Dead And Gone

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EXT.WOODS.MORNING

A zombied NATHAN sits against a tree. His clothes are dirty, torn, and blood stained.

CUT TO

INT.MARY’S LIVING ROOM.MORNING

MARY sits on couch watching a news shoe on her television. Her brothers, JACK and MIKE, run into the living room. Jack has a baseball bat in his hands. Mike has a lighter and aerosol can in his.

REPORTER
(On television, during action)
...reports have come in that the virus has been quarantined and eliminated in all major cities. Experts estimate that within 7 months the virus will be-

Mary turns off her television.

JACK
Yeah, they can protect New York, but damn if they help out the little town of Blue Creek.

MIKE
Who cares?

Mike creates a giant flame with his lighter and aerosol can.

MIKE
(cont.)
We can protect ourselves.

MARY
You guys are gonna end up getting hurt. Why don’t you just chill out?

JACK
(mocking)
Oh yeah, that’s a great idea! The zombies will never attack us then.

Mike laughs.

JACK
(cont.)
Either we make sure those zombies are dead, or we will be.
MIKE
Wait? Aren’t zombies already dead?

JACK
Piss off! You what I mean.

MARY
I don’t think they’re dead. They’re just... just-

JACK
Dead!

There is a knock on the door. Jack and Mike run to the door and open it. It is HARRY. They greet him.

JACK
What’s up?!

HARRY
Hey. You guys ready?

JACK/MIKE
(same time)
Yeah.

Mary walks near the door.

HARRY
Good. I’ve got one captured. tied up in my backyard.

MIKE
Freakin sweet dude! Lets go!

JACK
Later Mary!

MARY
Yeah.

Jack, Mike and Harry leave. Mary walks into:

CUT TO:

INT. MARY’S KITCHEN. MORNING

Mary opens her fridge and pulls out a plate of raw meat and places it on the table. There is a picture of a normal Nathan and herself resting on the table. She puts it in her backpack. And leaves the house. She gets on her bike.

CUT TO:
EXT. HARRY’S YARD. MORNING

Jack, Mike and Harry stand around a zombie. It is tied to a post. Harry holds Jack’s bat.

HARRY
Look at this thing. Pathetic.

Harry jabs the zombie with the end of the bat. The zombie screams and growls at Harry.

MIKE
(to zombie)
What? What? You don’t like that?
What about this? Like this?

Mike points his flame at the zombie.

JACK
Hold up! I wanna a shot!

Jack grabs his bat from Harry. Mike steps away from the zombie. Jack walks up to the zombie. The zombie looks at him, desperate. Jack smashes his bat into the zombie’s head. Suddenly Mary appears at Harry’s yard.

MARY
Having fun?

MIKE
Yeah! Wanna join?

MARY
No... I’ll be back later okay? I’m heading up to the hills.

JACK
(pointing to zombie with bat)
Yeah, like you do everyday. Don’t run into any of these things.

MARY
Yeah will do.

Mary rides off.

HARRY
What does your sister do up there anyway?

JACK
(wiping blood off his bat w/his shirt)
(MORE)
JACK (cont’d)
No clue. Never thought about it.

HARRY
Lets follow her tomorrow. See what she’s up to.

MIKE
Alright fine.

CUT TO:

EXT.WOODS.MORNING
Mary rides into the hills. She rides down a dirt path. At a tree with a small mark on it, she gets off her bike and walks into the woods. She walks to meet Nathan. He acknowledges her presence. Mary sits next to him. She reaches into her backpack and pulls out the meat. She gives it to Nathan. He eats.

MARY
You okay?

Nathan grunts a yes. Mary reaches for his hand.

MARY
They keep saying the virus is being eliminated. I don’t know if that means they are just gonna kill all the zombies or what. I know my brothers are.

Nathan continues to eat the meat. He creates a mess of the meal.

MARY
(cont.)
But I’ve read online about some scientist who says he will have cure in a few weeks.

Nathan puts down the meat and turns towards Mary. He is interested.

MARY
(cont.)
I just want you back. Like the regular you. Cause I mean...you’re still you. Just not normal...I think.
Nathan gives a faint smile, and rests his head on Mary’s shoulder.

CUT TO:

INT. MARY’S BASEMENT. DAY

Harry, Jack, and Mike sit around in a circle. In the middle lies a pistol.

JACK
Where’d you find it?

HARRY
Down in my Dad’s office. I never knew he had it.

MIKE
Have you shot it yet?

HARRY
Yeah of course.

JACK
Can we?

MIKE
Aw dude can we?

HARRY
I don’t know. Maybe if we run into something today.

MARY
(from upper level)
Hey, I’m leaving now ok?

MIKE
Yeah ok!

HARRY
And that’s our cue.

CUT TO:

EXT. MARY’S HOME. MORNING

Mary gets on her bike and rides down the street. Harry, Jack, and Mike appear from around the side of the house, each on their own bike. They follow Mary.

CUT TO;
EXT.WOODS.MORNING

Mary rides down the same dirt path and stops at the same marked tree. She goes to meet Nathan again. Again, he acknowledges her arrival. Mary sits next to him and opens her backpack. She pulls out the photograph of her and Nathan.

MARY
(showing the picture to Nathan)
Remember this? It was a week before the virus started...

The sound of something approaching comes from the edge of the woods. It is Harry, Jack, and Mike. They lay their bikes by Mary’s. Harry has his gun in hand.

MIKE
(pointing at the marked tree)
Check this out.

JACK
Yeah, there’s a path here. C’mon guys.

The three head down the path. Mary walks back on the path and walks into them.

MARY
What are you guys doing?

HARRY
What are YOU doing?

MARY
Don’t worry about it. Leave me alone.

HARRY
No. Make us.

MARY
(to Jack and Mike)
Will you guys get your friend and leave?

Nathan groans in the distance.

HARRY
(peering past Mary’s shoulder)
What was that?
MARY
(nervous)
What?

HARRY
That sound.

Harry rushes past Mary. Jack and Mike follow. They arrive upon Nathan.

HARRY
What the..?

MARY
(running past the boys to Nathan)
Look, just go away!

JACK
What the hell? Is that Nathan? You said he left town.

HARRY
(draws his pistol)
Oh this is great.

MARY
(to Nathan)
Run!

Mary attempts to block Harry’s gun. Nathan gets up and begins to flee.

HARRY
Don’t let it get away!

Jack chases after Nathan.

MARY
Jack don’t-

MIKE
What the hell Mary?! You’re defending that thing?

MARY
He’s not a thing.

HARRY
Yeah he’s a zombie!
MARY
No! He’s still him. Really..he
just...just-

Jack screams in the background. They all run towards him. They arrive to see that Nathan has bitten Jack’s wrist.

JACK
(painful)
Ahhhh. Help!

MARY
Oh my god!

HARRY
(mocking)
Oh yeah, he’s still him, he’s a
good zombie. Great now we’ve got
two zombies.

MIKE
What?

HARRY
(points gun at Jack)
That’s not Jack anymore.

Jack is now unresponsive and Mary sits by his side. Nathan sits on the other, blood around his mouth. He is clearly sad.

HARRY
Move!

Harry shoots Jack. Mike tackles Harry to the ground.

MARY
What the hell?!

MIKE
(yelling at Harry)
Dude that was my brother!

HARRY
(yelling back at Mike)
No it wasn’t! It was a zombie! Be
mad at your sister, not me! It’s
her fault anyways!

A devastated and confused Mike grabs the gun from Harry’s hand. He points it at Nathan. Mary lunges in front of the gun.
MARY
Don’t!

MIKE
Move!

MARY
It’s not his fault! If you guys just left him alone he’d be normal. Just leave him alone!

MIKE
Screw that!

Mary turns around and comes close to Nathan’s ear.

MARY
(whispering)
It’s ok...I want this...it’s the right thing.

Mary bites Nathan’s neck.

HARRY
Dude!

MIKE
Oh my god Mary!

Mary turns around with blood on her mouth and a dead look in her eye.

HARRY
Shoot them!

MIKE
I..I can’t not my sister too...I can’t-

HARRY
Give me the gun

Harry snatches the gun from Mike’s hand. Mike lunges onto Harry.

MIKE
No dude! Stop! Please!

As Mike and Harry wrestle, Mary crawls towards them. She bites Harry. Mike draws back from Harry. Mary crawls back to Nathan. Mike gets up with gun, looks away, and shoots Harry. He looks at Mary and Nathan. He nods accepting their existence and leaves. Mary rests her head on Nathan’s shoulder. They are finally at peace.