PARKING GARAGE - EVENING

Arstan drops to the ground on his knees.

ARSTAN

Then... name your price. What do you want in exchange for her.

OWNER

(laughs)

Such heroism. Are you really willing to do whatever it takes?

ARSTAN

If it means she will be free.

Quickly switching back to his sinister self...

OWNER

Well you know Mr. Sultanbekov, you did expose my business trade site and made a mess in my situation. It's kind of more pricey than just money.

Arstan stands steady listening. The owner gives an evil look.

OWNER (CONT'D)

Your life.

Arstan is alarmed, but stays steady.

ARSTAN
So you're going to kill me?

OWNER
(laughs)
No.

The owner looks into his eyes. He thinks for a moment.

OWNER (CONT'D)
Something worse than that.

195 INT. DANCE FLOOR - CONTINUOUS

Suiyun tries hard to break through the crowd but it's thick and men keep getting in her way, trying to grope her and pull her close.

196 INT. PARKING GARAGE - CONTINUOUS

OWNER
Someone has taken the evidence from
the site that leads to me and all
my associates. But with the place
exposed, its time for me to do the
clean up. All I need is a name and
a face to point the arrows to.
Someone who will go in my place as
a sacrifice.

ARSTAN
Me...?

OWNER
You are smart. A man of well
education indeed.

ARSTAN
And if I don't cooperate?

OWNER
Ah, but you will. Because we've
already sent in the evidence that
marks you as the suspect!

ARSTAN
What!

OWNER
But don't get me wrong, I need you
to do this willingly so that it
makes my life easy.

ARSTAN

What makes you think.. I wil...

OWNER

Suiyun.

Arstan eyes open wide.

OWNER (CONT'D)

If you agree to play along, then I
will let your sister go. That is,
only if you agree to take the blame
willingly. Otherwise, if you say
anything about the truth and make
my life difficult during this
process, Suiyun and the rest of
your family will die.

Arstan holds back his tears. The Owner smirks.

OWNER (CONT'D)

Consider it a thank you gift.

197 INT. DANCE FLOOR - CONTINUOUS

Suiyun continues to push through the mob of people.

198 INT. PARKING GARAGE - CONTINUOUS

Arstan stands in front of the owner silently.

OWNER

So. Do we have a deal?

ARSTAN

If.. If I do this.. You promise you
will free her?

OWNER

With my one word, she's free.

ARSTAN

And you will leave my family alone?

OWNER

Easily done.

199 INT. DANCE FLOOR - CONTINUOUS

Suiyun finally breaks out of the crowd and runs to the door.

200

INT. PARKING GARAGE - CONTINUOUS

Arstan takes a moment to think. Then he looks up to the owner. His face is filled with pain, but determination.

ARSTAN

Okay.

The owner smiles looking very pleased, but evil.

OWNER

I'll have her out of this place tonight. I'm a man of my word.

Suiyun breaks through the door SCREAMING out for her brother. Two guards try to stop her, but she manages to break free from them.

SUIYUN

ARSTAN BAIKE!!!!

Arstan and the other men turn in her direction.

ARSTAN

Suiyun!

Arstan runs to her and hugs her. The men try to stop them, but the Owner holds his hands up. They stop.

SUIYUN

Arstan baike! No No! What are you doing!! Whatever deal you made with him, don't do this!! PLEASE!! NO!!

ARSTAN

It's for your good. Trust me. You have to trust me.

SUIYUN

No! No! No!! This can't be!! I don't deserve it!

Arstan grabs his sister and tries to have her to calm down and listen to him.

ARSTAN

Look at me. Listen, LISTEN! It's important. Don't ever feel guilty, ok? You got that? Everything will be okay. Go back to father and mother. They wait for you.

SUIYUN

No! No!!! Noooo!

ARSTAN
You have to trust me.

Arstan puts something in Suiyun's hand. We don't see what it is and Suiyun is too devastated to even check. He looks at her and smiles as she tries to grab on to him.

Her hands grip and pull at his shirt so that it looks close to ripping. The men grab her to escort her out.

The Owner nods to Arstan. He's been good to his word.

