

Project Greater

by

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INT. BAR - NIGHT

The bar is packed with patrons, the music floating in the atmosphere.

At the counter is IKE(22) a skinny shy looking man who is the only person drinking water with lemon.

The door opens and CHOW(21) muscular build and a hard face, silently walks to the bar and sits down.

Ike takes a sip of his water, paying him no attention.

IKE  
(V.O.)  
Is he here?

Chow nods ordering a shot of whiskey.

IKE  
Alright. Wait five minutes, then come  
in behind me.

Ike finishes his water and leaves the bar.

INT. BACKROOM - NIGHT

CLARENCE(36) a tall man in a suit is watching his employees count up the money.

Without warning, Ike walks into the backroom without any alarm.

THUG 1  
Yo who the fuck are you?

IKE  
I'm Ike. I just need to talk to  
Clarence for a second.

CLARENCE  
You don't need to talk to me about  
shit.

IKE  
Clarence we both know that's not true.

THUG 2  
I know your getting on my fucking  
nerves man.

The two Thugs make there way towards Ike. Ike ignores them.

IKE  
Clarence, I just need to know were  
James is.

CLARENCE  
I don't know where he is.

IKE  
I know your lying Clarence.

CLARENCE  
Then there's no need to ask me then is  
there?

Clarence stands up, arms folded.

CLARENCE (CONT'D)  
Think it's time for you to go Ike.

The Thugs tower over Ike. Ike raises his hands in surrender.

IKE  
Guy's I'm trying to be nice here.

Suddenly Chow crashes through the door killing both guards in  
seconds.

He slowly walks toward Clarence who's backing up frightened.

CLARENCE  
Guys, I'm not lying. I haven't seen  
James in over a year.

IKE  
True.Doesn't mean you can't point us  
in the right direction.

Clarence attempts to draw his gun, but is stopped by Ike.

IKE  
Now...where's James?

INT. GAS STATION - NIGHT

Chow is in the gas station grabbing almost every chip bag in  
the store.

IKE  
(V.O.)  
Hey while you in there get me a drink.

CHOW  
Hell no I don't have money for that.

CASHIER  
What?

CHOW  
What?

CASHIER  
Who are you talking to? Nobody's here.

CHOW  
Myself man Geez.

CASHIER  
Okay...7.91.

INT. CAR - NIGHT

Chow walks to a car were Ike is sitting in the driver's seat. He gets in the car and hands Ike the drink while opening a bag of chips.

CHOW  
What's the move with James?

IKE  
According to Clarence's head, The last time he saw James, Kayla was with him.

CHOW  
What!?

IKE  
Yeah.

CHOW  
Does James know who she is?

Ike pauses in deep thought, tapping the top of the can

IKE  
I don't know... but I'm going to find out.

Chows hard face softens.

CHOW

You SURE you wanna do this? I can--

IKE

No I got it. Your following Clarence's lead.

CHOW

Yeah, its probably nothing, but I'll stake it out just in case. Be careful man.

IKE

You to.

The two shake hands and the screen cuts to black.

EXT. APARTMENT - MORNING

James(40) is walking back and forth in his office wearing a nice suit talking on the phone.

Kayla(23) wearing a tight fitting business suit, is sitting on the couch.

JAMES

(On phone)

Are you Serious?

James paces even faster rubbing a hand on his head.

JAMES(CONT'D)

And your sure it was them? Ok thanks for the heads up.

James hangs up the phone and collapses into his chair.

KAYLA

What's wrong?

JAMES

Remember those boys that blew up the warehouse couple years ago?

KAYLA

Yeah?

JAMES

They showed up at Clarence's place.

KAYLA

Clarence?

JAMES

He's fine just babbling like a madman.

KAYLA

That's good.

JAMES

No it's not. If Clarence is alive then that means he gave me up. It won't be long until they show up here.

KAYLA

Your making such a big deal out of nothing. Give me there names and I'll take care of this.

