

FAIRVIEW PLANTATION HOUSE

Written by

Sourcake
copyright (c) 2022

EXT. WEDDING CEREMONY - MORNING - DREAM

HERE COMES THE BRIDE, HERE COMES THE BRIDE plays as CASSIA MORGAN (28, BLACK) walks down the aisle. You'd think she was ready to go to a fashion runway with her looks.

But everything is wrong.

Her dress is marred with BLOOD, and makeup runs from her eyes to the tip of her chin. The song playing is OFF-KEY, and it sounds like a piano being smashed into pieces.

And not to mention, all the attendees are dead. It's a full-blown MASSACRE.

Cassia drops to her knees. And then she SCREAMS like a dying animal.

INT. CAR - AFTERNOON

Cassia jolts awake in the passenger seat. Next to her is SALLY FAIRVIEW (29). She runs on pumpkin spice lattes to fuel her.

SALLY (O.S.)
We're here!

EXT. FAIRVIEW PLANTATION HOUSE ENTRANCE - DAY

Unlike before, Cassia has no bloodstains on her dress. Cassia lets out a relieved sigh. Sally is practically hopping around once she gets out of the car.

SALLY
I'm so excited we're going to be family! You'll love this place, I can't wait to show you around-

Cassia looks warily around. Nothing has happened yet. But she's got a feeling...something is off.

CASSIA
I'd love to, but remember, I'm the bride, remember? I kinda need to get ready to marry your brother, Jackson?

Sally has an 'oh yeah' moment.

SALLY
You're right. I'll help you get ready in one of the rooms.

INT. BEDROOM - DAY

Cassia sits in a chair as Sally does her makeup. The house has an antique feel to it.

CASSIA
Thank you for helping me get ready.

Sally smiles.

SALLY
No problem, sis. I can't wait for us to become family.

Cassia nods. However, she can't help but study the room around her. Sally notices.

SALLY (CONT'D)
I know it must be a little weird.

Cassia snaps her eyes back to the mirror so she can look at Sally.

CASSIA
What do you mean?

SALLY
That you're having your wedding on a plantation. And your family is pissed, which is why they're not attending.

There's a big BEAT.

CASSIA
I know it means a lot to Jackson to have the wedding here.

Sally sighs.

SALLY
It's just tradition. This place has been in the family for generations.

SALLY (CONT'D)
This is our heritage. I know that because you're...

Sally struggles to find the right words. Or rather, not say 'black'.

SALLY (CONT'D)

Well, I'm just trying to say that it's been a tradition for all of the family members to have their wedding here.

SALLY (CONT'D)

It's like our birthright.

CASSIA

I love Jackson. And I love you all.

CASSIA (CONT'D)

We're going to be family. And that means this place will have the same importance to me too.

The LIGHTS FLICKER. For a moment in the PITCH DARK, Cassia sees a FIGURE behind her. It's not Sally. The LIGHTS turn back on. Cassia shrieks.

TOM stands behind her. Except his body has a wispy form. Being a ghost will do that to a person. Tom looks like his eyes have been gouged out.

SALLY

What's wrong-

Sally screams, dropping the makeup on the floor.

TOM

LEAVE THIS PLACE!

CASSIA

What the hell?

SALLY

Don't talk to it!

Tom faces Sally. He's practically growling.

TOM

Your family has committed many sins.

SALLY

Excuse me?

TOM

You know what I mean. Don't play stupid with me.

SALLY

Whatever you're angry about, you're angry at people who are already dead.

TOM

No. I'm angry that you all carry on their legacy.

Cassia gulps.

CASSIA

Is that why you said I shouldn't marry into the family?

TOM

Yes.

TOM (CONT'D)

Do not let their legacy be tied to your own.

TOM (CONT'D)

Because if you do, I will have to kill you as well.

CASSIA

What?

SALLY

What?

CASSIA

You can't kill them! These people didn't do anything. They're just following what their ancestors did.

TOM

Yes, and that is the problem.

TOM (CONT'D)

You all carry the traditions you know are soaked in blood.

TOM (CONT'D)

Did you know I died because of how many lashings your ancestors gave me?

