

LET GO

by

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FADE IN

EXT. RURAL ROAD, HOUSE - DAY

An ordinary, bright house nestled snug in a blanket of trees sits behind a narrow road.

A moving van backs out and leaves down the dusty road.

FRONT PORCH

An old rocking chair sits in front of a window.

A car full of boxes and other things near the porch.

JENNIFER (35) stands near the porch holding a box as she watches the moving van go.

She turns and goes inside.

INT. HOUSE, VARIOUS - DAY

KITCHEN

She sets down the box on the kitchen counter.

Jennifer turns around and surveys the boxes stacked around her.

HOME OFFICE

Jennifer sets her computer on the desk, then sets the printer on the filing cabinet.

MASTER BEDROOM

Jennifer makes her bed and adjusts her lamp on the night stand.

SECOND BEDROOM

She pauses in front of the closed door, lowers her hand to the knob, opens it, but doesn't go in.

EXT. HOUSE - NIGHT

ENTRANCE

Jennifer shuts the door and locks it. She cleans the peephole.

VARIOUS - LATER

She goes around the house checking doors and windows.

BATHROOM

Jennifer dries herself off after a shower.

MASTER BEDROOM LATER

Jennifer lies asleep in her bed. A knife lays on the night stand next to the lamp.

Silence. Then...BANG!

Jennifer jolts awake, startled and groggy. Did she really hear something?

She listens but everything is silent.

VARIOUS - LATER

HALLWAY

Jennifer clutches her knife, checks around the house.

KITCHEN

She walks by the kitchen.

FRONTROOM

All the boxes still stacked.

SECOND BEDROOM DOOR

The door is shut. She tries the knob. Won't budge.

EXT. HOUSE - DAY

A few cars pass, going in opposite directions. About as much traffic one would see all day out here.

INT. HOUSE, VARIOUS - DAY

Jennifer is cautious as she searches the house, again. All the doors and windows are locked.

SECOND BEDROOM DOOR

She notices a paper drawing half out from underneath the door. She bends down and picks it up.

DRAWING

She stares at the drawing for a long moment of just a lone fading balloon in the middle of the paper with a string.

BACK TO SCENE.

Jennifer takes drawing and pushes underneath the door.

EXT. HOUSE - LATER

Jennifer parks her car around the back of the house.

She grabs her groceries and unlocks the back door.

INT. HOUSE, KITCHEN - DAY

Walks into the kitchen setting the bag down of groceries down, takes out several bottle of Vodka and various other commodities.

Grabs a shot glass from the cabinet, opens a bottle a vodka and pours it full. She sips on it, then downs it all. Pours another, gulps it down. And another, over and over again. She stops and walks away.

SECOND BEDROOM DOOR

She turns the knob. It opens. She switches on the light and the drawing lies on the small bed.

She shuts the door. As she walks away it it creaks back open.

INT. HOUSE, BEDROOM - NIGHT

Asleep, Jennifer is undisturbed by the roar of a passing vehicle.

Silence. Then...CRASH!

Startled, Jennifer wakes up. She grabs the knife next to her.

KITCHEN

Jennifer switches on the light to see nothing out of the ordinary.

FRONTROOM

She finds a box is dumped over on the floor.

Jennifer glances to the floor open to six colorful Balloon 3D pop up birthday card with entangled strings.

Down below it reads:

"Happy 7th birthday, Jacob. I love you more than life."

She closes it and begins to sob.

KITCHEN

Jennifer sets the card on the counter. Snatches the bottle of Vodka, opens it and swigs from the bottle.

SECOND BEDROOM

Jennifer lays the card onto the bed along with the drawing. Steps out and shuts the door.

INT. HOUSE, BEDROOM - NIGHT

Jennifer is fast asleep. The night is silent.

EXT. HOUSE - DAWN

Birds chirp and fly around the yard at the beginning of what looks like a nice day.

PORCH

Jennifer sits in the rocking chair drinking a cup of coffee watching the sunrise, a car passes by and sees a deer off to the side just amongst the trees.

INT. HOUSE, SECOND BEDROOM - DAY

Jennifer comes to the door which is cracked open. She shuts it, walks away, but it opens up all the way.

She pivots back, switches on the light to see the birthday card open the colorful balloons now cut into letters.

The letters read: G O A W A Y

Jennifer stares at the message then backs out of the room.

EXT. HOUSE - MOMENTS LATER

CAR

Jennifer sits in her car, the engine running and downing Vodka.

She makes a decision, puts her car in gear and drives down the short driveway.

DRIVEWAY

As her car moves out onto the road, a truck speeds past, SOUNDING its horn. Her car jerks to a stop.

CAR

Shaken, Jennifer takes a few deep breaths, calming down.

DRIVEWAY

The car reverses back to the house.

INT. HOUSE, HOME OFFICE - LATER

The printer spits out a sheet of paper.

Jennifer picks up the printout and examines her simple OUIJA BOARD.

INT. HOUSE, SECOND BEDROOM - DAY

Jennifer peeps into the bedroom.

