

C.I.E.D

by

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FADE IN:

INT. OFFICE - DAY

Spotless white and modern. Light enters from the large glass window with a terrace overlooking the landscape.

Attached to the wall, a monogram logo in baby blue;

"PaGan"

Happy parents, Healthy children.

ALEX TRENT, 30, tall, dress shirt with folded sleeves, khaki pants, scrolls through his phone.

KEREN TRENT, 29, slender, hair tied back in a neat pony tail, black pant suit compliments the white blouse, also appears busy on her phone.

Alex tilts his head to the door.

KEREN

She'll be here.

ALEX

They said eleven A.M.

KEREN

Only five minutes have passed.

SUSAN, 40, tall, elegant, walks in the office.

ALEX

(murmurs)

Finally.

Susan reaches out her hand to greet them. She then sits behind the minimal designed desk and operates her computer.

SUSAN

My name's Susan, sorry to keep you waiting. We had an emergency meeting.

KEREN

Anything we should be worried about?

SUSAN

Oh no, nothing like that. So Mr. And Mrs. Trent. You want to have a baby?

ALEX

Yes, we already did the test. They told us to come today and see if we qualify.

SUSAN
(on her computer)
Yes, let me just have a look at
your file.

Alex looks nervous, he shakes his leg. Keren holds his hands. She gives him a reassuring smile. His leg calms down.

SUSAN
(on her computer)
Diabetes, high blood pressure,
myoclonic epilepsy?

She turns to look at the couple.

KEREN
That's from my side of the family,
the epilepsy.

SUSAN
(nods)
These are the traits you want to
get rid off?

ALEX
Yes.

SUSAN
Well, I got good news, you do
qualify for the procedure.

Alex lets out a joyful sigh. He glances over at Keren who's teary eyed with a wide smile on her face.

ALEX
That's good to hear, what next.

SUSAN
We'll just need the sperm and egg,
that can be done immediately after
this meeting.

ALEX
Alright.

SUSAN
Have you thought of fertility
treatment you'd want to use?

ALEX
Well, Keren would....

KEREN
Surrogate.

Alex is surprised.

ALEX
I thought we discussed this.

KEREN

I read they have that option as well, isn't that true?

SUSAN

Yes, we do one of our safest, actually, we monitor everything till birth.

ALEX

But Keren there is nothing wrong with you, you can carry the baby.

KEREN

I know, but with our busy lifestyle, who's to say something wouldn't go wrong?

Alex looks at her thoughtfully weighing the options in his mind.

SUSAN

Should I give you a moment to sort this part out?

ALEX

Is using a surrogate a better option?

SUSAN

Absolutely, our carriers are the most experienced.

ALEX

(reluctant)

Ok then, surrogate it is.

SUSAN

Have you decided on the sex?

ALEX

Boy

Keren nods.

SUSAN

(on the computer)

Alright, the surrogate is an extra \$80,000, bringing your total to \$1,080,000.

ALEX

Can I transfer it right now?

SUSAN

Sure no problem.

Alex pulls out his phone and goes through an application.

ALEX
Initiated.

SUSAN
Just a moment.

Susan turns to her computer, opens a new page, heads to the the RECEIVE PAYMENT PAGE.

TYPES ALEX TRENT.

POP-UP: SECRET CODE

SUSAN
Secret code?

ALEX
10131500

Susan types it in.

PAYMENT FROM ALEX TRENT SUCCESSFUL.

Alex receives a notification on his phone.

SUSAN
Ok, I'll show you to your rooms and
we'll get started.

Keren and Alex get up to leave.

Susan leads them out.

INT. HOUSE - STAIRCASE WALL - DAY

MONTAGE

A picture frame of a BABY is hang on the staircase wall, followed by another picture of the baby boy now 2 years old, another picture, this time the boy 4 years old with a missing tooth next to Keren smiling. A third one is added with the boy now 5 years holding his back pack. A final picture to the collection, the boy is now 7 years old, sat between Alex and Keren as he blows the candles to the HAPPY 7TH BIRTHDAY CAKE.

