

SLEEPING PILL

Written by

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BLACK.

CRICKETS CHIRPING can be heard across the black frame, along with DISTANT TRAFFIC noises, with CARS heard passing by. From there..

FADE IN:

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

HARRY (17) stares at the ceiling of his dark bedroom, his red-eyes are partially open with flickering motions. After a long beat of staring, he rolls to his right, and pins his face to the wall next to him and closes his eyes.

After another beat, he is now rolled to the left. After another beat, he is now lying back up face down. He grabs his pillow and plunges his head under it.

He breathes in and out fast, but seems to be ineffective. He SIGHS, and puts the pillow back in position with high force.

He sits up against the bed, and rubs his eyes. Looking at the clock on the DESK to his right, it says "1:30 AM". He looks to the right of the clock, there's a half-filled cup of water laying right there.

Standing up and walking towards that desk, HARRY takes that cup of water and gulps it down.

CUT TO:

HARRY lying in the bed again, but his eyes are burning red, and they're not even closing. He looks over to his desk again, there's A BOOK on that desk right there.

CUT TO:

HARRY reading that book with the OVERHEAD LIGHT ON, but he seems to be entertained by the book instead of feeling bored with it. He chuckles softly while reading it, and then he taps his leg repeatedly, guffawing.

CUT TO:

HARRY, book laid open and covering his face, still not asleep. He slaps the book onto his face constantly. After a beat, he takes the book and THROWS it into the corner of the room. He lets out an angered sigh, and throws off his blanket.

CUT TO:

INT. BATHROOM - LATER

HARRY is washing his face continuously with heavy splashes of water. He turns off the vase, and presses both his hands on the sink counter. He looks at the MIRROR CABINET in front of him, even the mirror is soaked and dirtied up because of dried water.

HARRY looks at it, he notices a SLIGHT OPENING. He opens it without hesitation, reveals: A SLEEPING PILL BOTTLE. He takes it out, and looks at it.

He opens the bottle, there's about 20 CAPSULES in there. He shuts the cabinet door, and looks carefully at that bottle. Looking at himself in the mirror, he stares carefully at himself, and the bottle. And then..

CUT TO:

INT. FRIDGE WATER DISPENSER/LOW POV - NIGHT

A CUP OF WATER is placed onto the DISPENSER SURFACE, and WATER FLOWS DOWN FROM IT LIKE A RIVER.

CUT TO:

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

CLOSEUP OF THE PILL BOTTLE, HARRY flicks the cap open.

He throws out THREE CAPSULES and they settle on the desk. With the cup of water in hand, HARRY takes up the pills and SHOVES them into his mouth, with one heavy gulp of water, he swallows THE PILLS.

CUT TO:

HARRY lies on the bed, covering himself with the blanket and take a deep breath. He breathes out in relief, and then he closes his eyes.

After a while, he is not moving a bit. Slowly, the CAMERA starts zooming into his closed eyes, as we zoom in, slowly fades in a low SYNTH RHYTHM that is accompanied by SUBTLE RUMBLE around the surface of the bed.

HARRY starts to gurgle, he frowns while keeping his eyes closed. The rumble starts to INTENSIFY, the SYNTH RHYTHM rises to a LOUD ELECTRONIC ORCHESTRAL with mixtures of LOUD DRUM POUNDINGS and slowly rises a BUILDING PITCH.

The RUMBLE GROWS LOUDER as we ZOOM IN CLOSER TO HARRY'S CLOSED EYES. Closing in fully on his eyes, the RUMBLE AROUND INTENSIFIES MORE DRASTICALLY, in a manner of seconds, HEAVY SWEAT DROPS begin to FALL OFF HARRY'S FOREHEAD and THROUGH the gaps between the NOSE and the CHEEK.

RUMBLE and SYNTH grows ULTRA LOUD and IRRITATING, almost like a DISTORTION MIX. HARRY frowns hard, and breathes heavily, after a very long beat of holding, he OPENS HIS EYES, and BREATHES OUT HEAVILY.

As he breathes, the CAMERA slowly zooms out to his face, but as it zooms out, HARRY starts to look around and notices...

INT. DOORWAY - NIGHT

...that he's lying in a DARK DOORWAY. He gets up slowly and looks around, it is not what he expected it to be. Confused and astonished, he stands in the middle of a WOODEN TEXTURED DOOR WAY.