SUIYUN
NO!!! NOOO!! Arstan BAIKE!!! NO!!!

ARSTAN
Go.. Trust me. I will end this for you.

SUIYUN
Noooooooo!!!!

Suiyun SCREAMS and reaches out to Arstan. Arstan also tries to hold on to her for as long as he can, but too soon they're separated. His bracelet dangles on his wrist. The men drag her out the door. Eventually her SCREAMS fade into the distance.

ARSTAN
It is finished...

There is a relieved sense of joy in his face.

201 EXT. CLUB HADES - EVENING- RAINING

Suiyun is thrown outside into the rain with an umbrella and her bag. She falls to the wet ground, but she gets back up and runs as fast as she can to the shutting door, but she's too late. She bangs on it.

SUIYUN
No! No! Arstan Baike!!!

202 INT. PARKING GARAGE - EVENING

Arstan turns around and slowly walks to the owner.

ARSTAN (V.O.)
This is the greatest gift I give you.

203 EXT. CLUB HADES - EVENING- RAINING

Suiyun continues to bang on the door, SCREAMING.

ARSTAN (V.O.)
I would do this a hundred times if
I had to. My baby sister.. No
matter how far you run, or how
deeply you fall.. You are forever
my sister.

Suiyun's cries quietly and she slowly stops banging on the door. She suddenly remembers Arstan giving her something. She slowly opens her hands, it's her bracelet. She holds it close to her heart and weeps over it in the pouring rain.

ARSTAN (V.O.) (CONT'D)
No power on earth can change that.
Remember it. I hope you know that
this is how much you are loved. How
delighted you are.

Exhausted, She pulls herself up and turns to get her bag and umbrella. (slow motion) Suiyun slowly walks away in the rain, her umbrella open.

As she keeps walking, she starts to lower the umbrella more and more until she's able to look directly up at the sky. She closes her eyes and lets the rain pour down on her, washing away the makeup and dirt. Streams of rain mixed with dirt flows down her arms.

PAN DOWN CLOSE UP ON ARMS FOLLOWING THE WATER STREAMS

ARSTAN (V.O.) (CONT'D)
Because that is your name. Suiyun:
Delight.

Suiyun embraces the rain.

BAKAI (V.O.)
After the rain..

From the cloudy sky, sunlight seeps in revealing what appears to be a rainbow.

204 EXT. SUIYUN'S HOUSE - EVENING - RAINING

Bakai stands outside of the house in the rain, looking toward the fields. He whispers to himself.

BAKAI

The sky clears and look, the light comes.

205 INT. PARKING GARAGE - EVENING

Arstan makes his way toward the Owner.

206 EXT. CLUB HADES - EVENING- RAINING

Suiyun closes her eyes.

207 EXT. SUIYUN'S HOUSE - EVENING - RAINING

Bakai closes his eyes.

208 INT. VANITY ROOM

Letter on the floor.

CLOSE UP ON "YOUR BROTHER, ARSTAN."

ARSTAN (V.O.)

I will forever love you. Your brother, Arstan.

209 INT. PARKING GARAGE - EVENING

As he walks, one of the men comes to him and punches him.

CUT TO BLACK:

210 EXT. SUIYUN'S HOUSE - AFTERNOON

FADE IN:

Bakai is walking with his cane limping. Elnura is supporting him as they walk toward Bakai's seat under the tree.

ELNURA

You should get some fresh air.

BAKAI

Mm..

Bakai is sitting outside the house in his chair. In his hands, he twirls the flattened white flower. His wife sits next to him, pouring tea. Bakai continues staring at the fields. His eyes are filled with grief and longing.

He takes his cup of tea, but only because his wife places it in his hands. Then suddenly, his eyes widen as if he's seen something and he drops his cup.

ELNURA

Ah! Oh my goodness, what happened?

Keeping his focus and squinting, he shakily gets up. The flower slowly falls out of his hands to the ground. His legs shake as he tries to grab onto his cane.

BAKAI'S POV: Slowly it comes into focus - a girl carrying bag and umbrella approaches.

Bakai cries out joyously and limps toward her as quickly as his body will allow. Elnura looks in the direction he's going and gasps.

