

SUBURBIA

By

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FADE IN

INT. SIMON FULLER'S HOUSE - BEDROOM - DAY

SIMON FULLER(28) and LIZZY FULLER(25) sleep soundly in each others arms. Only their faces visible above the duvet of their double bed.

The alarm clock sounds loudly. Showing 7am.

Simon yawns and slowly sits up in bed.

He gets out of bed in his shorts and walks over to the window. He opens the curtains to reveal a beautiful sunny morning.

Lizzy stirs in the bed.

LIZZY

Ah, you shit head Simon.

Simon turns to face his wife with a mischievous grin.

He walks towards the door as ERIN(6) runs past him and jumps on the bed.

ERIN

Morning Daddy. Morning Mommy.

Lizzy cuddles her in as Simon stops at the doorway.

SIMON

Morning cutie, you get your Mommy up now. She promised to make you pancakes remember?

Lizzy shakes her head at Simon as he laughs and walks out.

Erin starts jumping on the bed.

ERIN

Pancakes! Pancakes! Pancakes!

Lizzy rolls her eyes then smiles up at Erin.

LIZZY

(shouting through to Simon)
Thanks for that.

SIMON(O.C)

Not a problem dear.

Lizzy laughs and gets up.

LIZZY

Come on then, these pancakes won't
make themselves.

Erin cheers and runs out the room.

EXT. SUBURBIA - DAY

The street is lined with identical, perfect houses as Simon runs along at a very good pace. His muscles flex in the shorts and T-Shirt he wears.

An OLD MAN picks up the mail and papers in one of the gardens. He looks up and sees Simon approach and waves.

Simon waves back silently as he carries on his run.

EXT. SIMON FULLER'S DRIVE - DAY

Two sporty cars are parked. A RED PORCHE 911 and a BLACK JAGUAR S TYPE.

Lizzy puts Erin in the child seat at the back of the Jaguar.

Simon walks out the front door wearing a suit. Lights flash on the Porche as he pushes a button on his car key.

SIMON

I'll be back around six honey. You remember we got Tom and Alison coming over for poker tonight yeah?

LIZZY

How could I forget? You've been going on about it all week.

SIMON

(laughing)

Well, we haven't played for months.

He walks over and squats down next to Erin.

SIMON

And as for you little Miss. You have a fantastic day at school OK?

ERIN

I will Daddy. I love you.

Simon kisses Erin and stands back up.

LIZZY

Call me when your on your way home
OK hon?

Simon kisses Lizzy as he walks over to his car.

SIMON

Yeah I will Lizzy. Love ya.

LIZZY

Love you too. Now get to work.

Simon stands to attention and salutes.

They both laugh as they get into their separate cars.

The cars reverse out of the driveway simultaneously. They drive off in separate directions.

INT/EXT. SIMON'S CAR - BUSY MAIN ROAD - DAY

'Sympathy for the Devil' plays as Simon drives along slowly in the traffic.

He taps the steering wheel and sings along to the music as the traffic grinds to a halt.

INT. OFFICE - DAY

The secretary, SARAH(22), types away at her computer. Her natural good-looks masked by her work clothes and glasses.

The phone rings on her desk. She picks up the receiver.

SARAH

Good Morning, Simon Fuller's off...

INT/EXT. SIMON'S CAR - DAY

The traffic is still at a stand-still.

SIMON

Sarah, it's me. I'm stuck in traffic so I'm gonna be a little late. Has Chang called yet?

Sarah relaxes from her work demeanour.

SARAH(O.C)

No, not yet Simon. Should I put him through to your cell if he does before you get in?

SIMON

Yeah if you could, thanks. I should be in by ten.

Simon loosens his tie and throws it in the back.

SIMON

Oh, and Sarah could you call Tom for me and make sure he's remembered about tonight?

SARAH(O.C)

Consider it done. See you when you get in.

Simon switches off the hands free and relaxes back in his seat. He opens the window wide and turns the music up.

INT/EXT. LIZZY'S CAR - QUIET ROAD - DAY

Erin giggles in the back seat as Lizzy drives the car along slowly.

LIZZY

Is it...clouds?

Erin laughs loudly and shakes her head.

ERIN

Nope, give in?

Lizzy laughs too.

LIZZY

I think I'll have to. You're getting too good at this game kidda.

The car comes to a junction and slows.

Lizzy looks left then right and slowly turns the car left.

ERIN

It was carpe....

A speeding car CRASHES into the side of them.

The right side of the car caves in.

The side windows SHATTER. The shards spray into the car.

The driver of the other car flies through the windscreen.

BANG! He lands on the bonnet of Lizzy's car.

The car HORN sounds continuously.

INT. OFFICE - DAY

Simon strolls into the office and tosses his briefcase onto his desk.