JAMES

(Smiles)

That's my girl.

KAYLA

(Annoyed)

Whatever.

James goes to the draw at his desk and pulls out the files.

JAMES

We've only got names, no family on record, only address is the school.

James gives the files to Kayla. She sees a picture of Ike and her blood turns cold.

JAMES

Now. I need these guys ALIVE ok? It's been hell trying to recreate the formula and those boys are the key.

KAYLA

If this is all you have it may take awhile.

JAMES

Time isn't a problem. Just make sure it's done before I'm dead alright?

KAYLA  
I'll get to work.

Kayla leaves the office and gets to her car. Instead of driving off she starts sobbing uncontrollably in the car.

INT.JAMES CAR - NIGHT

Clarence and James are riding in the back seat of car.

Clarence is high strung after his visit from Ike and Chow but James isn't bothered.

CLARENCE  
We shouldn't be doing this.

JAMES  
Don't start--

CLARENCE  
(spooked)  
You didn't get forced to put a gun to your head! They could be watching us right now.

JAMES  
What do you suggest we do hide? They already found you once, I'm sure they could do it again.

This sends Clarence's anxiety into overdrive.

JAMES(CONT'D)  
I'm kidding Jesus.

CLARENCE  
We should have at least push the meeting back. Give us time to regroup.

JAMES  
No, if anything we need to speed things up. Those boys are coming to burn everything to the ground and I'll be damned if I have nothing to show for it.

The car pulls up to a office building and James and Clarence head inside. From a nearby tree holding a bag of chips, Chow glares at the two men.

INT. KAYLAS APARTMENT - NIGHT

Kayla is sitting in her living room, drinking a glass of wine and smoking.

IKE

Thought you didn't smoke.

Ike steps out of the shadows. Kayla stays focused on her drink not looking at Ike.

KAYLA

A lot can change in 2 years. Plus it's not everyday your boyfriend comes back from the dead.

IKE

(Cautiously)

I wasn't dead.

Kayla takes a drag of her joint.

KAYLA

Missing...Dead...same shit to me.

Kayla downs the wine in one swig.

KAYLA

Twenty-three years...Twenty-Three years without shedding a tear for a man. Then you come along.

Kayla finally looks at Ike rage radiating from here body.

KAYLA(CONT'D)

Where were you Ike?

IKE

(Pleading)

People were trying to kill us Kayla.  
How did you expect me to call you?

Kayla springs up tears in her eyes and hurt in her voice.

KAYLA

(Enraged)

I expect a call, text, letter, a god damn pigeon something! You just fucking disappeared! The school had memorial for you and everything!

Ike has no answer for her. Everything she says is true and he knows it.

IKE

You deserve an explanation and I'm gonna give it to you. But now's not the time, you could be in danger.

KAYLA

Danger from what?

IKE

What do you know about James?

KAYLA

Not much I'm his secretary. Why? Is he the danger?

Ike senses something cross Kayla's mind. Something familiar...

IKE

(Whisper)

No...

KAYLA

What?

Ike puts a hand on her temple. Kayla's eyes glaze over as Ike hears gunshots and screaming.

KAYLA (CONT'D)

(V.O.)

I've got three more coming in.

Ike takes his hand off her head and looks at Kayla in horror. Kayla snaps back to reality.

KAYLA

What happened? What did you do?

Ike backs away from her completely shocked.

IKE

(Quietly)

You were working with James the whole time?

Kayla's stomach turns.

IKE (CONT'D)  
 (Quietly)  
 You're the one who brings him his  
 subjects.

Kayla walks slowly towards Ike.

KAYLA  
 Ike...let me--

IKE  
 (Stern)  
 Give me the files.

KAYLA  
 Ike you know I can't--

Ike swiftly Taps her forehead and Kayla passes out. He goes into her office and takes the files, leaving her on the floor.

EXT. PARK - MORNING

Ike is sitting outside looking through his phone. He is deleting pictures of him and Kayla.

