

Infected - Episode Seven:

Moment of Silence

by
Sean Elwood

EXT. CITY - DAY

Dozens of people are scattered about the street, being chased down by the hungry creatures that growl with hunger. People are tackled to the ground and ripped apart, while others flee in cars. Fires are started and the gunshots and screams fade away.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. APARTMENT ROOM - DAY

Dawn flicks through channels on the television, but gets nothing but static.

IAN
How's it going?

DAWN
Nothing. Every station is gone.

IAN
That's no surprise.

DAWN
You sound like you've been through this before.

IAN
Well I've gone through it long enough to know that nobody can stop this.

DAWN
We can...

IAN
It's been two weeks and nobody's done shit.

Dawn looks down at her feet. Kat and Tucker enter.

KAT
It's time.

DAWN
Time for what?

Ian gets up and begins putting weapons in his pockets and on his weapon holder. Kat sits down next to Dawn.

IAN

We're going to the grocery store to get food.

TUCKER

Well we have food...

IAN

But not enough. If we're going to survive, we need all the food we can get. Hopefully there's enough left.

KAT

Especially since we have four people.

Ian hands Tucker a gun and opens the door.

IAN

(To Dawn)

We're usually back in about thirty minutes or so.

(To Tucker)

Come on. Let's get moving.

They leave and Dawn turns to Kat.

KAT

What's wrong?

DAWN

How do you know they're going to be safe?

KAT

We've been doing this after a few days this started. Ian's a pretty good shooter, and I'm sure Tucker has a good aim too.

Dawn sighs.

KAT (CONT'D)

You really like him, don't you?

DAWN

Huh?

KAT

Tucker.

DAWN

He's the one whose helped me get through this. Without him, I'd be dead.

KAT

I know what you mean. Ian's the same.

They become silent for a moment. Kat looks at Dawn's nurse uniform.

KAT (CONT'D)

Do you know how to stop it? I mean, you are a nurse, right?

DAWN

Stop...? Stop what's happening here?

KAT

The virus or whatever. Whatever's causing them to come back to life.

DAWN

I...I don't really know. When we had people come in, there were too many to find out what was happening. They'd die, and soon, the hospital was infected.

KAT

Well, do you have any ideas on how you can stop this?

DAWN

It's too late, isn't it?

KAT

Not for the people who haven't been infected yet.

EXT. GROCERY STORE

They walk up to the large grocery store, standing in an empty parking lot. The motion sensed doors continue to open and close, unable to close all the way due to a shopping cart in their way.

IAN

There it is.

The wind blows, causing an eerie moaning sound. Tucker looks around the area uncomfortably.

TUCKER

Why didn't you just get all the food you could and take it back?

IAN

Too much to carry.

TUCKER

You could have gotten a shopping cart.

IAN

They make too much noise. Those things are attracted to noise.

Ian walks in and Tucker follows behind. He stops before going in and looks back. The parking lot is still empty. He sighs and kicks the shopping cart out of the way and walks in, letting the doors shut all the way. Out in the parking lot, a few zombies roam towards the building.

INT. GROCERY STORE

Ian grabs a few shopping bags and hands some to Tucker.

IAN

Only get the healthy stuff. I don't want anyone getting sick. It'll slow us down if we have to move.

They walk into an aisle full of cereal and other breakfast items.

TUCKER

You usually be the leader of the group?

Ian smirks at Tucker and continues getting cereal.

IAN

Get some medicine from the pharmacy. I'll search for anything left.

Tucker walks over to the pharmacy and picks up a shopping basket. He begins putting in bags of food on it.

TUCKER

I don't care what he says...

He walks over to the rows of medicine, picking out certain items such as Advil, Tylenol, etc. He strolls down the aisle, whistling to himself.

EXT. BATHROOM

He stops next to the bathroom door, looking at it. He looks back at his basket and sighs, pushing it away and making his way into the restroom.

INT. BATHROOM

He walks in. It's quiet. The lights are still on, but some of them flicker, making his shadow dance on the floor and walls. Being cautious, he walks over to one of the stalls, slowly opening it up.

