

'VALENTINE'S MASSACRE'

By

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Based on the short horror story

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PATRICK

Morning, babe. Breakfast in bed?
What's the occasion?

RUBY

Only Valentine's Day! The most
romantic day of the year.

PATRICK

Oh really? I hadn't noticed.

He sits up and rubs his eyes as she lays the tray down. He
picks up the post and fingers through it.

PATRICK (cont'd)

It's all junk. Why'd you bring it
up?

RUBY

Check the last one.

He looks at it in the red envelope and smirks. He opens it
and Ruby continues smiling at him.

He takes the card out which has 2 bees on it and he opens
it.

Ruby sits on the bed.

PATRICK

"Won't you 'Bee' my Valentine,
and buzz away with me? We'll
bumble along together cause
you're my honey bee."...Very
punny!

RUBY

I knew you'd like it.
(a beat)
Where's mine?

PATRICK

Oh Rubes, I didn't know the date
today so can I give it to you
later?

RUBY

You mean go and get something?

Her smile drops but not completely. She expected this.

She shrugs.

RUBY (cont'd)

I wouldn't really worry about it,
honey. It's just a day where
nothing memorable will happen.

She gets up.

Kisses his forehead and then heads to the door.

She stops at the frame and turns to him.

RUBY (cont'd)

Drink your coffee before it goes cold. Happy Valentine's Day.

He leans over to pick his cup up and smells it.

PATRICK

Oh what's in here?

RUBY

Just some amaretto. Have a good day.

She leaves and goes downstairs.

6 **INT. KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS**

6

She enters the kitchen and puts rubber gloves on and wipes down the counter excessively. She then wipes around a brown bottle and places it on the side.

She makes sure she's covered her tracks and then goes back upstairs.

7 **INT. BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS**

7

Patrick's arm is limp and the coffee cup is on the floor, unbroken.

His face holds a pained expression. He's dead.

Ruby walks in and has no change of expression once she's seen him. She takes some white rubber gloves out of her pocket and stretches them on.

She walks over to him, closes his eyes and takes his phone from the table next to the bed.

She unlocks the phone and finds messages to a woman called LISA. She opens the messages and, without reading any of the comments, begins typing her own message to her.

"Ruby's left and I'm all alone. Come over."

She sends it then leaves the bedroom.

Crookes trudges out of the office and into the staff room. A few seconds later, he marches out of there and back into his office.

He turns to close the door but notices Ruby looking at him.

He smiles to her and winks.

The door closes and Ruby looks like she's going to throw up again.

But then something comes to her mind.

HIS EPIPEN.

RUBY

(to herself)

Oh shit.

She gets up and walks to his office and before she knocks she takes a deep breath.

CROOKES

Yes?

27

INT. CROOKES OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

27

Ruby opens the door and stands in his doorway.

CROOKES

Ah, Miss Smith. I was just thinking about you.

Ruby smiles without much enthusiasm and notices his EpiPen on the desk next to his screen.

Alongside the EpiPen is his sandwiches. Untouched.

Ruby frowns slightly.

CROOKES (cont'd)

To what do I owe this visit?

RUBY

Just needed to check if I've put something in the filing cabinet.

He looks at her for a while before turning to his computer screen.

CROOKES

Go and look then.

He waves his hand at her to have her start her journey to the filing cabinet.

(CONTINUED)

He pops a grape in his mouth and noisily crunches them.

She keeps her eyes on the EpiPen as she closes the door and walks to behind him.

RUBY

So, what did your wife make you for lunch?

CROOKES

Oh just a salad sandwich.

RUBY

Nice?

CROOKES

I haven't eaten it yet -

Ruby snaps and reaches over him, grabs the mouse from the computer, snaps it out and wraps the wire around his neck!

He flails about and tries to get it off his throat.

She pulls back viciously and laughs while she does it.

CROOKES (cont'd)

(o.s)

How's that lucky boyfriend of yours?

Ruby comes back to reality and away from her daydream - she's still standing at the filing cabinet.

RUBY

Sorry?