TOM (CONT'D)

Did you know that they used us like mere livestock to do their dirty work?

TOM (CONT'D)
 Did you know that there are
 hundreds of my fellow brothers and
 sisters stuck on this plantation,
 waiting to be set free?

Cassia blinks.

CASSIA
 Are you saying me coming here
 helped this happen?

TOM
 Yes.

TOM (CONT'D)
 Your presence helped us come out.

Sally glares at Tom.

SALLY
 I'm sorry all these things happened
 to you, but it isn't fair for any
 of us to pay the price.

Tom cackles.

TOM
 Fair? Is that all you can muster
 up?

TOM (CONT'D)
 No matter. I warned you.

With a wave of his hand, Sally begins to inflate. Her skin
 starts to expand and expand and expand till-

SPLAT!

Blood paints the walls and Cassia's dress. Cassia SCREAMS.

CASSIA
 She was innocent! How could you?

TOM
 She was not innocent. She knew full
 well what she was doing.

CASSIA
 So what now? Are you going to kill
 me?

TOM
 If you marry one of them, yes.

TOM (CONT'D)
 For all of my brothers and sisters
 to be free, I must kill them all.

CASSIA
 No. You can't. I won't let you kill
 them.

Tom smiles.

TOM
 I'd like to see you try.

TOM (CONT'D)
 Goodbye, and see you soon.

Within a blink of an eye, Tom vanishes. Cassia gets up.

CASSIA
 I have to warn everyone. Before he
 kills them.

Cassia rushes out the door.

INT. HALLWAY - DAY

Cassia slams the door behind her as she starts marathon
 running. She's BAREFOOT. Cassia bundles her dress in her
 hands so it won't slow her down. Cassia runs down COUNTLESS
 STAIRS.

EXT. ALTAR - DAY

When Cassia comes running, the familiar 'Here Comes the
 Bride' starts to play, and all the family members stand up.
 JACKSON FAIRVIEW (29), waits at the altar. His good looks are
 razor-sharp.

Everyone gasps when they see Cassia all bloodied.

CASSIA
 Stop the wedding! You all need to
 go to safety!

Jackson marches over to Cassia.

JACKSON
 Babe, what's going on? Is that
 blood?

CASSIA

I don't have time to explain. You all need to leave this place. It's cursed!

JACKSON

What are you talking about?

CASSIA

A ghost showed up when Sally-

Cassia nearly bursts into tears at the mention of Sally. She takes a big breath before trying to talk again.

CASSIA (CONT'D)

The ghost killed Sally. I swear to god I'm telling the truth.

JACKSON

Killed Sally?

Jackson takes a good look at Cassia.

JACKSON (CONT'D)

Are you okay, babe? Maybe you need to lie down-

Cassia pushes his hands away.

CASSIA

The ghost is trying to kill all of you.

JACKSON

Ghost?

CASSIA

Yes. He wants revenge because of your ancestors.

TOM (O.S.)

She's right.

Everyone turns to look. Tom stands there, but with COUNTLESS other ghosts. Victims of the past.

TOM (CONT'D)

We are coming to deliver what should have happened long ago.

People SCREAM. Some of them FAINT.

JACKSON

You weren't lying!

CASSIA

Don't hurt them. Isn't there another way? What if they sell it, or make it into a memorial?

JACKSON

Cassia, this is our family tradition. This place is our family's home. We won't give it up because some ghost tells us to.

Cassia looks at Jackson in bewilderment. More surprisingly are the family members who stand with him. No one sits.

TOM

Then you have chosen your fate.

CASSIA

NO!

Just like Sally, they all begin to inflate. Then with a POP! Blood splatters against the WHITE furniture for the wedding and the ALTAR.

Cassia collapses to the floor.

CASSIA (CONT'D)

Why couldn't they just give up their tradition? Why not change?

Tom floats over to her.

TOM

Some traditions need to be challenged or changed. They refused to change theirs and stayed in the past.

TOM (CONT'D)

But you didn't.

TOM (CONT'D)

You helped free us. Thank you.

Cassia watches as all the ghosts dissolve, vanishing into thin air.

THE END.