GRAVELY VOICE
Why am I here, God?

INT. GROUND FLOOR OF FLATS - NIGHT
Eyes snap open on the face of a YOUNG CONSTRUCTION WORKER. His name is Scott.

Thunder CRASHES outside.
In front of him is a YOUNG MAN IN A SMART SUIT called Toby. He's at the door and is about to open it.

SCOTT
What are you doing?

TOBY
There's people out here. Give us a hand.

Scott gets up and goes to the door.

A MAN IN A SUIT and a LADY IN A SUIT barge in through the door.

Toby closes the door as quickly as he can.

The Man is called Kevin and the Lady is called Naomi. They're out of breath and seem angered at the events outside.

KEVIN
Take your fucking time.

NAOMI
We were nearly killed.

SCOTT
Hey it's fine calm down.

Kevin pats down his jacket and finds a packet of cigarettes.

A YOUNG LADY sitting on the floor walks to him. Her name is Annie.
ANNIE
You can't smoke in here.

KEVIN
You expect me to go out there?
What'll kill me first this ciggie or those...things?

SCOTT
You're just going to have to go without, Sir.

Kevin scoffs and, as if he's got a gun pointed at him, places them back in the pocket then saunters over the the corner.

NAOMI
How long has everyone been here?

SCOTT
Two days...for all of us. There were more but..they risked their lives trying to run.

NAOMI
Anyone know what caused it?

Nobody answers. Instead they look at each other.

NAOMI
Right, so that's a no.

MALE VOICE
(OS)
It's the cleansing of the Earth.

Thunder CRASHES outside

The new arrivals turn their heads to see a PRIEST walk slowly down the hallway towards them.

NAOMI
What's that?
PRIEST
Father Patrick Malone.

KEVIN
We're not here for the fucking intros we just want to know what those things are out there.

PATRICK
The cleansing of the Earth is something that happens every 1000 years. God unleashes a great storm on the planet to wipe filth and evil from it.

KEVIN
Like Noah's Ark?

PATRICK
Not quite. That was water - this is something else. The storm carries some...ghastly things...monsters, feral animals to help.

NAOMI
No way. Out there has nothing to do with God.

KEVIN
Out there, mate, that would make Satan himself shake in his hooves.

TOBY
It's all extremely strange to take in but just accept it. Please.

NAOMI
How long does it last?

PATRICK
Three days. Tomorrow we can all go our separate ways. Right now we should all remain calm and try to get to know each other.

Kevin points to the lift.
KEVIN
Anyone gone to the other floors?

SCOTT
Lifts out of action.

KEVIN
Of course it would be.

He moves off to another part of the hallway.

SCOTT
For those of you who don't know, I'm Scott. As you can see I work in construction and...I barely made it to here.

TOBY
Annie and I were on our way to a party...we never got there.

PATRICK
That leaves you two.

NAOMI
We are partners in a solicitors. We thought the coast was clear and we ran. Got to a few houses away before that...thing got on our heels.

KEVIN
Yeah nearly got killed.

Annie stands up.

ANNIE
Something doesn't make sense.

SCOTT
What?

ANNIE
These monsters are taking away the evil on Earth...i don't recall ever doing anything wrong.
They all look down. They all look guilty. The Priest looks over them.

PATRICK
Would everyone agree to a confession?

SCOTT
Well I...I don't ...okay I guess I can see where this is going.

PATRICK
Go on...

SCOTT
I had an affair....my wife found out and I'm now ...single. But i accepted that, I know I'm in the wrong.

He slouches onto the floor.

PATRICK
(Not taking eyes off Scott)
Anybody else?

KEVIN
Well what about you, God boy?

PATRICK
What?

KEVIN
Come on you lot aren't innocent at all.

PATRICK
I can assure you -

KEVIN
Been with any alter boys?

Patrick grabs Kevin by the ruff of his shirt and pushes him into the wall. He holds him there.
PATRICK
Are you questioning my beliefs?!

Scott holds onto Patrick's shoulder.

SCOTT
Easy there.

KEVIN
Yeah... listen to the adulterer.

Scott chooses to ignore that remark.

PATRICK
You better pray, boy. You better pray He forgives you.

His eyes widen. He lets go of Kevin and walks away.

PATRICK
I'm sorry everyone.

There's an awkward silence.

TOBY
So... Father?

Patrick looks to him.

TOBY
We're safe here with you?

PATRICK
Yes.

KEVIN
Get off! Did you not see what he just did to me? Bastard should be out there with the other animals.

NAOMI
Oh shut up, Kevin. Nobody wants to hear your irritable voice anymore.
KEVIN
(Fakes being shocked)
From you? That's rich.

ANNIE
Look can everybody just relax? Just try and keep calm!

SCOTT
She's right. Just a matter of hours and it's all over, right?

PATRICK
Six AM.

KEVIN
That's too long.

He gets Naomi by the arm.

KEVIN
We'll go elsewhere.

NAOMI
Hey what are you -?

He pulls her to the door but Toby stands in front.

TOBY
You can't go out there.

KEVIN
Get out the way, shrimp or I'll hurt you.

TOBY
Why do you have to be like that?

KEVIN
Like what?

TOBY
An arsehole.
ANNIE
Toby just let him go.

