

SUNRISE

Written by

Caned

And

Unable

EXT. THE HIGHLANDS - DUSK

A lone bothy nestled at the foot of a mountain.

INT. BOTHY - EVENING

BETH, 50, tattered clothing, rises from an old camp bed after another sleepless day and presses her fingers into her eyes.

Flicks a light switch. Nothing.

Scratches another tally mark on the wall. One of hundreds.

She lights a candle and takes a seat at the table, then pours a whisky. She drinks quickly then pours another.

She pulls a pistol from her waistband and opens the chamber to check it's loaded, then puts the gun down, reaches for a wind-up radio and cranks the handle.

CRACKLE and HISS, then, a Governmental message repeats:

"All UK citizens, please make your way to the nearest port or airport. It is advised that you only travel during daylight hours. All UK citizens please..."

LATER

Beth is dozing on an old rocking chair.

BANG! BANG! BANG!

She wakes with a start, her eyes fix on the door.

BANG! BANG! BANG!

ADAM (O.S.)
Help! Anyone, please!

She climbs to her feet and edges closer to the door.

ADAM (O.S.)
Please! I don't have much time.

BETH
Are you alone?

ADAM (O.S.)
Oh thank god! Yes, just me. Please,
let me in.

Beth hesitates before unbolting the door, then raises her gun and steps back.

2.

ADAM, 30, looks like he's been on the move for days, enters then pauses as he sees the gun pointing at him.

ADAM
You won't need that... I...I'm...

He lurches towards the fireplace, hands shivering as he tries to extract warmth from the fire.

Beth throws him a ragged shawl.

ADAM
Those things are nearby.

BETH
How far?

ADAM
I spotted two about a mile away.

Adam looks into the fireplace.

ADAM
My wife is out there. She's hurt. I need to get her help.

BETH
You're best waiting until sunrise.

ADAM
I can't, she won't make it.

Beth thinks, lowers her gun.

She passes Adam the whisky. He takes a sip and grimaces.

ADAM
I'm Adam.

BETH
I'm Be-. You can call me B.

ADAM
Ok, B. Thanks for the-

BANG! BANG! BANG!

Otherworldly HOWLS and YELPS outside stop all conversation.

They crouch and stay silent for what seems like an age.

ADAM
We're dead. We're fucking dead!

3.

Beth signals to be quiet, crawls towards the window to see what they're up against.

BETH
Stay quiet. It looks clear.

A large object smacks against the window. Unrecognisable on first glance.

Beth reels back and crashes against pans.

The HOWLS increase and seem to surround them.

Adam, visibly scared, grabs a poker stick.

Beth moves behind Adam and places her hand over his mouth.

BETH
Keep quiet and we keep alive.

Adam nods submissively.

BETH
We'll be ok. You have your wife to find. You have to keep it together.

The monstrous HOWLS from outside become more distant.

LATER

Beth creeps up to the window, peeps through.

BETH
We're ok for now.

Beth pours another drink for Adam to settle his nerves.

He nods to an old photo of Beth hugging a MAN in a lab coat.

ADAM
Is he, did they...?

Beth shakes her head, downs her drink.

ADAM
My wife... she's a scientist, too. She'd been working on a poison to kill those fucking things but they overran the lab and we had to run.

Beth sits both alert to the situation and thoughtful.

4.

BETH
As soon as we see daybreak, we'll
find your wife.

ADAM
Really? You'll help-

BANG! BANG!

More SCREAMS and HOWLS. Louder than before.

ADAM
Jesus! They're fucking back again.

BANG!

The loudest so far.

ADAM
B, I'm going to run. We're dead
anyway!

BETH
Wait... just... wait...

Beth assesses the situation.

BETH
I'll go. I can take them. When the
light comes up, get to your wife.

ADAM
Are you sure. Maybe we should go
together?

BETH
Stay. Just make sure she finishes
what she started.

BANG! BANG!

More HOWLS.

Beth slowly opens the door, looks back to Adam.

BETH
Good luck.

Beth leaves, closing the door behind her.

Adam's knuckles whiten as he grips the poker stick.

OFF SCREEN: Two GUNSHOTS.

5.

The door inches open, before being aggressively pushed.

Adam clutches the poker stick as the adrenaline starts to overwhelm him.

Two men, JOHN & OWEN, late thirties, barge in.

ADAM

Oh you cunts scared the shit out of me. And you took your fucking time!

JOHN

Would have been quicker if you had the balls to kill her.

ADAM

She dead?

OWEN

As a Dodo.

ADAM

Wasn't sure she'd go for it.

JOHN

You use the wife story?

ADAM

Yeah. It was that and whatever the hell slammed against the window.

OWEN

A dead bird. Her face looked a fucking picture!

They share a laugh.

JOHN

Right, Mcgloughlin and his team are gonna level this place tomorrow, so we gotta get rid of her body and make sure this place is clean of any evidence before sunrise, ok?

OWEN

Easiest five grand I've ever made.

Owen picks up Beth's radio, turns it on. It's just CRACKLE and HISS.

OWEN

Imagine believing monsters have taken over the whole country-

6.

ADAM
Sshhh! Did you hear that?

They all go quiet.

OWEN
Maybe it's that dead bird come back
to haunt-

The door SWINGS open.

A bloodied Beth staggers in, gun trained on Adam.

BETH
(to Adam)
You bastard!

Owen lunges towards Beth.

John reaches for his gun.

Beth dispatches both with two clinical shots.

Adam freezes in fear.

ADAM
They made me do it. Honestly, B. I
just want to find my wife.

She eyes him coldly then lowers her gun.

BETH
Then go find her.

ADAM
Thanks, B. I'll never forget this.

Adam shuffles towards the door.

BETH
Adam.

He turns.

BETH
You're the fucking monster.

Beth shoots him directly between the eyes, then collapses on
the armchair as her injuries start to overcome her.

FADE TO BLACK.