

TITLE

Written by
Author's Name

Copyright (c) 2026

Draft
information

Contact
information

(Printed with the demonstration version of Fade In)

NICOLE

NICOLE SIDES

Start Here

NICOLE

I was functioning, but I've wanted to die for many years, Dr. Silva. I've wanted to die since I was fourteen. That's when I had this conversation for the first time. Sitting at the foot of a hospital bed pouring myself out to a man in a suit I'd just met.

Nicole laughs to herself lightly.

EDWARD

I see. I am a man you've just met, yes, but I'm hoping you trust me nonetheless.

NICOLE

I've been in the same dynamic a couple of times since. Wanting to die isn't new to me. Acting on the desire is.

Nicole rolls up her sleeves, revealing matching scars on both of her wrists.

EDWARD

When was this?

NICOLE

It was four months to the day of the funeral. Functionality became survival, and survival became seriously wanting a way out of surviving.

Nicole pulls her sleeves over her hands and crosses her arms.

EDWARD

Well, Nicole, you're lucky to be here.

NICOLE

I passed out at the sight of the blood, and woke up here. Today is day one hundred and thirteen.

EDWARD

Take me back to the nightmares. You said they're recurring.

NICOLE

Yes. They started about a month or so ago. While I was here.

Edward begins writing in Nicole's file, taking notes on what she is describing.

EDWARD

You were saying they always begin the same way... In a field...

BEGIN V.O.

ENTER DREAM SEQUENCE

EXT. THE WAITING PLACE- DAY

Nicole is standing in the center of a clearing in a wooded area, looking dazed and confused.

NICOLE

(V.O.)

Well, more like a clearing, but yes. It begins as if I'm floating down from the sky, and I just land flat on my feet in the middle of a clearing, surrounded by a treeline.

Nicole looks around, puzzled and visibly afraid.

EDWARD

(V.O.)

This is when you see one of the boys?

CASEY (16 M) stands in the center of the clearing, frozen in place as Nicole runs towards him.

NICOLE

(V.O.)

It's usually Casey. He's just... standing in the middle of the clearing. He doesn't move or make eye contact, he's like a statue. That's when I start to scream.

Nicole screams as she shakes Casey's body in the center of the clearing, desperate.

EDWARD

(V.O.)

Have you ever had a similar
experience to this?

NICOLE

(V.O.)

It's not like any dream I've ever had
before. I know it's not real, but I
can't help but scream. I grab him by
the arms and shake his body, but he
doesn't move. He doesn't even blink,
and I'm screaming.