The Vacation

Written by : Karihwenhawi Kirby

### EXT. HOME. AFTERNOON

PUSH across a leaf strewn lawn with dogs eating at an old carcus. The home is worn down by disrepair, like every other home in the neighbourhood.

Clouds begin to accumulate in the sky as a woman (35) exits the home with suitcases. She throws the bags in the trunk and holds her hand out to feel any raindrops.

She walks back into the home and waits at the entrance.

### VANESSA

Alright, Reagan it's time to go. we don't got all day.

A young woman (19) with long black hair and tanned complexion annoyingly prances down the stairs to meet her mother. She passes her mother and rolls her eyes.

Vanessa turns to follow her daughter to the old Toyota red pickup, takes a deep breath in and exhales.

INT. TRUCK. AFTERNOON

They enter the truck, both having to jump because they are too short. Vanessa closes her door, and Reagan slams hers shut. Vanessa glances at her daughter.

### VANESSA

You know you don't have to act like a big brat. I'm trying to do something nice for us by planning this getaway.

### REAGAN

You know, MOTHER maybe I would have just been happy staying at home where you get drunk and leave me alone.

Reagan turns her head to face the window and crosses her arms. She slides down the chair in order to hide herself.

# VANESSA

YOU CAN'T TALK TO ME LIKE THAT... we're going to his home and spending time together. Thats it.

She starts the truck, and begins to drive.

Reagan puts her earphones in and the song Hotel California by The Eagles begins playing and watches the rain drip down the

window. They continue to drive.

EXT. NEIGHBORHOOD. LATER THAT DAY

The truck makes its way into the community where the rental home is. They approach a gate before entering. An older gentleman dressed in white approaches the vehicle

MAN

Welcome, how may I assist you?

VANESSA

Uh, I rented a home for a few days.

She opens the side drawer and scrambles through papers to find the names of the owners.

VANESSA

Ah hah, here is it. Umm its the Smith residents.

The man glance at both women and smirks. An ominous look is seen in his eyes.

MAN

oh yes, it is a beautiful residence. you will have a wonderful time. Enjoy yourselves.

He buzzes the gate open and they drive in. He watches as they leave and the gate shuts behind them.

REAGAN

Frick, well that wasn't weird at all.

VANESSA

Maybe he's a little off, you know like your cousin.

REAGAN

Well which one?

She giggles.

As they are driving through the neighbourhood, they realize all the houses look similar to one another. White picket fences, perfectly mowed lawns, they were all perfect.

REAGAN

This is way different from the rez.

Vanessa amazed at what she is seeing

VANESSA

It's beautiful.

Reagan looks at her in confusion.

EXT. RENTAL HOME. LATER THAT DAY

The truck pulls up to a beautiful victorian style home. The home is an all white mansion with incredible architecture. A couple dressed in all white, are waiting to greet them at the door.

Vanessa is amazed and quickly gets out of the truck. Reagan, feeling uneasy stays in the truck and examines the home from a far.

She pulls out her phone.

REAGAN

Damn it, you'd think for a rich neighbourhood they'd at least have good wifi.

She rolls her eyes and proceeds to exit the truck.

They both walk up towards the couple.

COUPLE

Hello, welcome to our home. I am Gueneth, and this is my husband Eric. We are delighted to have you here.

VANESSA

Oh, well were happy to be here. This is my daughter Reagan.

Occupied, Reagan is watching the neighbour clean her lawn. She notices the woman wearing turtle earrings with specific coloured beads that look familiar.

VANESSA

Reagan?

Reagan loses her focus.

REAGAN

yeah yeah, hi nice to meet you.

She walks off and heads toward the neighbour.

VANESSA

I apologize, ever since her dad passed she's been a bit hostile... hun can you come back here please?

GUENETH

My dear, it is no worry. We can let her explore the grounds. It is a very safe neighbourhood, we all watch out for one another.

They proceed to enter the house.

EXT. NEIGHBORS. SAME DAY

Reagan walks towards the neighbours home. She passes the side of the home and hears screaming coming from inside. She crouches down and looks inside the fogged up window.

Blood marks are spread on the walls, and the room is filled with rusty cages with chains fit for a human. She tries to look closer into the room.

A woman approaches behind her.

WOMAN

Hey! What do you think you're doing?

Reagan quickly gets up and brushes the dirt off her knees.

REAGAN

Im sorry, I thought I heard something.

WOMAN

You know you shouldn't be snooping around. Figures, you people don't have any manners.

