

"Don't Push"

Written By

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INT. ROOM - UNKNOWN

The eyes of BILLY (16) snap open. He sucks in a deep breath and coughs violently back to consciousness.

He wears thick rimmed glasses, a nice collar shirt, and khakis.

Standing over him is NATASHA (18) a scantily dressed sex bomb of leather, high heels, and eye shadow.

NATASHA

Good, you're not dead.

Natasha kneels down beside him. Billy does a double take. She helps him to his feet.

BILLY

(Groggy.)

Where am I?

NATASHA

I was hoping you could tell me
that.

It's a dank concrete room with a one-way mirror on one wall and a heavy-duty door on another.

NATASHA

Do you remember how we got here?

BILLY

No. I don't. What's your name?

NATASHA

Natasha.

BILLY

I'm Billy. Do you remember
anything?

NATASHA

No, but there's something you
should see.

At the center of the room on the floor is a BOMB.

It's protected within a wire cage coming out of the floor.

The bomb is sitting on two small air tanks stamped with BIOHAZARD symbols.

BILLY
Jesus Christ...

Billy leans down to investigate it. He touches the wire cage and SPARKS fly.

A violent electric shock SNAPS Billy. The powerful jolt knocks him backwards against the wall.

BILLY
Son of a - !

NATASHA
Are you alright?

BILLY
(Shaking his hand)
I can't feel my hand!

A single ALARM BUZZER sounds.

AUTOMATED VOICE (V.O.)
Countdown mark. T-minus ten
minutes.

A countdown TIMER starts just above the one-way mirror.

INSERT CLOCK: 9:59... 9:58... 9:57...

NATASHA
Uh, Billy...

The bomb within the wire cage comes to life. Lights come on with CLICKING and BUZZING sounds.

BILLY
We've got to get out of here.

Billy goes to the door, but where the door knob should be - there's only a RED BUTTON that says "DON'T PUSH".

Avoiding the button, Billy ties pushing on the door. It doesn't budge. He pounds on it with his fist, then ramming it with his shoulder.

BILLY
(Calling out.)
We're trapped! Let us out!

Billy goes to the one-way mirror.

BILLY
I know you're in there! Let us out!

He pounds on the mirror.

NATASHA
It's no use. I've already tried.

BILLY
This is ridiculous.

NATASHA
What do you want to do? Should we just push the button?

BILLY
I don't know. Pushing buttons that say "don't push" doesn't seem like a good idea.

NATASHA
So what is, waiting for that bomb to go off?

BILLY
No! I mean, I don't know.

NATASHA
Billy...

Billy slams his back up against the wall, his eyes fill with emotion.

NATASHA
I'm sorry.

BILLY
(Choking back tears.)
No I am. I'm just...

Billy wipes his nose on his sleeve.

Natasha walks over to him. She gently pulls his glasses off his face. She fogs the lenses with her breath, wipes them off on her shirt, and gently places them back on his head.

Billy is lost in thought.

NATASHA
Billy?

FLASHBACK SEQUENCE - BLACK & WHITE

INT. BILLY'S HOUSE - DINING TABLE

Billy is 8 years old. He sits at the dinner table with his mom, CLAIRE (35). There's an empty seat and dinner plate at the table.

Billy reaches for food.

CLAIRe
Billy!

BILLY
Sorry.

They join hands and bow their heads.

CLAIRe
Heavenly Father, we thank you for this meal. Please watch over us and keep us safe. In Jesus name...

BILLY
Amen.

They start to eat.

CLAIRe
How was school today?

BILLY

It was okay.

CLAIRe

Just okay?

BILLY

Frankie Velasco won't leave me
alone.

CLAIRe

Is this the boy who you said took
your milk money last week?

Billy nods, his demeanor becoming sad. Claire notices. She puts a hand on his shoulder. Billy looks up at her, his eyes welling with tears.

Claire pulls Billy's glasses off, wiping them down and putting them back on his head, just like Natasha.

CLAIRe

Well, you just tell Frankie
Velasco that if he doesn't leave
you alone you'll use your super
human powers to turn him into a
fat pig.

Billy and his mom laugh.

The front door SWINGS open and Billy's dad, TODD (38) stumbles inside, holding a bottle of liquor.

TODD

Bastards! Think they can cheat me.

Todd SLAMS the door shut and staggers to the dining table.

CLAIRe

You're late for supper.

TODD

I went and had a few drinks and
poker with that sumbitch Vic.

CLAIRe

I can tell.

TODD
(Stern.)
Don't you get smart with me.
(Under his breath)
Good for nothing whore...

Todd looks over at Billy, eating his food with his fingers.

He SLAPS Billy across the face so hard his glasses fall off his face.

TODD
Use your Goddamn fork!

