

CONJURING CARSON

Written by

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EXT. MARY'S HOLLOW - GOLDEN HOUR

Having seen better days, a beat, white dually truck tows a horse trailer through a quaint East Coast town. It's dusty and tired from the trip across the country.

Orange and crimson-leafed trees and old-fashioned street lamps line Main Street. Sparkling pumpkins hang between each post. Halloween is in the air.

Dried herbs and garlands of marigolds hang brightly in the windows of small shops and handmade boutiques. Little girls wear witch hats and skip along the sidewalks.

CUT TO:

INT. DUALLY - CONTINUOUS

MAMA JEAN (early 40s) cruises on, like always. She taps her stacks of turquoise rings against the steering wheel, and swivels her head like an owl as she takes in all the sites through her oversized, orange sunglasses.

PHONE NAVIGATION

In 400 feet, turn left. Turn left.

Mama Jean keeps cruisin' on.

PHONE NAVIGATION (CONT'D)

In 50 feet, turn left. Turn left.

It was a long drive across the country.

PHONE NAVIGATION (CONT'D)

In 300 feet, make a U-turn.

From the backseat, LUNA (15) finally snaps back into reality, and it's about time she did...

LUNA

Mama!

MAMA JEAN

What?

LUNA

You missed it.

CUT TO:

EXT. LUNA'S HOUSE - JUST AFTER

The dually parks along a picket fence. Mama Jean gets out.

MAMA JEAN  
Lunatic, do you have that thing,  
with the codes, for the door?

Luna steps her cowgirl boots out just after her. She sticks a hand in her puffer jacket pocket and uses the other to navigate her phone.

LUNA  
It's cold here.

MAMA JEAN  
I like it!

She hands her phone over to her mom, who reads the code in stride.

MAMA JEAN (CONT'D)  
Wait, wait, where's Bastet?

Mama Jean runs back to the car, tossing the phone back at Luna who catches it, mid-air. Mama Jean grabs her black cat out of the car.

MAMA JEAN (CONT'D)  
Come on Bastet.

Mama Jean walks to the front door, she unlocks it then lets Bastet run inside. She tosses in a sprig of basil and shuts the door. She stares back at Luna.

MAMA JEAN (CONT'D)  
Eeee! This is exciting!

Luna stares up at her "new" house. She looks around - it's by far the worst on the street. It's small, and old, and surrounded by a sea of Modern Farmhouse McMansions.

Luna stares out across the street. Something sends a chill up her spine. She steps closer... Mama Jean runs back to the car, she rustles around for something - she finds a bell.

MAMA JEAN (CONT'D)  
(excited)  
We need salt!

CUT TO:

INT. LUNA'S HOUSE

Mama Jean burns incense and rings her bell. She sprinkles salt into the corners of the home.

CUT TO:

EXT. DUALLY

Luna digs through the bed of the truck. She struggles to pull two new brooms from their heaping pile, Excalibur style. She peels the plastic off the freed brooms and crumples it into her pocket. A group of boys ride their bikes by. She makes eye contact with one of them, JOHNNY (15), who gives her a Mona Lisa's smile. It's the most direct he's been in months.

As he pedals away, SONNY (18ish) waves to Luna from across the street. He's like a moth to a flame, but why he's drawn to her, even he's not so sure...

SONNY  
(overly friendly)  
Hey! Hey!

Luna looks around, nervously. Teenage boys are not usually this friendly, nor outgoing. Even Johnny notices him, noticing her, as he bikes into the horizon.

LUNA  
Are you talking to me?

Sonny runs to her. She shivers as a wind blows over her.

SONNY  
(realizing he came on  
strong)  
Sorry, I was just excited to meet  
the new neighbor.

LUNA  
Oh... hi.

SONNY  
Hi.

There's something strange about him. Luna steps sideways. He matches her movements, circling each other, until they stop.

LUNA  
Well, it's freezing out here.

SONNY  
 (shrugs)  
 You're from Arizona

LUNA  
 How do you know?

He points to the license plates. Duh.

LUNA (CONT'D)  
 I'll have you know it snows in  
*several* parts of Arizona. Including  
 mine.

Sonny beams at her.

LUNA (CONT'D)  
 Why are you looking at me like  
 that?

MAMA JEAN (O.S.)  
 (hollering)  
 LOOOOOONNNAAAA, BROOOOOOOMMMSSSS.

Sonny looks up longingly towards the house - like he's heard  
 a siren call.

LUNA  
 I, uh - I gotta go.

SONNY  
 I'll see you around.

Sonny half-heartedly waves goodbye. Luna steps towards her  
 house - she looks back to Sonny... but he's gone. He's  
 disappeared into thin air. She swivels her head all around.  
 She steps out into the street... he's nowhere. Weird.

CUT TO:

INT. LUNA'S HOUSE

There's piles of misplaced furniture and boxes stacked high  
 in every room, but right now, all of that's tomorrow's  
 problem. Mama Jean's got Stevie Wonder's SUPERSTITIOUS  
 blasting, she's opened up all the windows and has a fire  
 going in the fireplace.

Luna walks in with both brooms. Mama Jean dances towards her.  
 Together, they both dance and sing as they sweep salt out the  
 door. As they corner the last of it, Luna kicks the front  
 door closed. Mama Jean jumps on the couch and shakes it.

She pulls Luna up with her, they laugh, deeply, and then Mama Jean hugs Luna in, even deeper.

MAMA JEAN

This is going to be good for us  
Loon. You'll see. Everything's  
going to be great here. I can feel  
it.

DING DONG. The door bell chimes.

MAMA JEAN (CONT'D)

I wonder who that could be.

Mama Jean jumps off the couch and skips to the door. She peaks out the window. She looks back at Luna and smiles. Luna shrugs, who is it? Mama Jean opens the door. Standing there with a bottle of Chardonnay is KIERSTEN (40s), she could really use a drink, and someone to have one with.

KIERSTEN

Welcome new neighbor! I'm Kiersten,  
I live just across the street,  
there, in the modern farm house.

Mama Jean looks out, they're all modern farm houses.

MAMA JEAN

Thank you so much. I'm Mama Jean -

KIERSTEN

Jean?

MAMA JEAN

Everybody calls me Mama Jean. And  
this is Luna.

Luna jumps down from the couch and walks over to the front door.

LUNA

It's nice to meet you.

KIERSTEN

Oh you are just darling!

MAMA JEAN

Would you like to come in and we  
can open this?

KIERSTEN

(beyond grateful for the  
invite)

(MORE)

KIERSTEN (CONT'D)

Oh, no I'm sure you have loads to unpack, I just, I heard the music and, I just wanted to welcome you to the neighborhood...

MAMA JEAN

Now who has ever picked piles of dusty boxes over a chardonnay with a new fried? Come on in. I'll find us some glasses. Luna, will you go get Miss Purdy settled? Luna?

LUNA

(scoffing)

Keys.

Mama Jean tosses them at her. Luna trudges out.

Kiersten follows Mama Jean to the kitchen. She opens box after box labeled "kitchen". She pulls out a pack of plates wrapped in paisley scarves and sets them on the island. Next she grabs out bundles and bundles of herbs. Then a stack of bowls banded together with a blanket.

MAMA JEAN

I gotta have glasses in here somewhere! If only you could have your movers unpack for you too.

KIERSTEN

Oh there are services for that.

Mama Jean smirks. She opens a third box and pulls out two jars - one is full of dried roses and the other, dried hibiscus. She dumps them out into their own painted bowls.

MAMA JEAN

I really do appreciate you coming over and extending an olive branch like this.

Mama Jean blows into each jar. She examines the bottle, unscrews the top and pours...

MAMA JEAN (CONT'D)

It's, well a big move for us.

One of the wines turns purple. The other a soft pink.

MAMA JEAN (CONT'D)

Hibiscus or rose?

Mama Jean slides the purple wine forward. Kiersten stares at it, swirls it... hey, wine's wine. She sniffs it.

KIERSTEN

So what brings you to Mary's  
Hollow?

MAMA JEAN

My husband just died.

KIERSTEN

Oh my God. I am so sorry.

Kiersten sips through the silence. Mmmm... She sips again.

MAMA JEAN

Me too. Luna and I, we just need a  
fresh start. It became pretty clear  
that Sedona wasn't working anymore  
and, she, she started acting out.  
Ran off on her horse, and got  
bucked deep down a desert trail,  
and, I almost lost her too... But,  
fresh starts are the best medicine  
for broken hearts.

KIERSTEN

Cheers to that.

They clink jars.

KIERSTEN (CONT'D)

And your house is, it's great!

MAMA JEAN

...It's ours.

KIERSTEN

I'm having a bit of a fresh start  
myself. My husband, well, with  
another mom, on the PTA.

Mama Jean smiles sympathetically. Kiersten swigs her wine.

KIERSTEN (CONT'D)

It couldn't even be his assistant!  
It just feels so much more personal  
this way, like it's not me, but  
it's me! And it's so hard on  
Johnny, he's losing his father...

MAMA JEAN

Just because you lost your husband  
doesn't mean your son has to lose  
his dad.



KIERSTEN

I am so grateful that you've moved in next door. You have no idea how badly I've needed a friend!

MAMA JEAN

Call it fate.

Kiersten sips her way through the silence...

KIERSTEN

You want to hear something really silly and kinda spooky?

MAMA JEAN

Always.

Mama Jean re-fills Kiersten's cup.

KIERSTEN

So I've been redecorating, ever since Christopher... well it started with me wanting to set all of his stuff on fire...

MAMA JEAN

You let me know if you need to borrow a match...

Kiersten nearly spits out her wine. She smiles.

KIERSTEN

I was not quite as radical, but, I did transform his study, into a pilates studio! It's fabulous, but now the dang door won't stay shut!

Mama Jean's intrigued.

KIERSTEN (CONT'D)

Then, I had the kitchen repainted, and ever since the garbage disposal just randomly starts up in the middle of the night, it practically causes a heart attack every night! I'm not used to sleeping alone. I get all the heebie geebies.

MAMA JEAN

Same here.

KIERSTEN

Oh! And you know what else? I found out that he picked his, the other woman, flowers, from MY rose garden, and I...

CUT TO:

EXT. KIERSTEN'S HOUSE - MONTHS AGO

Kiersten manically chops out a rose bush. Petals fly everywhere. She sobs beneath her gardening visor.

CUT TO:

INT. LUNA'S HOUSE - EVENING

KIERSTEN

I just couldn't stand seeing the bush there any more. And ever since, the dryer just flings out all of our clean clothes onto the floor. Especially the delicates.

MAMA JEAN

And your son...

KIERSTEN

Well, he thinks I'm crazy.

Mama Jean really leans in now.

MAMA JEAN

And you?

KIERSTEN

I think the house is haunted.

CUT TO:

EXT. LUNA'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Since the sun's set, the neighborhood feels decidedly more eerie. Luna drops the back of the trailer down. An owl "hoo-hoos" overhead. Luna jumps. Then pulls out a carrot.

LUNA

Come on Miss Purdy. Come on.

The horse doesn't budge.

LUNA (CONT'D)

UGH!

Luna stomps her feet. She turns around and Sonny's right there, just behind her.

LUNA (CONT'D)

Ahh!

SONNY

Did I scare you?

Luna tugs on Miss Purdy's reigns.

SONNY (CONT'D)

You're never going to get her out like that.

LUNA

Oh ya? And what, you're some kind of expert?

Luna dangles a carrot.

LUNA (CONT'D)

Come on Miss Purdy. Come on. You're home now.

Luna throws the carrot on the ground. Purdy eats it.

LUNA (CONT'D)

Stupid horse!

SONNY

Watch it!

LUNA

Why are you all up in my business?

SONNY

Why are you so mean to your horse?

LUNA

We're having a disagreement.

SONNY

How do you have a disagreement with a horse?

LUNA

Well next time one bucks you in the middle of nowhere desert you'll be sure to know.

SONNY  
Did you get hurt?

LUNA  
Why are you so interested? What's  
your deal?

SONNY  
You wouldn't believe me if I told  
you.

LUNA  
Try me.

Sonny disappears. Luna's eyes widen. A cold breeze brushes  
over her, tangling her hair. Sonny re-appears behind her.

SONNY  
Boo.

CUT TO:

INT. LUNA'S HOUSE

Kiersten and Mama Jean are deep in conversation.

KIERSTEN  
I just, I don't know that I buy the  
whole spirit thing. I know Mary's  
Hollow gets very into Halloween,  
and I'm good with that, but do you  
actually believe in ghosts?

MAMA JEAN  
Oh, ya. And you'd be surprised how  
hard spirits fight when they think  
someone's messing up their home.

KIERSTEN  
Really!?

MAMA JEAN  
That's actually what I do, did, in  
Sedona. I specialize in connecting  
with spirits in homes.

KIERSTEN  
Like... a psychic?

Mama Jean laughs.

MAMA JEAN

Like someone who's just very in tune spiritually. We lived in a vortex and the energies can throw people if they don't know how to harness them. So I just helped people get in touch. I can really, feel the spirit of each house.

KIERSTEN

That's a thing?

MAMA JEAN

You've never felt the energy of a house? Of your home? That certain, gut feeling that this would look really good there or that this needs that? Or that your house just loves it when you entertain or when you have a quiet night in?

KIERSTEN

Those are spirits?

MAMA JEAN

And the more in tune you are with them, the louder they are. I do home readings and design spaces based on the house's energy, the spirits' recommendations, and my husband does - did - all the handy work for the remodels.

KIERSTEN

Remodels? Does that, "fix" it?

MAMA JEAN

Hard to say, because nothing's really broken, so much as it's off. But, you know how every scary story begins with a new family moving into a haunted house? People don't tend to just notice ghosts out of the blue. That's because they don't usually make big ol' changes in the middle of everything, just at the beginning... and the end...

KIERSTEN

My house is not haunted. I mean no one is jumping out saying "boo".

