

CRY

A young caretaker celebrates her birthday with opulence and
blood.

FADE IN:

INT. MANSION - NIGHT

Taillights fade into the dusk as MR. TODD DEVLIN (40's), a successful business man, drives away from his estate.

JULIE (21), a blond haired, tall, athletic woman, shuts the front door. The electronic lock engages.

Julie walks through the opulent foyer and curiously hits play on the answering machine that sits on a nearby table.

DR. TASHA DEVLIN (V.O.)

Hi Todd, it's me your darling wife. Hope your meeting went well with your clients today. I know how those hedge fund people can be. Anyway, change of plans. The symposium has been extended. How about you meet me in the city for dinner & drinks and we can make a weekend of it? Just ask that Julie girl to come over and watch the puppy for the weekend. Hope to see you later. Love you.

A Puppy WHIMPERS at the feet of Julie

JULIE

I did have other plans for my birthday, but I guess you're good company. After all, \$1000 for a weekend of work will buy me a nice present!

INT. KITCHEN - MOMENTS LATER

The kitchen speaker plays IT'S MY PARTY (and I'll cry if I want to) by Lesley Gore. Julie subtly moves to the music as she feeds the dog, until a CLATTER is heard outside.

She moves to the kitchen window and looks out to see what made the noise... BUZZZZ!

Julie jumps at the sound of her phone vibrating against a steel decorative dish. She looks to see who is calling. "Johnny" appears on the screen. She answers and returns to staring out the window.

JULIE

Hi babe! Sorry we had to cancel tonight's party.

JOHNNY

Who said the party was cancelled?

Julie, half jumping out of her skin, spins around to find JOHNNY (22), tall, dark, and modestly handsome, holding up a bottle of tequila as he swaggers over to hug her.

JULIE

You jerk... You know I hate surprises.

JOHNNY

You know I wouldn't leave you on your birthday!

JULIE

Yes, and I love you for it. But I wouldn't exactly call two people a party.

Walking in from the adjoining dining room, holding a couple of pizzas, and birthday cupcakes, JUDY and AMBER (22), short, identical twins, speak in unison.

JUDY & AMBER

That's where we come in!

JULIE

(drops to her knees and clutches her chest)
Bah! Where did you... How... What?

AMBER

Julie please, we weren't gonna let you and Johnny have all the fun tonight. Besides, we had the door code from the last time we were Mr. and Dr. Devlin's weekend caretakers.

JULIE

(putting the dog into its crate)
Awe guys. I love you. Thank you for making today special for me! Let's head downstairs, crack open the tequila, and get this party started!

INT. BASEMENT - Hours Later

Two slices of pizza lay next to a half-empty tequila bottle. Sounds of MUSIC & LAUGHTER fill the room.

JULIE

Turn off the music! I thought I heard the puppy barking. He only barks when people come over.

Sounds of BARKING and VOICES are heard upstairs. All four friends stare at each other, then at the food and drink strewn throughout the basement.

JULIE

No, No, No! The Devlin's plans must have changed again, Hide! I'll clean this up. Hurry!

Julie rushes around the room and makes quick work of the mess. BREAKING GLASS and VOICES are heard upstairs.

INT. KITCHEN - MOMENTS LATER

Julie creeps up the basement steps and peers into the kitchen. A male (40s), clad in all black, walks in from the dining room and approaches a similarly dressed female (40s), walking in from the foyer.

MALE ROBBER

Did you find it? It must be here somewhere.

INT. BASEMENT - MOMENTS LATER

Julie walks down the steps, careful not to make a sound. Johnny and the twins peek out from under the bar.

JULIE

It's not the Devlins. The house is being robbed!

The SQUEAK of the basement door sounds as the male robber walks down the steps. Julie grabs the house phone from the wall near the bar, joins her friends, and calls the police.

FEMALE ROBBER (O.S.)

Why would she be downstairs? Check upstairs.

The male robber ascends the stairs. Footsteps trail away. Julie's eyes bulge as she mouths "They know I'M here!"

Johnny glares at a signed baseball bat displayed on a shelf behind the bar. When he tries to pick it up, he finds it attached to a lever... A bookcase slides from the wall.

Johnny moves the bookcase further away revealing a room.

INT. CREEPY ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

The four friends rush into a large dark room.

AMBER

Shut the door! We should be safe in here.

JOHNNY

And by door, you mean the hidden bookcase leading to the creepy room? Sure no problem. I'm sure we will be safe in here...

JUDY

Great! Now I can't see a thing. Wait, I think I found a light switch.

Judy flips the switch and SCREAMS as the room illuminates in green light emitted from a large container filled with fluid. A half-dismembered body floats suspended by tubes.

JUDY

What is this place? I know Dr. Devlin is a Bio-Engineer or something, but this is unreal!

Johnny grabs a scalpel from a table of medical devices. And positions himself behind boxes stacked near the entrance.

JOHNNY

I'm sure those robbers heard Judy scream. You stand there and get them to come into the room, then I'll jump in and save the day.