As he stands alone in that darkness, a BRIGHT YELLOW LIGHT can be seen in front of him from a GRAND TURNING STAIRCASE. Behind him suddenly EMERGES a GLOWING WHITE LIGHT, he turns around to see a FRONT DOOR left slightly opened.

He's about to turn around for that door, ABOVE THE STAIRCASE comes a SOFT SINGING VOICE OF A WOMAN. He locks his eyes at that staircase, the SINGING VOICE appears to be descending.

WOMAN (O.S.)

(sing-song)

Hush, little baby, don't say a word.

Mama's gonna buy you a Mockingbird.

And if that mockingbird won't sing,

Mama's gonna buy you a diamond ring.

HARRY starts stepping back towards that door. As the voice grows louder, the source of the singing voice is REVEALED. A YOUNG WOMAN, a tall, brunette, and very BEAUTIFUL LOOKING WOMAN walks slowly down the stairs, singing the lullaby.

WOMAN

(singing softly)

And if that diamond ring turns brass,

Mama's gonna buy you a looking glass.

(MORE)

WOMAN (CONT'D)

*And if that looking glass gets
broke,
Mama's gonna buy you a billy-goat.*

As she is making her way down, HARRY looks carefully at her face as she soon ENTERS THE LIGHT. Her beautiful face is HALF-COVERED in BLOOD. HARRY is breathing in and out fast.

In her hands, the WOMAN is carrying a BLOODIED KITCHEN KNIFE. She's holding it, and toying around with its BLOOD SOAKED BLADE.

HARRY looks at the door behind him, he wants to run but he is FROZEN and NUMB from the sight.

WOMAN

*(singing softly)
And if that billy-goat won't pull,
Mama's gonna buy you a cart and
bull.
And if that cart and bull turn
over,
Mama's gonna buy you a horse and
cart.*

She makes her LAST STEP DOWN to the floor, and starts walking SLOWLY TOWARDS HARRY. She RAISES THE KNIFE to her face, and SCRATCHES her face with the TIP OF BLOODIED BLADE.

WOMAN

*(singing softly)
And if that horse and cart fall
down...*

Her BLOODIED face FILLS THE FRAME, as she finishes off her lullaby. Then stops, she then STARES AT THE CAMERA...

WOMAN

*(singing softly)
You'll still be the sweetest baby
in town.*

She stops, holds for a long beat. HARRY stares at her, don't know what to do, then suddenly, SHE LUNGES AT HIM.

She PINS HARRY ON THE GROUND, and raises her KNIFE HIGH. HARRY is taken by surprise, then he regains, he JABS her in the FACE, and KICKS HER OFF.

He stands up and OPENS THAT DOOR TO RUN. He runs from that DARK DOORWAY and into...

INT. DARK HIGH SCHOOL HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

HARRY stops and looks down that hallway, breathing fast and confused. He looks back, THERE'S NO DOOR, it's just the OTHER SIDE OF THE HALLWAY.

Looking back and forth, he realizes..

...HE'S IN THE MIDDLE OF A FUCKING HALLWAY, and there're no signs of The Woman figure anymore. He takes a moment, breathing in and out, pounding on his chest for reassurance.

HARRY

Ooh, okay. Okay.

He stands, but from the distance to his right, a RED LIGHT BEAMS UP and ILLUMINATES HALF THE HALLWAY and HALF OF HARRY'S FACE.

HARRY looks down there, the ILLUMINATING RED LIGHT is forming the shape of a NEON SIGN, pointing directly RIGHT. HARRY is still figuring it out..

...but suddenly LOUD RUMBLE can be heard on the other side of the hallway, HARRY looks to that side, the OTHER END OF THE HALL starts to REFORM and SPIN LIKE A TURNSTILE.

Within that center, THE WOMAN FIGURE re-emerges and starts LUNGING DOWN THE HALL with the BLOODIED KNIFE.

HARRY looks down the ILLUMINATING RED SIGN, no other choices, he RUNS DOWN THERE. He runs FAST, and making the RIGHT TURN down that hallway.

Turning right, he ENTERS another hallway with another RED SIGN pointing right, he looks back while running, the WOMAN FIGURE with the knife is still running after him.

He TURNS RIGHT and runs down the hall. It's a straight line down the hall and he runs fast. There's A RIGHT TURN there without a SIGN, so he makes that turn.

