

THE BLIZZARD

By

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FADE IN:

EXT. SNOW COVERED ROAD SURROUNDED BY HAUNTING WOODS

A consistent, heavy snow fall continues to coat the road and surrounding forest in the foreground, and rocky hill in the background. The snow drifts are high and show no signs of melting. Pine boughs hang heavy under the relentless falling of the snow. A full moon shines overhead, creating false shadows with every gust of wind. In the distance, headlights appear as the wind rustles the tree branches that look certain to break.

INT. LATE MODEL SUV - NIGHT

ALEC and CARIN, a young and attractive couple, look out into a HOWLING blizzard. Carin exudes panic while Alec maintains a forceful, but confident grip on the steering wheel. The road looks impassable as the SUV drives down the road.

CARIN

(worried)

Alec you need to slow down! These roads are awful!

ALEC

(nonchalant)

You're over-reacting. This isn't any worse than driving in a Cleveland snow storm.

CARIN

(more worried)

But this is MAINE! You don't know this road! There's no one around to help us if anything happens!

ALEC

(now in a sarcastic tone)

We're fine. This is a 2016 Range Rover. It was made for this kind of thing. Besides, we have all of our camping gear in the back and I have full cell service. We're an hour out from Moosehead lake, and we can't be more than 30 minutes out from the nearest town. Act like we've done this 30 times before...because we have!

CARIN

You don't even know where we ARE!
The GPS hasn't gotten a signal
since we left and it doesn't look
like anyone has driven on this road
in DAYS!

EXT. SNOW COVERED ROAD SURROUNDED BY HAUNTING WOODS -
CONTINUOUS

Snow falls harder now. The wind has picked up, but the moon
overhead is steadily being shrouded in cloud cover. One
shadow in the road isn't moving with the wind.

INT. LATE MODEL SUV - CONTINUOUS

ALEC

You're being so ridiculous right
now. You said it yourself. There's
no one else around and this thing
handles like a champ in this
weath....WHAT THE FUCK?!

EXT. SNOW COVERED ROAD SURROUNDED BY HAUNTING WOODS -
CONTINUOUS

The SUV swerves at the sight of the shadow in the middle of
the road, first running up one snow-covered hill on the
right, then swerving across the road clipping a snow-encased
tree on the left, sending the SUV on it's side, sliding 15
feet to a halt in the woods with the passenger side against
the ground. Their belongings are scattered around the
immediate woods.

INT. LATE MODEL SUV - CONTINUOUS

Moaning and fumbling around inside the vehicle. The windows
are blown out. The engine is stopped and SUV is powered off,
but the wind outside continues to ROAR. The occupants are
shaken but not physically harmed.

ALEC

FUCK! Sweetie, are you OK? CARIN?

CARIN

Jesus my fucking head. You're a
fucking asshole. What the hell was
that?!

ALEC

It looked like some kind of animal.
I don't want to hit a fucking moose
out here!....Jesus my fucking car.
FUCK!

CARIN

Alec what WAS that? Did you hit
it?! God my head...

ALEC

I don't think so. I don't see
anything. Are you OK? Can you get
out?

EXT. SNOW COVERED ROAD - CONTINUOUS

ALEC and CARIN clumsily climb out of the driver side window
with ALEC helping CARIN out and to the ground. They survey
the damage and glance back to the shadowy road. The wind
continues to HOWL through the trees around them.

CARIN

Alec, there's something on the
ground in the road.

ALEC

What? What is it?

The couple slowly moves towards the shape in the road until
they get within the moonlight on the road, snow still beating
down overhead.

CARIN

FUCK ALEX, IT'S A PERSON!

ALEC

There's no way! No out here. That
thing was way too big to be a
person. And what the hell would
someone be doing walking down a
road here?!

ALEC and CARIN approach the shape in the road. It's a large
figure about 6'5" and well built. The body is dressed in all
black. As they get within a few feet, they see the body is
mangled and covered in blood. Carin SCREAMS.

ALEC (CONT'D)

FUCK! FUCK! WHAT THE FUCK WAS HE
DOING OUT HERE?!

