

DEMONS

By

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EXT. BEDROOM - DAY

Light shines through the bedroom window. SUSAN HARRIS, late thirties, lies in a large bed. Her pale white flesh holds tight against her bones. Her skin is so tight on her face her eyes seem to bulge out of her sockets.

It's obvious she has cancer, and it's the worst cancer one can get, the kind that slowly eats away at you from the inside.

Her breaths are long and heavy. She moans in pain with each inhale and each exhale.

The bedroom door opens. CORY HARRIS, fourteen, walks in. He's tall for his age, almost at the six feet mark, and has short blond hair, and the brightest blue eyes.

He looks over at his dying mother, his face is overwhelmed with sadness. He tries to hide that sadness with a fake smile, but the pain is too great and the sadness wins that battle.

CORY

Hey mom.

Susan lights up with the sight of her son, for a moment her own pain goes away and is filled with inner joy.

SUSAN

Hey Buddy.

Buddy was her name for him, not Cory, not son, but Buddy. Cory slowly makes his way over to his mother. The weight of inevitable death hangs on his shoulders.

He makes it to the bed and sits down next to her. He looks into her bulging eyes.

CORY

How are you feeling?

SUSAN

I'm feeling better actually.

That was a lie actually, one that both he and she knew.

SUSAN

Are you excited about tonight?

CORY

Kinda, but I don't have to go. I can stay here and we can watch scary movies or something.

SUSAN

Buddy, you love the Halloween festival, you look forward to it all year, and Emily is going to be there, I like her a lot, I think you two make a cute couple.

CORY

I know, but.....

SUSAN

I want you to go. I want you to have a good time. You deserve it. You have been so good to me and I want you to have a good time.

CORY

I just don't want you to be alone.

SUSAN

My nurse will be here, so I won't be alone.

Corey shies away and turns his head. A tear drop falls from his eye. He wipes it away then turns back around.

CORY

Okay mom, but I won't stay out too long, maybe when I get back we can watch the late night creature feature.

Susan smiles.

SUSAN

I'd like that.

Cory smiles, and unlike the fake smile he tried to put on before, this one is real. He leans forward and gives his mother a kiss on her forehead.

EXT. WOODS - DAY

Cory strolls through the woods, he holds a large stick in his hand, he swings it around like a sword as he strikes down tree branches and shrubs.

CORY

(Singing)

When you were here before, couldn't look you in the eye, you're just like an angel, your skin makes me cry.

Suddenly he trips on a log. He falls flat on his face. He pushes himself up onto his knees. Branches break in the woods. He stares forward.

A low croaking sound echo's through out the woods. Cory gets to his feet. The branches in front of him start to move. The croaks get louder.

Cory backs up, the branches shake more vigorously. He turns around and runs off.

EXT. FESTIVAL - NIGHT

The festival is filled with people dressed in costumes. Booths are lined up on both sides of the street.

At the end of the street is a parking lot that is packed with rides, not the really cool rides that they have at six flags, but for a small town festival they are pretty decent. There's the zipper, bumper cars, tilt a whirl, Gravatron, mini roller coasters, and of course a haunted house.

Cory, dressed in overall's and a hockey mask, walks down the street. He hears footsteps behind him. He turns around quickly but there is no one there.

He turns back and moves forward. There is a deep growl. Cory stops. He looks around. There are just people meandering about. He shakes his head.

COREY  
(under his breath)  
I'm going nuts!

EMILY, fourteen, dressed as a goth zombie, stands by the cotton candy booth. Cory makes his way towards her. He takes his mask off. Emily sees him and smiles.

EMILY  
Hey babe.

She wraps her arms around him and kisses him on the lips.

CORY  
Hey.

EMILY  
I'm glad you came.

CORY

Me too.

Emily squeezes her arms tightly around him. She rests her head on his shoulders.

She lets go, he takes her hand. The two walk down the street.

CORY

I think I'm going out of my mind  
Emily.

EMILY

What do you mean?

CORY

I'm hearing things, seeing things.

EMILY

It's Halloween. What do you  
expect?

CORY

I don't know, I just feel like I'm  
being watched.

Emily looks over at him.

EMILY

Well I got my eye on you.

CORY

Oh I know that.

The two young lovers the amusement park part of the festival.

CORY

So what do you feel like doing  
first?

EMILY

Jeez, I wonder!

CORY

Haunted house?

EMILY

Uh Huh!

The two walk up to the ticket booth. Cory throws down a five dollar bill. The attendant hands him a row of tickets. The two then make their way to the haunted house, which looks a lot like the Psycho house at Universal Studios.