ELNURA (CONT'D)

Oh, God...!

Bakai runs toward the girl, calling out to her with a broken voice. His legs gain strength! He leaves his cane behind and runs as if his legs were back to their original state!

BAKAI

Kyzym... Oh God... Suiyun Kyzym....

Bakai's lips start to move as it once did! His paralysis is being healed!

Elnura follows after her husband, also running to their daughter.

Suiyun sees her parents running toward her, drops her bag and continues making her way toward them, tears streaming down her cheeks. When Bakai reaches her, without hesitation, he pulls her into his arms.

Suiyun holds him back, crying out loud. Bakai wails his heart out.

BAKAI (CONT'D)

Kyzym...Kyzym... you're alive.. you came back..

He pulls back to look at her, he touches her face, kisses her, strokes her hair and embraces her again.

SUIYUN

Ata.. Ata, I'm so sorry. Ata... I shamed you so much... Arstan Baike is...!!

BAKAI
Kyzym, no, no... shhh...

Bakai holds her tight.

BAKAI (CONT'D)
No.. No child. Everything will be
okay. I was so afraid I lost you..

Bakai pulls away and soaks his eyes into hers.

BAKAI (CONT'D)
My precious precious gift. No honor
can ever replace you out of my
heart.

SUIYUN
Ata...

Elnura arrives and Suiyun sinks into her arms as well.
Everyone cries out loud in joy and sorrow.

ELNURA
Kyzym... You're alive.. Kyzym...

Elnura kisses her daughter endlessly.

SUIYUN
Apa...

211 EXT. SUIYUN'S HOUSE - PORCH - AFTERNOON

Urmat shoots his head out the front door. He sees his family huddled in the fields. He smiles in relief, but seconds later his smile disappears, only to come back then leave again. He puts his hand in his pocket.

CU of his hands in his pockets with his bracelet.

212 EXT. FIELDS - AFTERNOON

Bakai takes his jacket off and puts it over his daughter and takes her bag. The three of them walk together back to the house.

213 EXT. SUIYUN'S HOUSE - PORCH - AFTERNOON

Suiyun sees Urmat. She waivers, not knowing how or if she should approach him until she sees the bracelet on his wrist. Urmat walks up to her and hugs her. He so happy but is shy to show.

URMAT
Welcome back.

She hugs him back warmly.

BAKAI
No more of these tears! It is a
mairam! We must celebrate! Urmat,
go get our best lamb! Call
everyone. It's time to celebrate!

Urmat, without any expression or word, does as he is told.

214 INT. BASEMENT

Arstan wakes up in a dark basement. His blurry vision slowly refocuses on his surroundings. He looks around, then turns to discover both his hands tied up on the wall. A stream of scarlet red blood drips from his chained wrists. His face is all bruised and bloodied.

He looks beyond and sees men surrounding him and the owner of the club is sitting in a chair in front of him. The owner puts a cigar in his mouth. A man standing next to him lights up a match and places it on the owner's cigar. He inhales.

Beside the Owner is a small table with Arstan's phone, wallet, and bracelet.

OWNER
So...

He exhales a thick cloud of smoke and squints suspiciously at Arstan.

OWNER (CONT'D)
Tell me. What does it feel like to
be a criminal?

ARSTAN
Hmm?

OWNER
Arstan Sultanbekov, Son of Bakai
Sultanbekov. Your father was a well
respected diplomat with no mafia
connections. Retired and doing farm
work. You are doing business with
him. No history of bribes or
anything.

Arstan looks pleasantly puzzled.

OWNER (CONT'D)

Such a clean background. But to put
the title of a criminal on it?
Scandalous no?

He takes another sip and blows out smoke again.

ARSTAN

What do you want. Why are you doing
this. Haven't I already agreed!?

OWNER

Oh yes, you have. But I'm making
sure the deal goes through
perfectly.

He nods his head to the men. A man slowly walks up to Arstan, dragging a heavy pipe with him. The SOUND OF METAL HITTING THE GROUND gives a slow creeping echo into the basement.

