

7 HOURS

Written by

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FADE IN:

INT. CAR NIGHT

A GIRL (24) wearing a floral summer dress awakens in the back seat of a car. She slowly sits up, she is disoriented and covered in blood from a head wound. We hear the radio - there is an emergency alert beeping followed by an automated voice informing us of a state of emergency. It is hard to make out words as there is too much static.

The girl looks around - the car is empty. She is confused. She slides over to the door and opens it.

EXT. ROAD NIGHT

The girl gets out of the car. She sees two other cars close by - the aftermath of a collision. Headlights are still on, doors are open but there isn't a soul around, something is very wrong. She stumbles around not knowing what to do or where to go. Suddenly we hear an unrecognizable eerie sound in the distance, like a droning scream that almost sounds musical.

Headlights suddenly appear from the other direction - it's another car pulling up. The car slows to a halt, the headlights are blinding, she squints holding her hand over her eyes. She starts to stumble towards the car. The droning sound gets louder and louder. The girl is terrified and shaking. Without warning the sound stops - silence. She freezes.

CLOSE UP ON GIRL'S FACE

A look of utter terror flashes across her face for a moment followed by a blank look of submission.

CUT TO

WIDE SHOT

The girl has vanished. We see nothing but the collision and the beaming headlights.

SMASH TO BLACK

GINA (V.O.)

It was a mistake coming this way.

FADE IN:

INT. CAR - DUSK

We see a couple driving down a dusty back road. Behind the wheel is BARNES ABBOTT (39) wearing a button down shirt, sleeves rolled up, beads of sweat have formed on his forehead. They are running late, driving around for hours, he is visibly frustrated.

BARNES
Insightful, thanks for that. Perhaps
if you helped navigate a bit...

Next to him is GINA ABBOTT (31) frail, she looks like she hasn't slept in weeks.

GINA
I thought I was. But thanks for that.

BARNES
(annoyed)
For what?

GINA
For being so fucking hostile.

Barnes turns for a moment to face Gina.

BARNES
Why does it always have to be like
this with you? What the fuck do you
want from me?

GINA
Jesus, I don't know, Barnes, maybe a
supportive partner?

BARNES
For fuck's sake, Gina, supportive?!
All I fucking do is support you.
If checking you into yet *another*
expensive rehab center we can't
afford isn't supportive then I don't
know what is.

GINA
Right, so typical. I'm hanging on by
a thread and there you are blaming
me. I'm sorry I'm not as strong as
you are.

Barnes is aggravated he sighs deeply, rubbing his eyes. He starts driving again.

BARNES

I don't blame you. We've been over this a hundred times.

GINA

Yes, you do. You do, and I do too. If I hadn't answered my phone that day, we wouldn't be here.

BARNES

Stop.

GINA

If I hadn't been so preoccupied. If I had actually...

BARNES

STOP Gina!

GINA

...we wouldn't be here. No one will say that, but it's the truth.

BARNES

I swear to god, Gina, you've got to stop!

Gina stares blankly out her window and they drive on in silence.

The last moments of the day fade from the horizon.

INT. CAR NIGHT LATER

Gina and Barnes are still driving.

BARNES

I can't believe this. We should be there by now. You're going to miss check in.

Gina doesn't respond.

BARNES (cont'd)

Can you check the map again? We can't be far.

Gina grabs the map from the floorboard. She flips her vanity mirror open for the light.

GINA

It's fine. Nobody actually cares if I get there - let alone what time I arrive.

(she sighs)

I wish things could be normal again.

BARNES

Yeah well...

Barnes turns to look at Gina when we see headlights for an instant out of Gina's window and then CRASH.

CUT TO:

INT. CAR NIGHT

Gina looks around disoriented and in pain. She looks over to Barnes his forehead is bleeding - he touches his head and sees the blood on his hands. Barnes looks over to Gina, he begins to say something but suddenly freezes. Gina turns and looks to see a MAN running at full speed towards their car. He has a GUN and its raised toward them. Before they can do anything he is at the back door trying to open it. It's locked.

BARNES

Holy shit!!

MAN

Unlock the door!

The man points the gun directly at Gina's head.

Gina and Barnes put their hands up - they are like deer in headlights, petrified, not knowing how to respond.

MAN (cont'd)

Unlock the door or I will blow her fucking head off!!

Barnes is terrified - he doesn't see a way out. He unlocks the doors. The man jumps in the back and holds the gun to Barnes's head.

MAN (cont'd)

DRIVE!!! NOW!

Barnes puts the car in reverse and swings it back down the dark road from where they came.

GABE

Holy fuck! Thank God you came along.
It's fucking crazy. Whatever that
thing is, whatever is going on it's
fucking crazy. What the fuck is going
on, what the fuck is going on.

Gina and Barnes remain silent. Gabe is racing through his thoughts. Babbling. He takes the gun away from Barnes's head for a moment. Barnes sees an opportunity to negotiate.

BARNES

Listen, we have money on us, you can
take it. Take the car.

GINA

Please just let us go.

GABE

Do you know what's going on? Have you
seen anything?

The gunman seems to be on something. Barnes tries to act calm.