CLAIRE
Don't you hit him!

Todd stands up and FLIPS the table over on it's side, dishes SHATTER as they hit the floor.

He PUNCHES Claire in the face. She falls over backwards, hitting her head on the wall. Blood gushes from her nose.

Billy crawls away into a corner.

TODD
Shut yo God damn mouth, you
useless whore! I'm gonna teach you
and this little bastard of yours
some God damn manners!

Todd undoes his belt. Claire SCREAMS.

EXT. SCHOOL PARKING LOT - DAY

School bell rings and class is let out for the day.

Parents arrive picking up their kids from school, but Billy's mom is a no show.

TIME LAPSE - ONE HOUR

The parking lot is virtually empty. Billy sits on the curb, but still no sign of his mom.

He reluctantly starts to walk home.

EXT. BILLY'S HOUSE - LATER

Billy arrives home and sees that his mom's car is still parked in the driveway.

INT. BILLY'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

Billy enters the kitchen, looking about.

BILLY

Mom?

INT. LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Billy checks here. No sign of her.

INT. HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Billy approaches his parents room. The door is shut. He knocks gently.

BILLY

Mom? Mom are you in there?

Billy turns the knob and gently pushes open the door. His expression changes to pure horror.

He SCREAMS.

INT. PARENTS ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Claire has hung herself with her apron from the ceiling fan.

Her eyes are WIDE open, her mouth gaped ajar.

Claire is naked. Bruises and whip marks cover her body.

She's written a message in red lipstick across stomach. It reads "Not Your Whore Anymore."

END FLASHBACK SEQUENCE

INT. ROOM

INSERT CLOCK: 5:33... 5:32...

Natasha and Billy sit on the floor leaned up against the door. The red button is just above Billy's head.

NATASHA
I'm so sorry.

BILLY
Real piece of work right?

Natasha puts her hand on Billy's leg, she leans in and kisses him on the lips.

BILLY
Nat, what are you...

Natasha puts a finger over his lips, shushing him. She climbs over and straddles him, putting a hand on each side of his face.

NATASHA
Kiss me.

BILLY
Nat, I don't think...

She kisses him.

BILLY
Nat...

NATASHA
I'm so scared.

BILLY
I know but...

She kisses him again, this time slipping tongue into his mouth.

BILLY
Nat, please...

NATASHA
We have to push the button... it's the only way.

BILLY
Nat...

Natasha takes his right hand and pins it up against the door, she begins to slide it up towards the button.

NATASHA
Just push it... then we can leave
here... together... you and me...

Her other hand runs down his chest, rubs his crotch.

NATASHA
Let's push it together...

Billy pushes her off him. He gets up, moving away.

BILLY
No! I can't! We can't do this!

NATASHA
Billy, please. I'm begging you.
That bomb is going to kill us.

BILLY
I don't think it will.

Natasha gets up and grabs him by collar, jerking him violently.

NATASHA
Listen you little shit! I'm not going to die in here because of you. Now we have to push that button! It has got to be done!

BILLY
NO!

Billy SHOVES her away. She stumbles backwards and falls, her back landing directly on the cage of the bomb.

Natasha's body contorts and convulses, powerful electricity coursing through her body.

Billy kicks her off the bomb, she falls limp onto her side.

BILLY
Natasha...

Billy runs to her, cradling her head in his lap. She sputters back to life, coughing and choking.

NATASHA
I... can't... feel... my legs.

BILLY
It's from the shock. You'll be okay.

NATASHA
How much longer?

Billy looks at the timer.

BILLY
Eighty-eight seconds...

NATASHA
I can't move, you're going to have to push it.

BILLY
Natasha...

Natasha gazes into his eyes, a tear runs down her cheek.

NATASHA
Please.

BILLY
I'm not doing that.

NATASHA
Billy please. Push the button. You have to. Just open the door and we can leave together. You and me. That's what you want isn't it?

BILLY
Are you bribing me?

NATASHA
I'm trying to keep you from
getting us killed!

INSERT CLOCK: 0:30... 0:29... 0:28...

Bobby pulls away from Natasha. He goes over to the button.

NATASHA
All you have to do is press it...

BILLY
This is wrong.

NATASHA
You're wrong! That bomb is going
off. Billy, please. I beg you.
Please. Don't make this mistake.
Push the button!

Billy struggles as she's starting to wear him down.

His hand starts to reach for it.

NATASHA
I swear to you... this is it. This
is how we get out of this. This is
how you get what you've always
wanted. Just push the button. Save
my life.

Billy puts his hand on the button, closes his eyes and
takes a deep breath.

NATASHA
That's it. Now push it.

INSERT CLOCK: 0:10... 0:09... 0:08...

NATASHA
Push it! Come on!