END MONTAGE.

INT. HOUSE - DINING ROOM - DAY

Alex is by the dining table busy on his laptop.

We hear a car drive up to the house.

KEREN (O.S)
Alex, are you home?

ALEX
In here.

Keren makes her entrance to the dinning room. Behind her is MENDEL, 7, tall, skinny, wavy afro, t-shirt and hoodie.

He walks up to his father and gives him a hug.

ALEX

Hey, big guy, you're home early.

MENDEL

I didn't feel well, I told the nurse and they called mom.

KEREN

(on her phone)

I called Dr. Fred, he said he's on his way.

Alex places his hand on Mendel's fore head.

ALEX

Yup, he's got a bit of a fever. You go get some rest buddy.

Mendel nods his head and leaves.

Keren gets an alert of her phone.

PARTY PLANNING 4 MENDEL.

KEREN

Shit!

ALEX

What's the matter?

SUSAN

It's Mendel's birthday this weekend.

ALEX

It doesn't have to be exaggerated, just invite some of his friends over and hire a clown, that'll do the trick.

SUSAN

I guess your right. Let me take him some water.

Alex nods and turns back to his laptop. He then peaks at his phone. With hesitation he grabs it and goes through the contact list landing on DAD. He dials the number.

The number goes through with a couple of rings. Alex looks nervous.

GRANDPA (V.O)

Yes?

ALEX
(on phone)
Hi Dad it's me.

GRANDPA (V.O)
I know, what do you want?

ALEX
(on phone)
I.. I was wondering if you could
make it for Mendel's 7th birthday,
the boy hasn't seen his
grandparents and he's always asking
about you.

Silence.

ALEX
(on phone)
Dad?

GRANDPA (V.O)
We are busy.

Alex bows his head in defeat.

ALEX
(on phone)
This is unfair, this is your
grandson, there is no need to be so
hateful. He's a human being just
like the rest of us.

GRANDPA (V.O)
Human?! You think you can play God!
In order to have a perfect child?
Word of advice Alex, there is
nothing perfect in this world! That
thing you created has no soul, your
wife isn't even barren, you two
were just lazy because you're
blinded by the money you're making.
You shouldn't have married that
woman! But you made your choice and
we've made ours, stop calling us,
we want nothing to do with you or
your excuse of a human. Bye!

MENDEL (O.S)
Was that grandpa? Is he coming for
my birthday party?

Alex turns towards the doorway. Mendel let's out a few
coughs.

Alex forges a smile.

ALEX
Yes it was, he said he'd think
about it. Why are you out of....

Alex receives a phone call. Mendel walks over to him.

ALEX
(on phone)
Hallo?

SUSAN (V.O)
Yes, Mr. Trent, I wanted to inform
you, I'll be over in a couple of
minutes, Mendel will be fine.

ALEX
(on phone)
That's fine, we have our family
doctor coming over any minute.

SUSAN (V.O)
You should have talked to us first.

ALEX
The checkups ended when he was 5
years old.

Alex looks over at Mendel, who's going through his laptop.
He's more focused to that forex trading software. He starts
clicking on buy and sell. Alex takes over the mouse and
clicks DEMO ACCOUNT, then hands it back to Mendel.

Mendel continues clicking buy and sell on different stock
options.

SUSAN (V.O)
Although that's correct. Mendel is
the property of PaGan corp.

ALEX
(on phone)
Pardon? Did you say property?

SUSAN (V.O)
Sorry, I meant to say concern, we
have to ensure that Mendel stays
healthy.

Alex brushes his hand through Mendel's hair, he pulls out a
chunk of hair.

ALEX
(on phone)
How did you even know he was sick?

Call is cut short.

Alex stands up in shock. Mendel hasn't noticed.

ALEX

Keren?!

Keren rushes to the dining room.

