

"SUNKEN HEARTS"

INT. SMALL HOUSE - NIGHT

1970's North America, Great Lakes region.

In the dark, a figure drags a body through the house and into the bathroom. With great effort, they heave the body into the bath.

They leave the room and we see tears on the face of the victim, Fred (male, 30s). The killer, BILLIE (female, 30s), returns with a wood-axe. She raises it high above the body in preparation.

INT. SMALL HOUSE - NIGHT

Billie heaves two bin bags into the back of a pick-up truck and puts a travel-bag on the passenger seat.

She climbs in and speeds away.

EXT. LAKESIDE - DAWN

Billie drags the bin bags, one at a time, down a small dock and into a wooden dinghy. She unties the boat and rows away.

EXT. LAKE - DAWN

Billie stops rowing and stows the oars. She opens a bag and removes the toe-end of a foot, which she tosses into the water.

The foot sinks in the water and is snatched away by a large fish.

Billie, fascinated, repeats the process and finds the same result. She begins to throw in more and more pieces of the

victim at a time, frenzied, until she tips up the bag and shakes the remaining contents into the water.

Large fish compete for the food and the water splashes violently as she works.

Billie opens the next bag and repeats the process. She pulls out the heart and stops suddenly. The water becomes quiet and she stares at the heart, holding it close. She licks it experimentally, then again with more enthusiasm, again.

She stops suddenly in horror and drops the heart, unintentionally juggling it before it falls into the water. She reaches after it but it is swallowed by an abnormally large sturgeon.

Billie is left staring at the empty water, then at her reflection in it.

FADE ON:

TITLE: "SUNKEN HEARTS"

FADE TO:

FLASHBACK MONTAGE

"Crazy Little Thing Called Love" by Queen plays.

EXT. GARDEN BARBEQUE - DAY

Billie and Fred's engagement party. Billie shows off the ring to a group of girls. One of them, Vanessa (20s, Fred's sister), holds her hand to get a better look at it before holding eye contact with Billie.

Fred stands near Billie, hand on her shoulder, but she never reciprocates the touch. He kisses her on the head and she flaps her hand at him, desperately fixing her hair.

EXT. VANESSA'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Billie sits in a parked car, gazing in the windows of Vanessa's house. The lights are on in a room with misted windows, and running water can be heard.

The water stops and we hear a shower door opening.

Through the steam, we see the silhouette of Vanessa step in front of the window and begin drying herself.

Billie leans forward intently. Slowly, she unbuckles her trousers.

Vanessa begins combing her hair.

Billie's eyes roll back.

INT. BRIDAL SUITE - EARLY MORNING.

Vanessa is helping Billie get ready for her wedding. Vanessa takes the wedding dress out of the protective cover and hangs it nearby.

Vanessa helps Billie out of her dressing gown. Billie takes her hand and places it on her own breast. They lean in to kiss.

EXT. VANESSA'S HOUSE - MORNING

Billie, loosely disguised as a paperboy, walks to Vanessa's mailbox and puts a travel brochure in it. There is already an older one in there.

INT. VANESSA'S LIVING ROOM - DAY

Vanessa and Billie are huddled over a map of the USA. Several places are circled in red, and travel brochures cover the rest of the coffee table. Vanessa takes the pen and draws a line from one circle to the next.

INT. BILLIE AND FRED'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Billie and Fred stand apart in their bedroom, arguing passionately.

Fred storms out of the room, angrily discarding a picture of Billie and Vanessa taken at a party - Billie is standing behind Vanessa with her hands high up her blouse.

Billie remains dumbstruck. A single tear rolls down her face. She wipes it away and stares in horror at her hand, more tears follow. She screams, but we hear nothing. She continues to stare at the tear on her hand.

FADE OUT MUSIC.
END MONTAGE.

INT. BILLIE'S BEDROOM - DAY

Billie kneels in front of the closet. She opens a hidden panel in the floor and takes out a box, which she unlocks. Inside are pictures of Vanessa, and a large wad of cash.

She closes the panel and puts the box into a travel bag, along with some clothes. She stows the bag under the bed.

INT. BILLIE'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Billie is stashing something under the bedcovers. She is dressed in old clothes, including an oversized shirt.

Fred enters, and Billie grips the object under the covers. He is visibly confused by her clothes and behaviour.

He approaches her with tenderness.

INT. PICK UP TRUCK - MORNING

Billie drives to Vanessa's house from the lake. She turns on the radio, but all we hear is static.

FLASH:

Tears slide down Fred's face.

RETURN:

Billie fiddles with the dial and "50 Ways To Leave Your Lover" by Paul Simon comes on, partway through. Billie sings along.

FLASH:

Fred face down on the floor in a growing pool of blood. The music continues to play.

RETURN:

The car swerves violently, but stays on the road.

FLASH:

INT. BILLIE'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Billie, axe in hand, watches Fred carefully.

Fred closes his eyes and takes a deep breath. He puts both hands to his heart and whispers a prayer.

RETURN:

Billie tries to sing along but she begins to choke on her words. She keeps trying, but eventually coughs too much and stops.

She fumbles for a handkerchief as she drives, then coughs into it. Blood stains the white fabric.

Billie tosses it out of the window and turns up the radio.

EXT. VANESSA'S HOUSE - MORNING

Still in the pick-up, Billie pulls up to Vanessa's house with a screech of tires and honks the truck horn aggressively.

Vanessa hurries out, locks her door, and clambers into the cab of the truck. They kiss briefly before Vanessa wipes blood off of her lips with her finger.

Billie ignores her concerned expression and the truck speeds away.

To Be Continued...