OWNER (CONT'D)

So. We're gonna play this game the
easy way. You see, you're going to
be the criminal here, and I.. well
I will be the hero who captured the
bad guy.

The guard looks into the swollen eyes of Arstan. Then he raises up the pipe and swings it across Arstan's hip.

ARSTAN

AHHHH!

OWNER

And I will forever be known as the
person who found justice to all
those poor girls, "you" sold.

Arstan's CRIES of agony continues with each BLOW as the owner continues to smoke and observe him, not knowing whether to believe him or not.

OWNER (CONT'D)

You're just a sacrifice that will
make me look innocent. And I will
be known as the hero. For good.

215

EXT. SUIYUN'S HOUSE GARDEN - AFTERNOON

Many people are gathered celebrating, drinking, eating, and dancing. Everyone comes to Suiyun and kisses her, hugs her and welcomes her back.

ARSTAN (V.O.) (CONT'D)
 (whispering in pain)
 Suiyun...

Bakai hovers over Suiyun telling everyone...

BAKAI
 My daughter is back.

He is so proud, and it's obvious that his joy sets the emotional direction for others. **Every now and then, however, he looks toward the fields and checks his phone. He is waiting for something... or someone.**

A woman approaches the house. She has soft white skin and long black hair. She is beautiful. She is in a simple white dress. Bakai sees the woman and shouts joyfully,

BAKAI (CONT'D)
 Aliah!!!!

He runs and hugs her. Elnura greets her in the same way.

When Suiyun sees Aliah however, her face clouds and her eyes water.

Aliah runs to her and embraces her.

ALIAH
 Suiyun! You are safe!! Kudai'ga
 shugur Oh, I missed you!

SUIYUN
 Jenge.. I'm so sorry...

ALIAH
 Shhh.. Its ok. He will be back.

Aliah looks up to Bakai as she holds her in her arms. They both nod at each other. They seems to share a common thought

Urmat watches Aliah and Suiyun enter the merriment.

He is slightly annoyed for some time before leaving the house to go to the fields.

Although Bakai is so overjoyed with the celebration, he notices Urmat leaving.

216

EXT. BAKAI'S SEAT UNDER THE TREE - MOMENTS LATER

The sun sets on the horizon as Urmat walks through **the wet grass**. He hits the wheat particularly violently.

Dissatisfied, he looks toward the setting sun in contemplation and lets out a deep SIGH.

Bakai walks up and stands next to him.

BAKAI
Beautiful, a sunset after the rain.

URMAT
Huh? Oh.. Yea..

BAKAI
Like the day God completed our family.

URMAT
Yeah, you always say that.

BAKAI
Son, what's on your mind? Why are you out here?

URMAT
.... Nothing. I don't know.

BAKAI
You're not celebrating?

URMAT
I am, but...

Urmat holds back, but then he explodes, venting frustrations. He points in the direction of the celebration.

URMAT (CONT'D)
How.. how could you have a celebration and invite the entire town to come after what she has done?

BAKAI
What? Why do you blame her?
(challenging)
Is she a criminal?

URMAT
You know what great shame will come to you, mom, this family! You know what the entire town is gossiping about!!

Bakai stands with a firm face. Urmat is breathing hard with fury in his eyes.

URMAT (CONT'D)

Where's you honor? Aren't you
ashamed!?

Bakai waits for him to calm down a little then speaks gently.

BAKAI

My son, between honor or your
sister, which should I value?

URMAT

I... I... That's not what I'm
talking about! You even took your
whole possession to buy her back!
We have nothing now! How much more
will you sacrifice for us!

BAKAI

Money comes and goes. Reputation is
built then shatters in seconds,
then is mendable again. But a life
of a person, once lost, is gone
forever.

URMAT

I don't understand how you could-

BAKAI

(interrupts)

Son. There is no shame, honor, or
even money that is greater than the
joy of having her as my daughter
and you as my son. Can't you see..?
Suiyun, basically, was dead and
came back alive to me.

Urmat pulls his hair and screams.

URMAT

Agh! But Suiyun made her stupid
choices! She screwed up! But me? I
worked so hard for you and the
family! I returned all the good you
deserve... but she? She just
spoiled all that you'd given her!

