

DEJA REVE

Written by

Sleeping Beauty

OVER BLACK

The WAIL of an AMBULANCE SIREN.

CUT TO:

INT. HOSPITAL EMERGENCY DEPT. - NIGHT

BOOM! ER doors crash open by the force of a gurney. PARAMEDICS, NURSES, DOCTORS, rushing, a tangle of urgent voices. One of the PARAMEDICS, male, 30s, takes charge.

PARAMEDIC

Thirty five year old male, found unresponsive at home. Tachycardic, high fever, low oxygen levels.

CLOSE on a NURSE, SARA, 20s, as she gets a glimpse of the PATIENT, JARROD EDWARDS, 35, male, being rushed into an ER bay, her eyes fly open in surprise. She looks up to see a DOCTOR, ETHAN DAVIS male, 30s running to the scene.

SARA

(frantically)

It's Dr. Edwards!

Dr. Davis, equally concerned, looks to the patient, then to the Paramedic.

DR. DAVIS

What's happened here?

PARAMEDIC

Not sure, sir. We got a call for an unresponsive patient. When we arrived on the scene, we found it was Dr. Edwards. His wife was with him. She called 911 on arriving home and finding him on the floor. She followed us in. She should be here shortly.

Dr. Davis calls out a litany of emergent orders.

DR. DAVIS

Get an EKG, labs, and a Chest X-ray stat. Increase his O2, prepare for possible intubation!

Another flurry of activity as the emergency crew responds to the orders.

Dr. Davis continues to keep watch on the patient, obvious concern clouds his face. He rubs his forehead and shakes his head. Sara secures an IV in Edwards' arm then looks to Dr. Davis.

SARA
What's wrong with him?

DR. DAVIS
I have no idea. He worked his shift yesterday. He was supposed to be back in again tonight, but he called and said he was ill and he'd see us tomorrow. That's the last I heard from him.

Another flurry of voices from outside the room.

NURSE (O.C.)
Ma'am wait! You can't go in there.

WOMAN (O.C.)
That's my husband! You can't keep me from seeing him.

The WOMAN, EMILY EDWARDS, 30s, harried, rushes in the room.

Dr. Davis goes to her immediately holding her back as she tries to push through the ER staff working furiously over her husband.

DR. DAVIS
Emily! Let them work, we're doing all we can right now.

Emily breaks into sobs.

EMILY
Ethan, you have to save him!

They obviously know each other. Dr. Davis continues to hold Emily.

DR. DAVIS
Emily, what happened?

EMILY
(still a bit frantically)
I don't know. He texted me at work earlier saying he didn't feel well and wasn't going to work his shift tonight, but that's the last I heard from him.
(MORE)

EMILY (CONT'D)

When I got in from the office, I found him...on the floor. I thought he was asleep, but he was burning with fever and I couldn't wake him up, so I called 911.

From O.C. A LOUD MECHANICAL ALARM sounds.

PARAMEDIC

Asystole! We've lost a heart beat. His body temp is 104 and rising! CODE BLUE!

Dr. Davis turns to another NURSE and barks to her.

DR. DAVIS

(indicating Emily)
Get her out of here!

And then to the staff.

DR. DAVIS (CONT'D)

Get the crash cart! Turn those fluids up, get a cooling blanket on him now!

The Nurse takes Emily from Dr. Davis, attempting to move her outside the room. Emily struggles.

EMILY

No! No! Please, God!

DR. DAVIS

(even more urgently)
Get her out, now!

The Nurse finally succeeds in removing Emily from the room. From O.C. we hear her SCREAMS of agony.

The team continues to work over Jarrod furiously. CPR, additional IV bags go up, CLOSE on a syringe of medication held by Dr. Davis. As its contents enter an IV line, the room begins to FADE along with the frantic voices. The walls appear to MELT into a MIST. A deadly quiet descends as we are...

LOOKING DOWN FROM ABOVE. From that POV, we now see it is Emily on the gurney. It is Emily that Dr. Davis injects with medication. Emily suddenly bolts upright as we hear the ECHO of her earlier screams...

EMILY (O.C.)

No! No! Please, God!

A MALE VOICE shouts. It is Jarrod Edwards.

JARROD
Emily! No! Ethan stop! What are you
doing? That's Emily!

He attempts to rush toward Dr. Davis, but something invisible seems to restrain him. Sweat beads his face as he struggles in vain.

JARROD (CONT'D)
Ethan! You're killing her! You're
killing her!

He breaks into sobs, unable to reach Dr. Davis but still screaming at him.

JARROD (CONT'D)
Ethan, that's my wife! I love her!
I love her....

Great sobs rack his body as the mist slowly envelops the scene.

FADE TO BLACK.

INT. HOSPITAL ER - NIGHT - A WHILE LATER

Dr. Davis exits the door of the ER Room. Exhaustion and stress are chiseled into his face. From his POV we see Emily, still sobbing, seated on a waiting room chair, a hospital CHAPLAIN holds her hand and prays quietly, as Davis approaches.