She looks down at the floor and the bible is not there. The drawing isn't on the bed either.

She walks over to the bed and notices the birthday card and drawing is in the small trashcan next to the nightstand.

Jennifer is surprised and confused. Did she imagine it?

She leaves out of the bedroom. The door slams shut on its own. BAP!

Silence

INT. HOUSE, HOME OFFICE - LATER

Jennifer picks up the printout and displays it self consciously.

She leaves.

SECOND BEDROOM DOOR

She sets it down in front of the door. Looks at it waiting...and then realizes she needs some kind of planchette or pointer.

JENNIFER

Right...a pointer thingy. Be right back.

KITCHEN

Jennifer looks around for something suitable. She sees the shot glass by the Vodka bottle.

She picks it up and looks at it. Could work.

Jennifer gently places the glass on the Ouija board and slides it onto the word: HELLO

She looks around nervously.

JENNIFER

Okay...so, I don't know what to say. Jacob? Is that you?

The glass slides to: YES

She brings a half smile.

JENNIFER

What do you want?

The glass then slides quickly to the M, the O, the V, the E, the O, then to the N.

JENNIFER

Oh...

Silence.

Disappointed she rises up and leaves.

EXT. HOUSE - NIGHT

Light glows through the curtains.

A car approaches and slows as it nears the house...before accelerating away.

INT. HOUSE, FRONTROOM - NIGHT

House plants, knick-knacks and books cluttered shelves.

Photos and paintings are propped up against the walls, ready for hanging.

1950's rock and roll MUSIC plays on an old style record player.

The music ends as the stylus lifts and returns to the cradle.

Jennifer comes into the room with Vodka and a glass.

JENNIFER

Are you still here?

She listens, but no reply.

JENNIFER

Remember? Two knocks for, yes and one for, no.

Silence. Jennifer shrugs. And sets down her Vodka. She takes the record from the turntable.

KNOCK! KNOCK! Startled she drops the record. It breaks.

INT. HOUSE, MASTER BEDROOM - NIGHT

She makes her bed. Lies down to sleep. Toss and turns.

Her eyes grow heavy. She falls asleep.

LATER

KNOCK! KNOCK!

Jennifer awakens and jumps out of bed.

FRONTROOM

Jennifer switches on the porch light and peers out the windows.

Jennifer presses her eye to the peephole.

JENNIFER'S POV - PEEPHOLE

The fisheye lens distorts the porch. Then a YELLOW BALLOON with a smiley face comes into view staring at her, swaying in the breeze.

FRONTRoom

Jennifer jumps back then turns around with her back against the door trembling.

She ignores it at first. Then unlocks and opens the door.

EXT. HOUSE, PORCH - NIGHT

Cautious, she scans and beyond. There's nobody around, except for the balloon.

The balloon is fixed to a small weight by a mylar ribbon. Attached to the string is a small envelope.

She grabs the string, pulling it inside, shuts the door and locks it.

INT. HOUSE, FRONTRoom - NIGHT

She shuts the door and locks it back. Jennifer plops down on the couch.

She takes out the card from the envelope.

It reads "LET GO"

She just stares at it. Laughs to herself.

Then sets the card down on the coffee table

JENNIFER

Is this some kind of joke?

The balloon slowly floats around behind her fixated on the back of her head.

Jennifer turns around. She bumps it with her hand. It moves away.

The balloon now swings back around in front of her.

She gets up, grabs the string.

SECOND BEDROOM

She lets it loose as it floats away. Jennifer shuts the door and locks it.

HOME OFFICE

Jennifer sits at the desk. Staring at the computer screen.

ONSCREEN

November, 13, 2018

"A 28 year old mother is facing charges of DUI manslaughter after a single car crash killing her seven year old son and injuring the father."

A picture is shown of two mangled cars at an intersection. Balloons in the back of one of the cars.

INT. MASTER BEDROOM - NIGHT

Lies down as she keeps staring over at the bedroom door. She weeps. An empty bottle of Vodka on the nightstand.

LATER

Jennifer is asleep. A shadow looms over her.

POV - Close to Jennifers's face. The balloon bumps her.

Jennifer awakens. Balloon at her face. She SCREAMS.

She scoots quickly to the otherside of the bed, confused.

EXT. HOUSE, PORCH - NIGHT

She holds a knife, cuts the weight off. Watches as the balloon disappears into the night.

INT. KITCHEN - NIGHT

She opens the drawer to put the knife away.

Suddenly, two KNOCKS at the front door. Jennifer turns around, eyes widened, hands shaking.

FRONT DOOR

Holding the knife close to her she creeps to the door.

She flips the outside light on. Clutches the knife, ready to fight.

She unlocks the door, swings it open, nothing there. Her hand trembles. Behind her a voice.

BALLOON (O.S)
(whisper)
Turn around.

She spins, lashing out with the knife - BANG! The balloon bursts.

It's shrunken remains drifting to the floor simultaneously with the knife clattering to the floor with a CLANG.