Holding his gone out, he opens the door all the way. Relieved, he walks over to the next stall, opening it up too. Still, nothing in there. He walks to the third and last stall, pushing on the door.

It's locked.

He tries pushing it again, but it won't open.

TUCKER

What the hell?

He squats down, trying to look underneath, but there's nothing on the other side. He stands back up, standing back, and getting prepared. Lifting up his foot, he kicks the door. It still won't open.

He kicks it again, busting the lock. The door swings open, hitting the wall of the stall, and Tucker gasps at the sight inside.

There, inside the stall, in the toilet, is a SEVERED HEAD. He backs away, coughing, holding his hand up to his mouth to keep him from hurling. He walks away from the stall, losing all interest in going to the bathroom.

He walks out of the bathroom when...

EXT. BATHROOM

...He comes face to face with Ian. He jumps, holding his gun out. Ian backs away, his hands up.

IAN

Whoa, whoa, whoa, what the hell are you doing?

TUCKER

Do not go in there...

IAN

Is one of them in there?

TUCKER

Just...Don't go in there.

IAN

I was worried. Thought you left without me or whatever. And I told you not to get a basket. They cause too much noise.

TUCKER

Look, I don't care. If we want to get a lot of food, then we need something to carry it in besides our hands. Besides, we need our hands to use the guns. The food is too much to carry.

IAN

I'm not taking any risks.

TUCKER

What risks? There is already a risk out there and it's those dead bastards on the streets. That is our biggest problem—

IAN

—And I don't want to cause anymore with them included.

TUCKER

I'm just saying it's easier. There weren't any around the store when we came here.

IAN

What makes you think they're still not there?

Tucker looks at him, thinking of something to say. Sighing angrily, he walks past him, grabbing the basket and pushing it down the store.

IAN (CONT'D)
Only known him for half a day and
already we're beginning to hate
each other.

INT. GROCERY STORE

Ian meets up with Tucker, walking by his side.

TUCKER
Where's your food?

IAN
(Pointing)
Down that way.

TUCKER
Why can't we stay here?

IAN
Because.

TUCKER
(Annoyed)
We can block the motion sensors at
the door or something, keep the
doors from opening. Block the
windows, every exit here. We have
everything we need here.

IAN
Except for showers and something
comfortable to sleep on. We need
something more like a Sam's club or
something. That'd be the place to
go.

TUCKER
I'm just saying that staying here
will be easier. We'd go back and
get Kat and Dawn, come back here,
and hold ourselves off until help
comes this way.

IAN
Help?
(He laughs)

TUCKER
What's so funny?

IAN
You're our help.

INT. SCHOOL - NURSES OFFICE - DAY

Sherry searches frantically through the drawers and cabinets of the nurse's office, throwing everything off to the side. Ben sits with Darren who tries to keep Ben calm. Hannah and Carl stand off at the entrance of the room.

SHERRY
Where is it?

DARREN
You gotta hurry, Mom!

SHERRY
I'm trying! Just be quiet and let me concentrate. Hannah!

Hannah walks away from Carl and up to Sherry.

SHERRY (CONT'D)
Where do they usually keep them?

HANNAH
I don't know...I haven't been in here in a while and...

SHERRY
(Getting agitated)
I just need someone to help me search around!

Hannah pulls a few drawers out, searching almost as frantically as Sherry. She opens a drawer, and inhalers lay neatly organized in each of their own spaces, in plastic baggies with their names written on the bags.

HANNAH
I found them!

Sherry looks at them, almost crying. She grabs one, ripping the bag open and pulling the inhaler out.

SHERRY
Here, Darren, have him sit in the chair.

Darren carefully sets Ben in the chair and walks up to Hannah, whispering:

DARREN
I have to tell you something.

HANNAH
What?

DARREN
Just come outside with me.

INT. SCHOOL HALLWAY

They walk out, and for a moment, Darren looks at Hannah's heart necklace.

DARREN
Look, I know this may sound kind of weird, and you may think I'm just worried or whatever...

HANNAH
Just say what you need to say. I'm all ears.

DARREN
Okay...I've been having these dreams...Starting a few days ago, and we were at the school...