MAMA JEAN

Just turning on the garbage disposal and dumping out your delicacies.

KIERSTEN

Do you like, see them?

MAMA JEAN

Spirits come to me from time to time.

KIERSTEN

And they look like, Casper?

MAMA JEAN

No. Sometimes, I can hardly tell them apart from the living, it just depends how firmly they're channeling into our realm. The give away, is that right on their side, at the perfect angle, you can see a, shimmer...

KIERSTEN

A shimmer? Huh. I've never seen anyone "shimmer". But, after your remodel they just, "move on"?

MAMA JEAN

Sometimes they find peace, which of course, makes them harder to see.

KIERSTEN

You mean they don't always leave?

MAMA JEAN

Our world and the spirit world are connected. Spirits send messages all the time. They leave tokens and incarnate in symbols... Like, whenever I see a pair of animals, two hawks, two butterflies, two coyotes -

KIERSTEN

Oh coyotes, you're so country!

MAMA JEAN

I just, I know that those are my grandparents letting me know that they're with me. But they have no need to fully incarnate.

(MORE)

MAMA JEAN (CONT'D)

Their work is done, they don't need to spend the energy back on this plain. They're at peace and I'm happy that they are. So occasionally they drop in from time to time to let me know everything's ok, but they go elsewhere, spend their energy elsewhere.

KIERSTEN

And your husband? Do you see him? Or signs from him?

MAMA JEAN

I'm still grieving Carson. And he, he can't help me grieve. That's not his business, it's mine. And, uh, the thing about grief is, it blocks you. Because you want something, to see someone so badly, you blind yourself. Everyday I try...

KIERSTEN

Maybe one day it'll work.

MAMA JEAN

Ya, the day I stop. The day I find my own peace. Then I'll see him again. Then he'll be able to send signs.

CUT TO:

EXT. LUNA'S HOUSE

Luna faces Sonny, his side shimmers ever so slightly.

SONNY

You're not afraid?

LUNA

You think you're the first ghost I've seen? Granted I haven't seen one so clearly before, but I did get a concussion when Purdy bumped me, so, maybe that helped.

Luna raises her arms up, her palms facing out -

LUNA (CONT'D)

(forcefully)

I am powerful.

SONNY

Wait! I'm meant to be here.

LUNA

I am protected. You are not  
welcome-

Sonny begins to wisp away...

SONNY

WAIT! Wait. I'm, I come in peace.

LUNA

(forcefully)  
I AM POWERFUL. I CAST -

Sonny continues to whisp away...

SONNY

Please, please wait. I'm sorry I  
scared you, I just, I haven't met  
anyone else who can see me yet!  
Granted I haven't been a ghost for  
very long, at least I don't think..

Suddenly Miss Purdy walks out of the trailer. She walks face  
to face with Sonny. She blows air at him. Luna lowers her  
hands.

LUNA

What's your name?

SONNY

Sonny.

LUNA

No one's been named Sonny for at  
least quarter century.

SONNY

That's not very long.

LUNA

You're not very old. Are you?

SONNY

I'm not sure.

LUNA

You don't remember?

Sonny shakes his head.



LUNA (CONT'D)

Then how do you know your name's  
Sonny?

SONNY

I, I... feel it?

LUNA

Well, as much as I would love to  
help you, I've got my own problems  
goin' on right now.

Luna directs her attention back to Miss Purdy. She yanks on her reigns but the horse doesn't budge. Luna huffs and puffs and Miss Purdy takes a few steps back. Sonny steps up. Miss Purdy walks straight over to him.

LUNA (CONT'D)

Ugh! Can you, can you help me get  
Miss Purdy round back? Please?

Sonny stares at them.

LUNA (CONT'D)

Never mind. Forget I asked.

SONNY

I can try.

Sonny takes a few steps, Miss Purdy follows. Luna exhales.

SONNY (CONT'D)

Do you ride her a lot?

LUNA

No.

SONNY

Silly to have a horse you don't  
ride.

LUNA

Sillier than talkin' to ghosts?

CUT TO:

INT. LUNA'S HOUSE - JUST AFTER

Kiersten and Mama Jean still sip their Chardonnay.

MAMA JEAN

Banishing ghosts? Nothing to it. But, you have to believe, in them, in your actions, in yourself... and it can be permanent for both of you, when it's done right. You create a severance. They can, often times, never come back to you. Not unless someone who's experienced you together can bring them back. And, it's challenging to feel other spirits again too, nearly impossible to conjure on your own. You create a wall to keep them out, but yours stays with you too. It's good self defense, but I don't recommend it in practice. In fact, I think I've only done it once, for a real nasty, nasty. It's cruel. To them, and you.

Luna slams the door behind her and runs into the kitchen. Luna drops her duffle, Mama Jean and her lock eyes. She tears.

MAMA JEAN (CONT'D)

Miss Purdy give you hell again?

Luna just stands there, for a concerning beat.

LUNA

I'm going to go unpack.

She picks up her bag and trudges upstairs.

KIERSTEN

Teenagers.

Mama Jean fidgets, wanting to go check on Luna...

KIERSTEN (CONT'D)

So, what do you think? You wanna come over tomorrow and maybe check out my situation?

MAMA JEAN

Oh, well normally I would, but, we just have so much to unpack...

KIERSTEN

Oh, of course. Sorry to impose. I just, I host the annual Halloween party for the neighborhood every year, and this is the first year I'll be doing it alone. I just wanted it to be perfect.

MAMA JEAN

A real ghost seems like the perfect addition to a Halloween party.

Kiersten laughs, then LIGHT BULB!

KIERSTEN

Hey! If I can't banish it, maybe I can just communicate with it. Figure it out what it wants. I'll just walk in there and open myself up to the spirit world...

MAMA JEAN

NO! That would be, reckless. You never know who you'd conjure...

KIERSTEN

So just, keep doing things to make it mad... get it to show itself.

MAMA JEAN

No! No! That would be worse. You know what, tomorrow's, great.

KIERSTEN

You sure? I don't want to put you out. You already said no...

MAMA JEAN

Please, I'd be happy to. I haven't got in touch with a house spirit in a long time. Since before Carson, moved on. This'll be good for me.

KIERSTEN

Me too!

Kiersten raises her glass, victory.

FADE TO:

INT. LUNA'S HOUSE - THE NEXT DAY

Mama Jean bends twigs round in the shape of a cornucopia. It's filled with sprigs of sage and rosemary and overflows with gourds.

LUNA (O.S.)

Mama! Mama!

Luna runs into the kitchen in her robe. She's holding a school uniform on a hanger. She sniffs the air.

LUNA (CONT'D)

Woah, you've been up for a while...

MAMA JEAN

I had to get the alter up, and I just, I felt like it needed the cornucopia. We have a lot to be thankful for!

The alter is a small table beside the kitchen. On it, there's a mirror propped up against the wall and several crystals scattered intentionally. A bundle of sage rests in an abalone shell and long green glass beads dangle beside it. The alter is the only thing in the entire house that's in place.

LUNA

Mama, what is this?

Mama Jean finally looks over at her.

MAMA JEAN

Oh, that's your new uniform. It's cute, isn't it?

LUNA

I'm going to prep school?

MAMA JEAN

Surprise!

Luna turns and stomps up stairs. Mama Jean places the cornucopia on the alter. She fidgets with it.

Luna stomps back down, dressed with her backpack slung over her shoulder. Mama Jean runs up to her with her iPhone, desperate to snap a picture. At the door Luna throws on her sheepskin coat.

MAMA JEAN (CONT'D)

You look like a Tarantino character in that uniform, with that coat.

(MORE)

MAMA JEAN (CONT'D)  
Where are the ninjas? Smile  
Lunatic.

Luna forces a big smile. And trudges into the kitchen.

MAMA JEAN (CONT'D)  
You wanna borrow a, more prep coat?  
I mean you look totally cool, I  
just, well I don't know if you want  
to... fit in, more.

LUNA  
I'm never going to fit in here.

MAMA JEAN  
Let me get my keys and we can go.

LUNA  
You're not driving me! Not, with  
the whole rig! Miss Purdy's  
trailer's still hooked up! Mama! I  
thought you wanted me to fit in.

MAMA JEAN  
Ok, you can walk if you want.

LUNA  
Is the granola still in the car?

MAMA JEAN  
There's a fresh batch just about to  
come out of the oven.

Luna grabs a rag and pulls the baking sheet out of the oven. She shoves the granola in her mouth by the handful sipping in breaths of air between bites. Mama Jean picks at a clump.

LUNA  
It looks different.

MAMA JEAN  
I didn't have coconut.

Luna goes to the fridge and pulls out a home made bottle of green juice. Mama Jean puts the granola back in the oven.

LUNA  
What time *did* you get up?

Mama Jean shrugs. Luna pours the juice. Mama Jean grabs a handful of cloves out of a jar and sticks them in Luna's coat pocket. She tops it off with a cinnamon stick.

LUNA (CONT'D)

Mom!

MAMA JEAN

I want you to have a lucky day.

LUNA

I'm no witch.

Luna downs the glass and walks towards the front door. Mama Jean follows her.

MAMA JEAN

Then why you seein' ghosts?

Luna pauses. Mama Jean stands in front of her.

MAMA JEAN (CONT'D)

Who'd you see?

LUNA

How'd you know?

MAMA JEAN

Your hackles were all raised when you walked back in.

LUNA

Just some guy.

MAMA JEAN

When were you going to tell me about this?

LUNA

I have to go.

MAMA JEAN

Luna, I'd like to know who you saw...

LUNA

Why? Everything's totally normal - except, oh wait, it's not!

MAMA JEAN

Who was this spirit?

LUNA

I don't know.

MAMA JEAN

You didn't ask?

LUNA

I was a bit busy trying to get that stubborn horse out of her trailer and into the corral. If you had let me leave her in Sedona...

MAMA JEAN

Don't you speak about Miss Purdy that way! Your words have power Luna.

LUNA

I AM NOT A WITCH! I can't do magic, or see the future, or wiggle my nose and suddenly get a date with the coolest guy in town -

Luna flings open the door - and jumps back to see Kiersten and her son, Johnny standing there. Mama Jean beams.

KIERSTEN

Oh, morning neighbors! Something smells good!

Kiersten peers her head around them, peaking into the door. Luna looks down embarrassed.

MAMA JEAN

Granola's just about out of the oven.

Awkward beat. Kiersten breaks the ice.

KIERSTEN

I was thinkin' Johnny could take Luna to school on her first day.  
(to Luna)  
He's got loads of friends, and it'd be good to show up with someone on in the it crowd, at least on the first day.

MAMA JEAN

My, Luna, she just wiggles her nose and everything works out for her. Going to school with the coolest guy in town... it's like she manifested it.

Luna's cheeks turn bright red.

LUNA

(to Johnny)  
You don't have to -

Kiersten elbows him.

JOHNNY

Ow! I'd be happy to.

KIERSTEN

And while they're at school I thought maybe you could come by and help me with my little... ghost, problem.

JOHNNY

(laughing)

You're not serious mom? You actually think there's a ghost in our house...

MAMA JEAN

Why is that so funny to you?

Luna wants to crawl inside her skin. This can't be happening.

JOHNNY

Because ghosts aren't real! You've watched one too many scary movies.

MAMA JEAN

Oh, most spirits aren't scary. Just misunderstood.

JOHNNY

We're going to be late.

He walks away. Mama Jean pushes Luna out after him. Luna shuffles to catch up.

MAMA JEAN

(to Kiersten)

Thank you for this.

KIERSTEN

Don't mention it. I'd love to have you as my in-law.

Mama Jean snickers.

KIERSTEN (CONT'D)

You ready to head to mine?

MAMA JEAN

Come get some granola while I get changed.



Kiersten excitedly follows Mama Jean inside.

CUT TO:

EXT. LUNA'S HOUSE

Johnny climbs on his bike.

                    JOHNNY  
You gotta bike?

                    LUNA  
No.

                    JOHNNY  
Alright, handle bars or foot pegs?

Luna stares down the road, a creepy wind blows over her.

                    JOHNNY (CONT'D)  
You wanna ride on the bars or pegs?

                    LUNA  
Pegs.

Luna walks towards the back of the bike. Johnny smiles.

                    JOHNNY  
Most girls say handlebars.

                    LUNA  
Not where I'm from.

                    SONNY (O.S.)  
I'll walk with you, if you want.

Johnny looks over his shoulder, Sonny's right beside them.

                    JOHNNY  
Who are you? Her brother?

Luna spins around. A wave washes over her.

                    SONNY  
Just a friend.

Johnny's really jealous now.

                    JOHNNY  
You live around here?

                    SONNY  
You could say that.

JOHNNY

How come I've never seen you?

SONNY

Cause I never cared to see you.

JOHNNY

Shouldn't you be driving to school?  
What are you, like a super senior?

SONNY

I prefer to walk, ever since I  
crashed my motorcycle.

JOHNNY

Whatever.

LUNA

(to Sonny)

I already said I'd go with him.

JOHNNY

I was only taking you cause my mom  
asked me to...

Luna's stung.

SONNY

So you'll walk with me then.

Johnny pedals away. Luna reluctantly watches him go.

LUNA

Why would you do that?

SONNY

I just don't want people to get the  
wrong idea! Thinking you're, with  
this guy...

LUNA

And that I'm not a complete freak?

SONNY

Who'd think that?

LUNA

Great. You were a weird kid too.

Sonny looks down, and scrapes his feet as he walks. It makes a HORRIFIC sound. A mom and son across the street turn and stare at Luna, walking alone with this awful screech.

LUNA (CONT'D)  
Stop that!

SONNY  
What?

LUNA  
You're making a sound.

SONNY  
I am?

LUNA  
Like nails on a chalk board.

SONNY  
Sorry. I'm still getting used to  
this ghost stuff...

Luna shivers.

LUNA  
So, how'd you die?

SONNY  
I can't remember, anything.

LUNA  
Except crashing your motorcycle.