PATRICK
For civilisation to survive, the human race needs to remain civilised.

Toby reluctantly steps aside.

Naomi pulls back.

NAOMI
What are you doing, I don't want to go.

KEVIN
We're going out.

He opens the door and stands outside with her.

Toby pulls the door shut.

TOBY
Scott is it?

SCOTT
Yessir

TOBY
If they need to get back in, give me a hand to pull them quicker.

SCOTT
You got it.

EXT. FLATS - NIGHT

Toby is peering through the glass of the door as Kevin has Naomi by his side.

NAOMI
What the fuck are you doing?
KEVIN
I'd rather find solace with these things than with those religious nut jobs in there.

NAOMI
Then why take me out with you? We were safe with the Priest.

KEVIN
He has a barbarian mentality. We all saw it.

She breaks from his grip and steps further out than he is.

NAOMI
Well you deserved it. Always the same, always the antagonist.

KEVIN
Save it would you?

NAOMI
Makes me really regret the other night.

KEVIN
You lead me on.

NAOMI
And to think I used to like you.

He lets go of her.

KEVIN
You liked me?

NAOMI
Fat mistake that was.

Kevin rolls his eyes and scoffs then something catches his eyes.

Something BEHIND NAOMI.
KEVIN
Oh shit.

NAOMI
What?

She turns around and her face becomes horrified.

NAOMI
Quickly back in.

She makes a run for it back to the flat.

INT. GROUND FLOOR OF FLATS - NIGHT
Toby is still on lookout.

TOBY
Somethings happened - they're coming back.

Toby goes to open the door but it's jammed.

TOBY
Shit!

Scott helps him by bashing the door with his shoulder.

EXT. FLATS - NIGHT
Kevin shoves past Naomi and heads for the door.
He bangs on the door.

KEVIN
Open up!

INT. GROUND FLOOR OF FLATS - NIGHT
Annie is on the floor holding her hands over her ears.
EXT. FLATS - NIGHT

There's a ROAR.

Kevin turns slowly at the direction it came from.

    KEVIN
    It's gone.

    NAOMI
    What?

Naomi turns and looks up.

Kevin shoves her towards the beast and the door is forced open from the other side.

Screams echo as Naomi is heard being ripped to shreds.

INT. GROUND FLOOR OF FLATS - NIGHT

Kevin, out of breath, straightens himself up.

Toby turns to him.

    TOBY
    You saw something. It's still out there isn't it.

    KEVIN
    Yeah..it...it took her.

Scott shoots Kevin an evil look. - HE saw.

    KEVIN
    That was close.

A SPLASH of blood and gore and various matter hits the door.

    KEVIN
    Oh Jesus!

    PATRICK
    Don't use the Lords name.
KEVIN
I'm sure you can forgive me on this occasion, pal.

ANNIE
I think I'm going to be sick.

TOBY
Try and hold it. Not much longer now.

PATRICK
Three hours left till sunrise.

They all look at each other.

CROSS FADE

Various scenes of time passing by.

Toby and Annie are sitting on the floor with Annie's head in Toby's chest.

Scott has his head in his hands.

Kevin has taken his jacket off and placed it over his body.

Patrick is standing by the lift doors.

TOBY
You know there's a saying. "the Devil appears in many forms".

SCOTT
Yeah?

TOBY
And they were all on the other side of that door.

Patrick moves along the hallway.

His watch bleeps. He looks at it and it reads - 6:00am

He turns to the door.

Sunlight.
PATRICK
Everybody listen.

ANNIE
I can't hear anything.

PATRICK
It's over. The beasts are no more.

SCOTT
Is it okay to leave?

Patrick nods to him.

Scott gets up and straightens his jacket out then walks to Patrick. He holds his hand out.

SCOTT
Thank you.

PATRICK
You're welcome...peace be with you.

Annie and Toby get up and say their thanks to him.

They leave.

Patrick and Kevin are left alone.

Kevin stirs then wakes up.

Patrick looks down on him.

KEVIN
Has everybody gone?

PATRICK
Yes. Just now.

Kevin gets up.

KEVIN
Finally.

He walks to the door and goes to open it but it's locked.

He turns to Patrick.
KEVIN
It's locked.

PATRICK
I know that. Because I locked it. You were very unfair to me last night.

KEVIN
You want an apology? Fine. I'm sorry. Happy?

He turns to the door to see it's not there anymore.

KEVIN
What the -

Th lift whirs and begins to work.

KEVIN
Hey the lift is working.

PATRICK
Indeed it is.

The doors open.

KEVIN
I don't get it.

PATRICK
You shouldn't have pushed Naomi.

KEVIN
I didn't.

Patrick sniggers.

PATRICK
I saw you. You should've listened to your friend Toby.

KEVIN
Why?
PATRICK
The devil appears in many forms.

Patrick then holds his arm out to keep the doors from closing.

Kevin looks at Patrick's hand. It's long fingers and long sharp fingernails stick out like a branch.

KEVIN
So..I guess this lift only goes one way, right?

PATRICK
That's right.

He then points downwards.

Kevin accepts this and enters the lift with Patrick.

The doors close

THE END COPYRIGHT 2016 LUKEPMEP