

# **The Journey - The Man**

## The Man

The fragileness of dreams. Wandering ahead without asking. Fearing getting a truthful answer.

Repeating the repetitive. Never look back. There are only memories and ashes.

Promise you won't hesitate. The dream is just out of reach. Soon. The Turning Point.

I promise.

Remember. To survive is a nightmare. But the fear of waking up is greater.

The Mother – I don't know the meaning of the word any longer. To love? But yes, I believe so.

The Daughter – Sick, maybe dying? If only we'll make it through and everything will be fine. It has to.

The Stranger – He came lonely in the night and his words gave birth to the Turning Point in our dreams.

## Scene 1 – The Velorail

A barren winter landscape. Four on a journey. Silence, loneliness and desolation. Metal wheels against a rusty track and an eternal pendulum motion.

### **Scene instruction**

4 monologues.

The following order:

1. The Man
2. The Mother
3. The Stranger
4. The Daughter

Your monologue:

Tell about how everything will be fine when you get to the Turning Point. Tell about how the Stranger has depicted the Turning Point. About safety, comfort, warmth and the feeling of home.

## Scene 2 – An Abandoned Road Restaurant

Everything is shattered. Starving they seek food. No luck today. The Stranger finds an old gramophone. The Daughter coughs blood.

### **Scene instruction**

Gaming scene

Everyone sits and mixes silence with small talk. When the Man raises the other stop to play and listens to his inner thoughts. When the Stranger begins to talk about Turning Points the others stop talking. The scene is ending when he falls silent.

Your task:

Will the Daughter make it? What are we going to do if she doesn't? Poor little girl.

## Scene 3 – The School

You felt the sense of smoke in distance. You knew it wasn't safe. The famine forced you. Like rats in the sewer you sneaked across the parking lot which once was black. There were people here. The chimney smoke did not lie.

### **Scene instruction**

Storytelling monologues

1. The Mother
2. The Man
3. The Daughter
4. The Stranger

Your monologue

When you see it fit interrupt the Mother's monologue about her description of the school. You start describing how you reach a large kitchen. You see stainless metal tables. There hang shelves filled with skulls on the walls. Black cryptic signs. Darkness. Smells of tar. Limbs hanging on large hooks. A large saucepan is boiling. The fridge room's door is locked but you break the chain. A horrific odor hits your nostrils. You vomit. Your eyes get used to the darkness. Eyes look back at you. People in rows. People in chains. Emaciated. People without arms or legs. They start crying to you. Louder and louder for each moment that passes. You panic and run as fast as you can out and away from the school.

## Scene 4 – The Railway Wagon (The Bonfire)

A rusty abandoned railway wagon. Exhausted but safe. For now. A fire made out of leaves and bark burns without giving any heat.

### **Scene instructions**

Everybody plays. Taciturn. Shaken over what's happened. After a while the Stranger tells about himself.



## Scene 5 – The Railway Wagon (Dreams)

Drops of rain coming through the roof. Thin blankets and a thinner sleep.

### **Scene instructions**

Monologues

1. The Daughter
2. The Mother

## Scene 6 – The Dugout

Shards of tears. Lost and tired. A shelter under a bridge. Just close your eyes for a moment. Are we ever getting there?

### **Scene instructions**

Monologue

1. The Man

Your instruction:

Fear of the truth. The doubt in you grows. Echoing questions. Unanswered. What does the Stranger want from us? Where is he taking us? Who is he?

## Scene 7 – The Car Cemetery

Frozen rivers of metal and rust. Black rigid corpses. An aorta of lost life. Killed by fire. The Mother throws up. The Man looks away. The Journey is turning.

### **Scene instructions**

Conversation between the Man and the Stranger as a monologue.

1. The Man
2. The Stranger

Your monologue:

You describe the conversation between you and the Stranger. You are tired and pissed off. You question the Stranger. Why aren't we reaching the Turning Point? Does it even exist? Was it all just a lie? He is quiet and stares blankly at you. No answers are given.

When the Stranger sees it fit he will interrupt your monologue and continue to describe the conversation.

## Scene 8 – Under a Tarpaulin

The cold leaves no one untouched. The food is almost out. A leaky tarpaulin is keeping out the night.

### **Scene instructions**

Firstly a scene between the Man and the Mother. The Stranger participates as a shadow over the Man's shoulder.

This is followed by a monologue by the Daughter..

Your instruction:

You are in the claws of the Stranger. You will try to persuade the Mother to let the Stranger have sex with her. The Stranger will bait and push you as a shadow. You find this extremely hard but the fear of the Stranger is greater. When she's agreed your part of the scene is over.

## Scene 9 – A Cold Dawn

Everything is quiet. Not even the wind is heard.

### **Scene instructions**

Monologue by the Man.

Instruction:

You describe how you tenderly and soft make love to the Mother. You beg her for forgiveness, again and again. Finally she looks up at you and you see the Daughter staring at you. She says

“I don’t want to die.”

In her eyes you see yourself. You are the Stranger.

## Scene 10 – The Great Dam

An endless mirror of dark water. Four shadows. Lost and tired.

### **Scene instructions**

Gaming scene. You look out over the never ending dam. Only still water. A word here and there breaks the silence. The scene ends with the Stranger rises and says something.



## Scene 11 – The Icy Creek

A frozen vein through the snow. Chilled, lifeless.