CARIN

Fuck I don't know Alec, but he doesn't look good. He's TWITCHING! Get your phone and call for help!

ALEC

We need to at least get him off the road! What if some other idiot comes by?

CARIN

He's hurt too badly. You aren't supposed to move someone this bad or you could make it worse. Just go!

ALEC rushes back to the SUV and climbs in, rustling around inside searching for his cell phone.

ALEC

It's not in here! It must have gone flying with everything else. The lantern is smashed. God dammit. Help me look!

ALEC and CARIN use what little moonlight is left to search for the phone. After shuffling around on the ground for a few minutes, CARIN finds the phone smashed to pieces.

CARIN

Alec! Fuck. It's broken. What do we do?!

ALEC

This can't be happening. This can't be FUCKING happening. What do we do?!

CARIN

I don't KNOW! I'm freezing. We need to start a fire. Get him closer to it. Start looking for whatever gear we can find and get it going. We can't freeze out here.

ALEC

Carin, look....

Off in the distance through the woods, Alec points out a very dim light. Possibly a fire or a lantern.

CARIN

Oh thank God. We need to go! They have to be able to help!

ALEC

Carin, wait. We don't know where we are or what that is.

CARIN

Quit being such a dick! That guy needs help! We at least have to try!...and hope no one else comes flying down the road.

FADE TO:

EXT. HEAVILY WOODED, SNOW COVERED AREA

The snowfall makes the woods barely passable with no discernable path. The only glow of light comes from the moon shining through viciously blowing branches, the slight clearing where the car flipped into the woods, and the soft glow through a window deep in the woods. ALEC and CARIN are struggling with footing as they walk, trying to maintain as direct a path as possible between the car and the light.

ALEC

God, this is worse than I thought. The snow just won't let up and the trees are getting thicker.

CARIN

We've done this plenty of times, just not here. We have to keep going. Just think about that poor guy back there. We have to do what we can to help him Alec. We have to at least try.

ALEC

I am thinking about him. I'm also thinking about how my future as a lawyer is fully fucked. Why the hell was someone out in this weather, at this time of night anyway? It doesn't make any sense!

CARIN

We'll figure that out later. For now, we just need to get to a phone, or at least some people.

ALEC and CARIN continue to trudge through the seemingly endless amount of back-country powder towards the light in the distance. The snow continues to fall heavily and the wind continues to HOWL.

Pine branches CREEK and MOAN at the weight they are supporting, dropping their mass around them, adding to the depth of the snow.

CARIN (CONT'D)

Do you see that? It looks like a cabin! There HAS to be someone there!

ALEC

It's probably that guy's place. I think the best we can hope for is some shelter from this shit and maybe a phone. I don't want to sound morbid but he's not going to make it. At least we can get out of this mess and get some shelter. Figure out what we do from here. It's late but there has to be more people that travel that road and they'll see what happened. It's late now, so probably not until morning, but someone will be by eventually, right? I mean they'll have to see what happened and call the cops. I mean it was an accident, right? No one in their right mind would be walking down the middle of a a dark, snow-covered road at 2am.

CARIN is becoming increasingly annoyed with ALEC's but as they travel through the woods, she begins to see the gravity of being caught out in the middle of a blizzard.

CARIN

We're only like a hundred yards away but I can't see the card anymore. This God damn snow is getting so bad!

ALEC

We're getting closer and we've been going in more-or-less a straight line from the car. We've gone too far to try to turn around, plus what would we even go back to? We'd have to get all the way back, hope we can find our gear, start a fire, set up shelter...in this weather that could take hours, and we don't have that kind of time to waste.

(MORE)

ALEC (CONT'D)

Even if that light is a candle on a windowsill, we know it's some kind of shelter. We have to keep moving, and we need to pick up the pace.

EXT. OLD WEATHERED CABIN

A battered wooden door CREEKS as the wind and snow push against it. It blows open partially, but never more than an inch. Something is stopping the door from the inside from blowing completely open.

EXT. HEAVILY WOODED, SNOW COVERED AREA

CARIN

Alec, stop. I don't have a good feeling about this.

