

SCARED YET?

By

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FADE IN:

EXT. SUBURBAN HOUSE- NIGHT

It's dark.

The small, two story house sits quietly on the neat suburban street, surrounded by similar homes on either side.

Heavy rain pours straight down.

Lightning flashes, illuminating the well kept yard for a brief moment.

The darkness returns.

A THICK THUNDER RUMBLES through the neighborhood.

INT. SUBURBAN HOUSE, KIDS ROOM

The room is small and dark. Nearly pitch black.

Just visible are two small twin sized beds on either side of the room. Small end tables sit beside each bed.

Almost dead center of the far wall is a bedroom window. Blinds cover it.

The SOUND OF RAIN POUNDING THE ROOF fills the room.

More THUNDER.

LITTLE BOY
Lizzy? Are you awake?

Beat.

LITTLE BOY
Lizzy?

LITTLE GIRL
Shut up.

A lamp is switched on. It sits on the end table next to the far left bed.

The light reveals JAMES, about 6, scrawny little blond, sitting in his bed. He clutches his super hero themed comforter.

On the other side of the room, the light reveals LIZZY, about 10, thin redhead, lying in her princess themed bed. She pulls her comforter over her head.

LIZZY
Stop it, James.

JAMES
I can't sleep.

LIZZY
Then turn the light off, dummy.

Lizzy tosses and turns, annoyed.

JAMES
Aren't you scared?

No answer.

JAMES
Lizzy?

LIZZY
Shut up, James!

James SIGHS.

He gets out of bed and moves to the window, opens the blinds.

THROUGH THE WINDOW

It's too dark to see anything. Just shapes and shadows.

BACK TO SCENE

JAMES
I'm scared...

Lizzy grunts.

LIZZY
Go to sleep.

James glances over at Lizzy, frowns. Turns back to the window.

THROUGH THE WINDOW

Lighting flashes, briefly revealing a PALE WOMAN in a white night gown. She stands in the front lawn and glares up at the window.

She disappears back into the darkness.

BACK TO SCENE

James' eyes go wide with horror. He takes a step back from the window.

JAMES
(voice cracks)
L-lizzy...

Frustrated, Lizzy pops up from under her comforter.

LIZZY
I said go to sl-

She sees how scared James is. Concern spreads across her face.

LIZZY
James? What...?

James slowly lifts his shaky hand and points to the window.

JAMES
Mommy's in the yard...

Lizzy's expression shifts from concern to anger.

LIZZY
That's not funny.

Tears start to well up in James eyes. He shudders with fear.

Lizzy gets out of bed and walks over to the window. She looks back to James, then back to the window.

Squints her eyes.

LIZZY
No one's out there, dummy. You're just tired.

James shakes his head 'no'. His bottom lip quivers.

JAMES
She was there. She looked mad...

Lizzy shrugs it off and walks over to him.

LIZZY
You're mind is playing tricks on you. Come on...

She puts her arm around his shoulder and leads him to her bed.

LIZZY (CONT)
You can sleep with me tonight.

They both get under the covers in her bed. She wraps her arm around him and pulls him close.

LIZZY
We'll even keep your light on.

James doesn't look comforted. His wide eyes are fixed on the window.

JAMES
You're not scared?

LIZZY
Not even a little bit.

JAMES
But... It was our fault... Even daddy said so...

Lizzy SIGHS.

LIZZY
He didn't mean that, James. It was... It was an accident...

More THUNDER.

JAMES
But it was our fault... And she looked mad...

A LOW BOOM as the lamp shuts off. The electric is out.

James WHIMPERS.

LIZZY
It's alright, James. It's just the power.

Lizzy shuffles around in the dark, opens a drawer in her side table. She clicks on a flashlight, shines it on James.

LIZZY
It's fine, James. Everything's okay.

She goes to get out of bed, but is pulled back by James.

JAMES
No! Don't go!

LIZZY
It's okay. I'm just gonna see if
dad can get the lights back on.

James shakes his head back and forth, pleads for her not to go.

JAMES
Please stay, Lizzy. Please.

LIZZY
James, there's nothing to be scared
of. It's just the storm, that's
all.

JAMES
No. It's her!

CREAK.

Lizzy and James snap their heads over to the bedroom door, which slowly swings open.

Lizzy focuses the flashlight on the empty door frame.

James trembles.

JAMES
Scared yet?

No response.

Lizzy pulls away from James and gets out of the bed.

JAMES
No! Lizzy, don't go.

LIZZY
I'm gonna go get dad.

She steps towards the open door, tries to look brave.

JAMES
Come back, Lizzy. Please come back.

She is almost at the door.

WOMAN (O.S.)
(raspy voice)
Lizzy...

Lizzy stops dead in her tracks. She gulps.

The flashlight shakes in her hand.

ON THE DOOR FRAME

The SOUND OF FOOTSTEPS (O.S.) slowly grow louder, closer to the empty door frame.

The light trembles.

Slowly PALE FINGERS REACH OUT from behind the frame and grasp around it, grip it tight.

WOMAN (O.S.)
(raspy voice)
... Come to mommy...

BACK TO SCENE

The flashlight drops to the floor.

Lizzy turns and dashes for her bed.

Just as she reaches it a PALE HAND SHOOTS OUT from under the bed, grabs her ankle, and she is PULLED UNDERNEATH THE BED.

James throws the comforter over his head as he curls up in a ball and sobs.

Lizzy screams (O.S.), followed by a SICKENING SNAP.

Silence.

A few beats.

The silence is deafening.

Very slowly, James lowers the comforter from his head. He peaks around, but it's too dark to see anything.

Just shapes and shadows.

He WHIMPERS.

Tears stream down his cheeks.

Then, at the foot of the bed, something slowly rises.

WOMAN
(raspy voice)
James...

Lightning flashes and briefly lights up the room, reveals the PALE WOMAN'S SCOWLING FACE at the foot of the bed!

CUT TO:

James pops out of his bed, covered in sweat. He tries to catch his breath.

The lamp on his end table is on.

It was just a dream.

James exhales, relieved.

JAMES

Lizzy?

He looks over to his sisters bed and sees DONALD, mid 30's, standing over Lizzy.

Donald SOBS as he presses a pillow against Lizzy's face.

Lizzy doesn't struggle, completely limp.

James doesn't move, confused and scared.

JAMES

D-daddy... ?

Slowly Donald turns to James, still has the pillow pressed over Lizzy's face. He sniffles.

DONALD

(distraught)

It's your fault...

SMASH TO:

BLACK