

Pale Flesh  
by  
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FADE IN:

EXT. ABANDONED JUNK YARD - AFTERNOON

Dust flies as a body hits the dirt THUD. A black leather boot pushes it. Rolling, it falls into a deep pit on top of several other bodies, all headless.

FADE TO BLACK.

FADE IN:

EXT. PARKING LOT - NIGHT

A car rolls to a stop in dimly lit lot facing a book store.

BRAEDEN (17) sits, almost comatose in the passenger side of an old black Lincoln Town Car. His long, thin, jet black hair hangs over a pale, white, bony face.

Int. Inside lincoln town car - night

Braeden looks over to the driver, URSULA(45), a pale, flesh draped thin frame with long white hair.

URSULA (O.S.)  
They look like your type.

Ursula reaches across the seat and her frail finger finds Braeden's chin and pulls it leftward.

Braeden stares blankly with no emotion at two girls sitting in front of a bookstore.

EXT. BOOKSTORE OUTDOOR PATIO - NIGHT

On the patio, sit two girls. LILITH(16) and ADRIANNA(16).

Lilith, black hair with hot pink streaks throughout, dark eyeliner and black lipstick, sits, laptop in front of her.

Adrianna, fire engine red hair, dog chain collar, black shirt, long skirt, boots, sits across the table.

Lilith stands up, throwing her computer bag over her shoulder.

LILITH  
I'm out chicka! Sayonara!

ADRIANNA

Follow the leader. Text me later.

Lilith climbs over the railing around the patio and Adrianna follows her. The two disappear into the parking lot.

INT. INSIDE CAR - MOMENTS LATER

Braeden and Ursula watch Lilith all the way to her car. The lights of Lilith's car come on and it drives away.

URSULA

Tomorrow.

EXT. ALLEY - NIGHT

A dark alley way, dimly lit, littered with dumpsters and cardboard boxes along the cement walls.

A HOMELESS MAN plunders through a dumpster. Suddenly, the light reflects off of a long machete blade over him.

He looks up. The sharp blade falls slicing his head off. Blood squirts from the neck while the head hits and rolls on the dirty pavement. The body falls limp.

Ursula picks up the head by its hair, blood dripping, veins and fiber dangling beneath it. She carries it down the alley.

EXT. BOOKSTORE OUTDOOR PATIO - AFTERNOON

Adrianna sips coffee. Lilith types on her computer.

EXT. PARKING LOT - MOMENTS LATER

A car comes to a stop about 100 yards from the bookstore. The passenger door opens and out steps Braeden.

Braeden, slim and tall, dressed in black skinny jeans and a long black coat, slumbers down the side walk.

As he approaches the bookstore patio, Adrianna nudges Lilith.

EXT. BOOKSTORE OUTDOOR PATIO - MOMENTS LATER

ADRIANNA

I dare ya.

Lilith holds two fingers up in peace sign.

LILITH

Waz up?

Braeden stops. He swings his head to clear the bangs out of his eyes.

LILITH (CONT'D)

Wanna hang with us?

BRAEDEN

Yeah sure.

Braeden climbs over the iron railing that surrounds the patio area.

LILITH

I'm Lilith, she's Adrianna.

Lilith points at Adrianna.

LILITH (CONT'D)

Thought I was the only one who did the fence jumpin' bit.

BRAEDEN

Monkey see, monkey do.

Braeden shrugs. His pale lips curl up in a crooked smile.

LILITH

You been spying on me or something?

The car in the distance pulls up to the curb of the bookstore patio. Ursula's bony hand waves. Braeden waves back.

ADRIANNA

Who was that?

BRAEDEN

Ursula. My umm aunt Ursula.

LILITH

I was gonna say...

As the sun goes down, a misty fog is setting in like a plush layer over the hot pavement of the parking lot.

ADRIANNA

Lils, I gotta get home. Tomorrow?

LILITH

Yeah.

ADRIANNA  
Nice meeting ya, Braeden. Later  
people.

Adrianna leaves.

LILITH  
Hungry?

Braeden just shrugs. He fumbles through the sugar caddy on  
the table.

LILITH (CONT'D)  
I'm starved. Wanna go to Mickie Ds?

BRAEDEN  
I don't have a car.

LILITH  
Come on..you can ride with me. I  
don't bite.

She softly punches him on his arm then heads toward the iron  
fence. Braeden follows Lilith as the two climb over.

INT. MCDONALDS - NIGHT

Lilith and Braeden sit at a booth in the back room of  
McDonalds. She has a tray of food.

LILITH  
You aren't hungry.

BRAEDEN  
Not for this crap.

LILITH  
I know, the food sucks but it's  
cheap. I live off the dollar menu.

Braeden picks up the salt shaker and pours a heaping mound of  
salt into the palm of his hand.

LILITH (CONT'D)  
Salt for dinner?

He picks up his hand and pours the salt into his mouth then  
licks the palm of his hand.

BRAEDEN  
I like it.

