

AWAKEN

By Albert Jamae

Duration: 30 mins

STORY: A car full of drunk teenagers cause an accident – who will survive?

CAST:

FABIAN: Alpha male. A bit reckless.

ELSA: Fabian's girlfriend. Submissive.

JAMILLA: Elsa's best friend. Outspoken and harsh.

KAYLAN: People pleaser. Not assertive. Has a crush on Jamilla.

WILL: Quiet witty guy. Religious.

NILES: Kaylan's cousin. The youngest of them all and naïve to life. Looks up to Fabian.

TROY: A stranger to the others. Angry and regretful.

TABATHA: (unseen – played by dummy) Troy's unconscious girlfriend.

Scene 1 - EXT. CHURCH

PARTY MUSIC PLAYS. Enter FABIAN, ELSA, JAMILLA, KAYLAN, WILL and NILES, (leaving the church), all laughing and being silly (a bit drunk). Fabian drags a reluctant Elsa out by the hand.

FABIAN: You can't go home.

ELSA: But I have to get up early for work.

JAMILLA: Don't pressure her Fabian, if she needs to get home then let her.

FABIAN: Who asked you skank? Remember who's giving you a ride home.

Jamilla scoffs.

NILES: Yeah, this party is dead so let's have our own. It's just a quick spin by the river.

FABIAN: Niles is right. You up for it Will?

WILL: Fine. As long as you have more booze.

NILES: Spoken like a true Catholic!

JAMILLA: Then let's vote. Hands up if you want to go on a stupid joy ride with Captain cocksucker here?

Will, Niles and Fabian put their hands up. Will puts up two hands.

NILES: Oh come on Kaylan!

KAYLAN: Piss of Niles.

WILL: Of course he'll side with Jamilla.

JAMILLA: Hands up who doesn't.

The other three put their hands up.

FABIAN: Great! Three to two we win. Let's go.

JAMILLA: What the hell?!

FABIAN: (pointing to Elsa) Her vote doesn't count.

Elsa playfully scoffs. Jamilla not impressed.

FABIAN: My car, I get the deciding vote. We're going!

He starts to walk away.

JAMILLA: Waste of oxygen you are.

KAYLAN: Don't think we're all gonna fit in are we?

FABIAN: For god sake Kaylan.

WILL: Oi!

FABIAN: (sarcastic) Sorry Reverand. For *goodness* sake Kaylan, stop being such a pussy.

KAYLAN: I'm only saying it because I don't wanna have to squeeze in the back with you two.

He gestures to Niles and Will.

WILL: Then sit on Jamilla's lap.

JAMILLA: Not likely.

WILL: Or mine if that's the way you swing bro.

Niles laughs.

NILES: Spoken like a...

WILL: Shut up.

KAYLAN: Fine, whatever.

JAMILLA: (sarcastic) That's stickin' up for yourself.

KAYLAN: (defensive) What?

Jamilla scoffs and walks off, grabbing Elsa.

JAMILLA: Come on. I'm making sure you sit in the front this time.

Fabian smiles smugly and follows them.

FABIAN: Or you boys can stay here and I can finally get my threesome.

JAMILLA: In your dreams dip shit!

Jamilla, Elsa and Fabian exit. The others follow.

LIGHTS FADE.

Scene 2 - INT. CAR

Fabian driving. MUSIC BLARING. SFX Car hurtling along a country road. Fabian, Will and Niles drinking, singing along to the music.

NB: They end up talking over the top of each other. Effective with simultaneous conversations going to increase the chaotic factor.

JAMILLA: You said we were just going by the river.

NILES: Yeah, we're taking the scenic route!

ELSA: Fabian I really do want to get home.

FABIAN: We will! Jesus stop hassling me!

WILL: Then repent your sins my boy! And I'm pretty sure he'll get off your back.

FABIAN: Hallelujah to that!

WILL: Actually speaking of sinning.

KAYLAN: What do you...oh god.

They all react to Will's fart. Rolling the windows down, gagging.

JAMILLA: Oh my god!!!

NILES: You rotten son of a bitch!

Niles laughs. Fabian holds his fist up to Will.

FABIAN: That's my man!

They bump fists.

ELSA: What have you been eating Will?!

JAMILLA: You bastard! I'm asthmatic remember?!

WILL: Then breathe it in deep darling.

Jamilla starts coughing.

NILES: Role her a joint!

WILL: Great idea.

Will starts rolling a joint.

ELSA: What are you doing?!

Fabian starts swerving.

FABIAN: Trying to get that foul smell out of the car.