As he's gazing at the last one, he receives a phone call from Chow.

IKE  
 Yeah.

CHOW  
 (on phone)  
 How'd it go?

IKE  
 Kayla's been working with James since  
 the beginning.

CHOW  
 Since the very beginning? She set us  
 up?

IKE  
 I'm not sure. She definitely knew  
 about the experiments though.

CHOW  
 (on phone)  
 You not sure? Didn't you read her

mind?

IKE

I told you it doesn't work like that.  
How's it going on the stakeout going  
is it boring as hell?

CHOW

(on phone)

The exact opposite actually. We might  
have to cash app Clarence.

EXT. DR.KENDALLS OFFICE - DAY

Chow hops out the tree he's in and throws his bag on the  
ground.

CHOW

James is here...and I'm gonna kill  
him.

EXT. PARK - DAY

Ike sprints towards a car with the phone in his hand, opens  
the door and gets in.

IKE

No! stay there I'm on the way!

EXT. DR.KENDALLS OFFICE - DAY

Chow stalks the building looking for a way in.

CHOW

You'll take to long, i'm doing this  
now.

Chow hangs up the phone.

EXT. PARK - DAY

IKE

No it could be a trap! Chow! Cho--  
Dammit!

Ike jumps into the car and pulls off frantically.

EXT. DR. KENDALLS OFFICE

Chow sneaks around the office building looking for a way in.  
he sees some guards and calmly disarms them.

He heads inside the office.

INT. DR. KENDALLS OFFICE

James is talking with DR.KENDALL(43) a shy but ambitious woman with a panicked look on her face.

Dr.Kendall is sitting at his desk while James is pacing back and forth. Clarence is sitting legs crossed in the chair.

JAMES

(agitated)

Are you trying to tell me that after all this time and money, were still in the same position?

DR.KENDALL

I told you when you brought this to me James, that you are asking for something that has *literally* never been done before. It's even a miracle we have as much as we have.

CLARENCE

So what do we have?

DR.KENDALL

What we have is a rough explanation of how the powers manifested.

Dr.Kendall opens his drawer and pulls out a file.

DR.KENDALL

It seems that they possess a specific type of DNA that was compatible to the drug causing it to bond with them permanently.

JAMES

Then why can't you replicate the results with the blood I gave you?

DR.KENDALL

Because no DNA strand is exactly the same. Even if we did happen to find subjects with the same DNA and that's a billion in one if, there's not enough research to suggest that they won't end up dead like the other subjects or if they'll even inherit the exact same abilities. Our best

chance of success will be to capture  
Ike and Chow and do more research.

CLARENCE

(scoffs)

That's easier said than done Doc.

JAMES

In the meantime keep working with what  
you have. This information might still  
be some use.

James and Clarence exit the office and into the parking lot.

EXT. DR.KENDALLS OFFICE - DAY

As there walking, Chow follows behind them keeping out of  
sight. As James heads to his car and Chow gets closer and  
closer preparing to attack...

JAMES

Hey Chow.

Chow pauses and James shoots darts into his body--

Chow collapses to the ground, growling in pain.

JAMES

I was just talking about you. How have  
you been good?

Chow tries to move but is shot again by Clarence.

JAMES(CONT'D)

Great glad to hear it. Now where is  
Ike? Is he hiding in the bushes?

CHOW

Fuck You.

JAMES

Chow you brought this on yourself. Did  
you think you could attack Clarence  
and I wouldn't know about it? C'mon  
give me some credit here. But honestly  
you couldn't have attacked me at a  
better time because--

A car roars toward James and Clarence. James pulls out a gun  
and starts shooting at it. Ike ducks to avoid the bullets as  
they go through the windshield. Chow bolts to the car jumping

straight in. Clarence aims his gun at Chow--

Ike raises his hand and turns it to James--

Clarence moves the direction of Ike's hand and fires of a shot at James--

JAMES

The hell Clarence?! Focus!