He TURNS RIGHT again, THE WOMAN FIGURE APPEARS RIGHT IN FRONT OF HIM. He TUMBLES on the floor, and crawls backwards to where he came from, he stands up and run like hell again.

The Woman figure is CATCHING UP TO HIM. HARRY runs frantically until he sees an EXIT DOOR with the RED NEON SIGN pointing down. Harry closes his eyes and CRASHES THROUGH THAT DOOR into..

PITCH BLACKNESS

HARRY seems to have disappeared into the deep darkness, his heavy breathing can be heard. After a beat, he APPEARS UNDER AN UNKNOWN SPOTLIGHT.

He looks around, the SPOTLIGHT seems to be following wherever he's looking and looking. Suddenly fades in HAND CLAPPING SOUNDS with CROWD CHEERING. HARRY looks front, he sees a CROWD OF PEOPLE seated in ROW CHAIRS.

INT. AUDITORIUM

He looks down, he seems to be standing on a STAGE. He looks at himself again, he is now wearing a CLOWN COSTUME IN FULL MAKEUP.

Suddenly fades in LOUD CROWD LAUGHING and CHATTERS, then PAPERS and POPCORN KERNELS FLIES towards his face.

HARRY runs off the stage and passes through a SHORT DARK CORRIDOR, where he is now WEARING FULL BLACK with a LONG COAT.

He runs into...

INT. DARK WOODEN CORRIDOR - CONTINUOUS

...he looks back, A LARGE CROWD of PEOPLE are following him and RUNNING AFTER HIM. They're YELLING and BOOING in INAUDIBLE SPEECHES. CRUMBLED PAPERS and ROCKS are being THROWN AT HIM as he RUNS.

HARRY looks back, The Woman With The Knife is crashing through the crowd and RUNNING AFTER HIM. He runs to the AUDITORIUM DOOR, and CRASHES THROUGH IT INTO...

INT. WHITE VOID - CONTINUOUS

...where everything FADE TO BLACK AND WHITE. HARRY steps into there, and stops to breath fast. Looking around the place, he turns from ANGERED to DESPERATE.

HARRY looks up, it's just another black void.

HARRY
WHAT DO YOU WANT FROM ME?!

He holds for a beat, then he collapses on the floor and starts CRYING LIKE A BABY. He is too desperate and hopeless now.

HARRY
(soft whispering, crying)
What do you want from me?

Sitting alone, HARRY just keeps the face down with his river of tears. Suddenly, FOOTSTEPS approaches him, and finally, the WOMAN FIGURE stops in front of him.

CLOSE ON HARRY, he is still covering face, then The Woman KNEELS DOWN to him and HOLDS HIS FACE up with both her hands.

He LOOKS AT HER, now she is not a blood craving psycho with kitchen knife anymore, now she looks just like an ANGEL.

She leans in closer to him, and whispers into his ear..

WOMAN
(soft)
Would you like to be free?

HARRY looks at her, with tears in his eyes.

HARRY
(trembling, almost
begging)
Yes! Please, just get me out of
here, please!

The WOMAN shush him up, and from behind her WAIST, she PULLS OUT THE SAME KNIFE SHE WAS CARRYING.

WOMAN
(soft)
Close your eyes.

HARRY closes his eyes, and suddenly, he LUNGES AT HIM WITH THE KNIFE, and he OPENS HIS EYES AND GASP.

CLOSED IN ON HIS EYES, CAMERA FADES OUT to reveal HARRY sitting inside..

INT. CLASSROOM

...where THE KNIFE IS PLUNGED DEEP INTO HIS CHEST. He looks around the room, EVERYBODY IS STARING DIRECTLY AT HIM. They are all POINTING AT HIM.

BLOOD STARTS TO DRIP FROM HIS CHEST, and onto the DESK filled with PAPERS and FAILED QUIZZES. He looks down, seeing his name on every FAILED TEST PAPERS, he starts to breath heavily.

The Spectators start to STOMP THEIR FEET on the floor, making a loud RHYTHMIC THUMPING. They all LOOK UP, and HARRY looks back, a TALL, GROWN MAN FIGURE is holding a SLEDGEHAMMER.