REAGAN

You people?

WOMAN

Yes... savages.

Reagan is able to get a good look at the earrings and realizes they were ones her cousin loved to wear.

The Smiths are seen exiting the back of the home and see Reagan with the neighbour. Before Reagan can reply, she is interrupted by Gueneth. GUENETH

Mrs. McGee, how nice to see you! I see you've met our guests.

Mrs. McGee and Gueneth both look at one another with a secretive stare.

MRS. MCGEE

My apologies, I thought you were an intruder.

Reagan walks towards her mother and they enter the home. Gueneth looks at Mrs. Smith with a smile but then quickly changes to an evil unimpressed look.

They couple enters the home.

INT. RENTAL HOME. BEDROOM

The Smiths carry the bags up to the bedroom and place them in the rooms that they will be staying. The rooms are vintage, with big portraits of white colonists on the walls.

GUENETH

All of our contact information can be found in the kitchen drawer. We have another home down the road which we will be staying. Don't hesitate to call if you need anything.

VANESSA

Thank you so much, or as we say Nia:wen.

Gueneth gets an uncomfortable look on her face, turns around, and leaves with her husband.

Reagan jumps on her mothers bed and stares up at the ceiling.

REAGAN

That neighbour has someone in her basement.

VANESSA

What?

REAGAN

She has cages and chains. I heard screaming.

VANESSA

You're being irrational.

REAGAN

She had the exact same earrings as cousin Joelle.

Vanessa stops unpacking.

VANESSA

Don't.

REAGAN

Just because the cops never found her, it doesn't mean she's gone. You know damn well the cops don't give a rats ass about us.

VANESSA

I said STOP.

REAGAN

You never talk about our culture, why are you hiding? You act like you're white.

Reagan storms out and goes to her room. Vanessa continues to fold her clothes and holds the cross around her neck.

INT. BEDROOM. EVENING

Reagan enters her bedroom, and adamantly looks around her room. She opens the curtains to find that her window has bars over it, making escape impossible.

REAGAN

What the fuck.

She can see Mrs. McGee's bedroom from her window, she sees Mrs. McGee enter her bedroom. Reagan hides behind the thin curtains.

She glances, vision hindered by the drapery.

Gueneth suddenly enters the bedroom with her husband and begins beating Mrs. McGee with a bat with needles embedded in it.

REAGAN

Gasps. oh my god.

She grabs her cellphone to call 911 but there is still no service. She looks back up, and Gueneth is looking right at her. Reagan ducks and runs into her mothers room.

REAGAN

Mom, mom!

She sees her mother passed out on the bed with a bottle of wine half empty and stained glass in her hand.

REAGAN

are you serious?

She taps her mothers cheek and tries to wake her up.

REAGAN

Damn it.

She picks up her mothers suitcase and throws it on the bed. She opens each drawer and puts the clothing in the suitcase without folding them.

Gueneth approaches behind her and hits her on the head. Reagan is unconscious.

END OF ACT ONE

### ACT TWO

Reagan slowly opens her eyes to see that her hands and feet are tied up with rope to a chair. She is sitting in front of what looks like a projector screen. The room is dark, and eerie. The echoing sounds of nothingness haunt her.

She looks to her left to see her mother beginning to wake up. The Smiths enter dressed in all white but wearing traditional jewellery.

Reagan, frightened... begins to speak.

REAGAN

what... what the fuck is this?

Her mother, begins to weep.

Gueneth approaches Vanessa and caresses her face.

GUENETH

shh shh, everything will be alright. You see, we are the superior beings. we have been here since the beginning of time, not you hooligans.

Her tone begins to get more aggressive

GUENETH

Back in the day, your mother used to be one of our little experiments. She thought we wouldn't find her....

REAGAN

mom... what is she talking about

Vanessa, who is still weeping says nothing and bobs her head no.

Gueneth grabs her, turns her around with the back facing Reagan and lifts up her shirt

VANESSA

Noo, dont do this please please.

When Gueneth lifts up Vanessa's shirt, her back is filled with torture scars and burns.

Gueneth puts her shirt back and kicks her chair around.

REAGAN

Mom?

Reagan eyes begins to fill with tears.

As soon as Vanessa is about to speak, Gueneth interrupts.

GUENETH

You see my darling, your mother was one of the attendees at the Residential School my mother ran. Your mother unfortunately escaped, and when the church was shut down, my mother was killed along with it. Your mother deserved all the torture she obtained, I'm actually... a little surprised she survived haha.