Crookes takes a bite out of his sandwich, looks at it curiously then puts it back in the box.

It's Ruby's eyes that widen with excitement this time.

CROOKES

(whilst eating)

I asked how that lucky boyfriend of yours is.

RUBY

Patrick? Yeah he's fine. He had some chest pains earlier but he's fine now.

She stifles a smile.

CROOKES

Ah that's good...that he's fine now, that is. I'm very jealous of him.

RUBY

Oh?

CROOKES

Yeah. If you were my woman,
well...I think I'll stop there. I
don't want to embarrass you.

He giggles slightly.

Ruby rolls her eyes.

CROOKES (cont'd)

Any plans for tonight as it's
Valentine's Day?

RUBY

No. But I feel it'll involve a
celebration with some champagne.
Maybe I cook for us, who knows?

CROOKES

Us both being you and him or you
and me?

RUBY

(interrupting)
Any plans with your wife, sir?

CROOKES

Sylvie and I usually...

She looks at him and sees his face glow pink, then red.

His dirty blue eyes widen and bulge.

His tongue is pressed hard in between his teeth and lips.

Ruby looks at him heartlessly.

RUBY

(faking interest)
Sir, is everything alright? You
don't look so good.

CROOKES

Pe....peh...

Ruby smiles and walks to the front of his desk.

She shrugs at him.

RUBY

If there's nothing else, sir?

She swings her arm across the top of the desk nonchalantly
and knocks off the EpiPen.

(CONTINUED)

She then perks her breasts up and squeezes them in between her arms as she leans on them on the table.

She's rubbing it in.

RUBY

I guess I'll go back to my desk.
But I will say this.
(leaning closely)
You deserve this, you rotten son
of a bitch.

Suddenly Crookes lunges at her and grabs her neck with one hand.

She gasps.

CROOKES

You..bitch.

He loosens his grip on her neck a tiny bit and clutches his chest. He splutters fragments of sandwich. He collapses back in his chair, pulling Ruby forward over the desk.

She releases his grip and manages to pull herself up.

She hears him breathe. Its raspy and guttural and slow. His eyes stay on the picture of digital flowers he keeps on his wall.

She walks around to him and bends her head slightly to catch his eyes move up to hers.

CROOKES (cont'd)

I'll...I'll get you for this...

His face turns defeated and empty as he succumbs to the attack and dies.

Ruby stays looking at him.

The sound of the clock ticking seems to echo around the room. She listens out to hear if anyone is coming to the office.

His eyes, bulged and bloodshot are locked onto hers.

RUBY

In your dreams, asshole.

She picks up the EpiPen and places it on his desk.

She then smartens herself up and screams.

The office door swings open and in come two other office workers, a YOUNG MAN and a YOUNG WOMAN, both in their mid 20s.

The Young Man looks at Crookes as the Young Woman goes and comforts a crying Ruby standing in the corner of the office.

The Young Man checks the pulse of Crookes then looks over at the Young Woman and Ruby and slowly shakes his head.

FADE TO

28

INT. OFFICE SPACE - A FEW HOURS LATER

28

Ruby sits on a chair with a group of people.

The Young Man and Young Lady are there comforting her.

There are 2 SMARTLY DRESSED MEN both in their late 60s in front of them looking sad. They are MR. BAILEY and MR. MARKS, business partners of Crookes.

Mr. Marks is scratching his bearded chin.

MR. MARKS

Well I mean, there's nothing else happening here today. They spoke to you Ruby?

Ruby sniffs and looks up at him.

RUBY

Yeah, I told them everything.

MR. BAILEY

Why did he not use his EpiPen? I mean, it was right there.

MR. MARKS

Try not to think about it, Phil. We both know he wasn't in the best of shape.

Ruby looks on at the office with the Police tape across the door.

MR. MARKS (cont'd)

Go home, Ruby. You'll get what's called Compassion Leave. Return whenever you're ready. You had a nasty shock when you went in there. Take as long as you need.

She smiles and nods.

RUBY

Thank you.