The Man Figure raises the sledgehammer. HARRY looks at him, then he looks at everyone, and then he looks at THE WOMAN standing in front of him, then he looks at the CAMERA. He sighs, and then he shuts his eyes.

Then the SLEDGEHAMMER FALLS...

CUT TO:

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

...and HARRY JOLTS AWAKE. He jolts up and suddenly falls off the bed. He breathes heavily and stands up. Looking around the room, nothing's changed. He PINCHES HIS OWN ARM, it actually hurts him, so now he's AWAKE.

HARRY
(sighs)
Aah! Fuck!

INT. KITCHEN - NIGHT

He pours himself a cup of water and takes a long SIP of it. He puts the cup into the sink and SPLASHES WATER ONTO HIS FACE, trying to snap out of it.

He keeps his face down on the sink, and breathes out.

HARRY
It was just a dream.
(a beat)
It was just a dream.
(a beat)
It. Was. Simply. Just. A fucking.
Dream.

HARRY looks up, the WOMAN FIGURE STANDS RIGHT BEHIND HIM. He turns around, SHE STABS HIM IN THE CHEST and LEAVES THE KNIFE RIGHT THERE.

He looks directly at the CAMERA, and suddenly he falls and everything behind him FADES INTO A BLACK VOID.

He falls down into this void, without stopping, and suddenly fades in THE WOMAN'S VOICE, calling his name...

WOMAN
Harry? Harry?

HARRY lands SOFLY onto a CHAIR, and the blackness fades into the..

INT. CLASSROOM - DAY

...the same CLASSROOM he was in earlier. A pair of VERY RECOGNIZABLE HANDS are holding his face. HARRY opens his eyes, he sees TWO GUYS standing in front of him. They seemed worried.

HARRY looks back, there's the SAME MAN FIGURE standing behind his side, also seemed worried, but this man is not holding a sledgehammer, he's holding a BLOCK OF PAPERS.

HARRY looks at the person holding his head up, it is a very recognizable face, the face of THE WOMAN WITH THE KNIFE. He jolts back in shock when he sees her.

HARRY
Holy shit!

The TEACHER behind him grabs his shoulder gently.

TEACHER
It's okay, Harry.

HARRY
What just happened?

The GIRL, CAROL (17) looks at him.

CAROL
You were writing your essay, then your head just slammed on the desk, and then you started screaming and shouting all over.

HARRY
What?

A GUY in front of HARRY, GARRETT (18) elaborates..

GARRETT
Yeah, all of a sudden you just collapsed, and then you went crazy. Fuckin' scared me man.

TEACHER
Language, Garrett.

GARRETT
Sorry.

TEACHER

Oh, Harry. I got your quiz.

The TEACHER hands him his quiz, he has a 47 out of 50 on this one. HARRY'S EYEBROWS strokes up, surprised.

TEACHER

It's a huge improvement, kid. Keep it up.

The TEACHER walks away, CAROL stays by HARRY for a bit.

CAROL

Hey, are you okay?

HARRY

Uh...
(a beat)
...yeah. I'm alright.

CAROL

Yeah, you didn't look really good. If you're tired, just go home, and you know, chill?

HARRY

Oh, I'm good now, trust me. But thanks, anyway.

CAROL

You're welcome.

CAROL stands up, and heads back to her desk. HARRY looks at her as she walks back, in a frantic motion. She looks back at him, then holds up a PILL BOTTLE.

CAROL

Oh hey, this came out of your pocket.

She throws him that bottle.

CAROL

I wouldn't really drink that. It gets you crazy sometimes.

HARRY

Thanks.

HARRY looks at the pill bottle, it is none other than the SLEEPING PILL BOTTLE.

HARRY looks over to CAROL, who is HUMMING to herself the same BEAT from the LULLABY. Her humming is instantly recognizable due to its soft and calm tone.

INSERT: CAROL holding the BLOODIED KNIFE, walking TOWARDS HARRY.

INSERT: HARRY running in the dark hallway, away from CAROL.

INSERT: HARRY standing in the white void, CAROL stands from the distance, looking at him.

INSERT: HARRY sitting at the desk, stabbed, bleeding, with a failed quiz on his table.

INSERT: CAROL kneeling down, staring at HARRY directly in the white void.

He breathes out, and sighs. Looking at his quiz again, he nods, and then he looks DIRECTLY at the CAMERA. And then...

CUT TO BLACK.

THE END