The Man takes the Daughter away from the bridge.

### **Scene instructions**

A scene between the Man and the Daughter.

Your instruction:

Shamefully look at the Daughter. The scene is over when she says something. You sit still while the music is played.

## Scene 12 – The Lodge

A few days passes. The wind outside increases. The snow falls. In the glade a log cabin. Tin cans with food. Mostly rusted. Blankets and sleeping bags.

The Daughter is very ill.

### **Scene instructions**

Monologues

1. The Mother
2. The Stranger

## Scene 13 – Alone

The snow falls heavily. The cold has been shut out. The bucket has an ice coating. One morning the Stranger has suddenly disappeared.

### **Scene instructions**

A scene between the Mother and the Man.

Your instruction:

The Mother tries to persuade you to run away. You don't dare to. She destroys the gramophone. You stay.

## Scene 14 – The Story

The snow falls. A caressing hand. A few whispering words. Promise me that everything will be fine.

### **Scene instructions**

Scene between the Mother and the Daughter.

Scene 15 – Snowed in

A prison of ice and snow. The food is out. The Daughter is very weak.

**Scene instructions**

Scene between the Daughter and the Man.

Your instruction:

The Daughter begs you to kill her. You hardly answer her. You are enticed to finish her suffering. But you don't. You don't dare to.

## Scene 16 – A Beloved Reunion

Torn apart by hunger. Seeing things that doesn't exist. What is the truth? Is it a nightmare? The door is wide open. The Stranger is back.

### **Scene instructions**

Monologue by the Stranger

## Scene 17 – Empty Pantry

The water is not filling up. The panic is growing. The Daughter is dying.

### **Scene instructions**

A gaming scene between the Mother, the Stranger and the Man. The Daughter is a shadow.

Your instruction:

Introvert. You are out of energy. Sit mostly quiet. No decision is made.

## Scene 18 – A Horrific Decision

Sometimes there is no turning back. Then you have to do it. Even if it hurts.

### **Scene instructions**

Monologues

1. The Mother
2. The Daughter

## Scene 19 – The Flight Plan

It's dark outside. The wind screams and tears. There is no turning back now.

### **Scene instructions**

Scene between the Man and the Mother.

Your instruction:

The Mother tries to convince you to run away without the Daughter. The scene ends with you consenting.

## Scene 20 – The Escape

Rushes through the night. Snowdrifts and thorns. Tears apart, rips apart. Death is just behind.

### **Scene instructions**

### **Storytelling monologues:**

1. The Mother
2. The Man
3. The Stranger

Your instruction:

When you see it fit you interrupt the Mother's dialogue. You describe how you reach an icy lake. You have to cross it. Yet you doubt. The lake awaits you, ominous. As if hungrily it has always waited for you. Slowly you approach the slippery ice. It creaks and makes sounds under your feet. A hungry monster waits under the white mirror. You're walking further and further out. Step by step the darkness surrounds you. Every inch brings you closer to the lake's depth. Suddenly you go through the ice. A paralyzing feeling hits your chest. You hear the woman cries your name. The lungs fill with water and you fight for your life.

## Scene 21 – The Reprimand

The lodge is in shade. Heavy heaving breaths from the darkness. Soaked shattered dreams that await punishment. To do right what was done wrongly. The time has come.

### **Scene instruction**

### **Monologues:**

1. The Stranger
2. The Daughter

## Scene 22 – The Murder

A tiny sparrow with a broken wing. Pale, soft, thin and feverish. Blood coming from mouth and nostrils. Death is maybe days away, or a second.

### **Scene instruction**

Scene between the Stranger and the Daughter. The Stranger kills the Daughter.

## Scene 23 – The Last Supper

The hunger tears them apart. Is it night or day? The smell of boiled meat makes their head rush. The table is set. Everybody eats. The Mother throws up.

### **Scene instruction**

Scene between the Stranger, the Mother and the Man. Everybody sits at the table. The Stranger is in a good mood. The Daughter is a shadow.

Your instruction:

You reluctantly eat. To survive.

## Scene 24 – The Funeral

Three guises in the falling snow. A tarpaulin is lowered in a well. An end of a beginning.

### **Scene instruction**

Scene between the Stranger, the Mother and the Man. Everybody sits quietly. Each one stands up one at the time and share their inner thoughts.

When so is done the Daughter shares her last thoughts.

Your instruction

Share your thoughts around the Daughter and her death.

## Scene 25 – Goodbye

For the first time it is above zero. The food is out and the bell tolls. The lodge is emptied on life. The ones who are not fully dead are just a breath away. Time to go.

### **Scene instruction**

Firstly a scene between the Stranger and the Mother. The Man listens quietly.

After that a scene between the Mother and the Man.

Finally a monologue by the Man.

Your instruction:

The Mother tells you she must leave you. You look away. You won't give her your consent. Only silence.

You start your monologue by rising up. You describe how you see them disappear through the woods, just as your life vanish from you when you starve to death in a lodge in the middle of nowhere. This is the end for you in this scenario.

## Scene 26 – Unknown Paths

An abandoned bus station. Hungry and tired souls. Children, men, women. Listening to man and the woman who give them hope. Hope for a home. Hope for a future. Hope for the Turning Point.

### **Scene instruction**

Monologue by the Mother. The Stranger is lying with his head in her lap and listens.

The scenario ends.