SONNY  
Ya.

LUNA  
That's weird. Maybe that's how?

SONNY  
Do other ghosts, remember?

LUNA  
I mean, I usually don't talk to  
them much, when I can help it. I  
definitely don't "chat" like this.  
They kinda freak me out, no  
offense. But, ya, I would've  
thought you'd remember something.

SONNY  
None of this is familiar. I don't  
even know why I'm here. I feel like  
I've never been here before...

LUNA  
Well, there's gotta be some reason.

SONNY

If you get any ideas...

LUNA

I'm dealing with my own "why am I here?" crisis so, sorry, I don't really have capacity to help any other lost souls at the moment...

They arrive at school.

LUNA (CONT'D)

Wish me luck.

CUT TO:

INT. SCIENCE CLASS - JUST AFTER

RINNNNGGGGGG - the bell reverberates through each classroom, but here in the lab everyone's already in their seats, including JOHNNY.

CYTHIA (15) sits beside him, proudly. Always the first to "spill the tea", she gossips to her friend MAYBLE (15) as she doodles all over the cast plastered on ASHA's (15) arm.

Their teacher MS. COWIG stands at the front of the class. She's determined to not let the mean girls walk all over her... like when she was in school.

MS. COWIG

Ok class! Settle down. For today's lab...

The door swings open and in stumbles LUNA. New girl. Cynthia whispers back to Mayble.

MS. COWIG (CONT'D)

(welcoming Luna)

You must be our new student.

JOHNNY

Luna?

MS. COWIG

Oh, you two know each other?

Beat.

MS. COWIG (CONT'D)

Perfect, I was just about to assign the new lab partners.

CYNTHIA

(shook)

Uh, excuse me! Ms. Cowig, I, I thought it was my turn to be Johnny's lab partner?

MS. COWIG

Well, we're subbing Luna into the rotation. You can join Racknilder for the next few weeks.

In the back of the classroom, RACKNILDER (15), a very foreign Icelandic student waves at Cynthia.

RACKNILDER

So good!

Cynthia huff and puffs as she moves her books from Johnny's lab station to Racknilder's. Luna sits beside Johnny. Cynthia scowls.

JOHNNY

If you came with *me* this morning you would've been on time.

LUNA

I'm here now, ain't I?

MS. COWIG

Ok one person from each lab group come up and grab a set of beakers and a pumpkin. You'll find all of the instructions on page 13...

JOHNNY

Lady's choice.

Luna walks up hesitantly along with half of the class to the front of the room. As she searches for a pumpkin from the pile, Cynthia hangs over her lab desk and whispers to Johnny.

CYNTHIA

I can't believe you're partners with her! We were supposed to... "catch up"...

JOHNNY

Cowig put her here, not me.

As he says this, Luna walks back over. She's stung, again. She plops their pumpkin on the lab station.

CYNTHIA

Oh, that one's weird looking.

LUNA

Ya, that's why I picked it.

Luna silently opens her lab book. She carves open her pumpkin and begins extracting the seeds. She rinses them and places them into a mortar. Johnny violently smashes them.

LUNA (CONT'D)

You're doing that wrong!

She reaches for the pestle, there's a moment when their hands touch... before he lets her have it.

JOHNNY

Oh, like you've used one of these.

LUNA

Daily.

Luna gently grinds the seeds in the mortar. Impressed, Johnny moves on and measures a chemical in a beaker.

JOHNNY

So, Arizona, what brings you all the way out here...

LUNA

Heartbreak.

Luna grinds the seeds.

LUNA (CONT'D)

I'm ready for that now.

JOHNNY

Aren't you forgetting something?

Luna looks up at him, he's wearing the required safety goggles. So is everyone else in the class.

LUNA

You've got to be kidding me.

She rolls her eyes and puts on the protection. Johnny pours a little of the chemical in. Luna grinds.

JOHNNY

My mom thinks your mom's like the coolest thing to ever happen to Mary's Hollow.

LUNA

Well, she *is* pretty cool. Can I get a little more?

JOHNNY  
It said to add precisely -

LUNA  
I know what the book says.

JOHNNY  
I want it to work.

LUNA  
Then I need a little more.

Luna holds up the mortar, the paste looks chunky and thick.  
Johnny trusts her. He adds in an eye dropper full.

LUNA (CONT'D)  
That's good.

Luna grinds it.

JOHNNY  
You goin' to the harvest festival?

LUNA  
I don't know.

JOHNNY  
It's a good time, there's a  
carnival, and games...

LUNA  
Hand me that strainer.

Johnny holds the strainer out.

JOHNNY  
You should go, if your "friend"  
will let you.

LUNA  
I don't need anyone to *let* me do  
anything.

JOHNNY  
Ok tough girl. I'll see you there.

Luna scoops her mash into it.

LUNA  
I'm not gonna go by myself!

JOHNNY  
And I thought you were so brave.  
Get your boyfriend to take you.

LUNA  
I don't have a boyfriend.

Beat.

JOHNNY  
Then, let me take you.

Luna looks down, blushing. She holds up the beaker and points a flashlight into it. The mix glows red. The whole class stares in awe.

MS. COWIG  
Way to go Luna and Johnny!

Cynthia holds up her beaker. She flashes her flashlight into it. Nothing happens. She puts it down with a scoff.

Johnny stares passed the beaker straight at Luna. She gets lost in his eyes for a moment - RINNNGGGGGG. That's the bell.

CUT TO:

INT. SCHOOL HALLWAY - JUST AFTER

Luna walks out. Johnny runs out after her.

JOHNNY  
So?

LUNA  
So, what?

JOHNNY  
You wanna go with me? To the Harvest Festival?

LUNA  
Is your mom making you ask me? Or Cowig?

JOHNNY  
No. I want go with you.

Luna looks at him, unsure.

LUNA  
Ok.

Johnny beams.



JOHNNY  
Ok. Which way are you walking?

LUNA  
Umm...

Luna pulls out her phone and checks her schedule. Johnny peaks at it.

JOHNNY  
Oh, you've got equestrian this afternoon?

LUNA  
What?

She pulls her phone in under her nose.

JOHNNY  
Cynthia's on the team. I can introduce you -

LUNA  
Don't worry about it.

Luna storms away.

CUT TO:

INT. KIERSTEN'S HOUSE - MID DAY

Kiersten shows Mama Jean inside, around her grand entrance.

KIERSTEN  
So, where should we start?

MAMA JEAN  
Why don't you let me just, sorta, feel things out for a moment.

Mama Jean strolls through the house, calmly.

KIERSTEN  
You getting anything yet?

Mama Jean smiles and walks onward. Mama Jean closes her eyes.

KIERSTEN (CONT'D)  
How about now?

She walks her way into the study... stretched out on a pilates machine is a spirit, MILDRED (late 80s) with 2 inch thick glasses, a colorful head wrap and huge chunky earrings.

MILDRED

Don't let that trollop know I'm here.

KIERSTEN (O.S.)

Now?

MILDRED

She cut out my rose bushes! And she just expects me to stay silent? My husband planted those roses for me. 56 years ago.

MAMA JEAN

That's a long life for a rose bush.

MILDRED

And she just ripped them out!

MAMA JEAN

Her husband left her.

MILDRED

So she goes and paints my kitchen GREEN.

MAMA JEAN

It's her kitchen now.

MILDRED

Does she want to drown in there?

MAMA JEAN

Why are you threatening her?

From behind the door-jam Kiersten peaks into the room. She doesn't see the spirit but she shivers at the word "threat".

MILDRED

Threatening? I'll show you threatening...

All of the lights flicker. Kiersten cowers. Mama Jean holds her palms up and out.

MAMA JEAN

I will cast you off if you don't stop this behavior right this minute.

The lights settle.

KIERSTEN

She fell for it!

Mama Jean looks back at her like "what? shh!"

MAMA JEAN

There is no reason we all can't get along. Now, what would make you happiest. New roses? Of course we'll have to wait to plant until after Saimhain...

MILDRED

I want a yellow kitchen.

Mama Jean looks over her shoulder to Kiersten.

MAMA JEAN

How do you feel about a yellow kitchen?

Ick. Kiersten shakes her head. Mildred moves to the hallway where the laundry machine is. She opens the dryer and throws clothes out of it onto the floor. Kiersten cowers.

MILDRED

I WANT YELLOW!

MAMA JEAN

What about a nice terra cotta? Ya?

MILDRED

Leave the pilates equipment.

MAMA JEAN

We'll leave pilates equipment, but you're gonna stop messin' with her, Ms...

MILDRED

Mildred.

MAMA JEAN

Ms. Mildred.

Mama Jean walks out of the study... Kiersten shoves all the delicates back in the dryer. Mildred shuts the door to the study. It closes.

KIERSTEN

It closed! Oh my God! The door closes again!

MAMA JEAN

Ya... That went, well.

KIERSTEN

"Well"? That was... AMAZING. Terra Cotta will look great on those cabinets.

MAMA JEAN

I'm happy you're happy.

KIERSTEN

Was she scary? Mildred?

MAMA JEAN

No scarier than when she was alive. See you soon Kiersten.

KIERSTEN

Wait, what do I do now?

MAMA JEAN

Terra Cotta.

KIERSTEN

I can't just go painting cabinets everyday! I'm not made of money. I'm a divorcee. And I have the Halloween Party in just two weeks! There's no way, no way I can hire someone to do this by then... and if I don't she'll go back to haunting me... you saw what she did with the dryer, it's TERRIFYING. Plus, do you have any idea how embarrassing it is for your teenage son to see your delicates all over the floor? She's a threat! She's horrifying!

Mildred appears behind Kiersten.

MILDRED

Ooogedy boogoedy

KIERSTEN

She's here right now, isn't she?

Kiersten claps her hands in the air and flicks her hands.

KIERSTEN (CONT'D)

Shoo! Shoo!

MILDRED

She is not trying to "shoo" me!

KIERSTEN  
(whispering to Mama Jean)  
Is it working?

Mildred glares at Mama Jean.

MILDRED  
I am going to torment this woman...

Mildred rips open the dryer and throws all the clothes on the floor. Kiersten runs back over and fights to put them back.

MAMA JEAN  
Painting cabinets is easy.

There's a truce. Kiersten sticks the laundry back in.

MAMA JEAN (CONT'D)  
You can do it yourself...

KIERSTEN  
Help me. I'll pay you.

MAMA JEAN  
I have enough on my plate.

KIERSTEN  
I understand, just point me in the right direction.

MAMA JEAN  
I don't know! Carson, he was the one who handled all of the renovations...

KIERSTEN  
Well, maybe he'll help too.

MAMA JEAN  
Let me think about it.

KIERSTEN  
Ok... sure.

Kiersten smiles, defeated. Mama Jean looks to Mildred.

MAMA JEAN  
Can't you just let her get by until after her party?

MILDRED  
And ruin *my* All Hallows Eve.

Kiersten looks around eagerly.

MAMA JEAN  
She's thinking about it.

MILDRED  
I've decided.

Mildred toggles a light switch. The lights flicker Kiersten grabs on to Mama Jean's arm.

MILDRED (CONT'D)  
Oh, she is terrified! Tell her I have a snaggle tooth, and a hunch and a long crooked nose, and that I'm wearing a cloak, like the reaper!

MAMA JEAN  
I will help you redo the kitchen.

MILDRED  
And plant in the yard.

MAMA JEAN  
It won't grow now.

MILDRED  
It will if I have anything to say about it.

MAMA JEAN  
And we'll plant some new rose bushes.

KIERSTEN  
Eee!! Yes! You are the BEST! I will go get everything we need from the store... what do we need?

MAMA JEAN  
Tomorrow, we can go pick stuff up together.

CUT TO:

EXT. LUNA'S HOUSE - AFTERNOON

Mama Jean positions a jack-o-lantern on her steps. Luna stomps home.

LUNA  
EQUESTRIAN TEAM? ARE YOU JOKING?

Mama Jean squishes her eyes.

MAMA JEAN

(to herself)

Oh Lord. I do not need this right now.

LUNA

How could you do this to me?

MAMA JEAN

I can't let you just throw it all away!

LUNA

It's not your decision!

MAMA JEAN

And what about Miss Purdy? She's supposed to just never run again.

LUNA

If you want her to run, you ride her.

MAMA JEAN

Uh-ah. I'm sorry Luna, but I have had just about enough of this attitude. You go get changed right now and you get your butt and Miss Purdy's butt to the stables, NOW.

LUNA

No.

MAMA JEAN

Right. Now.

LUNA

You're not being fair.

MAMA JEAN

You're not being fair! How do you think you got in to such a nice school? It's not cause of your grades. It's cause you can ride!

LUNA

You had no right!

MAMA JEAN

I'm your mama. Now MARCH.

Luna storms inside.

CUT TO:

INT. LUNA'S HOUSE - BEDROOM

Luna stares at her closet. There's a pile of clothes hanging inside a trash bag. She paces back and forth in front of it. Finally she decides... If she's going to do this, she's going to do this. She rips the trash bag off.

She straps her spurs on her boots and pulls them on one by one. She wraps her chaps over her jeans. She threads her belt through each loop and fastens it with her Junior Rodeo Championship belt buckle. She puts on her cowgirl hat.

EXT. TRAIL - LATER

Luna trudges through the forest, walking beside Miss Purdy, not riding her. Her cowgirl boots stomp over the red leaves that blanket the ground. Hooo-hooo. An owl hoots overhead. Luna huffs and puffs and she trudges onward. Suddenly Sonny incarnates beside her.

SONNY

I bet you'd get there a lot faster  
if you rode.

LUNA

(mimicking him)

I bet you'd get there a lot fast if  
you rode her.

Eye roll.

LUNA (CONT'D)

Never thought about that.

SONNY

Isn't the whole thing how you're  
supposed to get back on the horse?

Luna trudges on.

SONNY (CONT'D)

This is ridiculous. A turtle could  
get there faster.

Luna pulls on the reigns. Miss Purdy resists.