EMILY  
Are you scared?

CORY  
Oh I'm just terrified.

They approach the front of the haunted house. The door opens on its own.

CORY  
(sarcastically)  
Ooooo scary!

Emily laughs.

They enter.

INT. HAUNTED HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Cory and Emily walk into the haunted house. The door slams shut behind them.

The house is dimly lit from the lights that hang from the ceiling. There is art work along the walls, mostly portraits of old and very creepy looking people.

The floorboards squeak with each footstep.

CORY  
Where the heck is everyone else?

EMILY  
I dunno, maybe it's only one group  
at a time or something.

There is a sign in front of them with red arrow. The sign reads "this way".

The two follow the arrow as they hold hands. They enter a hallway. There are creaks coming from the walls.

CORY  
Ya know, they should change things  
up from time to time, this is  
exactly the same as it was last  
year.

Suddenly a door opens, and a figure holding on to an ax pops out. Cory and Emily jump and scream.

EMILY  
Well that's new.

Cory looks around on the ground.

EMILY  
What are you looking for?

COREY  
My heart, I think it popped out of  
my chest.

EMILY  
You're such a wiener!

She giggles.

The ax maniac pops back into the room it came from, the door closes. They continue to make their way down the hallway.

A body falls from above with a noose around it's neck, and a knife in its back. It drops right in front of Corey and Emily. The two jump again.

CORY  
Crap!

EMILY  
You're a little scaredy pants  
aren't ya?

CORY  
Ha ha ha!

EMILY  
You know what would be fun?

COREY  
what?

EMILY  
Hide and seek!

In a flash Emily runs off and disappears around a corner.

CORY  
What the heck are you doing?

EMILY(O.S)

You have to try and find me!

Cory darts off after her. He quickly makes his way down a hallway. He comes to a door.

CORY

Emily? I don't think we should do this.

There is no response. He approaches the door. There is a growl from behind. He spins around. Nothing. He turns back around and opens the door. He enters.

INT. DARK ROOM - CONTINUOUS

There room is pitch black, the only light comes from the hallway.

CORY

Emily?

The door slams behind him. The only light comes from the crack underneath the door. Cory tries to open the door, but it won't open.

CORY

Emily!

He pounds on the door. Suddenly a loud wheezing is heard. Cory turns his head. There is a glow in the middle of the room, a dim white glow that gives off a bit of light, but not enough to light the whole room

CORY

Hello?

There is a growl, followed by the low croaking sound.

CORY

Who's there? This isn't funny.

The wheezing turns into a laugh.

CORY

Who is that?

WHEEZY

I'm the evil that lives under your bed.

GROWLER  
I'm the nightmare that hides in  
your closet.

CROAKER  
I'm that emptiness that lives in  
your soul.

CORY  
Is this some sort of joke?

WHEEZY  
No joke.

CORY  
What do you want?

GROWLER  
It's not want, it's what we are.

WHEEZY  
We live under your flesh.

CROAKER  
We live in your mind.

GROWLER  
We bury ourselves in your soul.

WHEEZY  
We are nowhere and everywhere.

CROAKER  
To get rid of us your Demons.

GROWLER  
Face what you fear the most.

WHEEZY  
And face what is inevitable.

CROAKER  
Or we will be there forever...

GROWLER  
And always...

WHEEZY  
Forever and ever.

The growls, the croaks and wheezes grown louder and louder.

CORY

Go away!

WHEEZY

You know what you have to do.

CORY

No I don't!

WHEEZY

Then we will never leave.

Suddenly the lights turn on. The room is empty. Tears spill from Cory's eyes. The door opens. Emily stands there.

EMILY

There you are.

She sees the tears on Cory's face.

EMILY

What's wrong.

She runs over to him and wraps her arms around him.

CORY

I need to go home.

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

Cory enters the bedroom. Susan lies in bed, she looks over at him.

SUSAN

Hey Buddy. How was the festival.

He doesn't say anything. He slowly walks over to her. He sits down and runs his hands along the side of his mother's face. He cries.

CORY

I know you try to make things easy for me. I know you're doing well, I know you feel horrible, but you don't tell me cause you're worried about me.

Susan tries to sit up, but can't.

CORY

I want you to know that I'm going to be okay. I'm going to miss you a lot, and I'm going to be sad a lot, but I know you're going to be with me. I know you and dad are going to look over me, and I get some comfort from that.

He leans down and puts his head on his mother's chest. She runs her fingers through his hair.

SUSAN

Thank you.

FADE TO BLACK.