You were one of her favourites... when you escaped I think the pain of losing you was far greater than that of dying. Now, her daughter will be the one who gets the revenge.

VANESSA

I dont understand, how could you have found me?

GUENETH

You think that just by acting white you're invisible to who you really are. no honey, you reek of Indian Savage blood. It was easy, I have been looking for you, and one of my agents saw you out one morning. I made an ad to rent this place out and I knew you would bite onto it. So greedy tsk tsk tsk.

Gueneth slowly walks around them both, and opens a steel door in front of them. Mr Smith grabs Reagan and brings her into the room where they are tied to a pole.

REAGAN

Don't fucking touch me.. get your hands off of me.

VANESSA

Don't touch my daughter.

She runs towards Reagan but Gueneth grabs her and punches her

in the face. She is then tied up to a pole on the other side of the room.

REAGAN

what are you going to do? Kill us?

GUENETH

giggles

I'm going to do what I do with all my other savages.

she winks and closes the door. The lights are flickering only enough to see each others faces.

VANESSA

I'm... I'm so sorry honey. I thought this would have been good for you and me. I just wanted us to bond instead of fighting all the time.

REAGAN

How come you never told me?

VANESSA

I was ashamed, I went through a lot when I had you and never fully processed what had happened. I didn't want you to know because it could have triggered the inter generational trauma. This is why you're so stubborn, and strong.

Reagan begins to cry.

REAGAN

I'm sorry mom, I'm sorry for everything. I never understood why you hid your identity, but now I know why.

VANESSA

We are not dying in here.

Vanessa wiggles her feet around and is able to loosen the rope ties. She bends down on the ground and begins to move her arms back and forth to deteriorate the rope. It starts to slip and she is able to untie the loosened knot.

She runs over to Reagan and unties her knots.

Footsteps begin to get closer.

They both pretend to be strapped back to the poles. Gueneth comes back in with a tray full off surgical tools. She grabs a knife and approaches Reagan with a smirk on her face.

GUENETH

Your turn. I want your mother to watch you die first.

Reagan kicks Gueneth in the skin, grabs the knife and cuts open her arm. Vanessa grabs a needle from the table and as Mr Smith is approaching, stabs him in the neck and injects him with the fluid. He begins to seize and falls to the floor foaming at the mouth.

They both rub out the door and close it on Gueneth.

GUENETH

NOO, you fucking bitch.

She crawls over to her husband and puts her hand on his cheek.

GUENETH

You're a disgrace, so weak.

She gets up and opens the door.

INT. BASEMENT. EARLY MORNING

The sun rising and beaming rays into the basement. The dust glimmers like glitter when the sun hits it.

Reagan and Vanessa run down a hallway trying to find the way out. They come across a room with a red door. Reagan opens it and they go inside. They turn the lights on and see a room with blood all over the walls, and cages with chains to fit humans. Candles are spread all around the room along with pictures of the community dressed in all white.

REAGAN

This is a cult.

Her voice quivers.

At the end of the room, framed pictures hang on the wall. They look familiar to Reagan so she approaches.

The pictures are the victims of past kidnappings and tortures. The members are seen holding up chopped off heads and body parts.

Reagan eyes widen and she holds her mouth so she can't make noise.

REAGAN

mom.. thats Joelle.

She points at the picture of a young girl with the earrings the neighbour was wearing. She is in the cage, beaten while the members smile with knives in their hands.

They both begin to cry. Vanessa breaks the frame and puts the picture in her bra. She firmly grips onto the piece of glass.

The door swings open, Gueneth is standing in the door frame the light hitting her back makes her figure look ghostly.

GUENETH

I knew you'd find it.

She walks towards them, holding a knife.

Reagan and Vanessa back away into the wall

VANESSA

Well, you weren't very clever with the red door. its a bit obvious don't you think?

GUENETH

Shut up.. shut up.. shut up.

As she begins to approach one of the cages, Vanessa rushes towards Gueneth and fights with her to get into the cage. Vanessa hits Gueneths head onto the bars and throws her inside. She closes the gate, turns towards Reagan, and looks down to find an oozing stab wound on her left lower abdomen. Gueneth continues to kick the cage and Reagan punches her in the nose, knocking her out.

REAGAN

Mom, we need to go right now.

Vanessa stares at Gueneth as if she is in a trance.

REAGAN

mom.. right now.

She grabs her mothers hand and drags her out of the room. They run through several dark hallways, leaving a trace of blood from her mother's wound.

