

EXT. HILL IN A PASTURE - LATE NIGHT

The pasture is illuminated blue by the brilliant cool light of the moon as two silhouettes advance slowly up a small incline. One of the bodies stops abruptly.

SUMMER

I think I stepped in mud.

Josh looks back at Summer who is enjoying the adventure but not sure of the destination.

JOSH

That's not mud.

SUMMER

What else could it...

WE HEAR a COW BELLOW.

JOSH

Exactly. Come on, we're almost there.

Josh continues up the hill and Summer follows closely behind.

SUMMER

Gross. So are we going to be shot for being on this land?

JOSH

Not unless my grandfather's ghost is out.

SUMMER

This is your family's?

JOSH

My grandfather spent sixty years building it to keep the family together and in the year after he passed the family ripped it part.

SUMMER

Why would they sell it?

JOSH

Why do people do anything?

SUMMER

Good point. You should write about him for that assignment.

JOSH

No thanks. To him, caring for this land was more important than caring for his family.

They reach the top of a rolling hill

JOSH (CONT'D)

Alright. Look up.

Summer looks up and sees a sky sparkling with stars.

SUMMER

Incredible. You can't see this in the city.

JOSH

Makes you feel small.

SUMMER

Makes me feel free.

Josh looks down at Summer staring at the stars. She sees the world differently and he likes what she sees. She catches him staring and he looks back up.

JOSH

Is it true you went to that school where they had the shooting?

Summer is shaken by the direct comment.

SUMMER

Yeah.

JOSH

That must have been crazy.

SUMMER

Surreal. It's why we moved here. My mom thinks she can run away from it all.

JOSH

Did you know him?

SUMMER

No, but I knew who he was. Seemed like your average quiet kid.

JOSH

I guess there was something they didn't know.

SUMMER

I guess. Can we change the subject?

JOSH

Sure. Sooo who are you going to write about for that English assignment?

SUMMER

Maybe my brother.

JOSH

What did he do?

SUMMER

He took care of me when no one else did.

JOSH

That's cool.

SUMMER

I hate that expression. "That's cool." "I got into college." "That's cool." "I like your shirt". "That's cool". What does it mean anyway?

JOSH

I get it. I think that is very thoughtful what you said about your brother.

SUMMER

See, what you said actually means something.

Josh REALLY likes the way she thinks too.

SUMMER (CONT'D)

Do you have siblings?

JOSH

I do. I mean I did. He was killed in a farm accident.

SUMMER

Sorry.

JOSH

I hate that expression. What the hell does it mean? It wasn't your fault.

SUMMER

Good point. I am saddened by the loss of your brother. Are you okay?

JOSH

I appreciate it and I'm okay today. Sometimes it gets to me. Shouldn't have even happened.

SUMMER

What do you mean?

JOSH

He gave up a football scholarship to stay home because he was the oldest male.

SUMMER

Must have been rough on your family. Loss changes people.

JOSH

My mom couldn't forgive my father so she left. She remarried nine months later. I haven't talked to her in years. It's like the past never happened.

Summer ponders this idea.

SUMMER

Some people think it's easier to erase the past while others can't get over it and just relive it everyday.

JOSH

All I know is, everything can be broken. Family, love, faith.

Summer looks at him.

JOSH (CONT'D)

Man, you must think I need therapy.

SUMMER

We all do. It's just harder for some of us to let go.

Summer takes off running down the hill towards a pond.

JOSH

What are you doing?