With the distraction Chow closes the door and Ike pulls of--

IKE

You fucking idiot!

CHOW

Not now!

James fires at the car as it speeds off.

JAMES

Fuck!!

EXT. ABANDON GAS STATION - DAY

They make it to an abandoned gas station.

Chow is gushing blood from the darts stuck in his body.

IKE

We gotta take those out.

CHOW

No, there's no time.

IKE

(frustrated)

If I don't take them out now you'll bleed out.

CHOW

Alright do it.

Ike starts pulling the darts outta chows body while Chow does his best to stay quiet.

After the darts are removed, Chows body starts to heal.

CHOW

Ok were ending this now.

IKE

No were not! You don't know what was in those darts it could be a delayed poison!

CHOW

We've been looking for james for two years and when we finally find him and you wanna run?!

IKE

No I want to live!James already knew you were there,he's probably bringing reinforcements right now! We're not prepared for this!

Chow begrudgingly agrees.

CHOW

Fine. What's the plan.

IKE

I know a place we can lie low for awhile.

Ike cranks the car and pulls off.

EXT. HOUSE - DAY

Ike parks the car at a House with for sale sign.

CHOW

Why are we here?

Ike gets out the car with Chow behind him.

IKE

I used to break into for sale homes to have somewhere to sleep. All the utilities are usually still on so we can clean that shirt.

Ike tampers with the lock and opens the door.

They go inside and check the water.

IKE

Waters on.

Chow takes his shirt off and washes it. Ike takes out the files he got from Kayla.

CHOW

Mission was a success I see.

IKE

A lot more than yours.

CHOW

Look, the reason why we're in this together is to kill James. If I see an opportunity to do that i'm taking it. With or without you.

IKE

I know this sounds cleshay, but we cannot be emotional about this. Emotions lead to mistakes and if we're going to succeed we can't make any, especially like today.

Chow starts eating some trail mix left in the house.

CHOW

Fine. What do the files say?

IKE

Well...

Ike spreads out three separate folders. He points to the first one.

IKE

These files are on the subjects James used after we escaped.

CHOW

Any survivors?

IKE

Not according to this which is why all these...

Ike points to the other files.

IKE

Are all on our DNA.

CHOW

This explains why James won't kill us.

IKE

Because he hasn't been able to

replicate what happened.

Ike looks at the faces of all the subjects, some are even children.

IKE(CONT'D)

Man look at all these people...how is james getting away with this?

Chow scans looks through the files.

CHOW

Probably using these companies as fronts.

While going through the files,Chow stops at a file with Dr.Kendalls name on it.

CHOW

I know this lady.

IKE

What lady?

CHOW

This Kendall lady, Is saw her name in the office James was in.

IKE

Pretty small building for the CEO of VIntex Industries.

CHOW

It's a long shot, but it might be something there.

IKE

Maybe...

INT. DR.KENDALLS HOUSE - NIGHT

The door opens with a creek as Dr Kendall trudges through the door.

She sets his keys on a hook and Carries his suitcase into the living room.

As soon as she puts the suitcase down a woman jumps into her arms and kisses her.

KAYLA  
Hey baby how was your day?

DR.KENDALL  
Terrible, just a giant mess.

KAYLA  
What Happened?

DR.KENDALL  
The three subjects we were preparing  
for stage two just died. They were the  
only ones who matched the DNA  
specifications.

Dr.Kendall leans forward,weighed down by the task at hand.

DR.KENDALL(CONT'D)  
Which means the data we collected was  
worthless and we have to start from  
scratch.

KAYLA  
You've been stressed out ever since  
you took this project on.I don't know  
why you just quit.

DR.KENDALL  
Because Rachel,this isn't "a" project,  
it's "the" project. If I can pull this  
off, It'll be the greatest scientist  
in human history.

KAYLA  
So you keep telling me. Won't be able  
to enjoy it if your dead.

