

MISSING

written by

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FADE IN:

EXT. MOTEL - NIGHT

A neon "VACANCY" sign hangs in front of the 13 unit, single-story building. Chipping paint on the building and trash on the walkway show this place could use a little attention to upkeep.

A few cars are parked and pointed at various motel doors in the dirt and gravel parking lot.

INT. MOTEL ROOM - NIGHT

An old table lamp on a nightstand lights the room. It's small, crowded, and rundown. A narrow pathway between the twin bed and an overstuffed chair leads to the bathroom.

MARA (30s), smart and pretty, in jeans and a shirt, sets a manila folder on the nightstand. She opens the folder and flips through a stack of "MISSING" children flyers.

INSERT FLYER: A young boy, about 8 years old, with blonde hair and a sweet smile.

Flipping through flyers and focusing on the same word on every flyer: "blonde" "blonde". "blonde".

Headlights flash across the curtains as a car pulls up outside.

Mara takes her handgun out from the small of her back and sets it down on top of the folder.

She steps to the window and inches the curtain aside. She takes a peek.

EXT. MOTEL - NIGHT

Heavy set, RICHARD (40s), rushes around the front of his vehicle. He goes to the rear door and lifts a child from within.

The child, BOBBY (4), wrapped up in a blanket and sound asleep. His blonde hair glistens in the moonlight.

Richard rushes to his motel door. He turns a key in the lock.

INT. MOTEL - NIGHT

Mara drops the curtain.

She puts the folder and her gun into a backpack and zips it partially closed. She grabs her keys and purse.

EXT. HOTEL - NIGHT

Mara sets her backpack into the back seat of a mid-sized car. She quietly closes the door.

While walking toward the motel, she peers into a parked car and notices a map on the front seat.

EXT. MOTEL - NIGHT

Mara kneels outside a window.

Loud SNORES come from inside.

The curtains are slightly open.

She looks in.

INT. MOTEL ROOM - NIGHT

Richard lays on his back, fast asleep, and SNORING.

Bobby lays next to him and tosses.

Mara taps on the window with her keys.

Bobby's eyes open.

EXT. MOTEL - NIGHT

Mara taps some more.

Bobby appears in the window. He rubs his tired eyes. He looks so cute and innocent in his super hero pjs.

Mara presses a finger to her lips, motioning for him to be quiet.

She points at the door.

Bobby nods. He vanishes.

The door opens and Bobby appears in the doorway.

Mara covers his mouth and nose with a cloth. Bobby claws at her hand until his body gives out and he collapses.

She snags him up and carries him away.

EXT. ROAD - DAY

Mara drives the mid-sized car in what could be known as the middle of nowhere. Nothing but the road sandwiched between fields of grass and trees as far as the eyes can see.

INT./EXT. MOVING CAR - CONTINUOUS

Bobby, fast asleep, leans against the passenger door with his seatbelt on. His hands are bound behind his back.

Mara lifts a baseball cap from the back seat and places it on his head. She gives it a little tap.

They speed away.

FADE OUT

THE END