She gets up and picks her bag up then walks down the corridor to the lift.

(CONTINUED)

She waits for the lift and turns to see the others disband back to their cubicles and offices.

She wipes her eyes as the doors open. She gets in and snuffles some more as the doors close.

29

INT. CAR PARK - DAY

29

She exits the lift as a new woman.

She tries to not smile as she goes to her car.

She walks past her car and to the barriers revealing a great view beyond them.

She stands by the barriers, leans her elbows on it and looks around at the view.

She smiles as a slight breeze washes over her.

RUBY

(to herself)

You're free. A free woman
Ruby...soak it in.

She looks up at the sun. It's nearly sunset.

There's an orange that's cast over her and the town.

It compliments her red hair.

The breeze comes in again and flies around her.

CROOKES

(os)

Ruby!

Her name echoes

She turns around to see who called her.

Nobody is there. It was a familiar voice. One that grated on her nerves.

RUBY

(to herself)

Strange...sounded like...no. No
it can't be. I mean he's....well
he's dead.

She turns to her car and gives Mr. Crookes's car another glance before getting in her car and driving away.

30

INT. CAR - DAY - PRESENT DAY

30

A car honks it's horn at Ruby who sees that the pale Red Van has taken off down the road.

The traffic light is green and Long Tall Sally is still on the speakers.

She puts the car into gear and drives off.

She drives along at moderate pace.

She doesn't want to attract any unwanted attention. #

One hand is holding the wheel, the other is nestled on the door and her hand is in her hair.

On the seat next to her is an open book showing a hotel. It's a wooden building out in the middle of nowhere and surrounded by pine trees.

She has her phone up on the holder on her windscreen with the sat nav on.

She pulls up to a roundabout and looks to the car next to her.

It's a small one with a Girl who looks like she's coming home from college at the wheel.

She brushes her hair back and turns to Ruby.

Ruby half smiles and the Girl smiles back.

Only when the Girl smiles, it's Patrick's face.

Ruby becomes startled and takes her sunglasses off to look at the girl who is now facing the road.

The girl drives off.

Ruby thinks for a beat. Thinks about her sanity. Is she okay?

Her moment comes to enter the roundabout.

CROSS FADE

31

EXT. THE SOUTH PINE HOTEL - EVENING

31

Ruby pulls up to the South Pine Hotel.

The Hotel is a white building surrounded by Pine trees. It looks strikingly clean and has a huge Golf course on the back of it.

She closes the roof of her car, gets her bag out of the boot and walks up to the door.

32 **INT. HOTEL RECEPTION - CONTINUOUS**

32

She walks past a few couples who have their arms around each other.

She didn't envy them in the slightest.

She actually scoffed at them but hid it with a smirk.

She approaches the Receptionist desk and is met by a Middle Aged Lady caked in make-up.

RECEPTIONIST

Good evening, how can I help?

RUBY

I have a booking under the name Ruby Smith.

She types away at the computer, smiles and collects a key from a wall behind her.

She hands it to Ruby, still smiling,

RECEPTIONIST

Here we are, you'll need to take the lift to the third floor. Spectacular view. Is there anything else I can help with?

RUBY

No thanks, I just want to rest now.

RECEPTIONIST

Well now you enjoy your stay, Miss Smith.

RUBY

Thank you, I will.

She takes her bag with her to the lifts and presses the button for it.

33 **INT. HOTEL CORRIDOR - NIGHT**

33

Ruby walks along the corridor and looks at the door numbers.

She gets to her door and goes to unlock it but jumps when a Young Couple barge out of their room whilst making out. They giggle and head towards the staircase.

She shakes her head at them and opens her door to:

34 **INT. HOTEL ROOM - CONTINUOUS**

34

Dark wooden walls stretching at least 12 feet high, with floor to ceiling windows taking up the majority of the room. There was a big TV, a desk with a paper pad on the side saying 'I'm writing to you from the South Pine Hotel' on it.

Her room was on stilts and so the view from the window was ongoing beneath her. As far as the eye could see was pine trees. She was high above them and soaked in every part of it.

