

Drive-Thru The Day

by

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Fade in:

INT. FAST FOOD RESTAURANT - DAY

REBECCA HERRING (19) stands unenthused at the Drive-thru cashier desk as the lunchtime rush starts to build.

She hands some change over to a CUSTOMER through the window.

CUSTOMER

Thank you.

She doesn't answer. Her mind is on other things.

INT. FAST FOOD RESTAURANT - LATER

Rebecca stands at her locker during her break and grabs her handbag.

As she looks through it, she suddenly becomes nauseated and, knowing what's next, she grabs a key from the wall and rushes over towards the main washroom.

In the background, 2 people in masks, MASKED MALE and MASKED FEMALE, turn a corner and walk into the restaurant.

INT. WASHROOM - DAY

Rebecca locks the door to the disabled washroom, runs towards the toilet and vomits inside the bowl.

After a couple heaves, she spits out the remnants and takes a few deep breaths.

MASKED FEMALE (O.S.)

This is a robbery!

MASKED MALE (O.S.)

Everybody on the ground!

In the other room, people begin to SCREAM. Rebecca stares at the door.

MASKED FEMALE (O.S.)

Wallets out! Quickly!

MASKED MALE (O.S.)

You move, you die!

Rebecca starts to panic. She looks around for windows but finds none.

Knowing she's stuck, she runs to the door to make sure it's locked, before backing up into the toilet, continually staring at the door.

MASKED FEMALE (O.S.)

Where's the manager?!

She manages to find the bowl and sits down with her knees brought up to her chin in the fetal position.

Her hands go through her bag looking for her phone but again, there's nothing. She concedes to stare at the door like a deer waiting to be shot. Her breathing accelerates.

The door remains untouched.

After a moment, she remembers that she's wearing a drive-thru headset and turns it on.

REBECCA
(quietly)
Hello? Hello? Is anyone there?

She listens for a moment, but there's only silence. Then the voice of DANIEL KANE comes through.

DANIEL
(filtered)
Hello?

His voice floods Rebecca with relief. She sits for a moment, trying to control her breathing.

DANIEL (CONT'D)
Hello? Is everything okay?

REBECCA
We're being robbed.

DANIEL
What?

REBECCA
I can hear them.

There's a slight pause as Daniel tries to register what he's heard.

DANIEL
Okay, don't panic. Where are you?
Are you safe?

REBECCA
I'm in the washroom.

DANIEL
Is it locked?

REBECCA
Yeah. I have the key.

DANIEL
Good. Now, are there any windows?

REBECCA
No.

DANIEL
Do you have a phone?

REBECCA
It's in my locker.

There's another silence.

DANIEL
Alright, stay where you are.
There's a payphone just out here.
Give me a minute.

There's a sound of a CAR DOOR OPENING and CLOSING.

Now alone, Rebeccah again stares at the door and tries to hear what's happening. There's complete silence.

She sneaks closer and puts her ear to the door. Nothing.

Perhaps thinking the coast is clear, she unlocks the door and cracks it open ever so slowly. Once there's about half a centimetre of space, she looks through.

Turned away from her in the main area of the restaurant is the masked male. He wears a black mask and black gloves and connected to one of these black gloves is a silenced pistol.

Instinctively, she closes the door and locks it, maybe a little too loud. She backs away, covering her mouth with one hand while holding her abdomen with the other.

Again, the door remains untouched.

A tear runs down her cheek but she doesn't notice it.

DANIEL
Hello? Are you still there?

Rebeccah struggles to answer.

REBECCA
Yeah.

DANIEL
They're gonna be 5 minutes. How are you doing?

REBECCA
They have guns.

DANIEL
Alright, you need to stay calm.
Just relax. Breathe with me. In through the nose.

She takes a couple breaths and does manage to slow herself down.

REBECCA
It smells like vomit.

DANIEL
You threw up?

REBECCA
Before all this, yeah.

DANIEL
What do you have?

REBECCA
Huh?

DANIEL
It's good to keep talking. What do
you have? Flu?

REBECCA
I'm not ill.

DANIEL
Then why did you throw up?

She doesn't answer. Daniel realizes.

DANIEL (CONT'D)
Oh.

REBECCA
Yeah. Just found out.

DANIEL
You don't seem too thrilled.

REBECCA
No, not really. Don't tell anyone.

DANIEL
I can keep a secret.
(beat)
How's it going in there?

REBECCA
I don't know. They're still going.
(beat)
Wait, why are you still here?
You've called the police, you can
go.

DANIEL
This is gonna sound cliché but...
you never leave a man behind. I
learnt that pretty quick in the
army.

REBECCA
You're a soldier?

DANIEL
Retired.

REBECCA

Do you have a gun?

DANIEL

In my locker.

He gives a half-hearted laugh.

DANIEL (CONT'D)

They won't let me use it. It's funny, this is the first piece of action I've seen in months and I'm stuck in here.

REBECCA

I'm scared.

There's a pause.

DANIEL

You know, it's in situations like these, when you're scared and in danger, that you realize what matters most to you. If nothing else, it's a good wake up call.

