THESE EMPTY STREETS

(A Short Film)

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FADE IN:

EXT. STREET - NIGHT

The street is deserted. All we see are street lights shining harsh yellow-orange light across the street. Along this street there are only three lampposts, each casting a harsh glow for only a short circumference.

We hear a low scraping sound. The camera pans around to each side of the street. There is no one that we can see. There is an air of creepiness.

The camera pans to one side of the street and a few feet over we see a man round the corner. He walks slowly with his head down.

He is dragging a woman. He's dragging her the ankle of one leg. Her body drags behind him, scraping along the concrete.

We see her eyes, they are closed. Her mouth is bloody, as if she is wearing dark red lipstick. Her arms drag abover her head, limp.

The man is tall, his dark stringy hair hands across his face, obscuring his eyes. The bottom half of his face is covered with what seems to be a brown paper mask. His eyes are obscured in the dark.

Suddenly, we hear giggling a distance away.

EXT. STREET - CONTINUOUS

SARAH, 24, and her boyfriend LUKE, 23, are laughing and having a good time. LUKE has his arms around SARAH and they are walking slowly. They both seem to be a bit drunk.

LUKE You know you liked it.

SARAH No, I didn't. You made a fool of yourself in the club. You couldn't even dance!

LUKE Babe, I can dance. You saw me! Here, look!

LUKE busts a few moves, awkwardly. He stumbles to the side and regains his composure.

SARAH stops and laughs at him.

SARAH Yeah, that was real smooth, Michael Jackson.

LUKE

Whatever.

They walk along the street, about to turn the curve.

CUT TO:

EXT. STREET - CONTINUOUS

The tall man, is halfway down the street now. He is walking slowly and suddenly he stops. He stands still in the middle of the empty street. He still holds the woman by her ankle.

The street is empty, and there is no wind. We can hear every noise in town. There is the sound of music a few blocks away, and a car horn honking, here and there.

The tall man hangs his head and we cannot see his eyes yet. He is quite imposing and frankly, terrifying.

CUT TO:

EXT. STREET - CONTINUOUS

LUKE and SARAH round the corner, laughing and teasing each other.

SARAH (laughing) I know, I look sexy in the-

She stops and her eyes widen in terror.

SARAH (CONT'D)

Whoa!

LUKE is looking at her and smiling as she stops and pulls him back. He looks at her quizzically and then looks over at what she's seeing.

We see from their view, the back of the Tall Man. He is standing in the middle of the street.

They see the GIRL laying on the ground, not moving.

SARAH takes a few steps back.

SARAH Luke, let's get out of here.

She grabs Luke by the shirt and attempts to pull him in the opposite direction. He grabs her hands and tugs it off him.

LUKE Do you see that?

He points towards the tall man.

SARAH

What?

LUKE

That!

He points down to the ground behind the tall man.

LUKE (CONT'D) What the fuck is that?

That camera pans over to the girl laying on the street. We see her eyes. They are now open.

SARAH I wanna go now! Luke! Let's go!

LUKE It's a fucking body!

LUKE starts walking over to the tall man, but SARAH grabs him by the shirt.

SARAH What the fuck are you doing?

LUKE I'm going to see what's happening, Sarah. In case you didn't see, that's a fucking body on the

ground. Maybe he beat her up.

SARAH Then call the police, Batman. Let's get out of here!

SARAH is now pleading with LUKE. We can see the desperation in SARAH'S face. She is terrified.

LUKE

No. I'm going to see what's happening. You can go or you can stay here.

LUKE starts walking over to the tall man.

LUKE (CONT'D) (to tall man) Hey! What the fuck's going on?!

CUT TO:

EXT. STREET - CONTINUOUS

We see a shot of the tall man from his face. He is still in the same position. We see in the background LUKE walking towards the tall man.

Slowly the tall man lifts his head up until he is looking straight again. We see a glimpse of his eyes beneath his stringy hair. We see only ice blue eyes. Ice blue eyes that start cold into the street.

CUT TO:

EXT. STREET - CONTINUOUS

LUKE is a few feet away from the tall man when he suddenly stops as he takes a good look at the woman on the ground.

He sees the BLOOD on her mouth, the WHITES of her eyes. He takes a few steps back and collides with SARAH, who was unknowingly behind him.

LUKE

Fuck!

SARAH (tugs his shirt) Let's go, Luke!

LUKE grabs SARAH and points at the woman on the floor. She sees the body and screams.

The Tall Man does not move. He still stares straight ahead.

LUKE I don't know what's going on her. LUKE takes a few tentative steps towards the tall man. SARAH tries to grab him but he bats her hands away, annoyed.

