THE GREEN DIARY

“Marked pt. 1”

By Ronnie Shantz/Robinson

FADE IN: 1

INT. SCHOOL CLASSROOM—DAY

The PICTURE fades up to a shot of a young 7 year old boy grade 2 in New Dundee, WILmot township, Canada, clapping to something along with the class with a pencil in hand in Mrs. Broadhecker's class.

SLOW MOTION

The pencil jams into his hand leaving a bloody lead imprint into a pyramid shaped series of lifelines. He pulls it out leaving a bloody wound there and the picture, and--

SUPERIMPOSE TO:

INT. A HOUSE—DAY

To the boy, RG, now 15, lying around on an old couch in an old dilapidated house, the rundown condition indicative of a farmland ghetto, the wood stove crackling a little with a thin stream of smoke filtering into the ceiling.

Naked, he slings a blanket over him and pats the couch for a tiny brown weiner dog, PUPPY, to jump on. Puppy jumps onto the couch and under the covers with RG.

RG
Puppy…

He pulls the blanket over them and notices something he hadn't seen before.

RG
Hey, Puppy, look.

He shows Puppy his first erection OFFSCREEN, studying Puppy's dark bluish eyes. It seems to look inside him as if at someone in another realm as if to say 'what're you doing?'.

RG(V.O.)
It was the strangest thing… the way Puppy looked at me. There was an intelligence there. It had dark blue eyes. I didn't even know what an erection was, it was just there. The way she or he, I can't remember which, sat there quietly looking at me and then as if at someone inside me. Those eyes… they were aware…

RG turns over, Puppy starts licking his bum cheek as if to say 'this is a sweet child', RG laughs, gets out from under the blanket and dresses as the CAMERA PANS into his PENcil marked hand.

RG(V.O.)
Puppy would pay for its insubordination…

EXT. WILDERNESS

RG is sawing down a tree with a huge old grey BRAdley chainsaw.

RG
Puppy's eyes… it was as if she were saying to someone 'what're you doing?', the same look I'd get years later from a girl in British Columbia named Joanne. Bizarre upon hindsight, it seemed to symbolize a parent birth hit through my brother Jimmy's father James and his dog, Nero.

RG continues sawing into the tree, it falls over, he checks it out and scans around, spotting a groundhog watching from the distance. RG picks up his 22 caliber rifle, aims, pulls the trigger and heads toward the groundhog finding it dead with a bullet hole in its bloodied head.

RG(V.O.)
That was one of the worst feelings I'd ever had. Killing that groundhog.

RG heads up toward the house and rubs his side, momentarily sitting on his ORANGE 1966 Yamaha.

RG(V.O.)
I swore I'd never kill another thing as long as I lived.

RG gets off his motorcycle, heads to the shed, goes inside and brings back an axe. He heads back to the tree, still intermittently rubbing the left side of his abdomen.

RG(V.O.)
It wasn't long afterwards I started having pains in the left side of my stomach…

EXT. HOUSE—DAY

The CAMERA PANS around the old dilapidated farm. RG comes into view standing riveted

CU RG's brother, JAMES BROADY ROBINSON, and foster father, ELDON SHANTZ, running down NERO, Jimmy's huge rusty gold and white female Saint Bernard with Puppy clenched in its jaws. They grab Nero and pry apart Nero's jaws, Puppy flops to the ground, spasms a little and Eldon reaches to pick Puppy up.

RG
Is Puppy dead?

JAMES
It's toast, man.

Eldon grabs Puppy and Puppy moves and clamps its jaws on Eldon's hand with a tooth going through his thumbnail to the other side. Eldon drops Puppy, clenching his bloody hand.

RG(V.O.)
Tough old guy, my foster father. Never even went to see a doctor.

They leave Puppy there and RG sighs and heads back into the wilderness as James chains Nero up to its broken chain.