BARNES

No, man, we haven't. Listen, why
don't you take the money, take the
car. Let us get out.

Gabe starts laughing maniacally.

GABE

Are you fucking crazy? You don't want
to get out of this car. What's out
there... (Gabe trails off -
remembering what he saw)...holy
shit...

Gina and Barnes lock eyes for a moment.

Barnes stares ahead at the road. It is pitch black - the
road is only illuminated by their headlights.

Suddenly we see some lights ahead but can't make out what it
is. A look of hope flashes across Barnes's face. He glances
at the gunman in his rear view mirror.

It's a false hope, as we grow closer we see the aftermath of
a three car collision. Car doors open, but no sign of
people. This scene looks familiar.

Barnes slows down to a halt.

GABE (cont'd)
Shit! Drive around it.

GINA
Oh my god - there's a girl. She's hurt.

GABE
We need to get around now!

We see a GIRL covered in blood stumbling toward the car. Seeing the woman has triggered Gina. She starts pleading with Gabe.

GINA
She needs help! We need to help her!

We start to hear that horrific unrecognizable droning sound and it grows ear piercingly loud. The girl is stumbling toward their car.

BARNES
What is that? That sound?

GABE
DRIVE!!!

GINA
Please! We can't leave her here.
She's hurt badly!

Gabe pushes the gun hard into the base of Barnes's skull.

GABE
Go! Drive the fucking car NOW!!!!

Gina starts to open her door. Barnes sits frozen, not knowing what to do.

GABE (cont'd)
(to Gina)
You have no fucking idea what you're doing!!
(to Barnes)
If you don't drive now I'm going to blow your fucking head off!!!

Barnes is beside himself.

The horrific noise continues getting louder and louder and then ... silence. A beat.

Without warning, the woman is ripped violently away, almost to shreds, by a huge shadow that we see only for an instant before it takes her into the darkness. Nothing is left of her.

BARNES
HOLY SHIT!!!!

Gina is shaking in terror, she slams her door closed. Barnes slams his foot on the gas and drives at full speed.

GABE
GO!!!! GO!

Gabe no longer has the gun raised, his elbows rest on his knees, hands pressing into his eyes.

GINA
(in shock)
Oh my god. Oh my god.

BARNES
(terrified)
What was that? Do you know what that was?

Gabe mumbles incoherently.

BARNES (cont'd)
(yelling)
What the fuck is going on?

Gabe lifts his head up.

GABE
I have no idea. I have no fucking idea.

GINA
This can't be happening.

BARNES
Earlier - you were talking about seeing something, what was it? What do you know?

GABE
I don't know anything - I saw it though.

BARNES
Saw what?

GABE

That thing. That thing that took that girl. I saw it take other people. There was no warning nothing other than that sound.

Gabe starts to break down.

GABE (cont'd)

(trying to breathe)

Holy shit, what the fuck is happening?

BARNES

It doesn't make any fucking sense. It must be some kind of...

Gina turns on the radio.

There is nothing but static. She sets the radio to search until a station comes in. Suddenly we hear an emergency alert, three beeps - the same sound that was playing on the radio in the girl's car.

BARNES (cont'd)

Wait, wait...I think we have something.

He turns the volume up. We hear one long beep - then a creepy automated voice - it's not coming in very clear but we can make out what is being said.

(V.O.)

The following is transmitted by the Federal Aviation Administration and the US Government. Numerous foreign objects have been located near the state of New Mexico - the objects have not been identified and their intentions are unknown at this time. They may pose a threat to those in the area. Residents of New Mexico are strongly encouraged to shelter in place to avoid being attacked or taken hostage. To shelter in place take the following precautions: close all windows and doors, turn off all heating, air conditioning units and all lights. Have a battery powered radio for information for your stay in the shelter.

(MORE)

(V.O.) (cont'd)

It is also recommended that you take shelter in either the lower or upper most portion of your location and get away from windows. If you are in need of shelter please report to your local assembly point. Continue to monitor local media outlets for more information for your specific area. This message will loop until updated.

We hear the beeps again. Gina turns down the radio. They all sit in silence for a moment - blank looks of terror on their face.

GABE

We need to get off the road immediately.

GINA

Yes. Where do we go?

GABE

I'm not sure.

(beat)

Wait, there is an old ranch rec center nearby. Maybe people are there.

BARNES

How far?

GABE

Probably ten minutes away. I think it's the closest place to us right now.

GINA

Oh my god.

GABE

Listen, keep going straight - you should see a slight fork in the road soon. You want to turn right at that fork.

Barnes presses his foot on the gas.

EXT. RANCH COMMUNITY HOUSE - ESTABLISHING

The car pulls up to a dilapidated ranch house.

The headlights reflect off the glass panels on the front of the house. It looks abandoned.

INT. CAR NIGHT

Gina and Barnes look around at the ranch house. Suddenly the front door of the house swings open. But we don't see anyone by the door.

BARNES

The door just opened - there are people inside.

GABE

We need to run for it - just run directly in as fast as we can.

BARNES

You're right - okay on the count of three...

**For more information please contact:
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