HANNAH
Who's "we"?

DARREN
You, me, my mom and Ben, and Carl. And...Those things got in...And you were killed.

HANNAH
Darren, you're having nightmares about these things. I've been having some too. It's normal.

DARREN
No it's not...In every dream there is an omen of some sort. So far, whatever has happened in my dream...Has happened for real.

Hannah sighs deeply. She looks back up at Darren.

HANNAH
So you're saying your dreams are telling you the future?

DARREN

I'm just scared. If whatever happened in my dream comes true, I'm afraid of what might happen to you.

HANNAH

If it does come true, you can avoid it. Maybe it's all a coincidence.

Suddenly, there is a loud banging sound. The two jump and look down the hallway. Carl comes out, panicked.

CARL

Shit. Sherry!

SHERRY (O.S.)

What?!

CARL

They're getting in!

Sherry runs out, looking at Hannah.

CARL (CONT'D)

We have to keep them out.

SHERRY

Hannah, Darren, stay here with Ben.

DARREN

Wait, Mom...

SHERRY

Just do what I say. In case anything happens, I want you three to be safe. Get on the second floor of the school. We'll be back in a bit!

DARREN

Mom!

HANNAH

Just do what she says, Darren. We can't stall!

Hannah walks into the Nurse's office.

SHERRY

Just get Ben and Hannah and go upstairs! Now!

Darren watches his mom back away, and he notices a slight shine near her neck. But he can't figure out what it is.

SHERRY (CONT'D)

I love you. Just get back inside.

She turns around and runs down the hallway in the direction Carl is headed. Hannah walks back out.

HANNAH

Darren, come on!

Suddenly, Darren bolts off down the hallway, after Sherry and Carl.

HANNAH (CONT'D)

Darren!

EXT. SCHOOL DOORS

Carl and Sherry run up to the doors where the zombies begin to pound on the wounds, close to and currently cracking them. The hinges begin to loosen, and the doors begin to push in and out. Carl and Sherry push back, trying to keep them from pushing the doors down, but also from opening them up.

Darren runs up.

DARREN

Mom!

Sherry looks up, and it's in full view: a small, golden necklace, shaped like a heart, almost similar to Hannah's. It glimmers underneath the light fixtures, casting a nice, yellow glow around the edges.

DARREN (CONT'D)

Oh my God...

SHERRY

Darren, stay with your brother!

DARREN

Mom, wait—

SHERRY

Just go up there, Darren!

Hannah runs up to Darren, grabbing him by the arms and pulling him back.

HANNAH
Darren, come on! It's not safe!

DARREN
No! Wait!
(Trying to fight off)
Mom! Get away!

Sherry ignores him, trying her best to keep the doors from breaking down. Darren continues to call for her as Hannah pulls him back.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. SCHOOL NURSES OFFICE - LATER

Hannah walks over to Ben, who looks much calmer and is laying down on the chairs. She smiles as she sits down next to him, caressing his hair.

HANNAH
How're you feeling?

BEN
Okay.

HANNAH
Do you need anything?

BEN
I'm hungry.

HANNAH
I know, so am I.

BEN
Can we get something to eat?

HANNAH
We can't go out into the hallway right now. Your mom said so.

BEN
Is she going to be okay?

HANNAH
Yeah...She will. She's your mom.
How is a kid like you going to grow up like his older brother without his mom?

BEN
What about Carl?

HANNAH
I think he'll be just as good as
Sherry when they come back.

Ben yawns. He looks back at Hannah.

BEN
Do you like Darren?

HANNAH
Well, yeah, of course I like him.
We're friends.

BEN
Well I know that, but, like, are
you two going to become boyfriend
and girlfriend or something?

Hannah remains silent. She smiles and looks up at Darren, who
sits next to the door leading to the hallway.

HANNAH
I don't know. I can't tell the
future.

BEN
That be cool if you two were.
You're nice, and my brother needs
someone to be with, so he doesn't
bully me all the time.

HANNAH
(Laughs)
Well no matter how much your
brother bullies you, inside, no
matter what happens, he's always
going to take care of you.

