## **FRAGMENTS**

Written by: MD Thompson

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INT. HOSPITAL ROOM 3A - NIGHT

Rain patters against a half-open window.

The faint BEEP-BEEP of a monitor fills the silence.

NOAH TARANTINE, 20s, athletic. Broken, bruised, head wrapped in bandages. Both wrists cuffed to the hospital bed.

A shadowed figure exhales cigarette smoke by the door.

MARVIN MITCHELL, 50s, calm, unreadable. A first-edition book in one hand, cigarette in the other.

MARVIN

(soft)

Noah.

Noah stirs, twitching.

MARVIN

Nooooah.

Noah blinks awake. Panicked. Jerks at the cuffs. Metal rattles.

The lights FLICKER. Marvin smiles.

MARVIN

Easy. You spike that heart rate, a nurse'll come in.

And trust me-

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(beat)
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-they don't look pleasant.

Noah freezes, breath ragged.

NOAH

Where am I?

MARVIN

Hospital.

NOAH

These?

(indicates cuffs)

MARVIN

Precaution.

Noah coughs on the smoke. Marvin stubs out, lights another.

MARVIN

Funny thing... six hours ago, I was in France.

Never been to France. You?

Noah says nothing.

MARVIN

Didn't think so.

Marvin rises, stretching. His presence fills the room.

MARVIN

They're calling you a terrorist. A freak.

That bridge? Obliterated.

Two dead cops. A blind girl left breathing.

No thanks to you.

He tosses the cigarette out the window, shuts it, leans close.

MARVIN

(yells)

OPEN UP YOUR EYES!

Noah flinches. Heart monitor spikes.

Marvin laughs, saunters back.

MARVIN

That's right. Open 'em.

The truth? It's all a lie. Air was clean. CDC proved it.

You're no terrorist... just a freak.

Noah stares, rattled.

NOAH

Who the hell are you?

MARVIN

(smiles)

Marvin Mitchell. And trust me-

(beat)

-when they're done with you, you'll need a friend.

He flicks a blank BUSINESS CARD onto Noah's chest and exits, whistling.

Silence.

The door opens again. A young NURSE enters - sharp-featured, too calm. She sets down a tray.

NOAH

You a nurse?

NURSE

Yes.

She draws solution into a syringe.

NOAH

I heard you're unpleasant. That true?

NURSE

Relax. Won't hurt a bit.

She goes for his arm-

The needle BENDS against an invisible force.

NOAH

I said stop.

NURSE

Where this is going, you won't have time to react.

She jams it in-

NOAH

NO!

Electricity EXPLODES from his hand. She's hurled into the glass door.

CRASH.

The right cuff SNAPS OPEN.

A COP bursts in. Noah smashes him with a BEDPAN. He collapses.

Keys. Fumbled into the lock.

Another COP charges, baton swinging. Noah blocks-CRACKS throat, knee, jaw. He drops.

Noah rips free of the cuffs. Feet hit the floor.

A SECURITY GUARD blocks the door-taser aimed.

POP. Wires stab into Noah's shoulder.

The taser FAILS.

Noah exhales. Electricity surges back through the wires. The guard convulses, blasted into the hall.

Noah stands, chest heaving. Sparks flicker off his skin.

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INT. HOSPITAL - HALLWAY - NIGHT

Alarms WHINE. Red lights FLASH.

Noah slips out. Bare feet slap tile.

Each pulse of static makes lights flicker, alarms hiccup.

A NURSE wheels past a gurney. Doesn't see him.

Noah exhales-presses on. A SHADOW slides across the wall. Noah freezes. Looks back. Nothing but red strobes. ANGLE - CONVEX MIRROR A FIGURE. Still. Unwavering. Hunting. \_\_\_ NOAH (under breath) Shit. He hurries. Turns a corner. The FIGURE follows. TIGHT HALLWAY - MOMENTS LATER Noah ducks into a doorway. Heart pounding. The FIGURE appears - scrubs, surgical mask. Precise. Deliberate. This is ALEC KINCAID.

He scans the hall. Calm. Efficient.

Moves past-Noah lunges. BRIEF STRUGGLE - QUIET, DESPERATE They slam against the wall. Silent. Raw. Kincaid draws a weapon - sleek, compact, made for fragments. strike is surgical. Noah blocks with elbows, wrists, wild fists-desperate to avoid contact. Clumsy panic versus trained precision. Kincaid swings. Noah throws a blind punch. CRACK. By accident, it lands perfect. Kincaid stiffens, collapses. Noah stares - stunned he survived. AFTERMATH He drags Kincaid into a wheelchair. Masks him, head tilted just right.

Looks like a patient resting.

Noah wipes blood from his mouth. Breath ragged.

The weapon lies on the floor. Alien. Deadly. He leaves it.

From Kincaid's pocket - a laminated BADGE with a strange emblem. Noah stuffs it in his gown.

Kincaid's EARPIECE squeals.

RADIO (V.O.)

(static) ... Target on the loose. Repeat, target-

The earpiece POPS, dead.

Noah exhales. Marvin's voice lingers:

"When they're done with you, you'll need a friend."

He pushes down the hall. Sparks twitch across his skin, monitors BEEP as he passes.

At the EXIT DOORS-

A scanner. Red light.

He swipes the badge.

BEEP. Green. Doors CLICK open.

Noah pushes through-

-and slams into the NURSE.

Calm. Inhuman. Syringe glowing faintly in her hand.

NURSE

I told you... unpleasant.

Her hand clamps his chest. Sparks SNAP.

SMASH TO BLACK.