LUNA

Come on! Get!

Miss Purdy walks on.

SONNY

You're doing all of this wrong!



LUNA  
I don't have to listen to you.  
YOU'RE NOT HERE!

SONNY  
I am here. I'm right next to you.

LUNA  
Lalalala. I can't hear you.

Luna turns around the corner and makes it to the stables. She looks over and Sonny really is gone.

CUT TO:

EXT. STABLES

Luna approaches the stables Cynthia and Mayble stand beside their horses. Asha hangs out on a bench. They're all in full English riding gear, even Asha, who's arm is in a cast. Luna walks over to them, beside Miss Purdy.

CYNTHIA  
(to Mayble)  
Oh my God. What is she wearing?

Their COACH (30s) stands at center, she's always in the middle of everything.

COACH  
You must be Luna. Ladies, I'd like you to welcome the newest member of our team, Luna.

Luna looks around for more the rest of the team... this is it? The girls give her the side eye. Miss Purdy whinnies and stomps. Luna struggles to get control of her. The girls snicker.

COACH (CONT'D)  
Now in preparation for trials in two weeks I want all of our efforts focused on mastering our individual events. Maybe you will be the eventer in the dressage category. Cynthia, you will be competing in showjumping and Luna will be our new eventer for cross country.

CYNTHIA  
You can't be serious!

COACH

I think it will be the most seamless transition for her.

MAYBLE

Coach, shouldn't she be in her habit?

LUNA

That supposed to be some kinda insult? Cause I got a few bad habits. I can show em to you.

Maybe leans back, intimidated.

COACH

A habit is a riding outfit, kind of like a uniform.

LUNA

You mean I have to dress like them?

CYNTHIA

How did you even make it on this team if you don't even know what a habit is?

LUNA

Dumb luck I guess.

COACH

Luna won the World Championship Junior Rodeo last year.

Luna adjusts her prized belt buckle.

MAYBLE

Oh really? In what event?

LUNA

Barrel racing.

ASHA

We don't have a barrel racing event.

COACH

That's why she's going to do cross country.

CYNTHIA

Looks like she better buy a new horse...

The girls snicker.

LUNA

I didn't buy Miss Purdy, I broke her. And there's nothing your little pony can do that she can't.

ASHA

You broke her? Seriously? Like she was wild?

Luna nods.

CYNTHIA

You think you're a better rider, than me? Let's see what you got -

COACH

Ok ladies, settle down. We need to get Luna fitted in her habit and set up with a helmet and proper saddle.

LUNA

(laughing)

You wear a helmet when you ride.

CYNTHIA

When your horse is running forty miles and hour down an obstacle course you're gonna want your helmet.

LUNA

(laughing)

You think I don't run fast?

CYNTHIA

You think that stray's faster than my show horse?

COACH

Now I will not have anyone mocking the safety precautions of this sport. Luna, head down to the barn, Santiago will get you set. And leave the attitude there.

CYNTHIA

(sarcastically)

Oh, Santi's going to loveee her.

Luna rolls her eyes and pulls Miss Purdy's reigns. She resists. Cynthia cackles.

CUT TO:

INT. BARN

Luna pulls Miss Purdy into the barn. In the corner, an old man sits on a pile of hay.

LUNA  
Santiago?

The old man stares into space.

LUNA (CONT'D)  
Hello.... Santiago?

She walks over to him.

LUNA (CONT'D)  
Excuse me? I need to borrow a riding saddle? And pick up a riding fit?

The old man turns to face her.

OLD MAN  
(in Spanish)  
You can see me?

A chill washes over Luna. Miss Purdy walks up to him.

LUNA  
She likes you.

Sonny poofs beside her.

SONNY  
You really gotta get better at separating the living from the dead.

LUNA  
What are you doing here?

SONNY  
Helping!

LUNA  
Excuse me, Santiago -

SONNY  
That's a ghost!

LUNA  
Why would my coach send me here to  
talk to a ghost?

SANTIAGO (O.S.)  
Who are you talking to?

Luna spins around, at the entrance of the barn is SANTIAGO (50s) he's got his hands full, as per usual. Currently, he carries a saddle and riding habit.

LUNA  
Are you Santiago?

SANTIAGO  
Don't see anyone else who could be.

Luna stares at the old man. Santiago walks right through Sonny.

SANTIAGO (CONT'D)  
This must be Miss Purdy, which  
makes you Luna. Help me get the new  
saddle on her, we can keep the  
western one here as long as you  
need.

Santiago unbuckles the saddle. Luna walks around Miss Purdy to put the new saddle on. She flinches for a second.

SANTIAGO (CONT'D)  
She can tell your scared.

SONNY  
He's right.

LUNA  
You try not being scared after you  
get kicked in the ribs.

SANTIAGO  
You two having a disagreement?

Luna looks up at him.

SONNY  
Wow. He gets it.

SANTIAGO

That'll happen time to time with even the brokest of mustangs. At least it did with mine.

LUNA

What happened to her?

SANTIAGO

It was a long time ago.

Santiago adjusts the saddle.

SANTIAGO (CONT'D)

You're going to like this. You'll be closer. Feel more.

SONNY

Oh, that's gonna be comfortable.

SANTIAGO

It'll be faster too. It's lighter, without all that cushion.

LUNA

Thanks.

SANTIAGO

Get on so I can make some more adjustments.

LUNA

Oh, no... not now.

SONNY

You better do it now. Otherwise you'll be all alone trying to do it tomorrow.

SANTIAGO

You going to ride her home?

SONNY

Yes.

LUNA

Probably just walk.

SONNY

You have to ride the horse. This is crazy! How are you going to be on a team and not ever ride your horse?

SANTIAGO

You might want to get used to the saddle before you have an audience.

LUNA

Thanks for your concern. I'll be fine.

She tightens a buckle.

SONNY

How'd you ever become a champion? You're a quitter. Through and through.

LUNA

Will you stop it! Do you have any idea what it was like? I found out my dad died, so I took my best friend, Purdy, out on my favorite trail and we just ran, and ran fast, and we left it all behind. But when we did, when we finally got someplace where we could breathe, she betrayed me! She bucked me in the middle of the desert and left me alone, just like him!

SONNY

I'm sorry. I, I didn't know.

Sonny poofs away. Santiago looks around. The outburst feels like it's out of nowhere. Luna sobs.

SANTIAGO

Sometimes, when we're spiraling out of control, and our trains come off the track, it takes a real friend to abandon ship, so we know we need to grab a lifeline.

LUNA

That's like six metaphors in one.

SANTIAGO

Then it's six times more meaningful.

Luna sniffles.

SANTIAGO (CONT'D)

You have a flashlight? It's getting dark out.

Luna holds up her phone. Santiago walks toward his work bench. Beside it is an ofrenda. It's covered in marigolds, and painted skulls. A few candles gently burn beside ornate dishes filled with treats. In the center, there's a photo with a young man and a picture of a MUSTANG. Luna stares at the horse.

SANTIAGO (CONT'D)

Oh, mi ofrenda. For dia de muertos.

LUNA

I've heard about it. So your ancestors can come visit you, right?

SANTIAGO

We fill the alter with treats for them. Water for them to drink, papel picado, the flags, to see when the spirits move, incense to guide them home. My father loved horses. So I make my ofrenda here, in the barn instead of at my house.

Luna looks over at the Old Man.

LUNA

I can tell he had a way with them.

Santiago smiles.

LUNA (CONT'D)

My dad loved horses too.

SANTIAGO

Then he must be proud of you.

LUNA

I doubt that. I can't even ride her any more.

SANTIAGO

You can change that any time you want.

Luna looks at the picture of the mustang.

LUNA

Was this your horse?

SANTIAGO

Haven't been able to ride since she passed. Barely can stomach coaching.



LUNA  
I can't imagine.

SANTIAGO  
Love her while you have her.

Luna adjusts her belt buckle.

SANTIAGO (CONT'D)  
I had one of those once.

LUNA  
Really? You must be good.

SANTIAGO  
Have to be to earn one of those.

LUNA  
So, how's it compare? Rodeo to -

SANTIAGO  
You earn one of those, you can ride anything. But Purdy, she's gon' hav' to follow your every move. No hesitatin'. No second guessin'. No room for error. She's gonna hav' to trust you again. And you've got a lot of work to do to get her there.

LUNA  
Show's what you know.

Luna yanks Miss Purdy out of the barn. She resists.

CUT TO:

EXT. TRAIL - DUSK

Owls hoot in the trees. It's eerie and lonely.

LUNA  
It's ok girl. We're close.

They slowly walk through the woods. A twig SNAPS behind her. Miss Purdy's spooked. So is Luna. There's a deep low growl whirring behind her...

LUNA (CONT'D)  
Is anyone there?  
(then)  
Are there cougars on this coast?

The light dims on the trail. Luna flicks on a flashlight on her phone. The growling grows closer. Luna jumps!

LUNA (CONT'D)  
I AM POWERFUL. I AM NOT AFRAID!

The growling builds to a roar. Miss Purdy rears up. Luna steps up into her saddle, she swings her leg around. And gives Miss Purdy a little kick with her spurs.

LUNA (CONT'D)  
YA!

Together they run and maneuver through the terrain. Both scared of the shadows and of pushing themselves... But as they continue galloping, they both loosen up, becoming one, smiling, running free...

CUT TO:

EXT. LUNA'S STREET - JUST AFTER

They burst through the woods and trot down the road. Luna laughs and they slow to a trot. Sonny incarnates beside them.

SONNY  
So you do go fast...

LUNA  
Have you been here this whole time?

SONNY  
No.

LUNA  
IT WAS YOU! You were the creature scaring us!

SONNY  
I was helping you fight your fears.

LUNA  
How could you do that to me? To her? You terrified us!

SONNY  
You were plenty scared on your own.

LUNA  
I have a reason to be, I'm ALIVE!

SONNY  
Oh come on! You don't scare easy.

LUNA

Why are you so mean?

Luna hops off her horse. There's a feather at her feet. She picks it up.

SONNY

You just needed a reason -

LUNA

Go haunt your own friends.

CUT TO:

INT. LUNA'S HOUSE - JUST AFTER

Mama Jean scrolls through YouTube videos on kitchen remodels. Bastest, the cat, lays across the counter, napping.

Sonny appears beside her. Bastest hisses at him. Mama Jean stares at Sonny, but she doesn't see him. Bastest hops into her lap. She strokes his head. Sonny points to a video.

SONNY

You should watch that one.

Mama Jean clicks a different one.

SONNY (CONT'D)

No, this one. This guy seems like he knows what he's talking about. This one. This is the one you want. Hello!

Mama Jean doesn't notice him at all. He struggles to get her attention.

Finally he grabs her hand. He goes right through her, but she feels it. She looks around but doesn't see anything. She points back to her screen she closes her eyes. Sonny points at the video again. She clicks it. Bingo.

SONNY (CONT'D)

There you go.

She writes notes. The front door swings open. Mama Jean smacks her space bar - PAUSE.

MAMA JEAN

Luna? Is that you? How was it?

Luna walks in the kitchen, beaming. She twiddles the feather in her fingers.

LUNA  
We rode home.

Mama Jean beams. Luna places her feather on the alter.

MAMA JEAN  
That's cause for celebration.

Mama Jean clicks on WITCHY WOMAN by The Eagles. She starts dancing over towards Luna. Luna blushes away... Mama Jean reaches out and grabs Luna's hands.

MAMA JEAN (CONT'D)  
Resisting is futile.

Luna can't hold in her happiness. She grabs her hands back and they dance together, swirling around the kitchen.

MAMA JEAN (CONT'D)  
Let's go get tacos!

LUNA  
Do they even have tacos in this town?

MAMA JEAN  
They've gotta! Come on.

They run out of the kitchen, giddy, hand in hand. Mama Jean pops back in for just a second. She grabs a piece of chocolate from a jar and places it on her alter.

MAMA JEAN (CONT'D)  
Thank you!

Sonny pops out from behind the altar, and smiles. He sits alone at the table and sighs.

CUT TO:

INT. HARDWARE STORE - THE NEXT MORNING

Mama Jean and Kiersten push a cart through the aisles lined with kitschy decor.

KIERSTEN  
Ok, what's next...

Sonny walks beside them, no one can see him. A woman pushes a cart straight through him.

SONNY

Ow! Just kidding. I didn't feel a thing.

MAMA JEAN

Paint rollers?

Kiersten holds up a pack.

KIERSTEN

These?

SONNY

Get the fine finish.

MAMA JEAN

Ummm...

SONNY

FINE FIN-ISH.

MAMA JEAN

Something's telling me to get the fine finish...

SONNY

Can you hear me? If you can hear me say, "fizzle sticks"...

MAMA JEAN

We need tape too...

SONNY

Tape sticks! Get the green one.

MAMA JEAN

Carson always like the green kind.

She puts it in the cart. Sonny smiles.

KIERSTEN

Did you hear, Johnny's taking Luna to the harvest festival...

MAMA JEAN/SONNY

What?!

INT. LUNA'S HOUSE - AFTERNOON

Luna stands in front of a mirror in her full habit. Mama Jean knocks on the door.

MAMA JEAN

Nice digs.

LUNA

I look like a nun.

MAMA JEAN

That's a different habit. Here.

Mama Jean hands her a tea cup.

MAMA JEAN (CONT'D)

Lemongrass and mint.

LUNA

I need more luck? Johnny invited me to the harvest festival this weekend.

MAMA JEAN

He did? And are we happy about that? Oh, we are happy about that.

Luna smiles and adjusts her hair.

LUNA

Will you help me find something to wear?

MAMA JEAN

Duh! Wanna borrow something?

Luna shrugs.

LUNA

Oh, maybe your sweater dress?

MAMA JEAN

The red or brown? Red's a statement, brown's more on trend.

LUNA

What do you think?

MAMA JEAN

Red will look really good with your coat. And your boots...

LUNA

Red. Definitely red.

