Killing My Sister

written by

I Know My Mouse

Variables: Crime, prescription pills, hypnotherapist, log cabin.

EXT. LOG CABIN - DAY

A large single storey log cabin sits on the tree lined bank of a still lake.

The sun is shining and there's the faint echo of bird song.

The front door of the cabin opens and BRIAN, 25, exits and walks towards the shore of the lake.

BRIAN (V.O.)

They say that blood is thicker than water. It's a familial thing. Loyalty and love for your relations outweighs all else.

Brian picks up a stone and throws it into the water, a splash is followed rippling water.

BRIAN (V.O.) (CONT'D)

I would do anything for my family.

He hunkers down and watches the ripples reach the bank of the lake.

BRIAN (V.O.) (CONT'D)

My sister, Susan, was my life. Since our parents passed away, she had been everything to me.

The bird song continues but is gently replaced by the sounds of a police siren in the distance.

BRIAN (V.O.) (CONT'D)
Killing her was the hardest thing
I ever had to do in my life.

CUT TO:

INT. A LARGE HALL - EVENING - FLASHBACK

A party is in full swing. Music is blaring and the dance floor is crowded.

SUSAN, 20, PRETTY, is laughing and dancing with Brian.

SUSAN

(shouting over the music)
It's sad day when I have to ask
my brother to dance with me.

BRIAN

(shouting)

There are plenty of guys here you could have asked, you just wanted me to dance with you to make you look good.

SUSAN

(shouting)

Well it does help that you have two left feet.

Brian laughs and continues to dance.

Susan suddenly stops dancing and wobbles on her feet. She falls forward and Brian jumps forward to catch her.

BRIAN

(shouting and laughing) Who's got two left feet now huh?.

SUSAN

(breathless)

I don't feel right.

Lowering Susan to the floor, a worried Brian looks around for help while people rush to their aid.

BRIAN (V.O.)

That was the day my whole world changed.

INT. ACCIDENT AND EMERGENCY ROOM - LATER

Brian sits anxiously in the waiting room.

DOCTOR SAUNDERS, 50, approaches him.

DOCTOR

Mr Ferguson?

BRIAN

Yes.

Brian stands and shakes the doctor's hand.

SAUNDERS

If you follow, me I'll take you through to your sister. I have a couple of questions to ask as we walk.

They start to walk through the corridors.

SAUNDERS (CONT'D)

Did your sister drink any alcohol tonight, take any illegal drugs??

BRIAN

No, she doesn't drink or take drugs. What's happened to her?

SAUNDERS

Does she have any underlying health conditions?

BRIAN

No, not that I'm aware of anyway. Doctor, what's going on?

They arrive at a door and stop outside it.

SAUNDERS

We're doing blood work and I've arranged for an MRI scan. Right now we're giving her fluids to keep her hydrated until we figure this out. She's in here.

Brian hesitates a moment before opening the door.

Inside Susan lies on a bed staring at the ceiling. Her complexion is pale and she looks exhausted.

She is connected to a monitor and an intravenous infusion.

She turns to look at Brian, a worried look on her face.

CUT TO:

EXT. LOG CABIN - DAY - PRESENT DAY

Brian walks back towards the cabin and sits at the table placed just outside.

BRIAN (V.O.)

The day the doctor came to tell us the news, I had never felt fear like that in my life before. Susan, she just nodded and reached over to hug me. She was always stronger than me. I'm the oldest but she always looked after me. I'd never even heard of Non Hodgkins Lymphoma before, now I'm an expert in it.

He takes a gun from inside his jacket and lays it on the table.

The sound of the siren is slightly louder.

CUT TO:

SERIES OF FLASHBACKS:

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - DAY

Susan lies on the bed, Brian is hugging her tightly.

Brian is openly crying while Susan looks afraid but with a hint of determination.

BRIAN (V.O.) (CONT'D)
The list of medication she had to
take grew every week. Coupled
with the chemotherapy, the
disease and the treatment drew
every ounce of strength from her,
but not her humour.

INT. TREATMENT ROOM - DAY

Susan lies on a bed with an infusion running, a silk scarf tied around her head.

Brian enters with flowers. As he approaches her he whips off his cap to reveal a freshly shaven bald head.

Susan bursts out laughing as she whips off her scarf to reveal her own hair loss.

INT. BEDROOM - EVENING

Susan lies on her bed in the log cabin, she is obviously in a lot of pain.

Brian walks in with a tray, on it is a bowl of soup, water and a plastic cup full of medication.

BRIAN (V.O.) (CONT'D)
The chemo didn't fully eradicate
the cancer. As her pain grew, we
tried alternative methods of pain
relief.

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

worse.

In the log cabin, Susan, obviously weak and tired, sits on a large comfortable reclining chair.

A hypnotherapist, ALAN, 45, sits beside her calmly and softly talking to her.

ALAN

A cool breeze cleanses your skin, every time it passes the warmth of the sun penetrates your skin, the stillness surrounds you, all your worries are blown away by the breeze, all your cares are carried away by the breeze, all your pain is carried away by the breeze.

BRIAN (V.O.)
It didn't work. Susan just got

EXT. CABIN - DAY - PRESENT DAY.

Brian sits at the table patiently waiting.

BRIAN (V.O.) (CONT'D) At the end, her pain was so bad she begged me to help her die. I loved my sister, I couldn't see her suffer any more. I gave her all her morphine, the tablets, the infusion and the injections all at once.

The sound of the siren is louder now and is accompanied by the sound of tyres crunching stone on the driveway.

BRIAN (V.O.) (CONT'D)
She died in my arms at eleven
thirty three this morning. Before
she died, she opened her eyes for
the last time and she told me she
loved me. I'd never been more
proud of her in my life. I wish I
had her strength of character.
But I'm a coward.

A COP, BENNETT, 25, exits the patrol car and pulls his gun.

BENNETT

Step away from the table, move away from the gun.

BRIAN

I'm the one who called you, I killed my sister, she's inside on her bed.

BENNETT

(shouting)

Step away from the gun, now.

BRIAN

I'm a coward, I can't do this myself.

Brian lunges for the gun on the table as Bennett pumps bullet after bullet into him.

As Brian lies dying, he smiles as if seeing someone above him.

FADE OUT.