

Dust, dirt, debris, clothing and banners fly everywhere.

All we can hear is the flutter of paper.

Emma lays still, a few feet from the train.

CUT TO:

BLACK

We hear the chaotic sounds of frantic neighbors and faintly, a child's voice.

After a beat,

Emma's dirt covered eyes slowly open.

It takes a moment, but when they open completely,

Jason Steinberg's angelic face stares down at her. Emma takes in every inch of him as the dust and morning sun halo behind him.

SUDDENLY,

RON STEINBERG (40) pushes Jason out of the way, and Louise and Ron's face fill the screen. Both are out of breath as they hover over her and blurt out at the same time.

LOUISE/RON

Oh my god, are you alright?! Don't move!
Stay still...

Emma, still in shock, flickers her eyes again, cranes her neck and soaks in the people. She can't take her eyes off Jason Steinberg, standing at the nose of the caboose.

Then, as she attempts to rise, Emma dizzies and wobbles.

Ron places his finger on Emma's neck to feel a pulse.

Emma shivers at the touch of another human being.

RON

Your heart is pounding.

More NEIGHBORS and CHILDREN pour in from the side gate.

Emma's head continues to dart back and forth, overwhelmed by all the people in her backyard.

Louise leans in over Emma,

LOUISE

Shhhh. Calm down, calm down. Ron, should someone call Doctor Ellis?

RON

Can you move your fingers and toes?

Louise looks down and sees the ring on Emma's finger.

The crowd and the chatter around Emma grows, her face gets whiter and whiter. The noose tightens.

OFF-SCREEN we hear people wondering who Emma is.

Emma wiggles her toes and fingers, tries to stand up, then wobbles. Louise grabs her by the arm and gently sits her back down.

LOUISE

Oh no you don't, you're going to stay right here.

RON

You're pretty banged up, why don't you let us care for you.

LOUISE

That horrible noise. I'll never ever forget that horrible noise.

RON

We thought you were a goner. You're lucky to be alive.

On "alive," Emma raises her head and soaks it all in.

She can only see bits of the scene from her vantage point; legs of strangers, the laundry strewn everywhere, glimpses of part of the train, kids feet running and people standing on her now damaged porch.

The crowd becomes more and more animated.

Emma's eyes are spinning, she starts to hyperventilate.

RON (CONT'D)

Could everyone please step back, she needs some air.

Louise leans in to Emma and they have a private moment.

LOUISE

My name is Louise, I live next door. Are you staying here, with John?

Emma stares at Louise.

Jason runs up to Ron.

LOUISE (CONT'D)

(to Jason)

It's okay honey, no one got hurt.

RON

We really should get Doctor Ellis here.

Emma, still dazed, stands upright. She sways and almost falls back down. Louise grasps Emma's arm as Emma's eyes dart back and forth.

Emma takes a step towards the house and Louise lets go.

Jason steps in between Emma and the house, blocking her path.

JASON

Were you afraid?

Jason smiles as he takes Emma's hand.

SNAP

BUCK LEWIS, an elderly man with a camera, captures the weighty image of woman, child and destruction.

Emma stares down at Jason.

LOUISE

Jason, why don't you run inside and get a chair.

JASON

Yes mommy.

A few on-lookers congregate behind Louise.

LOUISE

(to Emma)

I don't mean to be rude, but how do you know John? Are you family?

Emma then utters her first words.

EMMA
(softly)
I live here.

Louise, dissatisfied with her answer, glances at Emma's hands and sees the wedding ring.

LOUISE
Are you his wife?

Emma's body tightens as she watches Jason stride towards the back door, and the sanctity of the Skillpa house.

Jason jumps onto the porch, hits a plank, falls, scrapes his knee and starts to cry.

Ron rushes to tend to his son.

Emma pushes past everyone, and is met by Ron on the porch.

RON
I almost forgot, where's John?

Emma looks up, her eyes become hollow.

She disappears into the house.

SLAM

The back door closes.

CLANK

The lock turns.

INT. SKILLPA HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - MORNING

Emma stands in one place for a beat, hyperventilating.

She catches her breath, then hustles to the front door, locks it, and circles the entire first floor checking to see if all of the already closed drapes are closed.

She looks to the clock - 8:05

Emma scurries into the kitchen.

JUMP CUT TO:

JOHN'S BREAKFAST PLATE HITS THE DINING ROOM TABLE --

Emma quickly covers the breakfast with another plate, then marches back into the kitchen.

With shaky determination, she quickly writes out a note.

INT. SKILLPA HOUSE - JOHN'S BEDROOM - MORNING

We TILT UP from Emma's clothes strewn all over the floor. John calmly ties his tie and puts on his watch, unaware of the chaos and noise in the backyard.

Suddenly,

CHILD (O.S.)

Wooooooow!

John, curious, exits.

EXT. SKILLPA HOUSE - BACKYARD - MORNING

The back door cracks open and John reveals himself.

He is speechless at the sight of the caboose and the crowd that continues to grow in his backyard.

RON (O.S.)

Johnny, you okay?

John steps forward and, unbeknownst to him, almost hits the broken plank with his foot.

Jason, with a band-aid on his knee, climbs up on the train and plays. Ron steps up on the porch.

RON (CONT'D)

Another ten feet and your house would have been a goner.

Louise takes John by the arm and leans into him.

LOUISE

(softly)

I'll drop by while you're at work and check in on your lady friend.

RON

Did you get married John?

JOHN

(not listening)

My breakfast is getting cold.