KEREN

What is it?

He shows her the hair.

ALEX

His hair is falling out. Did you call Susan? She said she's on her way.

KEREN

No, I told you I called Dr. Fred, he must be here by now.

Mendel turns to them.

KEREN

Mendel, honey, did you call Susan?

MENDEL

Yes, she told me if at any time I feel sick, I should call her. Was that wrong?

ALEX

No, not at all.

There is a knock at the door.

KEREN

That must be him.

Keren leaves to go answer the door.

Alex walks over to carry Mendel.

MENDEL

I don't feel well, daddy.

ALEX

The doctor is here, he'll make you all better.

Susan holding a medical bag makes her way to the room.

SUSAN

There he is. Don't you worry Mendel, you'll be fine in no time.

(turns to Alex and Keren)

This will only take a moment, we'll need some privacy.

She walks with Mendel to his room.

ALEX

How did she get here so quickly? We need a real doctor.

ALEX

I don't know, hand me your phone let me call Dr. Fred.

KEREN

I'll go check on Mendel.

Keren leaves the room. Alex makes the call.

ALEX

(on phone)

Dr. Fred, Mendel's getting worse, how far are you?

VOICE (V.O)

Who's this?

ALEX

(on phone)

It's Alex, my wife called you earlier about coming over to take a look at Mendel.

VOICE (V.O)

This is officer Ben, am sorry to tell you, the owner of this phone is dead. He was involved in a car accident.

Alex is in shock. Keren walks over to him.

KEREN

(agitated)

The door is locked, I wonder what's going on in there.

Alex cuts the phone call.

ALEX

Dr. Fred is dead.

KEREN

What?

ALEX

Car accident, must have been on his way here.

KEREN

Something doesn't feel right.

ALEX

We're taking Mendel to the hospital.

SUSAN (O.S)
That won't be necessary

Susan reveals herself, Mendel beside her.

SUSAN
Mendel's situation is complicated,
I'll be taking him back to PaGan,
to run some more tests, he'll be
back next week.

ALEX
You have no right! That's our son,
this invasion of privacy wasn't in
the agreement.

SUSAN
You should have read it more
carefully, after all, that's what
lawyers are for.

KEREN
Alex, she can't.

Alex walks towards her to attempt and get hold of Mendel.

Susan in one swoop presses her hand on Alex's chest,
throwing him across the room only to be stopped by the wall.

Keren is bewildered. Alex catches his breath as he
comprehends what just happened. Keren runs to Alex to help
him up.

SUSAN
We'll be leaving.

KEREN
Mendel, don't go with that lady.

MENDEL
But she said she can help me get
better.

ALEX
She's lying! We need to go to the
hospital.

Susan turns to leave but is stopped in her tracks.

Mendel stands his ground firmly, Susan attempts to pull
harder. It's no use.

SUSAN
I'm not going to hurt you Mendel,
we need to leave to now!

Susan slowly kneels to the floor as Mendel squeezes her
hand.

Her hand is disfigured as she watches on in horror.

Alex and Keren look on, astonished.

Susan pulls out a gun from her medical bag with the other hand and slowly points it at Mendel.

Alex gathers the strength to run over and stop Susan.

Susan pulls the trigger, the gun goes off just as Mendel grabs her other arm pointing it towards the ceiling.

He then grabs her by the throat pulling out her trachea.

Alex pulls him away and Susan drops to the floor. Keren walks over to Alex.

Mendel collapses in Alex's arms.

ALEX

You'll be fine.

KEREN

She's dead Alex.

Alex turns to look at Susan's lifeless body.

ALEX

We've got to get him to the hospital. We need to leave now.

KEREN

I'll grab my keys, what about the dead body?

ALEX

We'll call the police on the way to the hospital.

They walk out frantically.

Susan's body is left by the door way. Her lifeless eyes look towards the ceiling. They suddenly turn black with a neon green dot making the iris.

FADE TO BLACK

THE END.