LUKE (CONT'D) (to tall man) Hey man, what's going on? What did you do to that girl?

SARAH follows a few paces behind LUKE. Tears are streaming down her eyes and she has one hand over her mouth to stifle what she knows would be a scream.

LUKE is now a couple feet away from the girl. He bends over and puts a hand on the girl's neck, feeling for a pulse.

He looks over at SARAH, frightened. He shakes his head. She knows what it means.

LUKE (CONT'D) Fuck man, what did you do? I'm gonna call the police.

He stares up at the back of the tall man, who is still not moving.

He hold out his hand as he takes a few tentative steps. He feels SARAH's hand on the collar of his shirt. He reaches behind and grasps her hand. She is now next to him as he slowly reaches over and touches the Tall man.

He does not move.

LUKE (CONT'D) What the fuck, man.

His voice is now on the verge of hysterical. LUKE and SARAH take a few steps till they are now staring at the TALL MAN in his face.

They see his eyes.

LUKE and SARAH look at the tall man, but the tall man is not focusing on them. He still stares beyond them, as if they are invisible.

SARAH Let's go. Let's call the police.

LUKE Gimme your phone, Sarah.

SARAH'S hands are trembling as she reaches into her pockets and pulls out her phone. She hands it to LUKE who dials 911. OPERATOR (V.O.) 911, what's your emerg-

Suddenly, the TALL MAN grabs the LUKE'S HAND and squeezes violently. We hear a crushing sound as the phone breaks along with LUKE'S hand.

LUKE pushes back and tries to force himself from the man's grip. SARAH screams and yanks LUKE backward until his hand is free and they go sprawling onto the concrete.

LUKE is now crying and in horrible pain. His fingers seem to be bending in all directions, like waves in the ocean.

> LUKE What the fuck?! Ahhh!!!

SARAH is crying and trying to cradle LUKE'S fingers but does not touch them.

The TALL MAN takes a step forward. They look up and see the brown paper mask on the lower half of his face. Crudely drawn with what seems to be black marker is a thin upward curve. A smile.

With quick agility, in one swoop the Tall Man grabs LUKE by the neck and lifts him off his feet. The Tall Man squeezes hard and we hear the sounds of breaking bones.

SARAH gets up and starts pounding away at the man with her fists.

SARAH Let. Him. Go. Mother. Fucker!

She keeps pounding away and the grabs at his face. She then grabs the brown paper mask and yanks it off his face. When she sees what is underneath, she screams harder, and recoils, falling down.

We see that the mouth of the Tall Man has been sewn shut. What used to be a nose was now just a piece of flesh hanging off his face.

The Tall Man's blue eyes seem to grow more cold now. He contorts his face into a rage and looks up at LUKE.

The camera goes closer to LUKE'S face and we see complete fear. Tears come streaming out of his eyes as the TALL man snaps his neck and lets go.

LUKE'S body falls into a heap on the ground. He is now dead.

SARAH screams in horror. She starts crying and crawls over to LUKE'S body and cradles it.

SARAH (CONT'D) No. No. No.

She cries.

The Tall Man takes a few slow steps, bends down, and picks up his mask. He ties it back onto his face and looks at SARAH.

We hear his breathing amidst SARAH's sobs. She looks up and stares at him in fear.

We then see rage slowly building over her. She suddenly gets up and starts pounding her fists on his chest. The Tall Man keeps stepping backwards while SARAH keeps pounding.

The TALL MAN then grabs SARAH by the wrist and flings her down on the ground.

She screams as she hits the ground. She looks up at the TALL MAN in fear.

He is now coming towards her. Step after step, slowly. SARAH moves backwards, still staring up at him.

In one quick swoop the tall man grabs SARAH by the neck. We focus on the terror in her eyes.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. STREET - CONTINUOUS

We see the TALL MAN, walking slowly. He is on a different street now. He walks slowly, his ice blue eyes staring ahead. He grasps the ankles of a body dragging behind him.

The camera moves slowly from the ankle of the body, down to the legs where we see the familiar clothes of SARAH. The camera keeps moving across her body until we get to the face of SARAH. A red streak of blood slides out of the side of her mouth.

Her eyes are open and her eyes stare straight into the camera.

The camera lings on her gaze for a beat.

CUT TO:

EXT. STREET - CONTINUOUS

We see the back of the TALL MAN from a distance, walking slowly, dragging SARAH behind him.

The camera starts to back up as the TALL MAN stops mid tracks and hangs his head. He does not move.

In the distance we hear two men laughing and talking around the corner.

FADE TO BLACK.

THE END