LILITH  
I like it too. On my french fries!

Lilith eats as Braeden sits across from her. He watches.

LILITH (CONT'D)  
I feel like a pig.

BRAEDEN  
Don't. I like to watch you eat. The  
satisfaction. Sense of fullness.

He pours another mound of salt in his hand and consumes it.  
Lilith looks up at Braeden.

BEEP. Lilith pulls her cell phone out of her pocket and flips  
it open.

LILITH  
Hello?

LILITH'S MOM (V.O.)  
Lillie? You need to get home.  
People are going missing. I saw it  
on the news tonight. Where are you?

LILITH  
I'm on the way home Mom. On my way.  
Bye.

Lilith flips her phone shut.

LILITH (CONT'D)  
My Mom. Typical worried parent.  
Want me to take you home?

BRAEDEN  
Nah, just take me back to the  
bookstore.

LILITH  
The bookstore's closed.

BRAEDEN  
I know. It's all good though.

Lilith gets up and begins to walk off but turns back toward  
Braeden. Braeden puts the whole salt shaker in his pocket.

LILITH  
What are you doing?

Braeden jerks his head up off guard.

BRAEDEN

They throw them away every night.  
It's no biggie.

Lilith shakes her head and turns around leading them out.

EXT. PARKING LOT - NIGHT

The fog has settled in thick. Lilith's car pulls into the lot in front of the bookstore.

INT. INSIDE LILITH'S CAR - MOMENTS LATER

Braeden looks at her. She looks at him. She leans toward him closing her eyes as her face nears his.

Just as her lips touch his they kiss. She puts her hand on his shoulder and he nuzzles around her ear.

His lips quiver near her hairline and ear. He sniffs her hair loudly. Her eyes open up. She backs away.

LILITH

What's wrong? Do I smell bad?

High beams come on just yards in front of them shining into their eyes through the thick layer of fog.

BRAEDEN

No, you smell delicious. That's my ride.

LILITH

Tomorrow?

Braeden gets out of the car and before he shuts the door he leans back in.

BRAEDEN

I'll be here.

She watches as he disappears into the glowing fog in front of her. She drives away.

INT. INSIDE OF LINCOLN TOWN CAR - MOMENTS LATER

Braeden slides into the front seat passenger side. Ursula places a brown paper bag in Braeden's lap. He opens it, looks in.

BRAEDEN

Why can't I just eat when I get hungry?

URSULA

It's important you don't. By only taking heads, I provide you with what you need.

BRAEDEN

The hunger torments me.

URSULA

If you run around feeding that way, we become a bunch of dumb trance walkers. My way, we're a breed apart. Able to walk among the living.

Braeden crumples the bag back closed, leans back and closes his eyes.

EXT. BOOKSTORE OUTDOOR PATIO - AFTERNOON

Adrianna and Lilith sit at a table. The sky is dark and THUNDER can be heard in the distance.

LILITH

We went to eat together after you left.

ADRIANNA

You did? You don't even know this guy. Tell me everything.

LILITH

He seems dope. He acts a lil strange though.

ADRIANNA

I wish I could wear make up like that. Whadda you mean by strange?

LILITH

Nothing really. He's quiet ...oh, and eats a lot of salt.

ADRIANNA

I like salt. Doesn't make me strange.

LILITH  
No, he eats like gobs of it... even  
lifted the salt shaker from the  
place.

ADRIANNA  
What the..... that's sick.

BRAEDEN  
Who's sick?

Adrianna whirls around. Behind her stands Braeden.

ADRIANNA  
Shit, Braeden! Don't do that!

LILITH  
Her ex is sick. We were talking  
bout her sick ass ex.

Braeden pulls a chair out and plops down in it.

THUNDER BOOMS.

ADRIANNA  
Looks like we're gonna have to call  
this party off.

Lilith holds her hand out.

LILITH  
Dreaded rain. Pizza?

ADRIANNA  
Yeah, I'll drive.

The rain is coming down. Lilith jumps the rail. The other two  
follow. They run in the rain through the parking lot.

INT. INSIDE ADRIANNA'S CAR - MOMENTS LATER

Inside the car, the girls wipe their make up melted faces.

Lilith pulls down the sun visor and flips the mirror down.  
She peers into it looking at the mess on her face.

As she reaches up to flip the mirror closed, she notices  
Braeden sitting in the back. His make up is perfect.

She stares. His head lifts up. He sees her looking at him in  
the mirror.

She slams the mirror up. As she folds the visor back up, the car pulls in front of a pizza parlor.

ADRIANNA  
Ok let's run for it!

The three open the doors and jump out running for cover.

Thunder BOOMS. Lightning strikes.

INT. PIZZA PARLOR - EVENING

They sit down in a dark corner of the pizza place.

Lilith uses her sleeve to wipe her face. Her black make up now a gray smudge.

ADRIANNA  
Girl's room?

The two girls get up and head to the girl's bathroom. Braeden sits alone.