Pointing toward the direction of the celebration.

URMAT (CONT'D)

And you give her this?

BAKAI

Son.. When did I ever ask you to
pay back for anything?

Urmat falls silent with shock at his father's words.

URMAT

I...

BAKAI

I'm your father.

URMAT

I, I know that...

BAKAI

Not your boss.

URMAT

...Y..ye.. I know..

BAKAI

Do you?

Urmat turns his head away to hide his tears. Bakai just looks at him with love in his eyes.

BAKAI (CONT'D)

Son, I do not love you because I want something in return. Stop trying to be my son... you already are!

URMAT

No. You don't understand. I, I...

BAKAI

(interrupts)

Let go of the pain. Be free from your past. You are my son now, no matter what you do, you're my son. And I am so proud to be your father.

Bakai turns to look toward the horizon.

(ERASED INSERT)

BAKAI (CONT'D)

Now that Arstan has built Aliah a home, everything I have will be yours, my SON!

Urmat stops at what Bakai said. He opens his mouth to speak, but can't. They just stand in silence for a while as Urmat tries to make sense of everything.

URMAT

But now.. Arstan baike.. is..
because of her Arstan baike is..

As Urmat speaks, Bakai's phone rings. Bakai's face is lightens up as he reads the name on the phone. The phone reads, "Batyrr."

BAKAI

Mmm.. Arstan.. You don't need to
worry about him.

Urmat looks at him, alarmed.

217

INT. BASEMENT

The man throws a last blow at Arstan.

ARSTAN

Ahhh!!... ahhh.. Oh God..

The man with the heavy pipe steps back a little. Arstan's face is contorted with torment.

OWNER

Any moment now. The police will
come and arrest you. Whom, "I" have
captured.

The owner throws the picture of Arstan and Batyr toward Arstan. It lands on the floor, Arstan looks at it as he hangs in silence. With the little strength he has, he speaks.

ARSTAN

Is she... safe?

OWNER

HA! Even till this moment you care
about her?!

The man raises his pipe.

ARSTAN

AGGGHH!!!

Arstan is grabbed by his hair and lifted.

Its the Owner.

OWNER

As long as you play along as the
bad guy. She's safe.

With the little strength he has, Arstan conjures an otherworldly smile.

ARSTAN

Suiyun...

Suddenly, Arstan's PHONE RINGS. Everyone looks to the phone.

The owner picks it up and sees.

INSERT PHONE - "BATYR"

The PHONE RINGS a third time then goes DEAD. Arstan's face lightens beneath bruises and blood.

The Owner looks at the phone, taps the screen and swipes. Then he looks at Arstan.

OWNER

(smiling victoriously and
looking at the doors)

Oh, look at this, your "репой" -
Batyr is here! Ha. Just on time.

218 EXT. CLUB HADES - CONTINUOUS

Everything is wet, but the rain has stopped. A couple dozen police officers surround the building with rifles. Commander Batyr stands near his car with an officer. The officer hangs up his phone.

OFFICER

Sir, he's not picking up.

Batyr nods then puts his mic in his ear and gives instructions.

COMMANDER BATYR

Ok, real quiet. On my cue, we enter
the building and arrest the
suspect.

ZOOM IN ON BATYR

FLASHBACK

INSERT picture of Younger Arstan and Younger Suiyun with Batyr. It looks like Suiyun's high school graduation picture.

219 INT. POLICE OFFICE - EVENING

Commander Batyr is still in the same place he was after Arstan left his office. KNOCK ON THE DOOR. He answers without looking back.

COMMANDER BATYR

Yes.

Bakai enters limping wearing his traditional folk Kyrgyz hat drenched with rain and sorrow. Elnura is supporting him. Batyr looks up... startled.

Bakai GREETs him with a weary smile.

COMMANDER BATYR (CONT'D)

Sir! How are you, sir. Please. Sit.

Bakai greets him but remains standing. He can barely speak.

BAKAI

I've.. I've come to ask you a favor.

Batyr looks uncomfortable, he doesnt know how to respond to Bakai.

