

RUPTURED WINGS

by

Yuvraj Rajwanshi

yuvrajwanshi2000@gmail.com

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FADE IN:

INT. HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

CHLOE SMITH (30s), slumped on a couch, mindlessly flipping through a magazine. Her phone rests on a table in front of her.

Chloe picks up her phone. It shows 11:09. She places it back. She is obviously waiting for someone.

The sound of distant police sirens is heard.

The doorbell rings.

Chloe skips to the-

MAIN DOOR

Her hand stops midway before reaching the doorknob as she glances at the security camera screen.

No one on the screen - just a vacant porch.

Someone's messing around?

Chloe peers through the peephole.

A SCRAWNY-LOOKING MAN(50s) with a black sheet around him stands on the porch. Scared. Shivering.

He rings the doorbell again.

Chloe again looks at the screen. The Man is not visible on it.

Chloe steps back.

The Man BANGS on the door.

Chloe opens her mouth to speak. Just then, the Man starts to violently pound on the door.

Chloe lets out a scream and quickly covers her mouth with her hands.

The banging stops... Silence.

OS: A baby cries.

Chloe rushes to a-

ROOM

On a crib, cries NATHAN(infant). The lights are off, but there isn't complete darkness.

She picks Nathan up and tries to soothe him.

A loud bang. Then a crack is heard.

Fearing a break-in, Chloe acts quickly and locks the door. She grabs a pacifier and puts it in Nathan's mouth.

With Nathan close to her, Chloe crouches in a corner holding back her tears.

Footsteps approach and stop outside the door.

The doorknob turns, but the door is locked.

Chloe suppresses her urge to scream. She holds Nathan close to her as he quietly sucks on the pacifier.

A gentle tap on the door.

KEN(OFF SCREEN)

Honey, open the door.

Confused, Chloe looks at Nathan, then back at the door. It's KEN'S voice, her husband.

KEN(OFF SCREEN)

It's me. Open the door.

Slowly, the voice becomes hoarse and a bit louder.

CHLOE

Go away! Leave us alone!

KEN(OFF SCREEN)

I'll make it easier for both of you. Come on now, hurry up, open the door.

Chloe looks at Nathan, who's busy with his pacifier. Tears stream down her face as she kisses her son on his forehead.

A loud bang on the door jolts Chloe.

KEN(OFF SCREEN)

Open the damn door! Or I have to break it.

Chloe gets up, places Nathan back in the crib, and looks at him as if for the last time.

Horrified, she slowly reaches the door and holds the doorknob.

Chloe musters up the courage and positions herself to strike whoever stands on the other side of the door.

She again looks back at Nathan and smiles a little.

Chloe opens the door quickly and punches outside.

But, there is no one there.

The main door is also intact.

Now, Chloe's expression changes to confusion. She holds her head in disbelief.

The doorbell rings again.

Chloe cautiously approaches the-

MAIN DOOR

She looks at the security camera screen. There is no one on it.

She peeps through the peephole and sees KEN JONES(30s) standing outside.

Alarmed, Chloe rushes to the-

KITCHEN

Picks a BLOOD-STAINED KNIFE from the counter.

We notice a POOL OF BLOOD behind the counter, inching its area on the floor.

On her way to the main door, Chloe peers inside Nathan's room. He is sleeping.

Finally, Chloe makes her way to the-

MAIN DOOR

Gripping her knife firmly.

Wasting no time, she opens the door and swings her knife frantically.

EXT. HOUSE - NIGHT

Headlights from Police cars flood the area.

Chloe stops and shields her eyes from the bright lights.

POLICE OFFICER 1, hiding on the porch, tackles her down, snatches her knife, and handcuffs her.

Chloe screams hysterically.

At a safe distance, beside a Police car, stands Ken, dreading.

REPORTER(VO)

Police apprehended Chloe Smith, a woman in her mid-thirties, who sneaked inside a house with a duplicate key.

POLICE OFFICER 2, along with two other officers, goes inside the house.

REPORTER(VO)

As per the reports, the house belongs to a man named Ken Jones. Chloe is his ex-wife. They divorced earlier this year, citing Chloe's uncontrollable anger fits, which created an unsafe environment for Ken and their son, Nathan, who is barely a year old. Unable to cope with the separation from her son, Chloe was diagnosed with delusional paranoia soon after.

Police officer 1 escorts the handcuffed Chloe to a Police car.

Upon seeing Ken, Chloe shouts all kinds of profanity. Ken ignores her. He keeps his anticipating eyes on the house.

REPORTER(VO)

According to Ken, he had been the target of her anger fits, ranging from verbal to physical abuse. Ken was granted Nathan's custody upon the couple's separation.

Police officer 2 comes outside with Nathan in his arms.

Ken rushes and takes Nathan in his arms. He smiles as he sees his father.

Ken smiles back with tears filling his eyes as if he is the last survivor on the Earth.

REPORTER(VO)

Fortunately, Nathan was rescued from the house by the cops, unharmed.

Police officer 2 signals the PARAMEDICS to go inside.

Ken looks at Police officer 2. He sadly shakes his head.

REPORTER(VO)

However, Tyler Fields, a boy in his late teens, who used to babysit Nathan, was found stabbed to death in the kitchen.

Ken sits on the porch steps, wretched.

Behind him, the Paramedics carry out a body bag on a stretcher.

Ken looks at it, then at Nathan. Nathan giggles as he tugs his father's shirt with his little strength.

Ken manages a weak smile and hugs Nathan, the most priceless asset to him in the entire world.

END.