Billy opens his eyes.

NATASHA
Push the fucking button!

INSERT CLOCK: 0:05... 0:04...

BILLY
(Deep breath)
God... please let me be right.

At the last second...

Bobby pulls his hand away from the button. He looks at Natasha.

BILLY
No.

Natasha's eyes turn onyx black, her teeth become spiked like shark's teeth. Her tongue becomes forked like a snake.

NATASHA
(Deep, growling voice.)
Fuck you and your God!

Her back arches up, and her limbs go into a spider-like position. She MORPHS into a DEMONIC BEAST.

She LUNGES at Billy. He screams, cowering...

The bomb EXPLODES.

A BLINDING WHITE LIGHT TURNS TO...

EXT. FIELD - DAY

...THE SUN shining down in the middle of a grassy utopian field.

Billy's eyes OPEN suddenly, he's coughing and gasping for breath. A BLURRED FIGURE leans over him, urging him back to life.

As Billy's eyes come into focus... he can't believe what he's seeing.

BILLY
Mom?

CLAIREE
I'm here Billy.

BILLY
But... it can't be...

CLAIRe
Just relax now.

Billy hugs her, getting emotional. She wraps her arms around him.

CLAIRe
I'm so proud of you. You did it.

BILLY
Am I dreaming?

CLAIRe
No Billy, it's not a dream.

BILLY
I don't understand. You can't be here...

CLAIRe
You don't remember yet, do you?

BILLY
Remember what?

CLAIRe
How you ended up in that room.

BILLY
No... I...

CLAIRe
It'll come back to you know. You just need to concentrate. Try.

BILLY
Mom, please...

CLAIRe
You need to remember. Close your eyes... it'll come back to you.
Trust me.

Billy takes a deep breath and closes his yes.

FLASHBACK SEQUENCE - BLACK & WHITE

INT. BILLY'S ROOM

Billy (16) sits weeping at his desk, finishing a letter.

He looks to a framed picture on his desk. Its of him and his mother, Claire.

TODD (O.S.)

Billy! Don't make me come up there boy!

Billy opens his drawer and pulls out a PISTOL REVOLVER. He opens the chamber -- loaded with ONE bullet.

Loud FOOT FALLS coming up the stairs.

TODD (O.S.)

I'm gonna beat the shit out of you.

Todd KICKS open the door, sees Billy.

TODD

That's my fucking gun!

BILLY

Shut up!

TODD

What'd you say to me?

Billy raises the gun.

BILLY

I said shut up.

TODD

Just what the hell do you think you're doing?

BILLY

It's all your fault! You did it!
You killed her!

TODD
Give me that fucking gun!

Billy cocks the pistol. Todd seethes.

TODD
God damn it, I am your father!

BILLY
You are a monster!

Billy raises the gun to his father's head. His hands trembling. His father rises tall, defiant.

TODD
Okay. You're so tough, shoot.
Shoot me. Right between the eyes.
Come on! Shoot me!

Billy starts to cry as his finger hugs the trigger...
At the last second... he lowers the gun.

TODD
(Laughing)
I knew you was nothing but a
pussy.

Billy shoves the barrel of the gun into his own mouth, eyes WIDE as he PULLS THE TRIGGER, blowing his brains out.

END FLASHBACK SEQUENCE.

EXT. FIELD - DAY - CONTINUED

Billy sits with his Mom in the field.

CLAIRE
You see baby...

BILLY
Oh God. God... what have I done?

CLAIRE
It's okay.

Billy cries in his mom's arms. She holds him.

CLAIRES
I'm so sorry I let you down.

BILLY
I should have been stronger.

CLAIRES
You are strong. We both are. Don't
you see? That's why we're here
now.

BILLY
Because of... ?
(Struggling)
I don't understand. Are you saying
it was all just some... test?

CLAIRES
Not just a test Billy. A second
chance.

BILLY
But a second chance at what?

CLAIRES
At faith, at redemption, at
forgiveness. Don't you see? What
we did was wrong. It was
unforgivable. But something
happened to us in our final
moment. Something happened in that
fleeting moment before death that
gave us a second chance. A chance
to once again face down all the
horrors and temptations of the
world. And despite the "no win"
adversity, we showed that we could
stand and believe in what's right,
and unlike before, this time we
did not falter.

BILLY
We?

CLAIRES
That's right. We.

BILLY

This is... I mean.. I can't even...

Claire smiles and stands, pulling Billy to his feet.

CLAIRe

Come on.

BILLY

Where are we going?

CLAIRe

There's something I'd like you to
see.

BILLY

This isn't another test is it?

Claire chuckles as she pulls Billy to his feet. They walk off together.

CLAIRe

No, no more tests, Billy. No more tests.

THE END