DR.KENDALL  
Newtons been dead for a centuries and  
they still talk about him.

KAYLA  
(mischievously)  
Ok Newton, do you know what you need?

DR.KENDALL  
What?

KAYLA  
One of Rachels famous massages.

DR.KENDALL  
Hm...famous you say?

KAYLA  
World renowned.

Kayla gets behind Dr.Kendall and starts massaging her neck.

DR.KENDALL  
Well, if you insist.

Kayla continues and the camera pans over to Dr.Kendall's suitcase.

INT. DR.KENDALLS HOUSE - NIGHT

All of the lights are off in the house giving off an eerie silence.

Suddenly the dim hue of a laptop cuts through the darkness showing Kayla typing furiously--

The laptop shows the same information that Ike had on file, but with the experiments in more detail.

She clicks on the file with the three subjects that died...

She watches a video of Dr.Kendall injecting each person with a liquid.

There stable for a moment, then they start to convulse and cough up blood.Dr.Kendall kicks one of the tables.

DR.KENDALL  
(on laptop)  
Dammit!

Kayla takes out her flash drive and heads out the door.

INT. KAYLAS APARTMENT - DAY

Kayla is texting furiously standing in a tight fitting dress behind SAM(25) a intelligent woman with a ponytail and glasses, watching the footage of the subjects.

SAM  
How long til the reaction?

KAYLA  
around ten minutes.

SAM  
And what killed them exactly?

KAYLA  
(scoffs)  
Heart Attack, Stroke, all of the above.

SAM  
But what started first?

KAYLA  
Your guess is as good as mine. She  
didn't record when the symptoms  
started, just the time of death.

SAM  
(disbelief)  
What kind of scientist is she?

KAYLA  
A stupid one.

Sam leans back in her chair rubbing her eyes.

SAM  
Well she better figure something out  
and fast. James is losing patience  
which puts us in danger.

KAYLA  
I can handle James.

SAM  
(sarcastically)  
Oh can you.

KAYLA  
Of course. Trust me.

SAM  
Wouldn't be here if I didn't.

KAYLA  
Ok let's take this back to basics.  
What causes most symptoms occur?

SAM  
When something forces the body out its  
regulated temperature.

KAYLA  
Right. So what's the temperature when  
the symptoms start?

Sam checks the laptop.

SAM  
Holy Shit!

KAYLA  
What?

SAM  
The temperatures are dropping really  
fast.

KAYLA  
How fast?

SAM  
98.5 to 65.

KAYLA  
Damn.

SAM  
Exaclty.

KAYLA  
But...that doesnt make sense. Your  
temperature rises during heart attacks  
and strokes.

SAM  
It could be an allergic reaction.

KAYLA  
To every subject?

SAM  
Allergic reactions are fickle. Just  
because we're both allergic doesnt  
mean were allergic the same way. What  
might make my nose run could kill you.

Kayla stops texting, her mind running a mile a minute.

KAYLA  
If I find out the ingredients of the  
serum, think we can isolate what causes  
the allergic reactions?

SAM  
Thats a big if.

KAYLA  
I told you to trust me.

Kayla hugs Sam.

SAM  
Uh huh.

Kayla waves goodbye and heads out the door. San is still looking at the video in disgust as Kendall makes notes and leaves the bodies.

INT. JAMES OFFICE - DAY

James is wearing a suit and talking on the phone vibrating in his chair. Kayla walks in and sits down, but James doesn't acknowledge her.

JAMES  
(on phone)  
Look were gonna need more subjects. Yeah all three. Nothing is certain Clarence thats why its called an experiment. 2 years we've been doing this and we haven't even gotten a parking ticket.

James palms his head in frustration.

JAMES  
I told you we can't kill them and even if we could, we don't know where they are.

James patience finally hit a breaking point.

JAMES  
They don't have any family that's why we picked them!

James closes his eyes taking some deep breaths.