INT. GIRLS BATHROOM - MOMENTS LATER

LILITH  
Did you see his face?

ADRIANNA  
Not really, why?

LILITH  
His make up is perfect!

INT. PIZZA PARLOR - MOMENTS LATER

Back at the table, they sit down. Lilith wiggles closer to Braeden. He wiggles away from her.

LILITH  
What's wrong? I told you, I don't bite.

BRAEDEN  
I might.

Braeden smiles and flips his hair to the side.

Lilith and Adrianna chuckle. Lilith reaches up and touches his cheek looking closely.

Braeden's right hand comes across and grabs her wrist in a quickness.

Lilith jumps.

BRAEDEN (CONT'D)  
I don't like people touching me.

LILITH  
No biggie it's just your make up looks untouched..permanent almost.

Lilith twists her wrist in his hand.

LILITH (CONT'D)  
Ouch.

Braeden loosens his grip letting her wrist free.

BRAEDEN  
Permanent, I guess it is.

A WAITRESS sets a pizza down on the table. The girls dig in. Braeden pours a mound of salt in his palm.

Lilith kicks Adrianna under the table. The girls watch him down the salt.

Adrianna puts her pizza down and stares at the tv overhead.

Lilith turns her head to see what Adrianna's staring at.

On the television SCREEN:

REPORTER  
More later on the six o'clock news.

Lilith turns back around.

ADRIANNA  
O M G Lills.

LILITH  
What? What happened?

ADRIANNA  
They found 30 and counting dead, unidentified bodies mutilated.

LILITH  
Where? Mom said something about people missing but....

ADRIANNA  
Right here! Not far from where I  
live! All decapitated!

LILITH  
Sick!

They start eating again.

Lilith's cell phone rings.

LILITH (CONT'D)  
Hello.

LILITH (CONT'D)  
(after pause) yeah, we heard. I  
will. (pause) Be home in a few.  
Love you.

Lilith hangs up her phone.

ADRIANNA  
Your mom?

LILITH  
Yeah, she's been watching the news.  
I gotta get home.

ADRIANNA  
I'll drop you at your car.

Adrianna leaves a ten dollar bill on the table next to the  
half eaten pizza and gets up to leave. The others follow.

EXT. BOOKSTORE PARKING LOT - EVENING

Lilith and Braeden get wave at Adrianna as she pulls off.  
Lilith turns toward Braeden.

LILITH  
I'll give ya a ride if you need  
one.

BRAEDEN  
Up to you. I thought your mom  
wanted you home.

LILITH  
She's a fraidy cat! I don't always  
do what she says. She's whatcha  
call over protective.

BRAEDEN

Alright. It's not far from here.

They open the doors to her car, climbing in.

INT. INSIDE LILITH'S CAR - MOMENTS LATER

Lilith leans over to find the keys in the console. As she lifts her head up, Braeden is right in her face.

He leans forward to kiss her. They kiss passionately.

LILITH

Ouch!

He lets her bottom lip out of the grip of his teeth. There is a little spot of blood on her mouth.

He wipes it with his hand and kisses her forehead slowly his lips quivering. Lilith pulls back away from him.

As she fumbles putting the key in, he pulls his finger up and licks the spot of blood off of it. His eyes close.

They drive down the dark streets.

BRAEDEN

Take a right.

Lilith turns the car right.

BRAEDEN (CONT'D)

Ok next left, down this dirt road.

They turn down the dirt road, lined with trees, very dark. It curves left then right, as it narrows.

BRAEDEN (CONT'D)

Right here. Turn your lights off.

An outline of an old house can be barely seen.

EXT. YARD - NIGHT

Braeden gets out walking around to the driver's side. He opens the door.

He puts his hand out and helps Lilith out.

LILITH

This is where you live?

BRAEDEN

It is. I'd invite you in, but well,  
another time.

He bends toward her. She drops her keys on the ground. They  
kiss.

Suddenly, he is pulled away. Ursula has him by the arm and  
pulls him a few feet away.

URSULA

(whispering) I told you never to  
bring anyone here.

BRAEDEN

She's leaving.

Ursula opens her long black coat revealing a shiny machete.  
She moves close to him and places it in his hand.

URSULA

It has to be done.

Her eyes turn black as she stares into Braeden's deep brown  
eyes. Braeden becomes almost trancelike.

He turns hiding the long machete behind his back. He walks  
over to the car where Lilith stands.

He leans toward her and kisses her gently.

LILITH

What the hell is her problem?

BRAEDEN

Talk about it tomorrow, ok?

Lilith shakes her head.

Braeden points toward the dirt. Her shiny keys lie before  
her. She bends over to pick them up.

Keys in hand, she looks up. Her eyes meet his. Sound of metal  
SLICING. Her face freezes. Braeden falls to a knee.

Her head falls right at his foot with her eyes frozen staring  
up at him her mouth wide open. Blood oozes into the soft  
sand.

FADE OUT.