Ben closes his eyes, ready to fall asleep.

BEN
Yeah right.

Hannah frowns as Ben begins to fall asleep. She stands up and
walks over to Darren, who still stares at the door.

HANNAH
He's doing fine.

Darren doesn't say anything.

HANNAH (CONT'D)
(Trying to lighten up the mood)
When do you think we'll have a chance to shower? We smell almost as bad as those things out there.

Darren remains silent.

HANNAH (CONT'D)
(Getting the idea)
Hey, they're probably doing something about this right now.

DARREN
Hannah, it's been two and a half hours! We would've heard of them by now.

HANNAH
What else could they be doing?

DARREN
I don't know, Hannah! I don't know as much as you do, okay?

Darren stands up and turns the doorknob, but Hannah stops him.

HANNAH
What do you think you're doing?

DARREN
I'm going to go look for them.

HANNAH
Darren, your brother is in there needing your help and protection and I suggest you stay here and keep him safe.

DARREN
Why don't you do it, then!? We don't get along! He needs a mom to help him! And if you're so willing to take care of him, I suggest you just take the place of a mother since our's is dead.

He opens the door and slams it shut, leaving Hannah speechless. She turns around, tears forming in her eyes. She walks over to Ben, who is surprisingly asleep. She kneels down next to him, stroking his shoulder.

Hannah stands back up, sitting in a rolling chair, facing away from Ben. She buries her face in her hands.

INT. SCHOOL HALLWAY

Darren slowly walks down the hallway, looking around him in case any zombies are still in the school.

EXT. SCHOOL DOORS

He comes up to the doors, but stops. In front of him is a bloodbath. There is blood sprayed on the walls and on the floor. The doors are broken down and the zombies are nowhere to be seen. He leans against the wall, sliding down, beginning to cry.

DARREN

Oh God...

He pulls at his hair, sniffing.

DARREN (CONT'D)

Mom...?

He sees something in one of the blood puddles. Picking it up, he realizes it's the golden heart necklace Sherry was wearing.

DARREN (CONT'D)

Oh God no...

He wipes the blood of the necklace and squeezes it tightly, crying. After wiping his nose with his sleeve, he looks back at the necklace, opening it up. Inside are two pictures. On the right is a young Sherry, beautiful and attractive, with a smile that'd make anyone happy if they saw it.

On the other side of the heart is another picture. A man, with short, black hair and clean shaven. This turns out to be the young dad of Darren.

INT. GROCERY STORE

Ian and Tucker walk down an aisle, finding anything edible and throwing it into the basket.

IAN

Here, you stay in this aisle. I'll get some bathroom supplies.

He walks around the shelves and into the next aisle where a zombie tackles him to the ground. He climbs on top of Ian's chest, holding his head down while trying to take a bite out of the Jugular.

Tucker turns around and listens to Ian's struggle and the zombie's grunts and growls. He pulls out his gun, checking for bullets. A box of food falls to the ground at his feet, and he looks up.

Suddenly, a woman's arms shoot through the shelves, knocking the food over. Tucker flies back, pushing the shelf behind him over. It falls over.

Ian looks at the falling shelf and kicks the zombie off, rolling out of the way just in time. The shelf lands on the zombie, crushing it's body, but leaving his head unhurt.

The woman in front of Tucker begins climbing through the shelf; the shelf begins to wobble back and forth. As she is halfway through, it falls. Tucker crawls out of the way, as the shelf falls to the ground.

Ian stands up and runs over to Tucker, helping him up.

IAN (CONT'D)

You okay?

TUCKER

Yeah, I'm fine.

Tucker walks over to the zombie whose body is crushed and pulls his gun out. He pulls the trigger, killing it.

IAN

We need to get out of here.

TUCKER

What for?

IAN

They're getting in.

TUCKER

There are only two.

IAN

Yeah but two can lead to four, and four can lead to eight.

TUCKER

Do we have enough food?

IAN

We have enough to last us about
half a month or so. Let's just get
out.

He grabs the basket and pushes it towards the entrance. The automatic doors open and they walk through.

EXT. GROCERY STORE

They walk through the parking lot.

