

BACK 2 LIFE

by

Kenneth S. Dyson

WG Ae I5266

FADE IN:

EXT. MOJAVE DESERT - NIGHT

The highway is as quiet as the inside of a coffin. The summer skies are filled with stars and wasp-like-insects that glow bright red.

EXT. HIGHWAY - NIGHT

A pair of headlights cut through the darkness. The vehicle is going at high speed and doesn't seem to be slowing down.

It's a police cruiser. A severely damaged police cruiser with dents and scratches.

INT. POLICE CRUISER - NIGHT

Officer ERIN BAKER, late-twenties, Native American, naturally beautiful. She is in full uniform and carries the department's standard issue Beretta.

Sitting in the passenger seat is AMY, twelve-years-old, blonde, and sleeping. The little girl found some use for the window as a hard pillow.

Erin looks at Amy, seeing how peaceful she is.

Suddenly, something smashes loudly into the windshield, pulling Erin back to reality. She slams on the brakes, causing the wheels to lock up.

EXT. POLICE CRUISER - NIGHT

Smoke rises up from the rubber tires as the cruiser skids to a screeching stop.

INT. POLICE CRUISER - NIGHT

There is a huge crack in the windshield and red liquid is splattered on the glass.

Erin's heart booms within her uniform. Her eyes are as wide as the Grand Canyon. Amy was already up the second Erin hit the object in the road. She has fear in her eyes.

Amy turns to Erin.

AMY

What was that?

Erin looks through her rearview mirror and sees something lying in the road, not moving. But she can't tell for sure what it is; it's swallowed by the darkness.

ERIN

I don't know.

Amy looks to Erin.

AMY

Let's go. Let's keep going.

Erin listens to two voices. The civilian in her is telling her to go, leave now. But the cop in her is telling her to check on the injured person. You helped the little girl, now help him.

ERIN

I'm going out there.

Amy grabs Erin's arm as she unbuckles her seat belt.

AMY

Don't. It could be one of those things out there.

ERIN

You don't know that.

AMY

Neither do you. Are you willing to bet your life on that?

The cop in Erin is starting to shout at her again, ordering her to get her ass out of the car.

ERIN

I have to know. Lock the doors.

Erin takes three deep breathes and quickly gets out of the cruiser.

EXT. HIGHWAY - NIGHT

She is instantly hit by the hot desert air. She breathes it in and soon forgot about the cool feel of the cruiser's AC.

Erin takes out her Beretta and flashlight, using the Harries technique quite effectively.

She starts walking towards the figure on the pavement. She listens carefully for the important sounds; like shuffled footsteps and eerie moans.

Erin shines the flashlight on a limp, twisted body of an emaciated MAN, shirtless. His pants are coated with dirt. She cringes as she notices the man's legs are bent backwards towards his head in an awkward contortion.

It looks like as though his spine has snapped in half at his lower-back. Blood is running from his nose and the sides of his mouth. But for some strange reason, he is still alive. His eyes follow Erin.

Several nearby moans break Erin out of her trance.

She turns her body around, shining the flashlight on three PEOPLE. They stagger towards her, arms reaching out with human size bite marks on them. Erin points her Beretta at them.

ERIN

GET BACK!

They don't listen. They just keep walking towards her, letting out deathly moans.

Erin fires her pistol at the three people. Blood sprouts from their chests. But they keep walking, getting closer. Erin slowly backs up as she fires. She trips over the emaciated man.

She falls back, the three people move in and attack. Erin continues to fire as the three sink their teeth into her flesh. She screams in sickening pain. The firing soon stops. The screams follow.

INT. POLICE CRUISER - NIGHT

Amy cries and screams in horror, watching everything through the cruiser's partition. She bangs on it.

Suddenly, she hears someone banging on the passenger window. Someone who has an eye ball hanging from its socket. Gnawing and clawing at the window.

Amy is scared out of her mind. She's all alone. No one is there to help her.

FADE OUT.