"Clowning Around"
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EXT. HOUSE-NIGHT

A house sits quietly in the night.

AN EAR SHATTERING SCREAM IS HEARD!!!

CUT TO:

INT. HOUSE-KITCHEN-NIGHT

The kitchen sink is running water with no one occupying it.

Steam is rising from the sink.

INT. HOUSE-LIVING ROOM-NIGHT

A male silhouette is sitting on the couch, unresponsive to the fuzzing television.

The figure is disturbingly blank.

The television continues to display a fuzzy screen and white noise.

INT. HOUSE-KITCHEN-NIGHT

The faucet is still running. It is whistling as steam continues to rise.

A red streak quickly flows down the stream of water from the faucet.

INT. HOUSE-LIVING ROOM-NIGHT

The camera pans in on the man's head.

Something is not right.

INT. HOUSE-KITCHEN-NIGHT

BLOODY WATER LEAKS FROM THE NOW OVERFLOWING SINK!!!

INT. HOUSE-LIVING ROOM-NIGHT

A full view of the man now reveals he has been murdered.

The claw end of a hammer is stuck in the man's impaled head. Blood continues to trickle down his face.

A blurred clown like figure walks past the dead body from behind.

As the figure continues to walk through the house, he passes by another dead body.

This time the body is a woman, close to the same age as the dead man. Her throat has been slit.

A menacing chuckle is heard.

The clown-like figure holds a bloody butcher knife as his arm's sleeve is also tainted with blood

INT. HOUSE-GIRL'S BEDROOM-NIGHT

A terrified eye peers through the crack of a closet.

Fear fills the room as a little girl breathes heavily looking for the killer.

YOUNG JANE, 9 years old, brunette hair with bangs cut just above the eyebrows, petrified from fear.

She continues to search for the killer through the crack of the door.

The faint sound of another chuckle is heard

Jane's wandering eye continues to search for the killer.

THE FLOOR CREAKS!

Jane gives a faint gasp. She again looks through the door crack.

It becomes disturbingly quiet in the room.

Jane does not understand.

Quietness consumes the room.

A man with a clown mask quickly peers into the crack, laughing. His eyes are MANIC.

JANE SCREAMS!!

CUT TO:

EXT. HOUSE-NIGHT

A Sheriff's Department dispatcher appears on scene.

SIRENS ARE WAILING!

The sirens then go out, a Deputy steps out of the vehicle.

DAN SANDERS, late 30s, short brown hair.

He runs to the house.

INT. HOUSE-LIVING ROOM-NIGHT

Dan enters the house.

Seeing a trail of blood, he reaches for his hip. He pulls his gun from the holster.

Walking further into premises, Dan finds the man with the hammer in his head.

He exhales in disgust.

HE HEARS A THUMP UPSTAIRS!

He makes his way to the stairs, finding the woman with a slit throat. This forces the deputy to scowl.

He then notices bloody shoe prints leading up the stairs. He quickly makes his way up.

INT. HOUSE-GIRL'S BEDROOM-NIGHT

Dan opens the door to Jane's bedroom.

Nothing other than an open closet door can be seen.

From the opposite side of the bed, the killer, JOEY THE CLOWN, covers Jane's mouth, holding the knife to her throat.

She whimpers as Joey tenses up.

Dan hears this.

DAN

Jane?

Dan notices a shadow from under the bed. He examines it closely.

The shadow makes a slight movement.

He notices what is happening. He raises his weapon.

He slowly makes his way closer to the bed.

DAN

Jane? Where are you?

One more step.

DAN

Come on, Jane. If you can here me come out now.

And another step.

DAN

Come out...

ONE LAST STEP.

DAN

...Do it for Uncle Dan.

Joey continues to tighten his grip on Jane. He notices something isn't right.

Joey looks up.

(beat)

Dan aims his gun at Joey's head from directly above.

Joey's eyes are terrified as Dan pulls back the hammer.

DAN

Let her go, you sick son of a bitch.

Joey panics and stabs Dan in the right shoulder.

Dan pulls his arm away in pain, firing the weapon.

But he misses shooting the wall.

Joey backs up to a window while carrying Jane.

Dan struggles to come back from the pain. He looks back up to Joey, aiming his gun once more.

Joey is opening the window, readying for escape.

DAN

Stop!

Joey turns back, face-to-face with Dan. He nears the blade of the knife to Jane's neck.

YOUNG JANE

(screaming)

Help me!!!

Joey takes a step back.

DAN

Don't do it! Let her go now!

Joey looks around, he sees no other option. Joey goes for Jane's throat.

DAN

No!!!

BANG! Dan shoots Joey in his left shoulder, setting Jane free.

Jane screams.

BANG! BANG!! BANG!!! All three shots hit Joey in the chest.

Joey drops the knife as he collapses to the ground.

Jane runs to Dan in fear.

Dan turns his back to Joey to comfort Jane.

DAN

It's okay, Jane, it's okay.

She continues to cry as Joey's blood stains her face.

DAN

Everything is gonna be okay.

Dan takes a handkerchief and wipes the blood from her face.

Dan reaches for his cell phone while still watching over Jane. He dials a number.

DAN

This is Deputy Sanders. I need help down here immediately. I have a double homicide and attempted (MORE)

DAN (cont'd) kidnapping, I have apprehended the suspect. I am at 118 Westwood Drive and need k assistance.

Dan turns to identify the killer.

DAN

The suspect is down. He's dressed like...

Joey is gone. Only a vacant knife and puddle of blood remain.

(beat)

DAN

He's gone. He's escaped!

CUT TO BLACK, THE END.