TUCKER

You think one of them heard the
gunshot?

Before Ian can answer, they look over to the sound of an oncoming crowd. A few yards away from the grocery store are a horde of zombies coming their way.

IAN

Shit! Come on!

He pushes the basket, running as fast as he can, Tucker at his heels. The zombies continue to make their way across the parking lot.

INT. APARTMENT ROOM

Kat looks out the window, waiting impatiently for something. Dawn walks into the living room area, dressed in different clothing and her hair wet.

DAWN

You're almost out of shampoo.

KAT

Ian probably got some.

(Sighing)

Where are they? Ian usually doesn't
take this long.

Dawn sits on the couch.

DAWN

There's no place to go anyways.

KAT

What are you talking about?

DAWN

They're all infected...The cities I mean...

KAT

I'm sure they're doing something right now. Some people know how to take care of things when others don't.

DAWN

But around us are major cities. There are hundreds of people living there. They're all infected!

KAT

What else are we going to do? We have a better chance of surviving if we get out of here than staying here. If we get too many of those things in this apartment, we'll be trapped, and we'll be dead.

DAWN

If Tucker can contact any other people through his walkie-talkie—

KAT

And then what? Lead us to another shelter where there are people who are infected? The people there might not even know that the bite spreads it.

DAWN

We could tell them.

KAT

We'd be too late.

Kat walks to the windows and opens it up. She steps back, waving the air back out.

KAT (CONT'D)

Jesus, it's hot out.

She's about to shut the window when there's a commotion outside down the street. She looks out.

EXT. APARTMENT

Outside, Tucker and Ian run to the apartment, Ian pushing the basket. They run up to the door of the apartment, Tucker shooting at the oncoming undead.

Ian opens the door and looks back at Tucker.

IAN

The basket will be too much of a hassle! We'll carry the food inside!

KAT

(Looking out the window)
Hurry up!

IAN

We need your help getting the food in!

KAT

Hold on!

TUCKER

They're getting closer!

Ian grabs as many bags of food as he can, running inside. Tucker continues shooting, but runs out of bullets. Cursing, he grabs another magazine, popping it into the slot and taking down more zombies.

INT. APARTMENT ROOM

Kat shuts the window, walking up to Dawn.

KAT

We need to help them get the food in.

EXT. APARTMENT

Tucker continues to shoot as Ian grabs more food, throwing it into the hallway. Kat runs down the stairs and runs outside, Dawn behind her. They grab the food out of the basket.

IAN

We're almost done!

Tucker shoots his last bullet before he runs out.

TUCKER

Shit!
(Putting gun away)
I'm out!

KAT

Help us get the rest of the food
out. The basket's almost empty!

More zombies begin crawling out of the dark areas from the alley between the apartment and the building next to it. One of them jumps on Tucker, but he pushes the creature off of him.

Tucker grabs the last of the food from the basket. Ian gets behind the shopping cart, pushing towards a small group of zombies. He pushes them down with the shopping cart, knocking them down like bowling pins.

DAWN

Come on!

The zombies begin surrounding the apartment, crowding around the front door where the survivors stand, shutting the door as quick as possible. The zombies get to the door and begin banging on it.

INT. APARTMENT

The four stand there, panting.

KAT

They know we're here now.

DAWN

Won't they leave?

KAT

This hasn't happened to us. We
don't know.

TUCKER

Well we better think of something
quick or they'll get in. We won't
have a place to go.

IAN

They'll leave! Now let's just get
back into the room before we draw
anymore here!

INT. SCHOOL - DAY

Hannah walks through one of the hallways, looking through the windows of the rooms and searching smaller hallways.

HANNAH

Darren? Darren where are you?

She continues to call for Darren, but can't seem to find him. She sighs and walks back towards the nurse's office.

INT. SCHOOL - NURSES OFFICE

She walks in.

HANNAH

Ben, I need you to stay here—

She stops. Ben isn't there. He's nowhere in the room.

HANNAH (CONT'D)

Ben?

She makes a full 360 degree turn, but still can't find him.

HANNAH (CONT'D)

God damn it.