Luna checks her phone.

LUNA (CONT'D)  
Shoot! I gotta go.

Luna sets the tea cup down without taking a sip. As she does a dollop splashes out.

CUT TO:

EXT. LUNA'S HOUSE - CORAL

Luna's beside Miss Purdy, petting her nose.

LUNA  
Come on girl, let's ride.

Luna swings her leg over and takes off.

CUT TO:

EXT. TRAIL

Luna gallops down the trail.

CUT TO:

EXT. STABLES

Cynthia and Maybele sit on their horses, ready to ride into the corral. The coach stands beside them as Luna rides up.

COACH  
Well, well, well. Look who decided to join us.

LUNA  
Sorry I'm late.

COACH  
Well cowgirl, since you're all mounted up and ready, why don't you take a whirl at the cross country course Santiago's set for you. Start at the gate, one jump into a full gallop, a full turn around the back -

CYNTHIA  
Let's see if little miss country even makes it that far.

COACH

And then there's one more jump and  
a one more turn. Nothing a champion  
barrel racer can't handle...

Luna looks at the course. She trots over. Sonny appears  
beside her.

SONNY

How you feeling? You got this.

Luna nods. Miss Purdy walks in through the gates. Across the  
way, Santiago steps out of the corral carrying a bale of hay.  
The gate opens, he drops it.

LUNA

YA!

She takes off in a full gallop. Miss Purdy makes the first  
jump with ease. Cynthia and Mayble's jaws drop. A big smile  
from Coach. She's good. She's very good.

COACH

She can jump.

Cynthia steams. Miss Purdy turns tightly around her mark.

LUNA

YA!

Miss Purdy gallops toward the next gates. Luna pushes her  
faster and faster and faster... Santiago runs towards the  
corral.

SONNY

SLOW DOWN!

But Luna rides faster. They're fully committed to jumping the  
gate... at the last moment, Miss Purdy turns and bails.

COACH

(sighs)

Ohhh! That's ok Luna! Great first  
run, bring it in.

But Luna doesn't bring it in. She tries to force Miss Purdy  
back around. Miss Purdy resists her and Luna fights harder to  
make her obey. Santiago stands on the corral fence.

SANTIAGO

YOU CAN'T FORCE HER!

Miss Purdy bucks her off. Luna falls, hard. Sonny incarnates  
beside her.



SONNY

Luna! Luna!

The girls all gasp. Santiago runs to grab and control Miss Purdy. Coach hustles towards Luna.

SONNY (CONT'D)

Luna? Are you ok?

Luna stares up at him.

LUNA/SONNY

AHHHHHHHHHHHHH!

Coach sprints over now.

LUNA

Am I dead?

SONNY

No.

LUNA

That's good.

SONNY

That's very good.

Luna slowly sits up. Coach pants just above her.

COACH

Luna, Luna, are you ok? Are you hurt?

Santiago runs over to her.

SONNY

You're ok. You're ok Loon.

Luna's eyes pin. She's scared.

SANTIAGO

Want to walk it off?

COACH

(protesting)

Santi - we need to call her parents.

SANTIAGO

Her mom. Come on Moon. Miss Purdy can stay here tonight.

Santiago helps Luna up. Together they limp towards the barn.

CUT TO:

INT. BARN - JUST AFTER

The barn's lit with a warm yellow light. Luna admires Santiago's ofrenda. Sonny paces behind her. The old man sits on a bale of hay.

SONNY

You think it looks fun being a ghost? Do you? What was that Luna? You're going to get yourself killed!

Luna lights a candle on the ofrenda. The Old Man appears beside her.

OLD MAN

Gracias.

LUNA

De Nada.

SONNY

(to the Old Man)

That's it? That's all you're going to contribute?

The Old Man shrugs.

SONNY (CONT'D)

Luna! That wasn't cool!

LUNA

Oh really? I did it because I thought it was super cool...

SONNY

It sure felt like that.

LUNA

Come on! Do you know what that was like? Do you understand how scary that was?

SONNY

Why did you push so hard?

LUNA

I didn't!

SONNY

You were screaming towards that jump. Anyone in their right mind would bail, you can't blame Miss Purdy...

LUNA

She should trust me!

SONNY

Like you trust her?

Beat.

SONNY (CONT'D)

Trust is a two way street Loon.

LUNA

She broke mine first.

SONNY

Did she? What did you do on that trail ride? The one where she bucked you forty miles deep?

LUNA

I told you! I ran! Ok, I ran. I wanted to get so far, so fast, so I could just forget everything that happened. And she wouldn't let me!

Luna cries.

SONNY

She took you far and fast enough. It's time you start thanking her for making you come home. If she didn't throw you, you could still be in that desert. And what would that do to your mom?

The barn door rolls open, Santiago walks in. He hands Luna a cold water.

SANTIAGO

Miss Purdy's all situated in a stable. Gave her a big carrot.

Luna opens the water.

SANTIAGO (CONT'D)

Your mom's on her way.  
(re: ofrenda)  
You lit my candle? Thank you.

LUNA  
(sniffling)  
Who is that? In the picture. I  
didn't notice him the other day.

SANTIAGO  
That's my father.

The Old Man in the corner looks over to him.

LUNA  
He looks so young there. I was  
worried he was your son.

SANTIAGO  
I like to remember papa like this.  
Like me.

LUNA  
Younger than you... what! He's a  
babe.

Santiago laughs. Luna smiles at the Old Man. He smiles at  
her.

SANTIAGO  
I hope he likes it.

LUNA  
He does.

SANTIAGO  
Listen, tomorrow why don't you come  
here during your free block? We can  
work on you two trusting again.

The Old Man beams at Santiago. Suddenly Mama Jean runs in  
through the door. Coach stands beside it.

MAMA JEAN  
Luna, Luna! Baby, hi! Are you ok?

Luna nods.

MAMA JEAN (CONT'D)  
I'm sorry, I'm so sorry I pushed  
you to do this. You said you  
weren't comfortable. This, this is  
all my fault.

COACH  
I'm sorry too. We should have had  
you walk the course first.

(MORE)

COACH (CONT'D)

I didn't realize how fast you'd go on your first run. Didn't think she'd be so skid-dish either, but, you get that with feral horses...

LUNA

(under her breath)

Wild.

MAMA JEAN

Honey, Coach and I have decided that if you want to drop off of the team, we won't stop you.

LUNA

What? They're kicking me off the team? It was one fall. I wore the stupid pants and everything!

COACH

No, no one's kicking you off the team. We're, giving you an out.

MAMA JEAN

Everyone just wants you to be safe.

SONNY

Don't quit Loon. Not for this. Not cause you're scared...

MAMA JEAN

I shouldn't have pushed you.

SONNY

I know you're hurt, but you're built tough. You don't scare easy. Now, get back on your horse.

COACH

There's no hard feelings.

SANTIAGO

She's too good of a rider to quit. I haven't seen anyone ride a horse like that in, ever.

Coach is impressed by this nod of approval.

SONNY

Finally someone's making sense.

SANTIAGO

I'll work with you. Everyday.

COACH

(stunned)

You will? I don't want to push her  
or get her hopes up, for nothing...

SANTIAGO

It's not for nothing. She needs to  
be pushed. She's a competitor.

SONNY

Exactly!

COACH

Santi! I, I can't believe what I'm  
hearing...

OLD MAN

Me either. My son hasn't offered to  
work a horse since he lost his...

SONNY

That's because there's only one  
thing to do when you fall off a  
horse...

LUNA

Get back on.

Sonny nods.

LUNA (CONT'D)

I'll be here tomorrow during my  
free block.

SANTIAGO

See you then.

MAMA JEAN

Honey, are you sure?

Luna nods. She gets up and limps out. Mama Jean follows.

CUT TO:

INT. BATHROOM

Luna soaks in a bubble bath. Mama Jean sits beside her  
burning incense.

MAMA JEAN

More epsom salts?

Luna nods. Mama Jean pours in a a wooden spoon full. She stirs it. She pulls a large tea bag out from the water. She squeezes in the rest of the juice.

LUNA

Mama?

MAMA JEAN

Yes baby.

LUNA

Do you ever see ghosts, I mean,  
when you're not trying to see them?

MAMA JEAN

You mean like that old man hanging  
out in the barn with y'all?

Luna laughs.

MAMA JEAN (CONT'D)

Ya. It happens time to time.

LUNA

You think it's weird that we can't  
see dad?

MAMA JEAN

I think it's the most normal thing  
in the world. A sucky thing, but a  
normal thing.

LUNA

Did you see Santiago's alter? He  
had a name for it... "ofrenda."

MAMA JEAN

Ofrenda? Ofrenda!

LUNA

The guy, in his picture, that was  
the old man. It's funny, Santi  
wants to remember him young but he  
came back old. As he was when he -

MAMA JEAN

I think spirits incarnate into the  
forms that can help us best.

LUNA

Maybe we can put up a picture of  
dad.

MAMA JEAN  
 (eyes welling)  
 If you're ready. I know I'd sure  
 like that.

LUNA  
 Ya, a young one. So it's not so  
 sad...

MAMA JEAN  
 I'll dig around and see what I can  
 find.

Mama Jean stirs the tub.

MAMA JEAN (CONT'D)  
 Is it hard for you, seeing ghosts?

LUNA  
 Only when they talk to me.

Mama Jean laughs. She scoops a hair mask from a jar and  
 lathers it on Luna's head. She twists her hair up into a bun.

MAMA JEAN  
 Well I ain't ever met a silent  
 ghost.

LUNA  
 How about one that doesn't remember  
 who they are?

MAMA JEAN  
 Oh all the time. It's pretty normal  
 for those that have recently moved  
 on.

LUNA  
 It is?

MAMA JEAN  
 Oh ya. I think that's where the  
 whole "unfinished business" thing  
 comes from...

LUNA  
 You always said that was a myth?

MAMA JEAN  
 Well, I just think its a big  
 coincidence that the ones who can't  
 remember anything are always the  
 ones that end up helping others the  
 most.

(MORE)



MAMA JEAN (CONT'D)

And I think that as they help people, we help them get their memories back, find peace. And once they've figured out, whatever it is that they need to figure out, that's when they can come and go as they please. But I feel like they only *really* incarnate when they're *really* needed.

LUNA

Like a guardian angel.

MAMA JEAN

Ya, and that's got to be why your dad is not just hanging around here 24/7. He's probably off being a guardian angel. And once he finds his peace, I know he'll come visit. The people we love, never really leave us...

Luna smiles. She sinks deeper into the tub.

MAMA JEAN (CONT'D)

You want some alone time?

Luna nods. Mama Jean kisses her on the forehead, gets up and walks out.

CUT TO:

INT. KIERSTEN'S HOUSE - THE NEXT DAY

Mama Jean and Kiersten have the whole kitchen taped off.

KIERSTEN

What now?

Mama Jean consults her list. Sonny paces beside her.

MAMA JEAN

We start sanding?

SONNY

It'll be easier if you take the cabinets off their hinges. No not like that - the bag's not attached!

Mama Jean plugs in the electric sander - POOF. The dust bag flies off, covering in a cloud of sand. Kiersten unplugs it and laughs, she takes a picture.

MAMA JEAN

Oh you think this is funny?

Mama Jean grabs the bag off the floor and poofs it into her face. Kiersten's jaw drops.

MAMA JEAN (CONT'D)

I am so sorry.

Mama Jean bursts out laughing. Kiersten does the same. She takes a selfie and hands Mama Jean a paper towel. Together they wipe off the dust.

MAMA JEAN (CONT'D)

So you figure out how to keep that bag on the thing.

KIERSTEN

Bag on the thing. Got it.

MAMA JEAN

And I will...

SONNY

Take the cabinets off the hinges...

MAMA JEAN

Maybe I'll take the cabinets off. So we can sand them when they're flat.

SONNY

OBVIOUSLY!

KIERSTEN

Look at you! Thinkin'!

CUT TO:

INT. SCIENCE CLASS - MORNING

Luna and Johnny sit at their lab station in goggles, lab coats and gloves. Luna holds a piece of dry ice between her tongs. She moves it over towards a beaker.

JOHNNY

Wait, wait...

LUNA

What?

JOHNNY

You've gotta say a witches spell.

LUNA  
(suspect)  
What's a witches spell?

JOHNNY  
Bubble, bubble, toil and trouble.

LUNA  
You don't know enough witches.

JOHNNY  
Oh, and you do?

Luna drops the idea in the beaker. It bubbles and smokes.

JOHNNY (CONT'D)  
How was equestrian practice?

They scribble in their lab books.

LUNA  
It was good.

JOHNNY  
Are you worried for the  
competition? It's on Halloween  
right?

LUNA  
Ya, well, I've never done a cross  
country event so... kinda.

JOHNNY  
You're doing the cross country  
event?

LUNA  
Is that a surprise?

JOHNNY  
It's just a hard event. I know  
Cynthia trained for it like all  
summer.

Luna looks back at Cynthia.

LUNA  
Y'all are pretty close?

JOHNNY  
My dad and her mom are... sorta  
together now...

LUNA

Oh.

JOHNNY

Ya, they kinda blew up both our families this time last year. She doesn't have anyone to really talk to about it. Maybe and Asha are more interested in the scandal of the whole thing than her feelings... and her dad is super absent now. He's like never around except for equestrian events.

LUNA

I thought you guys were dating, or something.

JOHNNY

You thought we were dating and you still said you'd go with me to the Harvest Festival?

LUNA

Well, I thought she liked you.

JOHNNY

And who do you think I like?

Luna squeezes a cheesecloth full of purple cabbage. There's a glass bowl full of purple juice beneath it.

LUNA

Care to do the honors?

JOHNNY

Care to answer my question?

Johnny picks up the dry ice with a pair of tongs.

LUNA

I still have some theories on the table.

JOHNNY

Well I'll have to be sure to clear things up this weekend. So there's no doubts.

Johnny drops the dry ice into the cabbage juice. It bubbles and steams and turns from purple to green to orange.