ALEC

Of course you don't. I don't either. It's the middle of the night, in a snow storm, in a middle of the woods of who-the-fuck knows where.

CARIN

Seriously! I think I just saw someone move in there!

ALEC

Isn't that what we were hoping for?! We need help! This is our best chance. We're almost there. You can tell it's a candle in the window by the way the light's moving. Someone had to have lit it recently. They've gotta still be around.

EXT. OLD WEATHERED CABIN

The wind slows to no more than a breeze. Whatever was stopping the cabin door from the inside is no longer there. The door CREEKS to a resting position a foot more open than when the wind was pushing against it. Carin and Alec approach it hesitantly. Carin pushes the door open slowly, letting what little light inside penetrate the darkness on the porch. Alec moves forward, pushing the door wide open and rushing his way in. The door GROANS as if not being moved with that much force in years.

INT. OLD WEATHERED CABIN

The air is stale. The large living room is mostly dark with the exception of the faint glow a candle in the window gives off. The window is the only one in the main room, making visibility difficult.

ALEC
(yelling)
Hello?! Is anyone home?! We need
help! Someone's been hurt!

Neither Alec nor Carin's eyes will adjust to the dimly lit room.

CARIN
(yelling)
Is anyone here?!

Silence in the cabin as Alec and Carin stay still, listening for any sounds of life.

ALEC
I think we're screwed. This is
probably that guy's place. Can you
see anything at all?

CARIN
No. Grab the candle. We have to
look for a phone. He's got to have
a phone, right?

Alec slowly moves across the room with his arms reached out in front of him so as not to run into anything. He finally reaches the candle and grabs it. He slowly turns, holding the candle out in front of him trying to survey the layout of the room.

PAN

The camera slowly moves from one corner of the room to the front door. The camera dimly shows silhouettes of a couch, chairs, cots, a table, fireplace and storage trunks.

ALEC
It looks abandoned in here.

CARIN
It looked a lot bigger than this
from the outside. I think all the
doors are closed or something.

Carin slowly moves across the room towards Alec until she is behind him. She nudges him a bit from behind.

Suddenly the wind picks up again outside, SLAMMING the cabin door shut. They both jump.

CARIN (CONT'D)

Shit. It was the wind starting up again. We need to check the rooms. There has to be some way of getting a hold of someone.

Alec and Carin slowly move across the room towards a closed door. Alec with the candle held in front of him to attempt to illuminate the room. The front door continues to shake against it's frame in the wind. Alec grabs the handle to the door nearest him and stops in his tracks. Carin stops with him.

CARIN (CONT'D)

What is it Alec?

ALEC

(whispering)
Do you feel that? It feels like something else is here. Like something is moving.

Carin grips Alec's arm tightly.

CARIN

I just did...

The wind RAGES outside. The front door slowly begins to CREEK open, seemingly unaffected by the elements outside. The door comes to sudden halt. A shadowy figure stands in it, nothing but a silhouette in the moonlight. Alec and Carin stand petrified staring at it. The candle begins to shake in Alec's hand. The figure slowly moves towards them, hovering an inch over the ground. When it reaches the edge of the candle's light, an unsettling realization sinks into the couple. It is the SHADOWY FIGURE they thought they had hit with their car.

SHADOWY FIGURE

Son, you said you preferred something a little younger for tonight, correct?

Alec drops the candle and it rolls on the ground. A second figure begins to emerge from a far, dark corner of the room. The candle rolls to a stop a few feet away from Alec and Carin. They stand frozen, staring at the face of the man they thought they had hit with their car. A fierce wind picks up, slamming the front door shut. The shadowy figure stares back at them beginning to smile. As the flame from the candle burns out, the last thing the couple sees is razor sharp teeth in the man's mouth.

EXT. OLD WEATHERED CABIN

PAN

The camera slowly sweeps across and pulls back an elevated view of the dark cabin. SCREAMS echo from inside. The HOWLING wind drops to slow gusts and the SCREAMS suddenly stop.

FADE OUT

THE END