INT. SCHOOL DOORS

Darren, asleep, is still against the wall. In his hand is the golden heart necklace, the blood cleaned off of it.

INT. SCHOOL - SECOND FLOOR

Ben walks slowly down the hallway, his hand grasping the inhaler firmly. He comes up to a hallway full of doors and lockers. Backpacks are scattered on the floor, along with papers, binders, and other various school supplies.

He walks into the...

INT. BATHROOM

He walks over to one of the urinals and begins to go to the bathroom.

INT. SCHOOL - SECOND FLOOR

A shadow passes by some of the lockers.

INT. BATHROOM

Ben finishes up, and walks over to one of the sinks, washing his hands. He finishes up, drying his hands, but is distracted when there is a noise behind him.

He slowly turns around, and sees that one of the urinal stall doors has opened up. A hand shoots out; decayed and bloody. Then another arm, just the same.

With jerky movements as if controlled by mechanical gears, a young teenage boy crawls out from the stall, growling. He moves towards Ben, who is scared stiff.

Ben moves the inhaler up to his mouth, his hand shaking violently. He takes a deep breath the inhaler, trying to back out of the bathroom as fast as he can, but only moves a few inches. The teenage boy continues to move, with even more jerky movements.

Ben gets the courage to move, turning around. He's stopped when he runs into a small girl, her face with large cuts and her cheek bones protruding from her face. He screams and falls back, the girl reaching for him and the teenage boy only a few feet from him.

BEN

Help!

The little girl lunges for Ben, but he moves out of the way, the little girl flying into the wall. She gets up quickly and growls at Ben, while the teenage boy crawls quickly like an insect towards Ben.

INT. SCHOOL - SECOND FLOOR

Ben falls out, the inhaler flying from his hand. He crawls towards it, but is stopped when the teenage boy grabs his ankle. Ben screams as she tries pulling away, but the teenage boy is too strong.

Ben sees a newly sharpened pencil and grabs it, sitting upright and bending forward. He stabs the boy in the eye with the pencil, jabbing it deep into the socket. The boy screeches and pulls away, falling back.

The little girl follows right behind, coming out of the bathroom. Ben grabs the inhaler and gets up, running down the hallway; he stops.

In front of him, dragging a mop, is one of the school janitors. The janitor's eyes have been scooped out, leaving the sockets open with blood pouring from them. The janitor stops and sniffs the air.

He growls and faces Ben as if he can see him. He takes a step forward, trying to keep balanced, and then another step, the mop leaving a wet trail behind him. Ben backs away, very frightened, but turns around and sees that the girl is still following him.

EXT. SCHOOL DOORS

Darren's eyes open. He looks around, but there is nothing around him except the silence itself. He looks over at the doors that have been broken off their hinges. Getting up, he sticks the golden heart necklace in his pocket and walks out of the doors.

EXT. RIVER

The wolf cub, decayed since we've last seen it, continues to sit at the rocks, a little bit of blood still flowing out of it.

CLOSE UP: the water bubbles a bit. Gas begins to rise from it. It's water, evaporating from the river. It carries up into the...

EXT. SKY

Clouds begin to form. They get bigger and move away from the already infected city.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. CITY

The clouds move to another city, and release the rain. It falls onto the city.

EXT. NEIGHBORHOOD

Children run out of their homes and begin dance in the rain and splashing into the puddles. One of the children splashes an older child. The older child yelps in pain, rubbing his eyes.

He walks towards the porch of his house, rubbing his eyes. Suddenly, his body jolts, and he falls to the ground, his eyes turning red.

EXT. HOUSE

A woman carrying a cup of soda runs towards a house with a group of other adults, carrying in plates of food, the rain ruining their picnic. The rain splashes in their cups.

INT. HOUSE

The adults laugh as they dry themselves off, some of them refreshing themselves with their drinks.

EXT. SCHOOL

He walks up a hill, overlooking a small neighborhood. The sun is beginning to set, the clouds turning pink and purple, and surprisingly enough, a few birds chirp off in the distance.

Darren gives a slight smile, but it quickly fades in seconds. He walks towards the neighborhood.

FADE OUT.