BAKAI (CONT'D)

Arstan went.. to get her.

COMMANDER BATYR

Sir, You.. don't understand..

BAKAI

Please help.. Save my children.

COMMANDER BATYR

I wish I could do something, but I received orders to arrest Arstan. He's pinned as the suspect.

Bakai gasps for air as he speaks.

BAKAI

(interrupting)

You know it's not.. true. My son will.. be inside... unarmed.

COMMANDER BATYR

It's not that simple like that!

BAKAI

He is my son.. your best friend.

Batyr SCOFFS and turns his back on the elder.

Without another word, Bakai kneels down on the ground and bows his head with his prominent Kalpak hat.

BAKAI (CONT'D)

Please... I beg you...

COMMANDER BATYR

Please.. This is out of my control!

Commander Batyr stands awkwardly in front of Bakai, trying not to look at him.

END OF FLASHBACK:

220 EXT. CLUB HADES - NIGHT - RAINING

Commander Batyr dressed in plain clothes readies his team.

COMMANDER BATYR

Steady.

221 INT. BASEMENT - CONTINUOUS

The owner, walks toward Arstan, and shows it to him.

OWNER

They're here to take you. And you
know whats the fun part?

Arstan, bruised and gasping for air, conjures up the strength
that's left in him.

OWNER (CONT'D)

You're best friend will be the one
taking you. How dramatic eh?

Arstan tries to smile.

OWNER (CONT'D)

What..? What are you smiling about!

Arstan gasps for air.

ARSTAN

As long as you keep you're word to
keep my family safe. So be it.

The owner is annoyed at Arstan's heroism.

OWNER

Hmph. Enough of this. We'll see how
happy you'll be in prison. Tell
them to come.

222 EXT. CLUB HADES - NIGHT - RAINING

The officer's phone beeps. Batyr puts his police hat on.

COMMANDER BATYR

Now GO!

Two vans pull up to the building. Troops jump out, overpower two guards in a millisecond, kick the door open, KABOOM!

And run downstairs.

223 INT. CLUB HADES - STAIRS - CONTINUOUS

Officers run down stairs.

224 INT. BASEMENT - CONTINUOUS

The owner and his men jump. The roar of a THRONG OF FOOTSTEPS
grows louder. Then the Owner turns to Arstan.

OWNER

Time to say goodbye.

Arstan looks up, closes his eyes and smiles from deep inside.

225 INT. CLUB HADES - STAIRS - CONTINUOUS

SLOW MOTION. Officers run down stairs. Batyr runs down.

226 INT. POLICE OFFICE - CONTINUOUS - FLASHBACK

Bakai is on his knees. Elnura is in sorrow at the site. Batyr
is hesitant to what to do.

COMMANDER BATYR

Please, don't do this.

Bakai speaks slowly.

BAKAI

I'm asking.. you to.. to... do..
Something that requires.. courage.

COMMANDER BATYR

Wh.. what do you mean?

INT. BASEMENT - CONTINUOUS

SLOW MOTION. KABOOM! The door breaks open and the police flow inside. They start to point their guns up.

227

INT. POLICE OFFICE - CONTINUOUS - FLASHKBACK

Someone walks into the door of Batyrs office.

It's Umut! She's holding documents and a USB.

BAKAI

I'm asking.. you.. to.. have
courage.. to do.. the right thing..

Batyr is confused, he looks at Umut then to Bakai, then back to Umut.

UMUT

These are the real evidence I stole
from the storage.

COMMANDER BATYR

Wh.. what?

ELNURA

She came to us right after Arstan
left for Suiyun.

UMUT

I couldn't trust the police.. I
knew some of them will be corrupt
and destroy the evidence.

Umut hands the documents to Batyr.

UMUT (CONT'D)

And I was right. In the tapes,
you'll find everyone whose behind
this crime. Even your boss.

COMMANDER BATYR

Wh..what!?

BAKAI

I... ask.. you.. please do.. the
right.. thing.. Save.. my children.

Batyr's face is filled with dilemma.

INT. BASEMENT - CONTINUOUS

SLOW MOTION. The policemen run into the room, their guns point up. But instead of toward Arstan, the guns shoot toward the men!

