

SYNOPSIS

After arguing with his rebellious teenage son Daniel, Detective Eric Matthews (Donnie Wahlberg) is called to the scene of yet another death perpetrated by the Jigsaw killer (Tobin Bell), on account of his name being written on the wall. Realizing that a padlock on the iron maiden-like device around the victim's neck mask bares a Wilson Steel logo, he gathers a SWAT team and arrives at the company's abandoned factory, which has now become another lair of Jigsaw's. A set of computer monitors shows several people trapped in a mysterious house, with Daniel being among them; a timer is also present, with less than two hours left. Considerably weakened by his rapidly-advancing brain cancer, Jigsaw informs detective Mathews that he will see his son in a "safe, secure state" if he can sit in the room and converse with him long enough.

In the house, the kidnapped characters begin to awaken; other than Daniel, Amanda Young (Shawnee Smith) is also present, a familiar face from the first Saw film wherein she was the only character to escape her trap. The characters learn from a micro cassette that, though the doors to the house will open in three hours, a toxic nerve gas is leaking into the house which will kill them in two hours unless they can find antidotes. One of these is in a safe in the room with them; the combination to which is said to be "in the back of [their] mind." Embezzler Gus is quickly killed while peering out the door's peep hole because Xavier, a drug dealer, attempts to

unlock the door with a key found next to a note reading "do not attempt to use the key on the door to this room."

Saw II now intercuts between Jigsaw's lairs as Mathews talks with Jigsaw in an attempt to buy time while the video signal is traced, and the captives in the house trying to secure antidotes. In the basement, they find a message for arsonist Obi (Tim Burd), revealing that he helped in the capture of everybody in the house. Soon after, he is burned to death by a furnace after attempting to take the two antidotes from inside.

Another tape is found, in which Jigsaw condemns Xavier for being a drug dealer; a pit with thousands of used hypodermic syringes is revealed, with a key to an antidote hidden within. Instead of searching the pit himself, Xavier throws Amanda in. Amanda retrieves the key, but Xavier fails to unlock the door before the timer runs out.

Back in Jigsaw's office, he reveals that the people trapped in the house are all criminals who were framed by Matthews at one point, and that his son may be killed should the others discover his identity. Matthews, growing impatient with Jigsaw's philosophical ramblings, trashes Jigsaw's models and plans; Jigsaw remains unmoved.

Xavier, having abandoned the others, finds a colored number written on the back of Gus' neck. Realizing this is where the combination to the safe must be hidden, Xavier kills Jonas to retrieve his number and begins stalking the remaining four captives, who have been made aware via a photo included by Jigsaw that Daniel

is the son of their arresting officer. Soon after discovering this, Laura succumbs to the poison.

Addison stumbles upon a glass box containing an antidote, a trap meant for Guss, and becomes caught in it. Xavier comes to Addison, alerted by her screams for help, but only to obtain her number; rather than unlock the box he leaves her to die of blood loss. Xavier then discovers that Daniel is Matthews' son and hunts him and Amanda down.

Watching this on the monitors in Jigsaw's headquarters, Matthews loses control and violently assaults Jigsaw, nearly killing him and ultimately forcing him to take him to the house at gunpoint. As they depart, the tech team discovers the signal and follows it.

Xavier pursues Amanda and Daniel through a trapdoor, which leads to the Bathroom trap from the first film, featuring a severed foot of Dr. Gordon and the remains of Zep Hindle and Adam Faulkner in an advanced state of decomposition. After Xavier threatens Amanda for her number, she asks him how he intends to read his own number. In response, Xavier slices off the piece of skin from the back of his neck where it is written. Xavier then attacks a prone Daniel, but he is revealed to be playing possum and slashes Xavier's throat open with Dr. Gordon's hacksaw from the previous film.

Meanwhile, Matthews arrives at the last house on the left (an allusion to one of the film-maker's inspirations, Wes Craven) and makes his way inside, eventually finding the trapdoor. The SWAT team, meanwhile, arrives at the location of the video signal, but it is not the same house that has been shown on the monitors in Jigsaw's

lair; the events in the house took place on a previous occasion, and were broadcast from tape.

Matthews arrives in the bathroom and is stabbed in the thigh with a hypodermic syringe and knocked unconscious by a person wearing Jigsaw's pig mask. The timer at Jigsaw's lair expires and a safe opens, revealing a hyperventilating Daniel inside wearing an oxygen mask.

Matthews awakens to find himself chained to a pipe. An audio tape lying next to him reveals that Amanda has put him there. In a series of flashbacks, we learn that Amanda has become Jigsaw's protégé, and that Matthews is her first victim, as revenge for framing her and sending her to prison where she acquired an addiction to Heroin. Amanda appears in the door and says "Game over," before closing the bathroom door, Mathews screaming threats and abuse; though different characters, the scene is otherwise identical to the ending of the first film. Outside the house, a barely-alive Jigsaw slowly forms a smile.