She lays her case down and stands at the window looking in the view.

The moon is big and low and illuminated the scenery.

FADE TO

35 **INT. HOTEL ROOM - MUCH LATER**

35

The bathroom door opens and Ruby steps out.

She is wearing a pristine white dressing gown with the embroidery of the hotel on the left breast and a towel around her hair.

She unwraps the towel and lets her damp red hair hang down.

She walks over to the desk and picks up the TV control and turns it on.

She places the control down and walks back to the window.

The moon has gone and so there's nothing to see but the rooms reflection and her.

She looks up to the TV where it says:

'No Signal'

She rolls her eyes and switches it off.

She walks to her handbag and takes an iPod out, she unwraps the earphones and sits comfortably on the bed listening to some grunge music.

She lifts her leg up to see she has nipped herself whilst shaving and she wipes the blood away with a tissue from the box next to her bed.

(CONTINUED)

RUBY

This is a great start.

She lays back and closes her eyes.

Her door slowly creeks open and holds for a beat then it closes.

Ruby picks her phone up and sets an alarm on it.

She rolls onto her stomach and reaches down to the plug socket on the other side of the bed to charge it.

She can't quite reach it so then gives herself a little nudge forward until her phone fits in the charger all the way.

A HAND then grabs her wrist and she looks up in front to be face to face with PATRICK!

She can't scream because she can't believe it.

Her face is locked on terror.

Patrick's face had been decaying and has one remaining eyeball in his right socket.

The other eye socket was full of maggots and cobwebs but still manages to produce pus.

It drips from the top of the socket and hangs down to the bottom just to then drip down his face.

The back of his head is hollowed out.

Ruby becomes short of breath and manages to break free from his hold.

She looks at her wrist in disbelief.

She pulls herself up the bed and climbs off the other side to then bump into MR CROOKS!

He pulls his lips back to reveal his nasty set of yellowed teeth.

His fat head was being kept up by his spinal cord.

The rest of his neck had been eaten away by bacteria and maggots through the year.

Both of his eyes were gone and a part of his cheek had rotted away.

Ruby backs up to the wall under where the TV hangs as the two corpses clamber on towards her.

RUBY (cont'd)

No...this is a dream! This isn't
real!

The corpses get closer to her with their arms
outstretched.

CROOKES

I ..told you I'd get...you.

She can't go anywhere.

Her foot gives way and she slides down the wall making her
easy prey for the hungry revenge seeking corpses.

She begins to scream but they're cut short as they advance
on her.

CUT TO BLACK

36

INT. HOTEL ROOM - DAY

36

A knock on the door.

CLEANER

Housekeeping.

In comes an Elderly Lady with a trolley of new bedding and
cleaning equipment.

She looks at the floor and tuts in annoyance.

Two sets of dry muddy footprints have marked the floor and
white rug.

She looks to see the bed sheets had been pulled from the
bed and left on the floor.

Her eyes move up and over to the desk where someone is sat
slumped over.

CLEANER

Hello, Miss?

She walks over to the desk cautiously and sees dried
blood.

She picks up the pace and touches the body.

CLEANER (cont'd)

Are you okay?

Ruby is laying down over the desk.

The cleaner looks at the dressing gown and sees a muddy
mark on it.

(CONTINUED)

She pokes at Ruby and then sits her back and lets out a terrified, hysterical scream.

Ruby sits back in the chair with one open eye facing the ceiling and her chest cavity ripped open exposing her ribs which have been broken through. Her shoulders, arms, legs and feet have been partially devoured.

On the table is a big sheet of paper with some writing on.

The Cleaner regains herself and fights tears back as she unfolds the paper. It reads:

"HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY RUBY. YOU REALLY HATED US FROM THE START - BUT IT'S YOU WHO REALLY HAS NO...."

Underneath the paper is a Heart Shaped Box. Curious and half expecting it, the Cleaner takes the lid off the box, looks inside and sees Ruby's heart.

The Cleaner faints.

CUT TO BLACK

THE END