REBECCA

I'm still scared.

DANIEL

I know.

REBECCA

Not just for this.

DANIEL

How old are you?

REBECCA

19.

DANIEL

Not many people know this, but my mom had her first kid before her 18th birthday. And me a year later.

REBECCA

Really?

DANIEL

Yeah.

REBECCA

How old are you now?

DANIEL

29.

REBECCA

Really?

DANIEL

Why? How old did you think I was?

REBECCA

I don't know, 40.

Again, Daniel laughs a half-hearted laugh.

REBECCA (CONT'D)

Was it hard?

DANIEL

Of course. It's why I joined the army.

REBECCA

But your mom, how is she now? Is she happy?

MASKED MALE (O.S.)

Hey? Did you check the washrooms?

Rebecca hears FOOTSTEPS getting louder and louder and other washroom doors OPENING and CLOSING.

MASKED FEMALE (O.S.)

Nothing.

The door handle of the disabled washroom moves. Rebecca freezes.

DANIEL

What's going on?

MASKED MALE (O.S.)

Who's in here?!

He BANGS the door. Rebecca stands up.

REBECCA

(quietly)

They've found me.

DANIEL

Don't panic, you have the key.

The door to the washroom suddenly breaks open from the force of the man's kick.

Rebecca SCREAMS and falls down.

DANIEL

What happened?!

The 2 masked criminals enter, the woman carrying a filled-up cloth bag.

The man starts to laugh to himself.

MASKED MALE

Oh, hello. Hope we didn't interrupt anything.

The masked woman walks up to Rebeccah and grabs her handbag. She takes it to the sink and starts looking through it. The man points his gun at Rebeccah.

MASKED MALE

So what? You just didn't think we'd find you? Is that it? You think you're smarter than us?

DANIEL

Stay calm.

At the sink, the masked woman opens a purse and finds nothing.

MASKED FEMALE

It's empty.

Something catches her attention inside the bag. She digs down further and brings out the pregnancy test. After staring at it for a moment, she looks over to Rebeccah.

REBECCA

I didn't know what to do.

MASKED MALE

Really? Because...

He gestures to her headset.

MASKED MALE (CONT'D)

...it seems to me like you were trying to screw us over.

REBECCA

No.

MASKED MALE

I don't like being screwed.

He aims his gun at her head. Rebeccah turns her back and covers herself up.

DANIEL

No!

MASKED FEMALE

Wait!

The man looks over to the woman. She shakes her head. Almost like a petty child, he lowers his gun.

DANIEL

Put him on.

Rebeccah takes off the headset and offers it up.

REBECCA

He wants to talk to you.

The man wears it and listens intently for a moment before throwing it back to Rebeccah.

MASKED MALE

Cops are coming.

MASKED FEMALE

What?

They begin to hear SIRENS in the distance.

They turn to each other and then start to rush out. In the hallway, though, the woman turns to him.

MASKED FEMALE

I left the bag.

He heads back to the room as the woman carries on.

The bag sits under the sink. He bends down and takes it. As he gets up, he sees a small section of a green note hanging out of Rebeccah's purse inside her bag.

He opens it and finds a huge wad of cash. He looks over to Rebeccah, who has no idea what's going on.

Underneath the purse is the pregnancy test. Like the masked woman, he stares at it and then at Rebeccah.

He begins to realize what's going on.

Rebeccah remains silent and watches him intently. The SIRENS get louder.

The noise breaks the man out of his trance. He pockets the money and starts to walk to the door.

Instead of going through, he checks the hallway: empty. He turns to Rebeccah and aims the silenced gun at her.

MASKED MALE

(quietly)

Put your hands on your head.

Tears roll down Rebeccah's face as she raises her shaking hands and places them on her head.

The man takes a deep breath, points the gun down towards her abdomen and shoots her just below the belly button.

She falls down sideways and clutches her wound. No sound manages to escape her mouth.

The shooter turns and walks away.

EXT. DRIVE THRU - DAY

As the SIRENS get even louder, the masked woman waits outside the drive-thru window for her partner.

The glass slides open and the man starts to climb out.

INT. CAR - DAY

Behind them, watching this unfold, is Daniel inside an early 90's sedan. They look at him for a moment and then the woman lifts the bag in celebration.

Daniel smiles and turns to the drive-thru speaker.

DANIEL

Alright, you're all clear. And to answer your earlier question: yes, she's happy.

(beat)

Good luck.

He turns the ignition and the engine starts. Inside, he struggles to take off the foot brake with his one remaining leg, but manages it.

He drives towards the 2 masked robbers. They get in and take off their masks, revealing the woman, JAN KANE, to be around 45 and the man, JACK KANE, around 30.

JAN

2 Rolexes! In a fast food restaurant.

JACK

I told you. It's a gold mine.

The sound of SIRENS becomes too loud to ignore.

DANIEL

Let's go.

EXT. RESTAURANT - DAY

Just as the old sedan pulls out from the drive-thru exit, 2 police cars race into the front parking lot. Officers flood inside.

Nobody sees the escape.

Fade out.