OWNER

What!? What is this!?

There's panic in the room. All the men grab their weapons and hustle toward the walls or cover themselves, but get PICKED OFF quickly. Some are able to return FIRE.

228

INT. LEIUTENANT'S OFFICE

SLOW MOTION.

Officers come into the office. They take out their guns and handcuffs the lieutenant.

Tynchtyk hangs his head down in defeat.

He is escorted out of the office handcuffed.

INT. BASEMENT - CONTINUOUS

The owner is using Arstan as a human shield with his gun pointed at Arstan's head.

OWNER

AGHHH!!! YOU FREAKING LITTLE...!!
You think you got the last laugh!?
You and I will go down together!

Arstan squints in horror but still has visible courage.

SLOW MOTION

Batyr sees the owner's gun on Arstan. He YELLS and runs toward them. Arstan jerks his head forward just as the SCREAMING Owner FIRES.

The owner repositions to get a shot off at Batyr, but Arstan has just enough slack in the chains to shoulder-bump the gun.

BANG!

He missed.

Now Batyr's in position.

Fear and anger explode from the Owner's eyes as he fumbles the gun and points it to Arstan. Arstan and the defeated owner look eye to eye.

Batyr pulls his trigger.

The Owner pulls the trigger.

CUT TO BLACK:

BANG!

FADE TO:

229 INT./EXT. SUIYUN'S HOUSE - DAY

Suiyun brings the almost dying plant from her window outside. It looks slightly better since Urmat watered it.

She takes it out of the pot and replants it in the yard. She gives it a little water then gently strokes a parched leaf.

SUIYUN

There.. now you are where you were
meant to be.

230 EXT. BAKAI'S SEAT UNDER THE TREE - LATE AFTERNOON

Suiyun and her family are out on the porch, eating fruit and drinking tea.

Bakai still faces the fields. Suiyun looks at her father and holds his hands. He squeezes back.

Urmat takes Suiyun's teacup and pours more tea in it.

URMAT

Here.

SUIYUN

Oh! Thank you, Urmat baike.

She smiles and Urmat slightly smiles back.

231 EXT. FIELDS - LATE AFTERNOON

Someone walks toward the fields until he can see the house, but stops before anyone can see him. He's covered in bandages.

Behind him, a police car is parked. Commander Batyr comes out with a smile. He watches the man walk home through the fields.

232 EXT. BAKAI'S SEAT UNDER THE TREE - CONTINUOUS

Bakai sees the man approaching and slowly stands up.

Suiyun looks at her father puzzled, then looks in the direction he's focused on and gasps. The rest of the family looks up too and all of their faces widen with smiles.

Aliah emerges from the door. At the sight of the man in the fields, she cries tears of joy. She holds her hand over her mouth to contain her emotions. Suiyun sprints toward the man in the fields. She whispers under her breath.

CLOSE UP ON SUIYUN - tears run down her face

SUIYUN
Oh God.. Oh God...!

Bakai defies his age and ailments to run toward the field. Elnura and Urmat follow.

233 EXT. FIELDS - CONTINUOUS

Arstan walks through the fields back home, his hand gliding along the golden wheat. The bracelet on his wrist shines in the sunlight.

Suiyun runs and sinks into his hands as Arstan embraces her with brotherly love.

ARSTAN
I'm back.

SUIYUN
(sobbing)
Arstan Baike!!!

Bakai follows along and wraps the two into his arms. Bakai's voice echoes across the fields.

BAKAI
(Echoing)
My son! my son!

Elnura and Urmat catch up and join in the embrace, engulfed in family love.

FADE OUT:

Credits

234 INT. SUIYUN'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM

Suiyun comes down the stairs in a light blue dress with her half of her hair tied up in a bow. She yawns trying to brush off the sleepiness. Arstan sprints into the room holding his tie around his neck.

ARSTAN
SUIYUN!! Can you tie this for me?

Suiyun is startled, then jokingly frowns at her brother.

SUIYUN
Oy.. give it here.

The two look at each other smiling. Then he pulls up his wrist showing her his bracelet. Suiyun rolls her eyes but giggles with him as she ties a knot for him.

