

BLACKOUT

By

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EXT. FRONT LAWN - DAY

Half a dozen people drag themselves, showing little interest, through the garage sale that's happening on a desolate street with barely any houses on.

The tables, no more than three, hold items that are of hardly any use.

EMMA PITCHER, 35, wanders through the zombie like people with her eyes on various junk.

She's carrying a plastic bag, folded up, in the hopes that she will buy something new.

She picks up a DVD and gives it a look over then places it back on the table.

She moves to the last table and is almost about to give up.

A YOUNG BOY, 8, walks up behind the table. He is dirty looking and his clothes are out of his age range and stick to him.

Emma sees him and is shocked at the state of the child but she tries not to show it.

EMMA

Hello.

The Boy glares at her.

She moves on to make her way to the front gate.

Emma turns to see the Boy glaring at her, still - this time he's baring his teeth at her. Gritted - and dirty.

EMMA

Do you need your Mum?

(a beat)

Can you not talk?

The Boy holds his arm up to reveal a clear see through bag containing Jigsaw Puzzle pieces.

Emma looks around to see nobody else paying any attention.

She approaches the Boy.

EMMA

Okay...how much?

The Boy continues to stare her out.

(CONTINUED)

EMMA (cont'd)
If you want me to have it, you're
going to have to tell me how much
it is.

The Boy points to a sign saying EVERYTHING MUST GO.

He holds the bag out and Emma takes it.

EMMA (cont'd)
Thank you.

The Boy - finally - takes his eyes off her and runs into the house.

Emma gives the house a look over then leaves the garden holding the bag of Puzzle pieces.

INT. EMMA'S HOUSE - EVENING

Emma enters and puts the bag on the floor.

She hangs her coat up and takes her shoes off.

CUT TO

Red/white wine fills a glass and Emma picks it up.

INT. EMMA'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - LATER

She sits down, puts her feet up and turns the Television on.

FADE TO

INT. EMMA'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Emma, near sleep, is still watching the TV.

The power cuts out.

She gets up to look outside and sees the rest of her street is without power.

EMMA
The whole street...great.

She takes her phone out of her pocket and uses it as a light to see where the box of matches are for her candles.

She finds them and lights them and sits back down.

Looking around for something to do she spies the bag of puzzle pieces sitting by the front door.

INT. EMMA'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - LATER

Emma is sitting at a dining room table with all of the puzzle pieces overturned and facing her.

EMMA

(annoyed)

Having the box would've been a great help.

She picks pieces up and starts clipping them together.

FADE TO

The frame of the puzzle is complete and she starts placing pieces in from the bottom and work her way upwards.

LATER -

Emma is now starting to get in the hang of things.

She begins singing under her breath to keep her entertained.

Her eyes are getting excited as she is getting through the puzzle with ease.

She starts to get to the last four or five pieces and that's when the dread kicks in.

The place in the puzzle is awfully familiar.

She squints to look closer and more clearly - the bottle of wine didn't help.

The puzzle is of a young woman sitting in a darkened room only lit up by candle light doing a puzzle on a table. The young woman is Emma!.

Only one piece left - The door window.

She places it in and does a double take - THERE'S A MAN LOOKING AT HER THROUGH THE WINDOW!

She turns to the door and sees it's now wide open.

Her eyes, wide, look to the side and is met with a hand covering her face.

CUT TO BLACK

The End