### INT. HALLWAY. MORNING

Vanessa stumbles to the ground from blood loss, Reagan takes off her plaid long sleeve and ties it around her mothers waist. Regan sees that her mother is still holding onto the glass. She holds onto the wound and they continue to walk down the hallway. The lights flicker and a shadow is seen at the end of it. Gueneth stands at the end of the hallway with a bloody nose holding onto a set of keys.

Gueneth runs towards them in full speed, Reagan grabs a hold of her before she could reach her mother and pulls her to the ground. Gueneth gets on top of her and starts punching her with the keys interlocked between her fingers. She is losing blood, her face is bloody and swollen. Gueneth begins to strangle Reagan and she is gasping for air.

Vanessa gets up off the floor, stands behind Gueneth and profusely stabs her in the throat. Gueneth holds onto her wound, gasping for air. The blood continues to ooze from her neck, leaving her lifeless body on the cement floor.

Vanessa picks Reagan up, they grab the keys, and head upstairs.

INT. BATHROOM. SAME DAY

Vanessa and Reagan are sitting in the bathroom cleaning the blood off themselves. Reagan holds a pack of ice to her face to stop the swelling.

Reagan looks down at her mothers arm that is still oozing profusely.

#### REAGAN

Let me take a look at that.

She grabs her mothers arm.

## REAGAN

There has to be some type of first aid in this house. I need to hurry and patch you up so we can get out of here.

Reagan rummages through the cupboards and comes across a first aid kit. She takes out the stitches and sanitizes her mothers arm.

VANESSA

Ouch!

REAGAN

Stay still, it'll only hurt for a minute.

VANESSA

Where did you learn this?

REAGAN

Dad taught me.

VANESSA

I guess I wasn't the best mom I could have been to you. Your father practically raised you. I was there, but I was absent.

REAGAN

Well, you're here now.

She finishes stitching her up and they embrace one another. They head downstairs to leave the home.

INT. FRONT ENTRANCE. MID DAY

Vanessa opens the curtains and sees the neighbours outside watching the home. They look confused, and upset. Vanessa crouches back down.

REAGAN

What's going on?

VANESSA

They know something is wrong. Were surrounded. Gonna have to make a run for it.

They get up slowly, open the door, and run as fast as they could to the truck.

The neighbours see them escaping and try to stop them.

The truck pulls away and breaks the entrance gate open, leaving the neighbourhood in shock.

INT. TRUCK. AFTERNOON

The sun in shining, and the radio is playing "Hotel California" by the Eagles. They begin to head home, Reagan is

looking straight ahead instead of listening to her headphones.

REAGAN

What now?

VANESSA

We tell the community and tear that place down.

She grabs he daughters hand and squeezes it tight.

EXT. HOME. AFTERNOON

They arrive back in the community and park at the council building.

Vanessa and Reagan storm into the council hall and discover that they are having a community meeting.

CHIEF

What is the meaning of this?

COUNCILMAN

Holy shit, what happened to you guys? Did the Rez dogs get you?

The audience laughs.

REAGAN

We need your help. We discovered whats been happening to our people. They're being taken and killed by Cult members up north in a gated community.

VANESSA

Heres proof.

She holds up the picture of Joelle.

The crowd gasps, Joelle's parents begin to cry.

COMMUNITY MEMBER

What if we call the police ?

COMMUNITY MEMBER 2

You think they're gonna help us? They want us gone.

The crowd begins to get wild.

CHIEF

Settle down, Settle down. Were going to settle this ourselves. We're going to stop them ourselves.

COMMUNITY MEMBER

How?

CHIEF

Just follow me. Meet at 6pm back here. Thats when we leave.

The community members begin to yell and they leave the community hall.

EXT. HOME. 5:45

Reagan and Vanessa get ready to head back.

REAGAN

Why are we going back there? what if we get captured again?

She begins to bite the inside of her mouth with anxiety.

VANESSA

You'll be safe, were having a peaceful protest. its to show them who we are... human beings.

EXT. COUNCIL HALL. 6PM

The chief stands in front of the building wearing his traditional regalia. Everyone is dressed in regalia, as if to attend ceremony.

CHIEF

No harm will be done to those people, even if they deserve it. Creator has a plan for them. We must stand together, give thanks together, and show them who we are.

They cannot steal our people and expect to get away with it. We have been here since time and memorial, we will continue to stand. THIS IS THE BEGINNING OF OUR REVOLUTION.

Everyone cheers.

FADE TO BLACK

The end.