Urmat comes into the room from the door. He is dressed up in a suit.

URMAT
It's time.

Arstan and Suiyun look at Urmat with a smile. Arstan nods nervously, puts on his blazer and takes a deep breath. Suiyun comes up to him and gives one last hug. Arstan embraces her, then looks at her as he taps his finger on her nose like one would to a little child.

ARSTAN
Let's go.

Suiyun nods smiling. Arstan puts on a white kalpak hat. They both head out the house.

235 INT. POLICE CAR - DAY

The Officer drives by the Suiyun's house.

OFFICER
Doesn't look like you're going to a wedding... more like you're going to meet the boss or something.

PAN TO BATYR in the passenger seat. He is looking good in full uniform.

COMMANDER BATYR (V.O.)
Hope they like my wedding present.

PAN TO BACK SEAT. Aibek, the owner, and Chayan are cuffed.

AIBEK'S POV - There are many round tables covered with white cloths, flowers and silverware. Each table is filled with guests all dressed up.

As they pull into the driveway Aibek puts his head down.

236 EXT. SUIYUN'S HOUSE - DAY - CONTINUOUS

Suiyun sees Aibek look at her. She snuggles closer to Bakai, who smiles down at her.

COMMANDER BATYR

We caught the other one couple days ago drunk trying to steal a some sheep from someone's herd. Old habits die hard eh? Aibek?

Aibek shrinks into his seat trying to avoid eye contact.

Suiyun looks safe under his wing. Then, with a slight but authoritative shake of his head, Bakai tells Batyr to get rid of the stains.

Batyr, already out of the car, leans back and tells the Officer,

COMMANDER BATYR (CONT'D)

Guess the boss wants us to clear the shit from the wedding grounds. Off to prison now eh?

The car starts to drive away.

237 INT. POLICE CAR

Aibek looks at the festivities.

COMMANDER BATYR (O.S.)

Better take 'em in and book 'em.

238 EXT. GARDEN - AFTERNOON

Suiyun's family stand at the row of tress. Batyr, Nurgul, and few other close friends are gathered together in the garden. At the end of the path of trees stands a big golden book on a small wooden table in front of it. The beams of the sun seep through the branches of the walnut tree as a gentle breeze creates a symphony of leaves singing. Beyond the row of tree lies a vast ocean of yellow fields of the harvest.

Arstan stands on the side of where the row of trees start. He waits anxiously but tries to keep his calm. There is a murmuring anticipation amongst the guests.

Then, the music plays. Arstan looks alarmed. His eyes widen searching for something.

From a distant throng, a bride in a white dress appears, slowly approaching Arstan. Aliah walks slowly with a shy smile on her face. Arstan is overjoyed with small droplets of tears forming in his glassy eyes. Aliah smiles, her beautiful stunning smile gleams through the reflection of the sun on her dress.

Elnura approaches and places a white scarf on Aliah's perfect hair. The ladies kiss.

Joyful Bakai watches Arstan embrace Aliah as teary Elnura returns to where her family stands. Urmat has a proud smug on his face as he tries to hold back his tears. Wiping his sniffly nose with his arm reveals the bracelet on his wrist. Suiyun watches with trembling and drops of joy falling from her eyes.

SUIYUN (V.O.)

In the end, it was true... when
one's life is without love, that
life is empty.

Arstan smiles at Aliah and holds his arm out to her. Aliah places her hand into his arm. They walk down the aisle greeted by joyful eyes of all their guests.

SUIYUN (V.O.) (CONT'D)

Love comes like the rain, washes
away all shame.

As Arstan walks he glances at Suiyun and winks. Aliah looks at Suiyun giving a big smile.

Suiyun holds back her tears and smiles back.

Pan of Suiyun's family.

SUIYUN

And after the rain, the sun will
always come out and shine.

Arstan and Aliah approach the golden book.

DOLLY OUT FROM BETWEEN THE COUPLE TOWARD THE TREE AND GLIDING
THROUGH THE FIELDS AND PAN TO THE SNOW-CAPPED MOUNTAINS.

FADE OUT: