

# "Death Unbecoming"

Written By

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EXT. ALLEYWAY - DAY

BRIANNA (7) is the face of an angel hidden under a layer of dirt and grime, matted hair, tattered clothing, and a small pink back-pack.

She scampers through this asphalt maze, looking back at three HISSING GHOULS giving chase.

EXT. STREET CORNER - CONTINUOUS

Brianna emerges from the alleyway, disappearing inside a run down BANK.

INT. BANK - CONTINUOUS

Brianna sits leaned up against the teller desk.

The three ghouls enter the bank and close in on her.

Brianna takes off her pack, opens it, reaching inside.

She is just about to pull out its contents when...

THREE FIGURERS emerge from behind the counter; with pistols and a shotgun and OPEN FIRE on the zombies.

The three Ghouls go down in a hail of gunfire.

When the smoke clears... the three figures are revealed; they are not soldiers, not men, but children.

They are;

COLIN (12) a handsome boy with longish hair. He is armed with a HUNTING RIFLE, REVOLVER, and a WALKIE RADIO.

ALYSON (12) A porcelain face with freckles to match her thick maim of red hair. She's athletic, armed with two SIX-SHOOTERS.

MARCUS (10) A baby faced black with big hair to go with his big frame, and a SHOTGUN. He also holsters a SIX-SHOOTER.

They scan the area.

COLIN  
You alright Brianna?

Brianna pops up from behind the counter.

BRIANNA  
Yup!

Marcus cracks a smug smile.

MARCUS  
Works every time.

COLIN  
Anymore of them out there?

BRIANNA  
I don't think so.

ALYSON  
Looks like we're in the clear.

Colin pulls the walkie from his belt.

COLIN  
(Into mic)  
Eddie, it's Colin. How we looking  
out back?

EXT. BANK - CONTINUOUS

EDDIE (9) Is tall for his age, skinny, with freckles, wild hair, beady eyes, and braces.

He stands guard by the door with a pair of BINOCULARS and a CROSSBOW.

He pulls the WALKIE from his belt.

EDDIE  
All clear so far, but we're losing  
light fast.

COLIN (V.O.)  
(Filtered)  
Roger that.

There's MOVEMENT behind him. Eddie swings around..

INT. BANK - CONTINUOUS

One of the 'dead' ghouls begins to wither and crawl on the floor.

MARCUS

We've got a live one!

COLIN

Finish it.

Marcus slings his shotgun and pulls his six-shooter.

He emerges from behind the counter and walks up slowly on the ghoul, as if he's done this a thousand times before.

He pulls the hammer and aims for the head.

The ghoul, a YOUNG FEMALE, looks back at him and growls. She's not a day over thirteen.

Marcus looks sick.

ALYSON

Marcus, what's wrong?

MARCUS

You guys better get over here..

Colin and Alyson come out from behind the counter.

COLIN

What is it?

MARCUS

I think it's Sally..

ALYSON

What?

Alyson takes one look, and her expression says it all.

She covers her mouth in shocked horror.

ALYSON

Oh my God...

Colin just stares, no reaction, his eyes as dead as Sally's.

MARCUS

I guess this means we can call off the search...

Colin doesn't respond.

ALYSON

I'll get Eddie...

COLIN

No.

ALYSON

I'm sorry?

COLIN

He doesn't need to see this.

ALYSON

But that's his-

COLIN

-and we'll tell him later.

ALYSON

Are you out of your--?!

MARCUS

He's right Alyson. There's nothing we can do for her now. It'd only make things worse.

ALYSON

(Losing her composure)

You know, I expect that kind of talk from Marcus... but you of all the people...

CONTINUED

ALYSON (Cont'd)

Fine. But make sure when you tell him you explain to him why after two months of looking for her you made the call that put a bullet in his sister's head.

MARCUS

It's not his sister anymore.

Alyson makes a move like she's going to bitch-slap Marcus in the mouth...

...and then...

Colin's walkie BUZZES.

COLIN

Christ, Eddie's in trouble.

ALYSON

I'm on it.

Alyson scrambles for the back door, shooting Marcus a look on her way.

Marcus looks down at Sally, then to Colin.

MARCUS

You want me to do it?

COLIN

No. Take Brianna and go help Eddie. I'll take care of this.

MARCUS

You sure? I mean...

Colin looks at Marcus.

This discussion is over. Marcus pats Colin on the back.

MARCUS

I'm sorry man.

Marcus takes Brianna's hand and the two head out the back door.

Colin stares at Sally for a long moment. Sadness creeps into his face.

He aims the gun.

BAM!

Sally's head explodes against the floor.

COLIN  
I'm sorry too.

EXT. BANK - DUSK

Colin and the others stand around a DEAD MALE GHOUL on the ground with an ARROW sticking out from its eye-socket.

MARCUS  
(Smiling.)  
Funny Eddie bagged his first  
Ghoul, man.

ALYSON  
Impressive.

EDDIE  
(Scared shitless)  
He walked right up on me, I didn't  
even see him.

ALYSON  
Well the important thing is, is  
that you're okay.

Eddie exhales.

EDDIE  
How'd it go in the bank?  
Everything okay?

Looks from everyone. Awkward.

COLIN  
Yeah, great.

BRIANNA

Alyson, I'm tired.

MARCUS

What do you want to do?

COLIN

Well, its too late to head back to camp. There's a church down the street. I say we hold up there for the night, take stock in the morning.

ALYSON

Sounds good.

COLIN

Alright, lets do it. I'll lead.  
Eddie, you watch our backs.

Eddie says nothing.

The group moves out. He lingers on his kill for a few moments... just staring.

INT. CHURCH - LATER

The group has taken refuge within a rundown church.

The room is lit dimly with candles, lanterns, and flashlights.

Eddie is crying hysterically in the arms of Marcus. Brianna tries to comfort him.

Colin sits off by himself, no emotion in his face, eyes staring toward the large crucifix in front of the church, not at it... but right through it... and a thousands miles beyond.

Alyson takes a seat next to him.

ALYSON

I'm sorry. The whole thing with Sally... I know you were only doing what you thought was right. I just-

COLIN

Forget it.

ALYSON

There's still hope for us you know. There has to be.

Colin's body language stiffens.

ALYSON

(Waning conviction)

I mean... who's to say Sally got sick from growing up like the others? Maybe she just got bit, you know?

Colin says nothing. Alyson watches Marcus try to console Eddie, becoming visibly upset.

ALYSON

(Desperate.)

Colin, what are we going to do?

Colin doesn't respond.

ALYSON

(Panicky.)

I mean... she was only a few months older than we are.

Colin gets up.

COLIN

I'm going to bed.

ALYSON

Colin...

Colin walks away.

ALYSON

Hey, I'm talking to you!

COLIN

What do you want me to say? You think I have all the answers?

ALYSON

Of course not. But Sally said that we keep on because maybe one day growing up won't mean a death s-.

COLIN

Sally's dead!

ALYSON

Colin...

COLIN

I don't know what you want me to do. You want me to lie to you and tell you everything's going to be okay? That we're not all going to end up like Sally and the others? You want me to tell you that the last ten months of living like rats, eating garbage, sleeping on the dirt, and fighting back wasn't a total waste?

ALYSON

No.

COLIN

Well it was Alyson. It was useless!

ALYSON

You don't believe that.

COLIN

Christ, wake up! Sally, and Dan, and Ben, and Tammy... they didn't die for some noble cause. They died for nothing! Don't you get it?

ALYSON

Stop it.

COLIN

It's over!

Colin looks around... everyone staring in shock.

COLIN

It's all over.

Colin walks off.

INT. CHURCH - LATER

Alyson and Marcus lie next to each other on the floor.

MARCUS

You still awake?

ALYSON

Yeah.

MARCUS

It's okay. I'm worried about him  
too.

Alyson can see inside Marcus' open bag... a single GRENADE is  
inside it.

ALYSON

You still have that?

MARCUS

Yup. Thought I'd hang onto it.

ALYSON

For what?

MARCUS

I don't know. A rainy day I  
suppose.

ALYSON

I remember when you found it... on  
that dead army guy. It was the day  
you found Brianna wasn't it?

Marcus nods.

MARCUS

I'll never forget that.

ALYSON

I never thought being a homeless orphan could be a good thing.

MARCUS

Probably saved her life.

ALYSON

I know it did.

BACK OF THE CHURCH

Lying alone with a flashlight in hand, Colin stares at a picture... a much younger picture of himself, standing between Eddie and Sally... arms around each other, all smiles.

Colin turns the picture over - there's writing on the back.

INSERT MESSAGE:

"You are so brave and selfless. Now I must be the same. Take care of Eddie. I love you so much. Always, Sally."

Tears stream down his face. He struggles to hold it back... but the harder he tries, the harder he cries. He buries his face in emotion... in shame.

INT. CHURCH - DAWN

Brianna awakens.

Eddie sits alone at the altar, looking wane and haggard. His face is pale and he's sweating.

Brianna walks over to him.

BRIANNA

Hey, Funny Eddie.