Sarah follows him through to his office.

He smiles at Sarah as he sits down at his desk.

SIMON

Good morning, gorgeous.

Sarah returns the smile as she shakes her head.

SARAH

Morning Simon. You're looking very chirpy for a Monday.

SIMON

Well, let's just say it's been a very good weekend Sarah. Did you have a good one?

Sarah pouts and looks to the ground.

SARAH

Simon, about what happened last week...I...

Sarah looks at Simon shyly.

SIMON

We talked about that Sarah. We agreed, it was a mistake.

Sarah plays with her hair and sits on the edge of Simon's desk.

SARAH

I know we did, it's just...it's just...

Sarah's phone rings. She looks sadly at Simon, who smiles and shrugs. She walks back to her desk.

Simon leafs through his briefcase and takes out relevant papers.

The phone on his desk buzzes. He clicks the lit button.

SIMON
Yes Sarah?

SARAH(O.C)
It's...it's the hospital Simon.
They'll only speak to you.

Simon's smile fades into a frown.

SIMON
Put them through Sarah.

He picks up the handset quickly.

SIMON
Yes, this is Simon Fuller what's
happened?

A moment passes as he listens. He almost drops the phone but
recovers.

SIMON
An accident? Are they OK?
(beat)
I'm on my way.

He hangs up the phone and rushes out of the office. Sarah
shouts after him after he passes her.

SARAH
What's happened? Simon, what's
happened? Are they OK?

INT. WAITING ROOM - HOSPITAL - DAY

Simon sits alone with his head bowed.

A NURSE walks past and Simon jumps to his feet.

SIMON
Please. Fuller? My wife and
daughter, are they OK?

The nurse smiles sympathetically at Simon.

NURSE
I really don't know Sir, I'm sorry.
I'm sure everybody is doing all
they can.

She walks off as Simon paces back and forth frantically.

A door opens and the young DOCTOR walks in grave-faced.

DOCTOR
Mr Fuller?

SIMON
Yes, yes how are they? Can I see
them?

Simon's eyes are filling with tears as he clings onto the doctors sleeve.

The doctor is pained and can't seem to find the words for a moment.

DOCTOR
Maybe you should sit down Mr
Fuller.

Simon pushes the doctors arm away. The doctor stumbles a little.

SIMON
I don't want to sit down. I want to
see Lizzy and Erin.

DOCTOR
Mr Fuller, when your wife got here
she had severe injuries and
internal bleeding.

Simon moves to push the doctor again but stops, his face contorted in anger. He turns his back and squats on the floor. His head in his hands.

DOCTOR
I'm sorry Mr Fuller, we did all we
could.

Simon rocks back and forth on the floor.

SIMON
My daughter? What about Erin?

DOCTOR
She's touch and go. She's in
surgery now, we'll let you know as
soon as there is any news.

Simon sobs quietly. His eyes bloodshot red as he slowly rises to his feet.

The doctor moves his hand to Simon's shoulder then changes his mind. He pulls his hand back.

DOCTOR
 We'll let you know as soon as there
 is any news Mr Fuller.

The doctor walks back through the door.

Simon lets out a gut-wrenching roar as he kicks out at the plastic chairs.

INT. SURGERY - HOSPITAL

The nurses walk around busily.

Erin is almost hidden by the amount of wires and machines that are attached to her.

WAITING ROOM

Simon leans against the wall, his head in his hands.

SLOW HOLLOW FOOTSTEPS fill the room as DR. FRANCIS(42) walks into the room. He wears all black and is of Italian origin. He smiles towards Simon and picks up a chair, putting it back on it's legs. He sits down.

DR FRANCIS
 I always feel that anger is the
 best way to release pain Simon,
 don't you agree?

Simon looks at Dr. Francis for the first time. He grunts and checks his watch.

DR FRANCIS
 I'm sorry I'm Dr. Francis...I'm a
 counsellor.

Simon gives Dr. Francis an angry look.

SIMON
 My daughter is in surgery...doctor.

Dr. Francis smiles and readjusts his glasses.

DR FRANCIS
 Yes, yes I know. It's just when
 somebody is in your position we
 like to offer them some...

He looks around as if he can't find the words.

DR FRANCIS
...council.

Simon shakes his head and pours himself a cup of water from the machine.

SIMON
Well thanks for the offer doctor,
but I'll be fine. My daughter will
be fine.

DR FRANCIS
Yes, yes you'll be fine, she'll be
fine.

Dr. Francis stands up and walks towards Simon.

DR FRANCIS
She **will** be fine if you really
want her to be though, Simon?

Simon looks up at Dr. Francis in shock at what's been said.

SIMON
If I want her to be? What the fuck
is that supposed to mean?