CUT TO:

EXT. STABLES - AFTERNOON

Luna paces beside the stables, Sonny stands stoically beside her.

SONNY  
How you feeling?

LUNA  
Scared.

SONNY  
I'm proud of you. For being here.

LUNA  
Thanks... for coming.

SONNY  
Hey, four eyes are better than two.  
Even if my two are in a different  
realm.

Ahead, Cynthia paces on her phone.

CYNTHIA  
(into phone)  
Dad, I know. I trained hard... I  
mean, coach already subbed her in!  
I didn't even get to ride for it...  
I'm still doing show jumping.  
That's still *my* event... I know -  
you're still going to come aren't  
you? Dad! You promised. Of course,  
we're going to win. I wouldn't  
waste your time for a bad team. I'm  
sure. Positive. Yes, yes, if we  
lose you don't have to come to  
another event. I promise. Well...  
ya, you won't have to come to  
another one. Ok. See you then. Bye.

Cynthia snuffles. Cynthia hangs up her phone, she catches Luna eavesdropping.

CYNTHIA (CONT'D)  
Were you listening to my call?

LUNA  
I, uh... I'm sorry.

CYNTHIA  
Ya, well, it's rude to eavesdrop.

LUNA  
I'm sorry for taking the cross  
country event. If it makes you feel  
any better, I really needed it.

CYNTHIA  
Ya, so did I.

Cynthia pushes by Luna.

LUNA  
You're a good rider.

CYNTHIA  
I know.

Cynthia walks away.

LUNA  
Hey Cynthia, I'm going to win. And  
so are you.

Cynthia turns back around.

CYNTHIA  
We better.

She leaves.

SONNY  
Come on, let's go make sure your  
money's where your mouth is. Time  
to get you back on that horse.

Sonny walks straight through the barn door. Luna struggles to  
pull it open.

CUT TO:

INT. BARN

Sonny stands beside Miss Purdy.

SONNY  
I think you two need to start by  
making up.

LUNA  
She's a horse...

SONNY  
And you're a witch.

LUNA

I am not a witch.

SONNY

Ok, girl who's friend of ghosts and has a rabbit foot in her left boot.

LUNA

How did you know about my rabbit's foot?

SONNY

My point is you should know that words matter. Make up with Miss Purdy.

LUNA

(to Miss Purdy)

I'm sorry Purdy.

SONNY

For... flying off the handlebars?

LUNA

And trying to drag you with me.

SONNY

And you promise...

LUNA

I promise it won't happen again. I got you and I know you got me.

Luna scratches her nose.

SONNY

That's a start.

LUNA

Hey, are you my guardian angel?

SONNY

Your what?

LUNA

My guardian angel?

SONNY

Where's this coming from?

LUNA

Why are you helping me?

SONNY

Seems like you could use a hand.

LUNA

You are, aren't you?

Santiago walks in the barn.

LUNA (CONT'D)

It's about time you showed up.

SANTIAGO

You ready to ride Moon?

LUNA

Yes sir.

SANTIAGO

Let's start by getting her saddle  
back on.

Luna grabs Miss Purdy's saddle. Luna's hands tremble.

SONNY

How is she going to know you're  
going to keep her safe when you're  
scared half-to-death?

Luna exhales. She steadies herself and gets the saddle on.

SANTIAGO

Slowly. Buckle it.

SONNY

Luna. Your words have power. Talk  
to her. Tell her she's a good girl.

LUNA

Good girl. We're doing so well...  
You and me Purdy. We've got this.

SANTIAGO

Keep talking to her. She likes it.

LUNA

You're a good horse.

Luna scratches behind her ears.

CUT TO:



INT. KIERSTEN'S HOUSE

Mama Jean and Kiersten have all the cabinets spread around the ground. They're both covered in sawdust.

KIERSTEN

Do you remember which one of these goes where?

MAMA JEAN

Nope.

They both burst out laughing. Johnny walks in the door.

KIERSTEN

Hey! You're home. You want a snack?

Both Kiersten and Mama Jean crack up.

JOHNNY

You've destroyed the kitchen!

In the corner Mildred claps her hands

MILDRED

He's not wrong. I mean look at this place.

She blows a poof of sawdust off the counter. The dust floats in the air.

JOHNNY

Woah, what was that?

KIERSTEN

Was that the ghost?

MILDRED

Oh they liked that.

KIERSTEN

Is she happy?

MAMA JEAN

I think so.

KIERSTEN

Well then we better get back to work!

JOHNNY

Oh ya, get back to work for the saw dust draft but God forbid you get anything together for you, or me...

MILDRED

Oh! This brat.

Mildred blows the sawdust into his eyes.

JOHNNY

Ow!

He rubs his eyes and runs out of the room.

MAMA JEAN

(to Mildred)

That wasn't very nice Mildred...

KIERSTEN

Eh, he deserved it.

MILDRED

I'm beginning to like her.

CUT TO:

EXT. CORRAL - CONTINUOUS

Luna, Santiago and Sonny stand in the center of the corral. Luna takes a deep breath and goes to hop on Miss Purdy.

SANTIAGO

What do you think you're doing?  
Walk it with her.

LUNA

You're joking, right?

SANTIAGO

Don't you think she'll be more comfortable going fast if she knows where she's goin? She doesn't get a speech explaining it.

SONNY

He's got a point.

SANTIAGO

You've broken her trust, get it back. Make her apart of the team.

SONNY

Do it Loon.

FADE TO:

EXT. CORRAL

Luna runs along the side of Miss Purdy. Sonny and Santiago cheer her on from the side.

SONNY  
Go Luna, yes!

SANTIAGO  
Calm Moon! Calm!

SONNY  
Be clear with your intentions! Yes!

CUT TO:

EXT. TRAIL - LATER

Luna and Miss Purdy walk slowly down the trail.

SONNY  
You had really good progress today  
Luna.

LUNA  
Doesn't feel like it. I didn't even  
ride.

SONNY  
Ride now. Ride 'er home.

LUNA  
But what if something happens?

SONNY  
What if everything's ok?

LUNA  
You think I'm ready?

SONNY  
You were ready the other night.

LUNA  
I thought I was being chased by a  
cougar.

Sonny faces her straight on and starts growling.

SONNY  
(in growling voice)  
You mean this cougar.

Luna laughs at him.

SONNY (CONT'D)  
(joking, growling)  
I am going to eat you...

Luna giggles.

LUNA  
What do you say Miss Purdy? Feel  
like out running a ghost?

SONNY  
Oh, you want to race... Well then  
on your marks...

LUNA  
Wait! Wait!

Luna climbs on Miss Purdy.

SONNY  
Get set... GO!

Luna and Miss Purdy take off down the trail. Sonny runs along  
side them. Luna pulls far ahead and leaves Sonny in her dust.  
She's grinning ear to ear.

LUNA  
That all you got Sonny?

Luna looks behind her, Sonny's gone. Suddenly he poofs up  
beside her.

SONNY  
You may have horse power, but I  
have ghost power.

Sonny zooms off, Luna whips her reigns and chases after him.  
They come to a tight turn ahead. She goes to accelerate...  
suddenly Sonny's just beside her.

SONNY (CONT'D)  
Guide her through it Loon.

Luna nods her head.

LUNA  
(to Miss Purdy)  
You see this turn girl?

Luna leans into the turn early, and Miss Purdy gets it. She  
accelerates through on her own.

LUNA (CONT'D)

Ya!

Sonny runs up beside them.

SONNY

That was it! That was it!

Luna beams.

CUT TO:

EXT. LUNA'S HOUSE - CORRAL

Sonny and Luna walk Miss Purdy around to her stable.

SONNY

You nailed it.

LUNA

Thanks to you. It all makes sense now. When I get scared I want to go fast and get through it, but Miss Purdy, she needs to know I have a plan, and that we can do it...

From across the way Johnny waves to Luna.

JOHNNY

Luna, hey!

LUNA

Johnny, Hi!

He jogs over to her.

JOHNNY

I'm pretty sure our moms have destroyed my kitchen - oh, sorry I didn't know you had company.

Johnny and Sonny exchange glances. Luna nods at Sonny.

SONNY

Oh, I was just leaving.

Sonny walks away.

JOHNNY

No, sorry, I didn't mean to interrupt.

Johnny turns to go, Luna pulls him back.

LUNA

You're not. I was just settling  
Miss Purdy in for the night.

JOHNNY

Miss Purdy, huh?

LUNA

I was little when I named her. And  
so was she. But I always thought  
she looked so fancy. She's a wild  
horse you know, or she was. My dad  
and I broke her when she was just a  
foal.

JOHNNY

I caught a lizard once.

LUNA

Oh, so, you get it...

Johnny laughs.

LUNA (CONT'D)

Want to feed her a sugar cube?

Luna grabs a sugar cube out of her pocket and places it in  
Johnny's hand. He reaches it out and Miss Purdy nibbles it.

CUT TO:

INT. KIERSTEN'S HOUSE - LATER

Mama Jean and Kiersten roll paint across the cabinets. They  
look good. Mildred smiles.

Mama Jean pushes her wedding ring up her finger. It keeps  
falling down. Finally she slips it off and puts it in her  
breast pocket.

SONNY

No! Don't put that there.

For a moment, she hesitates, as if she hears him. Then,  
decides on putting it in anyways. She pours paint from the  
gallon into her tray. A nice thick puddle spills out.

SONNY (CONT'D)

That was way too much paint.

MAMA JEAN

Well what do you want me to do  
about it? Pour some back into the  
gallon?

KIERSTEN

What?

MAMA JEAN

Didn't you say something?

Mama Jean looks between Mildred and Kiersten. Mildred points at Sonny, who's standing just in front of Kiersten. She can't see him.

MAMA JEAN (CONT'D)

Sorry. I'm hearing things.

Mama Jean leans over her tray and rolls on the paint. Suddenly the ring falls from her pocket into the puddle. It sinks. Mama Jean's shocked, she gasps for air.

SONNY

Grab it! Get it out!

Kiersten runs across the room and sticks her perfectly manicured fingers into the center of the globs. With thick, orange hands she pulls up the ring.

KIERSTEN

I got it.

She runs over to the sink and starts washing it.

SONNY

No! Not over the sink!

It slips from her hands down the drain.

KIERSTEN

Oh no.

SONNY

The sink trap!

MILDRED

(relaying)

The SINK TRAP!

Mama Jean grabs a wrench out from her tool bag. She unscrews the trap. Orange painty water sprays everywhere. Mama Jean spits it out from between her lips.

SONNY  
Turn off the water!!!

MILDRED  
Turn off the water!

Mama Jean reaches up and shuts off the sink faucet. She holds up the ring.

MAMA JEAN  
I got it.

Both her and Kiersten burst laughing. Kiersten takes a selfie. Then Mama Jean bursts into tears. Kiersten runs over and hugs her.

KIERSTEN  
I know. I know.

CUT TO:

EXT. CORRAL - THE NEXT DAY

Luna and Miss Purdy ride around the cross country course. Sonny runs beside them. Santiago stands in the middle and shouts pointers to them.

SANTIAGO  
Holding, holding, now. Faster, now!

SONNY  
Eyes where you want to go.

SANTIAGO  
Commit Moon! Commit!

SONNY  
Listen to him. Go for it!

Luna nails a jump.

SANTIAGO  
Esoo!!!!!!

Luna and Miss Purdy come to a stop.

SANTIAGO (CONT'D)  
You're ready.

LUNA  
Ya?



SONNY

Ya. You're back. You're both back.

Luna pats Miss Purdy's head.

LUNA

Good girl Purdy. We did it.

SANTIAGO

Make sure you get a good night's sleep tonight. You're up against a lot of good riders tomorrow.

SONNY

That means no staying out too late on your date.

LUNA

I'll be ready. Thanks Santi.

He nods. Luna trots off.

CUT TO:

INT. KIERSTEN'S HOUSE - LATER

Kiersten's kitchen is back together and Mama Jean and her hang Hogwarts style candles from the ceiling. On the counter, there's a large display of caramel apples, sugar skulls and marigolds.

KIERSTEN

I have got to say, this year's decor theme is just next level. It's so spooky, but yet, classy. Traditional, yet tasteful.

MAMA JEAN

I'm glad you like it.

KIERSTEN

Like it? And with the new paint job, this party tomorrow night is going to be everything.

SLAM. The front door closes. Mama Jean Looks around. She spies Mildred in the corner.

MILDRED

Don't look at me. I'm very please with what you've done.

MAMA JEAN

Thank you.

KIERSTEN

Thank who? Mildred? She likes it?

MILDRED

Say nothing.

MAMA JEAN

She said it's made her happier than she could have ever dreamt possible.

Shoes stomp by the front door.

KIERSTEN

(hollering)

Johnny? Is that you? Come in here and see the decorations for the Halloween party tomorrow night.

Johnny's running by, but he peaks his head in.

JOHNNY

Woah, looks good. I like the orange

MAMA JEAN

Terra cotta.

KIERSTEN

Where are you off to in such a huff?

Johnny gets weird.

KIERSTEN (CONT'D)

Johnny?

JOHNNY

I'm going to pick up Luna, for the Harvest Festival. I'm supposed to be there in thirty minutes.

KIERSTEN

Oh, so you need to get ready.

JOHNNY

No. I'm cool.

Mama Jean and Kiersten exchange side eyes. Johnny tries (and fails) to keep up the charade...

JOHNNY (CONT'D)  
I'll uh, I'll just be chilling. In  
my room.

Johnny bolts upstairs.

MAMA JEAN  
I gotta go help Luna!

INT. LUNA'S HOUSE

Mama Jean runs through the front door.

MAMA JEAN  
(yelling)  
LUNA! LUNA!

Luna runs out from her room. She's in a robe and has curlers  
badly positioned around her head.

LUNA  
Mama! I've been calling you! I'm  
having a crisis!

MAMA JEAN  
I'm here now baby!

