### CHRISTINE

I swear, I couldn't be alone in the same room with that thing for more than 5 minutes. Just how its eyes shifted back and forth. I don't know why it bothered me so much. It was just weird.

DANI That's why she put it in your room after you went off to college.

CHRISTINE Yep. So I'd have to look at it whenever I came home.

DANI You keep it?

#### CHRISTINE

Of course. Hung it in my kitchen. I couldn't bring myself to take it to Goodwill or put it up on eBay. I just try to ignore it for the most part.

(DANI shakes her head.)

CHRISTINE Hey, you want a beer, Dani? I got some in the cooler.

DANI Don't mind if I do.

> (DANI crosses over to the cooler and takes a bottle out of it. She sits on the ground next to CHRISTINE. CHRISTINE hands her a bottle opener. She takes it, cracks the bottle open, and starts drinking. She hands the opener back to CHRISTINE. After a moment, CHRISTINE decides she wants a beer, too, opens the cooler and cracks one open. She sits on the cooler. They watch the fire for a moment.)

CHRISTINE Maybe this was a bit much...

DANI ...really? You think?

CHRISTINE (with a shrug) It's just how I grieve.

DANI I remember. Like when Rudy died? Burned his doghouse down to the ground.

CHRISTINE

Hey. I loved that stupid pup.

DANI Mom and Dad were so pissed.

# CHRISTINE

They weren't pissed, they were just worried. 12 year old girls shouldn't be starting fires like that.

# DANI

You know, I'm pretty sure that's why they didn't let us have any more pets. They didn't know what you'd burn if something happened to them.

CHRISTINE

I don't know what I would've burned either.

DANI Did you burn anything when Dad died?

CHRISTINE Well, I couldn't burn the house, obviously.

DANI No.

### CHRISTINE

I kept it low key for him. Just took a few of his things—some of his favorite books, his fishing gear, his copy of Rolling Stones Sticky Fingers—and put them on the grill. I thought it was fitting. Dad loved to grill, you know. Mom didn't really approve of it all, but she let me do my thing. She didn't try and stop me.

DANI You should've invited me.

## CHRISTINE

Nah. I need to be alone when I do the burning. I just need that silence and time to reflect and say goodbye in my own way.

DANI Gotcha. Though, I kinda wish you wouldn't have burned that Stones record. It was autographed.

CHRISTINE It was?

DANI Yep. You could've made some good money off of that.

CHRISTINE Damn. Now you tell me. DANI Thought you knew.