Simon walks up and down the room. He looks up and down the corridor.

SIMON
What did you say your name was
doctor?

DR FRANCIS
I said it was Francis and it was
quite a straight forward question I
asked too. Could be worth your
while answering it, and maybe
without the profanities.

Simon walks back over to Dr. Francis and stands inches away from him.

SIMON
My wife has just died doctor and my
six year old daughter is in
surgery. Excuse me if my temper is
a little frayed.

Dr. Francis smiles and pours himself a cup of water. He is not affected at all by Simon's close proximity.

DR FRANCIS
Just answer the question Simon.

Simon knocks the cup of water out of Dr. Francis' hand.

SIMON
Yes, of course I want my daughter
to be fine. Now get the fuck out of
here.

Dr Francis' smile hasn't dropped despite the water.

DR FRANCIS
Well the bad news is she's in a
very bad way Simon, so I think I
might need a little more conviction
than that.

SIMON
More conviction? How about get the
fuck out of here now you fucking
quack!

Simon goes to punch Dr. Francis but he catches his fist,
Simon grimaces at the tight grip.

Dr. Francis releases Simon's fist.

SIMON
Who the fuck are you?

Dr. Francis takes off his glasses and cleans them.

DR FRANCIS
I'm Dr. Francis and I'm here to
offer you a deal. Your life for
your daughter's life.

SIMON
A deal? I think I'll take my
chances with the real doctor rather
than a whacko thanks very much.

Simon walks back over to the chairs and sits down.

Dr. Francis leans back against the wall and watches Simon.

DR FRANCIS
That's entirely your choice Simon,
but when that doctor walks back
through that door it will be to
tell you one thing and one thing
alone. Your daughter is dead. Erin
is dead.

Simon jumps back up, a nervous laugh escapes his lips as he shakes his head.

SIMON

Listen buddy, you could get into some serious trouble for what you're doing here. Just go back to what ever ward you escaped from and I won't complain.

DR FRANCIS

I am the doctor Simon, I'm the only doctor that can help you now. You have to decide.

Dr. Francis looks through the windows of the double doors then at the clock on the wall.

DR FRANCIS

You don't have long Simon. Do you want your daughter to live? Do you want to take her place?

Tears now stream down Simon's face as he glares at Dr. Francis. Disbelief still behind his gaze but now a clearer emotion. Fear.

SIMON

I'll do anything for Erin. Now if this is some kind of joke I will make sure you feel this pain yourself...

Dr. Francis walks over to Simon and holds him.

Simon bursts into tears as a glow starts to circle the pair of them.

SURGERY

Erin flat lines.

The doctor uses electrocardial paddles on her. Four attempts and no response.

Finally we hear the machine beep again.

The doctor smiles and gets congratulated by the nurses around him.

The nurses file out of the room and head in different directions.

He walks out of surgery and into the -

WAITING ROOM

The doctor runs over to Simon who holds his chest as he lies on the floor.

DOCTOR
(shouting out)
Somebody get over here, this man is
having a heart attack.

As Simon collapses on the floor the doctor starts doing CPR.

SLOW HOLLOW FOOTSTEPS fill the room as several nurses rush to help the doctor.

THROUGH THE SURGERY DOOR WINDOW

Dr. Francis sits next to Erin's bed. He strokes her hair softly as he stares forward. Erin is still unconscious.

SURGERY

Dr. Francis looks down at Erin with a fatherly smile.

DR FRANCIS
Don't worry special one, you'll be
just fine.

He strokes his hand across her cheek.

DR FRANCIS
So very special, because you've
been chosen. Chosen to do some
amazing things.

SMASH TO

INT. FIRE

Simon, naked, burns. He lets out a silent SCREAM as the fire consumes his whole body.

DR FRANCIS(V.O)
People will worship you when the
time comes Erin.

The fire subsides.

It sparks up again with a loud ROAR.

Simon, mouth wide open in agony.

DR FRANCIS(V.O)
People have waited so long for him
to come...they can wait a few more
years for you to be ready.

DISSOLVE TO

INT. WAITING ROOM

Simon's body gets wheeled away.

The doctor stands with a nurse.

DOCTOR
No, I have no idea. No
identification at all. Guess he'll
just have to be John Doe unless
someone calls.

The nurse shakes her head and walks off.

DOCTOR
(to himself)
Now where is that girl's father?

He turns around and looks through into the surgery.

He looks confused as he sees Francis.

DOCTOR
How...how did he get in there?

He walks through the doors.

DOCTOR
Mr Fuller, how on Earth did you get
in here?

THROUGH THE SURGERY DOOR WINDOW

Dr. Francis stares straight ahead. A smile on his face.

FADE TO BLACK

THE END