

LAST WATCH

Written by

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FADE IN:

EXT. CITY -NIGHT

An ambulance is driving down a city street with its emergency LIGHTS and SIRENS.

EXT. AMBULANCE -NIGHT

A PARAMEDIC (40S) in the passenger seat of the ambulance, staring out into the streets.

PARAMEDIC (V.O.)  
The city is hot tonight. The air is  
heavy and thick. Smells like death.

The Paramedic looks over to the FEMALE PARAMEDIC (30s) driving.

PARAMEDIC (V.O.)  
Heidi looks scared. She is  
relatively new; is this her first  
suicide? Must be, we've been  
partners for a year. I don't  
remember doing any with her.

Looking out into the street again.

STREET

Time stands still. A young woman is standing on the corner.

PARAMEDIC (V.O.)  
The hookers are out tonight, I see.  
I think I know that one, though.

We can only see her side profile.

PARAMEDIC (V.O.)  
Unusually beautiful for a whore.  
She must be new at it. Her looks  
will fade. She will get beaten by  
her pimp, her tits will start to  
sag. Who knows what STIs she has or  
will have? I've seen genital warts  
so bad a girl couldn't even walk.

The PROSTITUTE (20s) turns. Half her face is burned.

PARAMEDIC (V.O.)

Ah yes. I know her. Pimp threw  
lighter fluid on her face and  
burned her. She died a few days  
later. The ghosts are out tonight.

She stares directly into the eyes of the Paramedic. Her skin  
was melting off her face and onto the pavement. She tries to  
flash him, but all he sees is burned flesh and bone.

The ambulance screams by her. The ambulance seems to be  
picking up speed.

AMBULANCE

PARAMEDIC (V.O.)

Slow down, we don't need to get  
into an accident.

The Paramedic looks at the driver. Her hands shook on the  
steering wheel.

Further down the street, the ambulance is coming up to a  
corner store.

STREET

A MOTHER and her TWO CHILDREN come out of the corner store.  
Each holding a snow cone. They are smiling, eating their cold  
treat on a hot night.

The one child looks at the ambulance, the child smiles and  
waves.

AMBULANCE

The paramedic raises his hand. He has flashbacks of his own  
family.

- he is laughing while building a snowman with his kids.
- on a date, having dinner with friends.
- cuddled up watching a movie
- arguing with his wife
- sitting in a divorce attorney's office
- The paramedic sitting in a trashy apartment drinking a  
beer.

The Mother and Two Kids disappear into the crowd of people walking on the sidewalk.

PARAMEDIC (V.O.)  
So many ghosts. I feel like a ghost  
in this world. Invisible to the  
living.

AMBULANCE

The Female Paramedic (Heidi) is crying now.

PARAMEDIC (V.O.)  
So emotional. That will go away  
with time, or is that just me...  
Numb to it all?

The Paramedic looks at her again.

PARAMEDIC (V.O.)  
I think she wanted to date me.  
After the divorce, she would stop  
by with food. Asked me to go have  
drinks. Maybe if I had been 10  
years younger. Also, don't dip my  
pen in the company ink or eat where  
I shit, whatever saying you want to  
use about not fucking your co-  
worker. I did visit her Mother with  
her once on shift.

INT. HEIDI'S MOTHER'S APARTMENT -NIGHT

The two Paramedics walk into the small city apartment.

KITCHEN

HEIDI'S MOTHER  
In the kitchen!

Walking in, they see Heidi's Mother pouring three cups of  
tea. She looks up at them.

HEIDI'S MOTHER (CONT'D)  
Heidi, you're right. He is cute.

Heidi blushes and smiles.

PARAMEDIC  
I ended it shortly after that.  
Heidi is a good woman and a good  
medic. I was starting to spiral at  
the time.

INT. AMBULANCE -NIGHT

A TEENAGER runs out into the crosswalk. Almost hitting him.

PARAMEDIC (V.O.)  
Did she not see him?

The Paramedic looks back in his side mirror. The teen that  
they almost hit is staring him down. He has vomited all over  
the front of his clothes and has track marks on his arms.

PARAMEDIC (V.O.)  
Drug overdose. Slammed the Narcan  
into him and still couldn't get him  
back. So...many...ghosts.

PARAMEDIC (V.O.)  
I've seen so much death in twenty  
years. The bad outweighs the good.  
Babies to old people. Natural  
causes...suicide...murder...abuse..  
.trauma. You name it, I've seen it.

PARAMEDIC (V.O.)  
I was fine with the job until the  
ghosts started appearing. Things  
got worse when they came home with  
me.

The ambulance turns down a side street.

PARAMEDIC (V.O.)  
That is when my drinking started.  
That is when my wife left with the  
kids. I was angry more times than I  
was happy, tried to make the ghosts  
go away with whiskey. She has been  
gone two years now, kids are twelve  
and nine now.

People stare at the ambulance as it drives by.

PARAMEDIC (V.O.)  
People love emergency services.  
Fire and Ambulance...Police some  
people.

(MORE)

PARAMEDIC (V.O.) (CONT'D)  
The only thing is that when someone finds out you're a paramedic, the first thing they ask "What is the worst thing you have seen?" Do you want me to tell you? Do you want me to tell you about the auto-erotic asphyxiation death... The young girl full of cancer and her parents praying for her all night? No, I will keep those ghosts to myself.

The ambulance arrives at the hospital. The Paramedic watches Heidi jump out.

INT. HOSPITAL AMBULANCE BAY

Heidi opens the two back doors of the ambulance. The ATTENDING PARAMEDIC (30s) is performing CPR on a patient on the stretcher, and he is full of sweat.

ATTENDING PARAMEDIC  
All right, let's go!

Driver Paramedic unlocks the stretcher and pulls it out of the ambulance. The wheels fell to the concrete floor with a BANG.

Attending Paramedic jumps out. He starts performing dynamic CPR.

PARAMEDIC (V.O.)  
This is as far as I go.

HEIDI  
What's his rhythm?

The Attending Paramedic stops CPR for a moment.

ATTENDING PARAMEDIC  
Asystole. Let's move!

On the stretcher is the Passenger Paramedic. His shirt is off, AED pads on his chest, a tube hanging out of his mouth, and an IV in his arm.

The Attending Paramedic goes back to performing CPR. Every compression moves the Paramedic's head in a jerking motion.

PARAMEDIC (V.O.)  
I didn't want it this way for them or her. I can't be hurt or hurt anymore.

(MORE)

PARAMEDIC (V.O.) (CONT'D)  
I will get a special funeral,  
family might be there. I will be  
forgotten in a few weeks.

The two Paramedics push the stretcher across the ambulance bay and through a set of double doors.

The burned prostitute takes his hand.

Behind the Prostitute are hundreds of ghosts, of different ages, sexes, and races.

The Paramedic smiles at her.

Heidi comes bursting through the doors, leaning against a wall, she is crying.

She looks up and sees the Paramedic standing alone.

PARAMEDIC  
I'm her ghost now.

FADE OUT:

FIN.