Julie, shaking with fear, points behind Johnny. He looks over his shoulder towards the corner of the room. A hulking figure emerges from the darkness. Johnny is grabbed by a pair of massive hands and is drug into the shadows. They struggle, then an unsettling organic CRUNCH is heard.

Johnny's contorted body falls to the floor. His twisted head landing only a few feet from the girls.

The figure steps into the light. The BEAST stands 7ft tall and appears to be a patchwork of skin graphs and augmentations.

Amber shoves the bookcase open and the girls run out of the room as they try to escape with reckless abandon.

EXT. BACKYARD - MOMENTS LATER

The girls run out of the back door and behind the carriage house at the far end of the yard. After catching their breath, Julie and Amber realize Judy is missing!

They peek around the corner of the carriage house. A silhouette of Judy appears in the kitchen window. She grabs a large knife from the counter and tries to fend off the lumbering Beast as it pursues her. It grabs her by the arms, pulls, and sprays the room with Judy's blood.

Amber shouts with a muffled scream. Julie turns in despair, only to find Amber being held by one of the robbers!

Amber slams her foot against the leg of the male robber.

AMBER

Julie, run. Get help!

EXT. PARKING AREA - MOMENTS LATER

Julie runs from the carriage house to her car. She pats her pockets looking for her keys.

FEMALE ROBBER

Julie, where do you think you are going? The party is just getting started!

Julie picks up a curb stone and readies herself for a fight. A deep breathy moan rumbles from behind the robber. Julie's mouth falls agape, and her defensive stone drops as the Beast steps out from behind the female robber.

FEMALE ROBBER

Toby, no, no. That is no way to treat our friend.

The Female Robber removes the mask that had been obscuring her face. Julie gasps as she sees the face of Dr. DEVLIN.

DR. DEVLIN

Now where are my manners? Toby, please show Miss Julie back into the house. I feel today's festivities have been a bit too much for her.

Paralyzed with confusion and fear, Julie is helpless against Toby as he carries her into the house.

INT. CREEPY ROOM - MINUTES LATER

DR. DEVLIN (40s), walks around the creepy room wearing a red designer dress adorned with a medical smock and gloves. Julie lay strapped and gagged on a steel table. Toby devours the remaining birthday cupcakes in his enclosure.

DR. Devlin

Julie I am terribly sorry for all of this. I hear it's your birthday. I am afraid you will be the product of irony, and we will celebrate your day of birth, on the day you die.

Julie struggles to free herself from her bindings and silently screams through her gag.

DR. DEVLIN (CON'T)

I am sure this is not how you imagined celebrating, but we also didn't plan on having your friends ruin our robbery cover story. See my

son, Toby, was born with a rare genetic defect that hospitals are not equipped to handle. He grows at twice the rate of a normal child, but not all of his organs can maintain the same rate of cellular growth. Lucky for him, I have the skill set to replace his failing organs. My only dilemma, is securing the necessary resources. That is where you come in!

The basement door SQUEAKS open.

DR. DEVLIN (CON'T)

Ah, that must be Mr. Devlin. Todd, we are down here. Be a dear and get some towels. I am afraid it is going to get a bit messy.

DR. Devlin, pulls down her surgical face shield and adjusts the overhead light to focus on Julie's body.

DR. DEVLIN (CON'T)

By the way, I know you were only here for a few hours, but I must say, your skills as a caretaker were quite lacking. And, be reassured, I take no pleasure in hurting you. It's just that family comes first, and well, your organs are a perfect match for my little boy.

(a sheepish giggle turns into laughter)

Who am I kidding? I have been at this for over a decade. I do kind of enjoy it now.

The bookcase creaks further open.

DR. DEVLIN (CON'T)

It took you long enough my dear. Place the towels over on the bench. This shouldn't take long.

Dr. Devlin's eyes widen as she raises the bone saw and stares at Julie. CLANG. Dr. Devlin falls to the floor and Amber steps into the light holding a serving tray.

AMBER

I am sorry to inform you, but your husband has had an unfortunate accident!

Amber drops the tray and keeps a close eye on Toby as she works on freeing Julie from her restraints. POLICE SIRENS are heard nearing the house.

INT. FOYER - MOMENTS LATER

Julie and Amber open the front door to a pair of officers.

OFFICER 1

We received a strange call from this location.
What seems to be the problem?

Dr. Devlin staggers into the foyer in her red dress, blood trickling from the wound on her head.

DR. DEVLIN

Officer, help. These kids have trespassed onto
our property and assaulted my family!

OFFICER 2

Sir, they found a body in the back of the estate
near the carriage house.

OFFICER 1

Cuff 'em. Ladies, you're coming with us.

INT. JAIL CELL - NIGHT - HOURS LATER

Julie, using the dust on the barred moon-lit window, draws a birthday cupcake with her finger, then blows out the candle. She lays down on a bench and stares at the ceiling. A tear rolls down her cheek as IT'S MY PARTY (and I'll cry if I want to) by Leslie Gore plays down the hall.

Footsteps come towards her cell and stop in front of her door. Julie sits up unable to see the visitor in the dark.

DR. DEVLIN

Hello again Julie. I'm not done with you yet...

FADE OUT