Eddie looks up, barely able to fake a smile.

EDDIE

Hey.

BRIANNA

I understand if you don't want to be called that anymore.

EDDIE

It's okay.

Brianna fidgets, unsure what else to do or say.

BRIANNA

You want to play Monkeys?

EDDIE

Maybe later?

Brianna frowns.

Eddie is sniffing. He wipes a tear off his face. Brianna walks over and sits down next to him.

She puts her arm around him, lying her head on his shoulder.

Together they rock gently back and forth.

Marcus and Alyson, now awake, join them.

MARCUS

Eddie you alright man?

EDDIE

I'm okay.

ALYSON

I'm sorry about Sally. We all love her and miss her dearly.

EDDIE

Thanks.

Colin emerges from the back of the church. And he looks done. The will, the fight, the life, and the humanity... whatever reserves he had left - sucked away during the night.

The group can see it, its all over their faces. But they say nothing.

COLIN

We should get going. Marcus, give me a hand with the door.

Together they pry the boards off the reinforced door. Colin unlatches the lock and pulls the door open.

Standing just on the other side...

A MASS OF GROWLING GHOULS piled up against church - too many to count.

COLIN

Shit!

Colin pulls his pistol and SHOOTs one in the face. Blood spatters.

Marcus grabs the door trying to close it.

A zombie reaches in and SCRATCHES him on the hand.

MARCUS

Ah damn!

Colin rams against the door, closing it shut. He latches it.

COLIN

Marcus?

MARCUS

He got me.

COLIN

Let me see it.

Colin looks at the scratch. Looks up at Marcus, who shakes his head. Colin goes ballistic.

COLIN

Son of a bitch!

ALYSON

What's happening?

COLIN

We're surrounded.

ALYSON

What?! I thought this place was clear?!

COLIN

Not anymore.

ALYSON

How can that be? We must have missed one...

COLIN

No. No way. Even if they saw us there's no way they could have amassed this quickly.

ALYSON

There's so many of them...

COLIN

It's like they smell something...  
like one of their own was here...  
like when someone's been... bitten.

All eyes move on Eddie... still sitting by the alter. He is staring at the floor.

Everyone approaches him.

ALYSON

Oh my God...

COLIN

Eddie... are you bit?

Eddie cries.

COLIN

Eddie!

Colin grabs Eddie, lifting him up.

COLIN

Are you BIT?

EDDIE

He got me on the arm...

MARCUS

Shit.

ALYSON

Eddie what have you done?!

EDDIE

It was just a little scratch...

MARCUS

God damn it, Eddie!

EDDIE

I'M SORRY!

ALYSON

You lead them right to us.

COLIN

Why didn't say anything?!

(Rage.)

WHY?!?!?!?

EDDIE

I didn't want to be alone. I'm so scared... please... I don't want to die...

Marcus looks down at his own cut.

MARCUS

How long do we have?

COLIN

Everyone's different. Some turn in minutes... some in days...

Brianna sees Eddie as his nose begins to bleed... but not like an ordinary bloody nose.

The blood squirts from his nostrils, as if someone has sliced an artery inside his head. His eyes roll back into his head and he goes down hard.

BRIANNA

Eddie!

Eddie goes into violent convulsions, his body wracked with seizures, spasms, and things going wrong.

Colin kneels down beside him, takes his hand.

Eddie comes out of it momentarily, but he is delirious.

COLIN

Hold on buddy...

EDDIE

I'm sorry...

COLIN

Don't worry about that.

EDDIE

Sally?

COLIN

It's okay, she's coming.

Alyson moves in, she sits down on the floor and takes Eddie's head in her lap. She puts a hand gently on his face.

EDDIE

Sally... is that you?

Eddie's eyes dart rapidly in all directions as more blood spills from his nose, and now his ears.

His arms, legs, breathing... all labored and rigid.

Alyson leans down and gives him a kiss on the forehead.

Eddie fights out his last breath... goes still and quiet.

COLIN

Eddie? Eddie!

He's gone. Everyone is stunned.

The door to the church BREAKS DOWN and a horde of zombies come pouring into the church.

BRIANNA

They're coming!

MARCUS

Out the window! Now!

Marcus grabs Eddie's crossbow and shoots down two Ghouls.

MARCUS

Come on!

Colin runs to the window, climbs up on the sill and shatters the glass with his foot.

He looks out.

COLIN

Alyson, give me Brianna.

Alyson grabs Brianna, lifts her up. Colin helps her out the window.

COLIN

Alright, give me your hand.

Alyson looks back at Marcus, about to be overrun.

ALYSON

Marcus, come on!

