

## **Listen Closely**

Don't believe everything you hear.  
It's not what you think

Written by  
(in alphabetical order)

Derek Lombardo  
Alicia Perrone  
Mario Sposato  
Samuel Viau

(Printed with the demonstration version of Fade In)

BLACK

The sound of a drill. It's loud.

After a moment, it stops. Then it starts again.

CUT TO:

INT. HOUSE - DAY

The bottom of the lock is being drilled onto the door. The top of the lock has already been drilled in.

CHARLIE (late 40s, clean-shaven, formal work clothes, coat) is the man who was drilling the lock on the door.

The drill is removed from the lock. Charlie places the drill next to him and stands up, going through his pockets.

The door is in front of a staircase, where Charlie's daughter, SADIE (13) is standing at the top of.

Sadie's looking down on her father, seeing the door with a sign of a large black skull at the top of it.

SADIE

Why are we getting the new door? I liked the other one.

CHARLIE

Don't worry, we won't have it long.

Charlie takes out a small black key from the back of his pocket. He kneels back down and locks the door using the key.

Sadie sees that the end of the key has the same skull logo as the one on the door.

Sadie's eyes are locked onto the key. From when her father takes it out of his pocket, to him locking the door with it, to him putting it back into his coat pocket.

Charlie gets up and goes up the stairs. He looks at his daughter.

CHARLIE (cont'd)

Just make sure to stay away from it.

Sadie watches her father go into his office, which is across from her bedroom door.

INT. SADIE'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Sadie finds herself in her bedroom, awakened by a nightmare. As she wakes up, there is a loud noise coming from down the hallway.

The walls in her bedroom are white and filled with poster of bands. It is dark. The only light in the room comes from a nightlight.

Sadie gets up to see what the noise was. Still nervous from her nightmare, she walks slowly towards the door. The floor creaks.

INT. HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Sadie quickly walks out of her bedroom and into the dark hallway. She looks around and notices the light in her father's office is turned on.

She approaches the door slowly, trying not to make any sound. Sadie hears mumbling coming from the office.

She approaches the door and almost leans on it to hear the conversation.

CHARLIE

Listen, I need to get rid of this Thing now. I can't keep it here forever.

Sadie pressed her ear onto the door.

CHARLIE (cont'd)

Okay, great. So we've trapped it, but can't get rid of it. That's wonderful. Really stellar work, Barry.

(pause)

So tell me, what am I supposed to do now?

(pause)

You've got to be screwing with me. There's not a chance in hell that this Thing is staying with me. This was your problem and it'll stay that way, believe me.

Sadie's eyes widen.

CHARLIE (cont'd)

I swear, that Thing better be gone by tomorrow night, Barry.

Sadie leans away from the door and knocks.

SADIE

Dad?

Sadie pushes the door open, revealing her father leaning on the desk.

INT. CHARLIE'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

Charlie turns his head, looking towards Sadie. His phone is in his hand.

CHARLIE

What?

SADIE

What happened? That call sounded serious.

CHARLIE

It's nothing, just work stuff. Don't worry about it. Everything will be better by tomorrow, trust me.

Sadie approaches her father and hugs him. Charlie smiles. At the same time, she is looking around the office, searching for his coat which contains the key to the door.

Sadie finds the coat on the coat hanger in the corner of the office. Bingo.

Sadie loosens her arms and ends the hug. Charlie kisses her forehead.

CHARLIE (cont'd)

Go back to bed. It's late.

Sadie turns and walks out of the office.

INT. HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Sadie walks past her bedroom and into her late brother's bedroom. There are colorful wooden letters hung onto the door: OLIVER

INT. OLIVER'S BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

The walls are of a dark gray color. Sports medals are hanging on the walls accompanied by bookshelves.

The room has been left untouched. The bed is made and everything is placed nicely. Pictures are sitting on the desk at the far end of the room.

Sadie watches the dark bedroom, waiting for something. She walks towards the bed and tucks herself under the covers.

Sadie closes her eyes and falls asleep.

INT. OLIVER'S BEDROOM - MORNING

Sadie wakes up from Oliver's bed, and stares at a wall. She is woken up by a loud exchange coming from downstairs.

INT. HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Sadie walks to the staircase and peeks around the corner, watching her parents. Charlie and Sadie's mother, NINA, are standing in front of the basement door.

NINA  
I'm done with all your bad choices.

CHARLIE  
This wasn't my choice.

NINA  
You could've refused the job for our daughter's safety.

CHARLIE  
I had no choice.

NINA  
I'm done with all your excuses.

Nina walks out of the front door, leaving Charlie and Sadie behind. Charlie grabs his head and crumbles against the basement door.

Charlie calms down a bit. He pulls out his phone and starts dialing a phone number. He quickly gets up and heads towards the stairs.

Sadie sees her father heading towards the stairs and bolts to her room.

INT. SADIE'S BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

Sadie runs into her room, staying near the door. She peeks out from around the corner and sees her father walk into his office.

He slams the door shut.

INT. HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Sadie walks out of her room, slowly approaching her father's office. Before she can make it, she overhears her father.

CHARLIE

I need this Thing out of my house.  
Now. It's affecting my personal life.  
I'm giving you until midnight to get  
it out of here.

Sadie hears a beep from her father's office. Her father's phone.

INT. SADIE'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Sadie is sleeping in her bed, facing away from her door.

Without warning, Sadie hears a loud, guttural scream coming from the basement door down the stairs.

Sadie jolts up from her bed to face the door, her face expressing pure panic and fear.

After the long scream, Sadie hears the same voice say a haunting sentence in her deceased brother's voice.

OLIVER (V.O.)

Help! You have to save me. I'm  
trapped in the basement.

Sadie jumps out from her bed and runs to the edge of the staircase to comprehend what she just heard.

OLIVER (V.O.) (cont'd)

The keys. You know where to find  
them. Hurry. You have to help me now.

Sadie, holding back tears from hearing her dead brother, quickly makes her way down the long corridor towards her father's office.

INT. CHARLIE'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

The door is mostly open so Sadie gets in without making a noise. Sadie pauses to look around and she sees her father's coat hanger in the corner of the office.

She then notices that her father is asleep at his desk. Sadie runs towards the coat, digging her hand into the pockets.

Sadie feels the key in one of the pockets. She grabs it and goes to make a run for it, but her hand was still in the coat pocket.

The coat hanger falls down onto the floor, creating a long BANG.

Charlie wakes up in shock. It takes him only seconds to realize Sadie's holding the keys to the basement door.

CHARLIE

What are you doing with those?

SADIE

You locked him down there!

Sadie starts running towards the office door.

Charlie tries to grab her over his desk and stumbles over it.

INT. HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Sadie heads down the corridor towards the staircase.

Charlie comes out of his office.

CHARLIE

Sadie! Whoever you think it is, it's not them!

Sadie turns the corner to the staircase. She pauses and looks down the corridor to her father running at her as fast as he can. She gasps and makes her way down the stairs.

CHARLIE (cont'd)

Don't open that door, Sadie! It isn't what you think!

OLIVER (V.O.)

Save me, Sadie!

Sadie finally reaches the door. Her father falls halfway down the stairs.

He looks up at his daughter and puts his hand out.

CHARLIE  
NO! DON'T!

Sadie turns the key. She opens the door.

She looks down the dark entrance to the basement.

Pitch black is all that's seen. A gust of wind is heard coming from the door.

Sadie's smile slowly fades into an expression of horror. Tears form in her eyes. Her father stands behind her with the same expression of horror on his face.

THE END