JAMILLA: Then pull over and get out!

Fabian gives her the finger in the rear vision mirror. Niles pulls out his phone and starts filming Fabian.

NILES: Smile! I'll get ten thousand hits for this!

KAYLAN: Lights ahead!

An improvised bombardment of laughing, abusing, telling Fabian to slow down, Niles egging him on to go faster, drinks being spilled on Fabian's lap

FLASHING CAR LIGHTS (Two lights face audience, representing car lights) and SFX of WHEELS SCREECHING. CRASH SFX - Black – silence.

Transition into setting up car crash. Pulsing low light. Actors moving slow motion into position. MUSIC PLAYS and any appropriate SFX (eg wheels spinning, radiator hissing, door crunching open)

Scene 3 - EXT. SIDE OF ROAD

Everyone enters, staggering as if they just got out of the car. Cuts, blood running down side of face

JAMILLA: Ow shit! My neck! Everyone okay?

KAYLAN: Better if Will's elbow didn't crack me in the eye.

WILL: More like your head bruised my elbow!

NILES: How far off the road did we spin? Ow!

Niles buckles on a sore ankle.

FABIAN: Who cares?! Look at my god damn car!

WILL: Don't blame him man, you were the one...

FABIAN: Fuck off!

Jamilla helps Elsa sit down. Jamilla pulls out a Ventolin puffer and gives herself a shot.

JAMILLA: Nice to know you're more worried about your stupid car than your girlfriend Fabian.

FABIAN: She's alright. At least she can walk. This isn't going anywhere!

Fabian kicks the car and winces in pain.

KAYLAN: Did anyone see what happened to that other car?

NILES: Who cares? Stupid prick should learn how to drive.

JAMILLA: (towards Fabian) Yeah, how dare they drive on the proper side of the road and obey the speed limit.

Fabian gives her the finger.

JAMILLA: Does anyone have a phone that works?

Will searches his pocket. His arm is sore so it takes a minute.

JAMILLA: We'll need to call for help. Mine's in pieces.

KAYLAN: (shakes his head) No credit.

FABIAN: Don't look at me, I've been using Elsa's.

Jamilla looks to Elsa who shrugs. Fabian looks in the car.

ELSA: I think it's in my bag.

Fabian pulls it out.

FABIAN: Good one Els, no charge.

He tosses it back in the car.

JAMILLA: You're such a dick.

NILES: Mines on the highway somewhere, thanks to Will.

WILL: No-one said you had to roll down the windows.

Kaylan chuckles.

KAYLAN: That was worth than death. You're going straight to hell for that one Will.

Will smiles proudly.

WILL: Mine works but I can't get a signal.

Will tries to hold it up but it hurts his arm. Elsa notices something.

ELSA: What's that smell?

WILL: Don't look at me.

ELSA: It's petrol.

FABIAN: Shit.

Fabian checks the car.

WILL: Be careful mate. If that's leaking it could blow.

ELSA: (panicked) We should get back.

FABIAN: Don't be stupid. It won't ignite without a spark.

KAYLAN: Elsa's right, you can't be so sure.

Some of them start backing off.

FABIAN: It's fine. The battery acid's pissed out all over the place but the fuel tanks still in one piece.

ELSA: Well I know I can smell it!

FABIAN: (groans)

NILES: I need a piss.

Niles limps off.

JAMILLA: Look we shouldn't take any chances. Let's just get on the other side of this ridge. Maybe Will's phone can pick up something there.

They start moving away from the car (in the direction Niles went).

Scene 4 - EXT. RIDGE

Niles is taking a piss as the others enter.

NILES: What the fuck?! Bunch of perverts!

JAMILLA: You wish.

ELSA: I can still smell it!

FABIAN: That would be Nile's bourbon.

Kaylan and Niles chuckle.

NILES: Smells the same coming out. Go figure.

WILL: That's 'cause you drink the cheap shit.

Niles finishes pissing.

NILES: You bought it for me.

WILL: Touché.

JAMILLA: You got a signal yet Will?

WILL: I'll just check.

Will walks aside checking reception.

KAYLAN: You insured Fabian?

FABIAN: For that piece of shit? I'll just get dad to get me another one.

JAMILLA: Oh I pity your underprivileged life.

Fabian shrugs smugly. Will suddenly notices something and his face sinks.

WILL: Jesus Christ.

JAMILLA: What?

Will looks back to the others with a solemn look and gestures for them to see. They limp over to him and look out. They all react in shock.

LIGHTS FADE.