Colin grabs Alyson's hand and pulls her up. She climbs out the window.

COLIN

Marcus!

Marcus grabs his backpack, disappearing into the horde of zombies.

COLIN

No!

A few moments later... the grenade EXPLODES.

EXT. CHURCH - CONTINUOUS - MORNING

Colin falls out of the window and onto the ground.

Straggling zombies move in on them.

Colin shoots one down. Alyson shoots down another.

BRIANNA

Come on!

ALYSON

Brianna wait!

Brianna runs into two growling ghouls. One of them falls on top of her. She screams.

ALYSON

Get off her!

Alyson SHOTS a zombie in the throat, it staggers backwards, gurgling.

She aims at the other zombie on top of Brianna and pulls the trigger.

CLICK! CLICK!

She tosses the weapon aside and jumps on the back of the zombie, trying to pull it off.

Colin turns to help, but Eddie - now a Zombie - jumps out of the church window, landing on his back

He throws Eddie over his shoulder, SHOTS him in the face.

Colin whips around just as the zombie Alyson shot in the throat, grabs her by the shoulders and BITES into her neck.

She SCREAMS.

Colin SHOTS the Zombie in the head... it and Alyson fall to the ground.

He pulls the zombie off Brianna, shoves the barrel of his gun into its mouth and pulls the trigger.

BAM!

The back of the zombie's head explodes from the gunshot.

BRIANNA

Colin watch out!

The ZOMBIE of ALYSON jumps on top of him.

A wrestling match breaks out as Colin tries to get loose without getting bit or scratched.

Brianna takes off her pink back-pack. She opens it up and pulls out a PISTOL.

BRIANNA

Colin!

Colin looks as Brianna tries aiming the gun at Alyson.

COLIN

No! Slide it over!

Brianna sets the gun on the ground and KICKS it over to Colin.

He fights Alyson, trying to get the gun. In the struggle he knocks it away.

COLIN

Get the gun...

Brianna kicks the gun over to Colin again.

Colin grabs its, but Alyson goes for the jugular. He hits her with the gun. She SMACKS it out of his hand.

COLIN

DAMN IT!

Brianna runs over and picks up the gun. She pulls the hammer back.

She runs over to hand it to Colin.

COLIN

Give it to me!

At the last second, Brianna sticks the barrel in the side of Alyson's head and pulls the trigger.

Alyson's head EXPLODES like a pumpkin. The force of the gunshot knocks Brianna backwards. She trips over the body of Eddie and falls to the ground, her head hits the concrete, knocking her out.

COLIN

Brianna? Brianna you alright?

Colin pushes Alyson's body off and crawls over, checking Brianna.

She's still breathing. He checks her for bites or scratches... she looks clean.

More zombies rapidly approaching from all sides.

Colin checks his pistol... just one bullet left.

COLIN

Shit.

Colin grabs the unconscious Brianna and pulls her back against the wall of the church.

Zombies close in around him. There's no where to go.

Colin drops to his knees, gun in hand. He pulls the picture of Sally from his pocket, turns it over to the message written on the back.

SALLY (V.O.)

You are so brave and selfless. And now I must be the same...

COLIN

You were wrong...

Colin puts the pistol under his chin and cocks the hammer back.

COLIN

I'm sorry.

Colin closes his eyes and his finger wraps around the trigger.

SALLY (V.O.)

I love you so much. Always, Sally.

Colin suddenly opens his eyes. A zombie is right on him. It snarls at him, almost smiling.

COLIN

Fuck it.

Colin grabs the zombie by the hair, shoves the barrel of his pistol into the side of it's skull and pulls the trigger.

He throws its body to the ground and screams.

COLIN

Come on!

Out of nowhere a HELICOPTER flies low right over the church.

ARMY TRUCKS filled with armed soldiers in hazmat suits exit the vehicles and MOW DOWN the approaching zombies.

They surround Colin... moving in slowly. Colin picks up the unconscious Brianna.

COLIN

It's okay! We're not bit! We're not bit!

Another helicopter flies over.

Looking out over the church, just over the mountains is the ocean, hundreds of large ships just off shore, many of them with British flags.

FEMALE VOICE (V.O.)

Colin never did get sick, and neither did I. The virus which had crippled and decimated a nation, had finally run its course.

INT. HOUSE - BEDROOM

SUPER: 25 Years Later

Brianna, now in her thirties, sits at her desk writing a journal.

MALE VOICE (O.S.)

Brianna, dinner's ready!

BRIANNA

Be right there.

She finishes and closes her journal. Standing up, we see that she is pregnant.

THE END