Mama Jean rushes to her rescue.

CUT TO:

INT. LUNA'S HOUSE - BEDROOM

Luna's dressed in the red sweater dress, her hair looks  
beautiful. Mama Jean paints lipstick on her.

MAMA JEAN  
You look beautiful.

Luna blushes. Mama Jean puts down the lipstick. She grabs a  
vintage perfume bottle.

MAMA JEAN (CONT'D)  
Now just a spritz of rose water.

She sprays the bottle.

MAMA JEAN (CONT'D)  
And a dash of honey, so everything  
you hear tonight will be sweet.

Mama Jean dips her finger ever so slightly into a honey jar and then daps it behind her ear - DING DONG.

MAMA JEAN (CONT'D)  
You finish up. I'll get the door.

Luna looks in the mirror. She fluffs her hair, her finger accidentally grazes the honey from behind her ear. She taps it against her thumb, feeling the stickiness, then licks it.

MAMA JEAN (O.S.) (CONT'D)  
Luna! Johnny's here.

Luna runs out the door.

CUT TO:

INT. LUNA'S HOUSE - ENTRANCE WAY

Luna walks towards the front door. Johnny smiles at her. She smiles back.

JOHNNY  
Wow, you look... nice.

MAMA JEAN  
Nice?

LUNA  
Thanks.

MAMA JEAN  
Be back by 11. Trials tomorrow.

Johnny nods. He and Luna walk out the door.

CUT TO:

EXT. STREET

Johnny and Luna walk towards town. Both with their hands in their pockets.

JOHNNY  
Big day tomorrow.

LUNA  
I don't want to talk about the competition.

JOHNNY

Ok... what do you want to talk about?

LUNA

I don't know... the stars.

JOHNNY

The stars?

Luna nods.

JOHNNY (CONT'D)

Alright... Which one's your favorite?

LUNA

The north star. Obviously.

JOHNNY

Oh, obviously... is that cause it's the only star you can name?

LUNA

No.

JOHNNY

Yes.

LUNA

It's cause my dad always told me that if I could see the North Star, I could find my way back home. It'd sure be nice to feel at home again.

JOHNNY

I always liked the big dipper. Mostly because it has a little dipper right next to it.

Luna laughs.

JOHNNY (CONT'D)

Why is that funny? Think about it, in the whole, vast universe there are two constellations, that look exactly the same right next to each other. I mean, if they could find each other, through all of space... I don't know, maybe were not as lonely as we think.

LUNA

Oh, he's a philosopher...

Johnny shrugs. They approach the harvest festival.

LUNA (CONT'D)

Oh man! They've got a Zipper! Come on!

Luna runs towards the carnival.

JOHNNY

I am not riding that thing.

LUNA

Oh yes you are.

Johnny runs after her, smitten.

CUT TO:

EXT. HARVEST FESTIVAL - NIGHT

Luna is throwing up in a trash can. Johnny's holding her hair back.

JOHNNY

You know for a cowgirl, I didn't think you'd have such a sensitive stomach.

LUNA

Nothing about being a cowgirl prepares you to fling around upside down on The Zipper.

JOHNNY

Fair point.

Luna fixes herself.

LUNA

Let's get some cider. It'll settle our stomachs...

JOHNNY

"Our"?

They walk over to a cider booth. Johnny buys two. Luna grabs a napkin off the counter. She wipes the corners of her lips. She turns around to make sure he's not looking, she wipes her tongue. She pulls a breath spray out of her purse, spritzes it in her mouth.

In the distance, Sonny runs across the carnival. Luna sees him and waves him off.

JOHNNY (CONT'D)  
Something wrong?

Johnny hands her a cider.

LUNA  
Oh no. Just a dang gnat buzzin' in  
my face.

Luna sips it.

LUNA (CONT'D)  
This is good.

JOHNNY  
Ya?

LUNA  
Ya.

Johnny puts his arm around Luna.

JOHNNY  
Where to next?

There's a booth with a fortune teller waving her hands around  
a crystal ball.

JOHNNY (CONT'D)  
Want to get your fortune told?

LUNA  
Nah, my mom can pull tarot at home.

JOHNNY  
Of course she can.

LUNA  
What about the haunted house?!

JOHNNY  
It wasn't enough that you threw up  
on the date, now you're prepared to  
pee your pants?

LUNA  
Oh, I'm sorry, you must have be  
mistaken for a scaredy cat...

CUT TO:

INT. HAUNTED HOUSE

Luna and Johnny step into the haunted house. They walk down a hallway of funny mirrors. At the end of it, a CLOWN pops out.

Luna jumps! She grabs Johnny's hand.

JOHNNY

I thought you said you weren't a  
scaredy cat.

Embarrassed, Luna tries to pull her hand away. Johnny squeezes it tighter.

They turn a corner into a room designed like an evil laboratory. There's a Dr. Frankenstein style mad scientist resurrecting a monster.

JOHNNY (CONT'D)

(re: mad scientist)

Hey, it looks like you in chem lab.

Luna nudges him with her shoulder. The monster comes to life and they both run out of the room.

They make it into the final room, which has ghost projections whizzing around. They're both waiting for something to pop out at them, when Sonny appears behind them.

SONNY

It's getting late.

Johnny jumps forward - completely caught off guard.

JOHNNY

What is he doing here?

SONNY

I came to make sure Luna gets home  
on time.

LUNA

I'm not going home yet.

The FAKE GHOST from the haunted house pops out at them. They're completely unfazed.

JOHNNY

It's only 9:30.

SONNY

She has a big competition tomorrow.



LUNA

I'm aware.

FAKE GHOST

Hey, if you two don't mind can you  
take this convo outside, we've  
gotta reset for the next group.

Johnny storms out of the haunted house. Luna chases after  
him.

CUT TO:

EXT. HARVEST FESTIVAL

Luna finally catches up with Johnny.

LUNA

Johnny! Wait up! Johnny!

JOHNNY

I can't believe it! This was all  
part of your plan wasn't it. Get me  
to pick you up for our date so you  
get a late curfew and then blow me  
off for him.

LUNA

That's not it at all -

JOHNNY

Save it for your boyfriend.

LUNA

He's not my boyfriend!

Johnny storms away. Luna follows him.

LUNA (CONT'D)

He's not. Johnny, I swear!

JOHNNY

Who is he then?

LUNA

You wouldn't believe me if I told  
you.

JOHNNY

Try me.

Luna whispers in his ear.

JOHNNY (CONT'D)  
Your guardian angel? Really?

Johnny walks on. They're now just outside the festival.

LUNA  
Well, kinda. Technically he's a ghost. But I think the two are the same.

JOHNNY  
A ghost? Luna, I can see him.

LUNA  
(thinking)  
Ya, that is kind of strange. You must be a medium too.

JOHNNY  
Too? You're, you're something else.

All of a sudden, Sonny appears next to Luna. Johnny jumps back.

JOHNNY (CONT'D)  
Where did you come from?

SONNY  
Luna, it's time to go home.

LUNA  
Look.

Luna shoves her hand through the middle of Sonny.

SONNY  
Ouch.

LUNA  
Oh that doesn't hurt.

SONNY  
How do you know?

Sonny shoves his hand through the middle of Luna.

LUNA  
(shivering)  
You're freezing me out!

Johnny stares in awe at this.

SONNY  
Sorry!

JOHNNY  
You mean, he's a, a... a ghost?

SONNY  
Boo.

Johnny faints. Luna catches him. Together they slowly fall to the ground. Luna gently slaps his face.

LUNA  
Johnny? Johnny?

Johnny's out cold.

LUNA (CONT'D)  
Look what you've done!

SONNY  
What I've done? You're the one who told him I'm a ghost!

LUNA  
You've ruined my very first date!

SONNY  
Well things were moving a little too fast if you asked me.

LUNA  
No one asked you!

SONNY  
You have a competition tomorrow. You should be focusing on -

LUNA  
Ugh!! I am so sick of you! I am so sick of you butting in and telling me what to do and manipulating me!

SONNY  
Manipulating? How about encouraging?

LUNA  
(angry)  
Encouraging? Encouraging?  
(fake growling)  
By pretending to be a wolf?

SONNY  
By offering you support.

LUNA

You know what? I'm done. I never asked to have guardian angel! I don't want you around any more!

Luna raises her arms up. Her palms point out, powerfully.

LUNA (CONT'D)

I am a powerful witch. You are no longer welcome here spirit!

Sonny begins to wisp into the ether.

SONNY

Luna! Luna! Think about this.

LUNA

I BANISH YOU SPIRIT BACK TO WHENCE YOU CAME!

SONNY

Goodbye Loony Tunes.

That catches her ear, but it's too late. Sonny's gone. Luna turns her attention back towards Johnny.

LUNA

Johnny? Johnny?

Luna opens her purse she takes out a small vial, uncorks it, and waves it under his nose. He comes to with an exasperated GASP. She hugs him. He pushes her off.

LUNA (CONT'D)

You're ok, everything's ok. You just fainted... here, I have some-

Johnny stands up.

JOHNNY

Ghosts are real? Holy - what? You let me be jealous of a ghost? Why wouldn't you tell me?

LUNA

I didn't think you'd believe me.

JOHNNY

Believed you just fine there.

LUNA

Look he's gone now. I banished him. It's nearly impossible for him to return.

JOHNNY

You *banished* him? Oh my God. You really are a witch.

Johnny starts walking quickly away from her.

LUNA

I am not a witch. I don't have a wand or...

JOHNNY

No you're just exceptionally good at making potions and have a friend that's a ghost.

Johnny starts running now.

LUNA

Johnny why are you running?

JOHNNY

Stay away from me!

He runs home.

CUT TO:

INT. LUNA'S HOUSE

Luna walks in the door. Mascara streaming down her cheeks.

MAMA JEAN (O.S.)

Luna, is that you? How was the date?

Luna walks into the living room. Mama Jean lounges on the couch with Bastet. She looks back and sees Luna crying.

MAMA JEAN (CONT'D)

Oh baby.

She runs up and gives her a hug. Luna cries harder.

MAMA JEAN (CONT'D)

Do you want to talk about it?

LUNA

No.

MAMA JEAN

Ok. Can I fix you some tea?

Luna nods. She looks up. There's two hard drives out on the table. The TV is airplaying photos.

LUNA  
What's all this?

MAMA JEAN  
I was doin' a little diggin. For our ofrenda, and well, I wanted to find a young photo of your dad.

Luna snuffles and moves to the couch.

LUNA  
You find any good ones?

MAMA JEAN  
A couple.

Mama Jean clicks through some photos.

MAMA JEAN (CONT'D)  
Here's a great one, of us just before he proposed in Cusco. And riding a camel in Marrakesh. And...

On the screen is a picture of Sonny standing beside a motorcycle.

LUNA  
Who is that?

MAMA JEAN  
That's your father.

LUNA  
That? No. NO!

MAMA JEAN  
What can I say, your dad had long hair in high school. And I just loved Sonny's luscious locks.

LUNA  
What did you say?

MAMA JEAN  
Am I grossin you out?

LUNA  
Who's Sonny?

MAMA JEAN  
Your dad silly.

LUNA

My dad's name was Carson.

MAMA JEAN

Car-son, Son, e. Sonny. It was his nickname forever. It was only after he graduated that he started going by Carson. Thought it made him sound more mature.

Luna sobs.

LUNA

That's dad! He's, he's been here this whole time. He's been here and I banished him and now he'll never come back.

MAMA JEAN

Luna, slow down.

LUNA

(sobbing)

No! I-I ruined everything!

MAMA JEAN

Just, start at the beginning.

FADE TO:

INT. LUNA'S HOUSE

Mama Jean pushes the sofa into the corner. Luna holds her phone to her ear. It rings.

CUT TO:

EXT. HARVEST FESTIVAL - CONTINUOUS

Cynthia, Asha and Maybe walk through the harvest festival. Cynthia's phone rings. She answers it. Intercut.

CYNTHIA

What do you want?

LUNA

I need you and Asha and Maybe to come over.

CYNTHIA

Um, we have a competition tomorrow, we kinda need to get some rest.

LUNA

I can hear the Harvest Festival in the background.

CYNTHIA

Well we're just about to head home.

LUNA

Please. Look, if you still want to win tomorrow, then I need you. Now.

Beat.

CYNTHIA

Text me the addy.

FADE TO:

INT. LUNA'S HOUSE

Mama Jean draws a pentagram on the floor. Kiersten, Cynthia, Asha, Mayble and Luna sit in a circle. Mama Jean joins them. Each woman holds a mirror. They're all facing inward towards each other.

MAMA JEAN

We gather in this summoning circle to conjure Carson. Beloved father, adored husband, best friend. Carson, Sonny, if you are with us, send us a sign.

All of the lights flicker in the room. The non-witches look around, impressed.

MAMA JEAN (CONT'D)

Incantatem spiritus en vita!

Nothing happens.

MAMA JEAN (CONT'D)

Together.

ALL

Incantatem spiritus en vita!

Everyone looks around, eagerly. It's quiet. Bright. Empty.

KIERSTEN

(whispering)

Is he here? Did it work? Did you conjure him?



Mama Jean shakes her head. One by one the girls set down their mirrors. Cynthia walks over to Luna.

CYNTHIA

That was pretty cool. For a minute there, it seemed like it almost worked.

LUNA

You know better than anyone, almost just isn't enough.

CYNTHIA

I know you think you can talk to ghosts and I'm sorry your dad died and I know I didn't know the guy, I mean I didn't even know you then. But if he had anything to do with making you the rider you are, then I know he'd want you to forget about mirrors and creepy Latin phrases and focus on you and your horse and your team. And I'm not saying this for me. My dad's on the next block and I don't even believe he'll come. But you, you really think yours would transcend realms for you?

LUNA

He already has.

CYNTHIA

Then let's win it for him. We can do that much.

Luna cries. Kiersten hugs her.