INT. HOSPITAL—DAY

RG is inside an examination room with DR. CHAN who is examining his abdomen.

CHAN
So you got cramp.

RG
No.

CHAN
I thought you say it hurt.

RG
It's like someone twisting a knife In my side.

CHAN
Then you got cramp.

RG
No.

CHAN
(lost)
But it hurt.

RG
I said that.

Baffled, Dr. Chan leans back, studying RG.

RG(V.O.)
Being Asian, Dr. Chan and I had a hard time connecting for his evaluation. I thought cramps was a muscle spasm.

CHAN
Okay, we go in. See what problem. Might be appenDIX. Nurse?

He exits, the nurse enters, and—

FLASH FORWARD

--to RG, age 27, filling in an operation release on a clipboard with his birthplace, FORt DIX, NJ before a knee operation years later in Atlantic City, NJ.

BACK TO SCENE

RG gets up and exits with the nurse to the hostpital's front desk…

EXT. FARM—DAY

Looking a little gaunt, RG is standing on the shed boardwalk, messing around with his green bow and arrow where he had his left leg ripped apart by a chain saw. He spots a porcupine creep into the cellar, jumps up and follows it passing by his dog, a male brown Saint Bernard with the appearance of a lion, TINY. Tiny barks at the porcupine with a snout full of quills. RG glances at Nero also with a snout full of porcupine quills tied to his chain, picks up a pliers and pets Tiny's head.

RG
Suck it up, Tiny, It's gonna hurt.

RG grabs a pliers full of quills and rips a few out. Tiny yelps, RG reaches for some more and Tiny

beats it away from him. RG drops the pliers and picks up his bow and arrow. 5

TINY
Don’t worry, I’ll take care of it.

RG carefully makes his way into the cellar and vanishes into the dark.

INT. CELLAR

RG creeps inside, spots the porcupine on a ledge, aims and fires into its belly. The arrow bounces off onto the floor.

RG
You’re kidding.

He fires another arrow, it bounces off also, RG sighs, takes his eye off the porcupine, looks back finding it gone.

RG
Uh oh…

He slides his eyes around behind him, gets outa there and stops outside the door, riveted to another ruckus by the shed.

EXT. SHED

RG heads back toward Nero once again with Puppy clenched in its jaws, James and Eldon struggling to open Nero’s jaws clamped around its throat. They finally get them open, Puppy flops to the ground, spasms a little, Eldon reaches for Puppy again…and again Puppy’s jaws clamp on Eldon’s thumb, its tooth going straight through his thumbnail again, protruding on the other side.

RG
Thats gotta hurt!

Eldon drops Puppy, goes into the house clenching his hand again, and suddenly RG hears a sobbing female voice behind him.

FEMALE(O.S.)
Puppy…

RG turns around showing an elderly female, ROBBIE HENDERSON, the 70 year old blond owner

ROBBIE
My Puppy… she killed my Puppy…

Puppy spasms a final time, dies, and Robbie quietly turns around and walks back down the half mile dirt laneway to her car, gets in and drives away, never to be seen again.

RG
Perfect timing!

RG helps James chain Nero back up to its broken chain again.

RG(V.O.)
Robbie gave Eldon the dog for safekeeping.
Since we had no telephone, electricity,
running water, a phone or any communications
whatsoever, she showed up unannounced
to visit her darling dog.

RG passes by a stump and axe with chopped off chicken heads left by him and James, heads toward his 1966 150cc YAMAha passing his dark brown ARABian horse, Daisy, with a saddle nearby. Choosing his motorcycle, he mounts it and fires it up.

RG
Brutal.

Looking more gaunt and weakening by the hour, RG struggles to balance the motorcycle and spins off down the laneway past the largest and tiniest in their herd of horses, Eldon's blond maned Palomino horse, and his white and grey Scottish Shetland, happening to catch a glimpse of James' black and white horse Bimbo kick him between the legs on the way…

TO BE CONTINUED