JAMES  
Look just... pick up some more subjects, drop them by Kendalls, and you can interrogate him all you want. Alright I gotta go.

James hangs up the phone still not looking at Kayla.

JAMES

You're late.

KAYLA

Stuck in traffic. Everything ok?

JAMES

Far from it. Kendalls experiment was a bust so it's back to square one.

KAYLA

Why don't you bring someone else in?

JAMES

Because the more people know about this, the easier it is to get caught. Im not flushing years of research down the drain because Clarence is getting antsy.

KAYLA

It doesn't matter who you tell people are missing. The police are going to have to investigate at some point and your no closer to perfecting the formula than you did 2 years ago. You need to bring in someone else.

James leans back in his chair.

JAMES

How well did you know Ike?

Kayla is shocked but recovers quickly.

KAYLA

I knew him in college.

JAMES

Did you have any classes with him?

Kayla's heart begins to race.

KAYLA

A few.

James starts strumming his hands on the desk.

He leans forward finally facing Kayla.

JAMES

You were at college to bring in potential subjects. The whole time your there, you bring me what...30,40 people? But Ike, a guy you new from a couple classes answers an *ad* instead of being recommended by you.

KAYLA

If your trying to say something, say it.

James smiles like she just showed her hand.

JAMES

I think you and Ike were a lot more than "know each other from class". I think you two were star crossed lovers which is why you didn't bring him in for the project. I also think that if you were Juliet to his Romeo, He probably told you all of his darkest secrets like places he'd hide. And if your as in love as I think you were, something like that doesnt go away in 2 years. That you might be inclined to help said Romeo find me.

Kayla laughs giving herself time to calm down.

KAYLA

Ike *found* you because he tracked down Clarence and Chow showed up at Kendalls office. And in case you forgot, he broke into *my* house and stole all my files so any love you think we had? It's definitely gone. As far as the experiment goes you told me strong and athletic. Ike is neither of those things.

James eyes bore into Kayla.

Kayla stares right back refusing to look away.

JAMES

...Fair enough. Do me a favor and check on the new shipments for me.

KAYLA

Yes sir.

Kayla gets up to leave trying her best to stay calm.

JAMES

Kayla.

Kayla Stops.

KAYLA

Nice Outfit.

INT. DR. KENDALLS OFFICE - DAY

Dr.Kendall is typing on her computer face steeped in focus.

The door burst open and Ike and Chow barge in frightening Dr. Kendall--

DR.KENDALL

Yo--your--

CHOW

Good now thats out of the way.

IKE

Tell us everything you know about project "Greater".

DR.KENDALL

I was brought in after Project Greater I didn't--

IKE

Were not talking about us.

CHOW

Were talking about the other subjects.

DR.KENDALL

There are no other subjects.

Chow jerks a thumb at Ike.

CHOW

You know he can read minds right?

DR.KENDALL

I'm well aware,and I would still say the same thing.Every other subject we have tested has died. Making you two a medical miracle.

IKE

And you a mass murderer.

DR.KENDALL

I'm just a scientist.I was hired to replicate what happened and I can't do that without human subjects.

CHOW

Who is in responsible for obtaining subjects?

DR.KENDALL

I've only met Clarence and James and that's it.

Ike doesn't sense any dishonesty.

IKE

Alright Dr.Kendall,we need you to quit working for James and start working to reverse what happened.

Dr.Kendall jumps up in disbelief.

DR.KENDALL

I can't do that! Do you realize how important this is?! Were not talking about a steroid anymore,were talking about the next step in human evolution!

CHOW

You think were asking?

DR.KENDALL

Even if you kill me,it won't stop James from trying Clarence is proof of that.

Ike and Chow share a confused look.

DR.KENDALL

You didn't know...

INT.SAMS APARTMENT - NIGHT

Saint is sitting at her desk going over the footage she got from Kayla.

SAM

What the--

San Squints at the screen, noticing that the Flatline from the heart monitor had started to move.

CUT TO BLACK.