CUT TO:

INT. BEDROOM - THE NEXT DAY

Luna's alarm goes off bright and early. Her phone's already in her hands. She taps it off.

CUT TO:

EXT. KIERSTEN'S HOUSE

Luna runs across the street. She's dressed in her full equestrian outfit. She knocks on the front door.

Johnny answers. He's in his PJs and has a bowl of cereal in one hand. He shuts the door on Luna. She pushes it open.

LUNA

Wait, wait. Please Johnny. Please.

JOHNNY

What do you want?

LUNA

Well, it's kinda a big ask...

JOHNNY

Spit it out.

LUNA

I want you to conjure a spirit.  
Sonny...

He shuts the door. Luna talks through the door.

LUNA (CONT'D)

Please, just... Sonny is my dad. I don't know how, but that's what my teenage dad looked like. I'm texting you a picture right now so you know I'm for real.

Ding. His phone chimes, he checks the message.

LUNA (CONT'D)

I need you to conjure him. I know it's scary and you're totally unequipped, but, today's Halloween, what witches call Samhain. The veil between our world and the spirit world's thin, and it might be the only hope to get my dad back from banishment. Tomorrow, he'll be even further away, and he might never find his way back. I tired last night and... I know you think I've ruined your life but, you have the gift. You're the only other person who saw him. My connection, it's walled off now and Mama, well, she wants it too bad. But you, if you could just try... for me? It would. It would mean everything.

Luna waits at the door. It doesn't budge. She turns and crosses back to her house.

CUT TO:

EXT. CORRAL

The corral bustles with horses and competitors and their families. Maybe competes in the dressage event Luna and Cynthia watch. There's an ANNOUNCER (20s) sitting beside the corral.

CYNTHIA  
 Maybe's crushing this event.

Suddenly, Maybe's horse stumbles...

ANNOUNCER  
 And that will cost her. Looks like  
 Maybe Stantum will take second for  
 the event.

Cynthia kicks the ground.

LUNA  
 Are you nervous?

CYNTHIA  
 Just a lot more pressure to win our  
 events now. For your dad.

Luna reaches out and grabs her hand.

LUNA  
 This isn't for my dad and it isn't  
 for yours. This is for us. For our  
 team. Let show these other riders  
 what we're made of. Me and you.

Cynthia squeezes her hand back.

CUT TO:

INT. JOHNNY'S BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

Johnny sits criss-cross apple sauce on the floor. He closes his eyes and raises his hands towards the sky. He opens his eyes and quickly makes sure his vacuum is plugged in. He closes his eyes again.

JOHNNY  
 Oh spirit of Luna's dad, I conjure  
 thee back to thy Earth.

Johnny peaks out of his eyes... nothing.

CUT TO:

EXT. KIERSTEN'S HOUSE

Mama Jean and Kiersten dig small holes with garden hoes. They've got a collection of barren rose bushes beside them. Mildred supervises from the porch.

KIERSTEN  
How was Luna this morning?

MAMA JEAN  
She left without sayin' bye. And I didn't want to stress her out, so I let her go. I'll head to the corral in a bit.

Kiersten sticks a rose plant in a hole. She buries the roots.

KIERSTEN  
You really think these will bloom?

MILDRED  
Yes.

MAMA JEAN  
Mildred's confident.

KIERSTEN  
But what do you think?

MAMA JEAN  
I've never had any luck with anything planted on Samhain.

Kiersten looks defeated.

MAMA JEAN (CONT'D)  
But, there's a first time for everything. And with enough love, I can't see why not.

Kiersten smiles, and keeps digging.

CUT TO:

EXT. CORRAL

Cynthia sits on her horse. She prepares to start her heat. She looks around the corral. She makes eye contact with Luna who flashes her two big thumbs up. Cynthia smiles. And she's off! Her horse runs through the course.

## ANNOUNCER

A very composed rider, Cynthia Bergstoff seems to have everything under control, nice clear on that 8', and that 5' was absolutely beautiful. She's taken the lead with the fastest time so far, another gorgeous jump here and - oo, that'll cost her a few seconds.

On the sidelines Luna mutters under her breath.

## LUNA

Smooth speed, smooth speed.

She blows her words, like a wish and crosses both of her sets of fingers.

## ANNOUNCER

She still has a chance to make up for it, and with that beautiful landing there, it's all going to come down to this last jump - absolutely text book! It looks like Bergstoff is the landslide winner of the showjumping event!

Luna cheers! Cynthia looks over to her. Luna throws her arms up in victory. She points to the left, a man in a suit applauds at the sidelines, it's Cynthia's dad. She beams.

CUT TO:

## INT. JOHNNY'S BEDROOM

Johnny's tired now. He's tried everything. He hangs upside down on his bed and tosses a baseball to himself.

## JOHNNY

I don't get it dude. You pop up like every single second when I don't want you around but when I do want you around what, you're just punishing me? Well fine. I don't want anything to do with you or your witchy daughter anyway.

The baseball falls and smacks Johnny in the face.

## JOHNNY (CONT'D)

Ow!

SONNY

You'd be so lucky to have anything  
to do with my daughter.

JOHNNY

You're here!

SONNY

I'm here! You did it.

JOHNNY

I did?

SONNY

You're channeling me. Dude, you're  
a powerful medium... You gotta take  
me to Luna.

JOHNNY

No way, I don't want to see Luna.

SONNY

(sarcastically)

Ya, ok sure, I believe you. Chop  
chop.

CUT TO:

INT. BARN

Santiago stands beside Luna as they get Miss Purdy ready to  
compete.

SANTIAGO

You're having a hard day.

LUNA

Kinda.

SANTIAGO

You know what will make it better?  
Riding fast. Just stay in control.  
Give her a reason to trust you.

Luna nods. She climbs on Miss Purdy.

CUT TO:

EXT. CORRAL

Luna's horse waits at the gate. Luna adjusts her grip.

## ANNOUNCER

Ok Ladies and Gentleman it all comes down to this. With Mary's Hollow and West Bank both tied one to one, this event will determine the winner of this tournament. And our final eventer is sure to make this even more interesting. With West Banks rider finishing just under optimum time, she'll need a near perfect run for a shot at the win. New to this league, please welcome the current Junior Rodeo Champion Luna Woods, competing in cross country for her very first time.

Luna rolls her shoulders and shakes the nerves out of her arms. She looks around the corral. Mama Jean and Cynthia wave to her. Coach and Santiago stand nervously on the side.

JOHNNY (O.S.)

Luna! Luna!

Luna looks behind her. Johnny and Sonny run up to the gate.

LUNA

Dad!

SONNY

Hi Loony Tunes.

LUNA

Did you always know?

Sonny shakes his head, no.

SONNY

This isn't about me right now. This is about you. And we didn't work this hard for you to get stage fright seeing me now did we? Nah-uh. And we didn't work this hard for you to get scared making a little turn now did we? So don't lose your head, but make that hat fly off.

LUNA

That worked better when I wore a hat, not a helmet.

SONNY

I'm so proud of you.

BANG! The gate opens. Miss Purdy runs.

ANNOUNCER

And she's off! Fast sprint down this first straight away, clearing this jump like butter. This is an eventer who's riding style is so different, so wild, it's amazing she has any control at all. Coming in fast to this turn, arguably too fast...

SONNY

Guide her.

Luna exhales, she leans into her turn early, and Miss Purdy follows her through.

ANNOUNCER

But they pull through. This is a horse who trusts it's rider. Another beautiful jump here and, yes, that's it. Luna Woods has secured her win for this event and that makes Mary's Hollow our new champions!

Everyone screams and rushes over to the gate to congratulate Luna. They carry out a trophy and a sash. Luna beams. Johnny and Sonny wave to her. They point towards the barn. Mama Jean intercepts.

MAMA JEAN

Baby! You were incredible. As were you Miss Purdy.

LUNA

Mama...

MAMA JEAN

Now, I just ran out on Kiersten who is setting up for her Halloween party tonight. I know you and Johnny had a little, moment, but I'd love it if you came. Just to see the kitchen at the very least. It's my first project since dad...

LUNA

Of course, but Mama - MAMA!



Hold that thought. Mama Jean's phone rings. She answers and walks away, waving goodbye. Luna rides over to the barn.

CUT TO:

INT. BARN

Luna hops off Miss Purdy. She walks up to Sonny and Johnny.

LUNA

I can't believe it's really you.

SONNY

I know, teenage dad is so much cooler.

LUNA

I miss you so much. Everyday.

SONNY

I haven't left.

Luna cries.

LUNA

Yes you have.

SONNY

I will always come back, every chance I get. I am so proud of you, way to get back on the horse.

Santiago walks in the barn.

SANTIAGO

Great job Moon.

LUNA

Thanks Santi.

SANTIAGO

If you don't want to continue our lessons, there's no hard feelings. You're a great rider, you don't need some washed up rodeo's perspective... Coach is more than capable.

SONNY

You should stick with him Loon. He gets you. He gets Purdy.

LUNA

I'd love to keep up with our lessons. If you'll have me...

Santi grunts and walks away. Suddenly the Old Man ghost appears. He looks at Sonny.

OLD MAN

Thank you. My boy has someone to pass his skills on to now.

The Old Man grabs Sonny's cheeks and kisses his head before beaming up in a stream of light.

JOHNNY

Ok... how often does that happen? Do you just see this stuff everyday? Like all day?

Luna laughs. She hugs Johnny.

LUNA

Thank you. Thank you.

She kisses him. He kisses her back.

SONNY

Ok, ok. Your dad is right here kid!

LUNA

Sorry.

SONNY

It's ok. Johnny's growing on me. But that doesn't mean I won't haunt you if you hurt her.

JOHNNY

You have my word, sir.

Suddenly Sonny starts to glow.

LUNA

What's happening?

SONNY

I'm, I'm moving on...

LUNA

Wait, wait. We gotta see Mama.

CUT TO:

EXT. TRAIL

Luna and Miss Purdy race down the trail. Johnny is hanging on to her back for his life. Sonny runs beside them.

JOHNNY

And you got scared in the haunted house?

INT. KIERSTEN'S HOUSE

The Halloween party's in full swing. Everyone's in costume and DEAD MAN'S PARTY by Oingo Boingo plays. Mama Jean wears a witch hat and Kiersten wears coveralls and a hardhat. They chat with another SUBURBAN MOM, dressed as a cat.

SUBURBAN MOM

Well you know ever since I retiled the bathroom, I keep burning myself in the shower...

KIERSTEN

Oh, we can definitely help with that.

MAMA JEAN

Oh can we?

KIERSTEN

Please! We can do anything! Now let me tell you how our new business charges...

Kiersten winks at Mama Jean. She puts her arm around the Suburban Mom and walks out of the kitchen.

Luna and Johnny shove their way through the party until they find Mama Jean.

MAMA JEAN

Hey, look what the cat dragged in.

Luna grabs her hand and Johnny's hand.

LUNA

Mama.

Mama Jean's hit with a burst of energy. She looks over and she sees Sonny. Streams of light punch holes through him.

MAMA JEAN

Carson? Carson?

She stands face to face with him. Mama Jean cries.

SONNY

Don't cry. I'm here. I'll always be here.

"SHE'S MY WITCH" by Kip Tyler plays.

MAMA JEAN

Dance with me.

Sonny dances. Mama does too. They move into the middle of the dance floor.

SONNY

How lucky am I? I got to love you in this life and after too.

MAMA JEAN

As I will you. You're going, aren't you?

SONNY

I think so.

MAMA JEAN

I am lost without you.

SONNY

No you're not. Look what you did. Look what you built! Look at this kitchen! You did this without me.

MAMA JEAN

No, I did it because of you. You were still with me.

SONNY

And I'll always be. Even if it's just in your memories.

MAMA JEAN

It's not fair.

SONNY

No.

MAMA JEAN

We're going to be great?

SONNY

You're going to be great.

Sonny glows brighter.

MAMA JEAN

I love you.

SONNY

I love you.

Luna runs across the dance floor.

LUNA

Dad!

SONNY

I love you Looney Tunes.

And \*poof\* he bursts into a beautiful ray of light. The whole party stops and admires it. They all applaud. Mama Jean and Luna hug and cry.

CUT TO:

EXT. JOHNNY'S HOUSE - THE NEXT DAY

Johnny walks out his front door. Mildred sits on the porch. The rose bush has fully bloomed. He picks a rose and smells it. Mildred bursts into light. Johnny stumbles away from it.

EXT. LUNA'S HOUSE

Miss Purdy and Luna lay on the ground together. Luna chews a piece of straw.

LUNA

Just give me a sign that I'll be happy again. Come on dad, I ain't picky. Any sign will do...

JOHNNY (O.S.)

Hey Luna.

Luna sits up. Johnny walks over to her.

JOHNNY (CONT'D)

I was wondering, if you wanted to, go for a walk?

LUNA

That'll do.

Luna stands up. Johnny hands her a rose.

JOHNNY

This just bloomed, off the new rose bushes.

Luna smells it.

LUNA

It's the sweetest rose I've ever smelled. Let me go get my coat.

CUT TO:

INT. LUNA'S HOUSE

Mama Jean makes a sandwich. She glances over to the picture of Sonny on their alter. She cuts the sandwich in half.

MAMA JEAN

I made your favorite. Banana and honey. Just like Elvis, I think.

She puts a quarter on a new plate and places it on the alter.

MAMA JEAN (CONT'D)

The least you can do is give me a sign that everything's actually going to be great. Because right now, it sure doesn't feel like that.

WHACK! The front door flings open. Luna runs in

LUNA

Mama! Johnny asked me to go for a walk! Isn't that great?

She runs over to Mama Jean and hands her the rose.

LUNA (CONT'D)

From his new rose bush. It just bloomed. Smell it. Looks like the spirit of their house is happy after all.

Mama Jean takes the rose. Luna runs out the front door. Mama Jean smells it. She places it on the alter.

MAMA JEAN

That'll do. That'll definitely do.

FADE TO BLACK. THE END.