DR. DAVIS
(softly)
Emily.

Emily startles as she looks up at him, eyes filled with tears and the unspoken question.

DR. DAVIS (CONT'D)
He's going to be okay.

Emily covers her mouth as the tears start anew as she rises and envelops Dr. Davis in an embrace. Angle on Dr. Davis as he holds her close. A look more akin to longing than relief clouds his face. Emily pulls away.

EMILY
How can I ever thank you enough?

DR. DAVIS
No thanks necessary. He's my
friend. And you know I love you...

A beat as Emily pulls away.

DR. DAVIS (CONT'D)
...both, of course.

Emily nods without losing eye contact. There's something unspoken between them.

EMILY
(softly)
I know, Ethan.

Another beat.

EMILY (CONT'D)
So what's wrong with him? What
happened?

DR. DAVIS
It's something we call Septic
Shock.

EMILY
What? What does that mean?

DR. DAVIS
It means he has a rampant
infection. He's getting
antibiotics, we're getting the
fever under control now and we've
stabilized him.

EMILY
When can I see him?

DR. DAVIS
The nurses are still with him.
We'll get him moved to an ICU room
and comfortable. Why don't you go
home and rest. He'll be awake and
glad to see you tomorrow. Don't
worry. He's in good hands until
then.

EMILY
I know he is, Ethan. I just love
him so much and it terrifies me
that I could have lost him. But I
know he's in the very best of
hands.

She reaches for his hands, squeezes them and then embraces him again, as the former unspoken longing returns to his face.

INT. - HOSPITAL ROOM - DAY - THE NEXT DAY

CLOSE on a HEART MONITOR as it displays a rhythmic beat. In the hospital bed lies Jarrod Edwards, sleeping fitfully as his head turns side to side.

JARROD
Emily! Emily!

The nurse, Sara enters the room. She attempts to calm him.

SARA
Dr. Edwards, it's okay. Try and lie still. It's me Sara. Your wife isn't here.

Jarrod opens his eyes, still glazed with confusion and illness.

JARROD
(deliberately)
I know she's not here.

Tears form in his eyes.

JARROD (CONT'D)
Where is Davis?

SARA
Dr. Davis just got here. He didn't get much rest last night, but he wants to see you.

JARROD
Yeah, I want to see him too. Send him in here. NOW!

Sara, looks at Jarrod with concern, but nods in agreement.

SARA
Okay, but you need to stay quiet. Everyone here is trying their best to get you well again. We need you, Dr. Edwards.

He ignores her.

JARROD
I said, send Davis in here.

Sara rises to leave.

SARA
Yes sir. I'll send him in.

Sara exits the room.

A beat and then the door cracks open and Dr. Davis strides into the room.

DR. DAVIS
(smiling)
Hey, buddy. You gave us all quite a scare last night.

Jarrold is silent. His jaw clenched.

JARROD
I thought you had finally let it go.

DR. DAVIS
What? Let what go?

JARROD
You know what I'm talking about. You didn't know I saw you, but I did. I know what you did.

Concern and confusion cloud Davis' face.

DR. DAVIS
Look bud, the only thing I did was save your life and I'm thankful I was able to.

Jarrold glares at Davis.

JARROD
(through clenched teeth)
No. You killed Emily.

Davis is taken aback.

DR. DAVIS
Jarrod, you're sick, man. Your mind isn't working like it should. I don't know what you're talking about.

JARROD
I know you're still in love with her. You always have been.
(MORE)

JARROD (CONT'D)

I knew you were lying even when you gave the toast at our wedding. She was mine and not yours. She made her choice and you've never gotten over it, so you killed her. You got your ultimate revenge on her...and me.

DR. DAVIS

Jarrold stop! You're not well. I don't know what you think you saw, but it wasn't real. You had a high fever, your heart stopped for a couple minutes. It was a dream or an illusion, that's all. After you recover you'll understand that. Emily is alive. She'll be here to see you later.

Jarrold, now enraged struggles to get out of the bed, pulling tubes and IV lines as he does.

JARROD

No! She's dead. I saw you kill her!

Dr. Davis attempts in vain to restrain him, practically lying over Jarrold. CLOSE on Jarrold's hand. It holds an unsheathed SCALPEL, the sharp blade glinting in the light. In one quick motion, he stabs the blade into Davis' neck, blood quickly pouring forth as Davis slumps to the floor.

The door flies open as Sara rushes in on the commotion. She is stopped in her tracks by sight of Dr. Davis lying on the floor in a pool of blood, the scalpel still protruding from his neck. Immediately behind her we hear a SCREAM (O.C.)

Jarrold looks up in horror seeing now who screamed. His mouth drops open.

JARROD (CONT'D)
(incredulous)

Emily?

Emily's scream FADES to an echo...

EMILY (O.C.)
No! No! Please, God!

FADE TO BLACK.