

Masked

By

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TITLE CARD: MASKED

The sound of someone running gets closer and closer. Until the sound gets unbearable.

CUT TO:

EXT. SUBURBAN CITY - NIGHT

PORTER (20s), catches his breath over the sidewalk.

He stands up straight and begins to breath normally.

beat.

NARRATOR(V.O.)

I once heard a story of a man who only came out at night.

Porter makes his walk back.

NARRATOR(V.O.)

He believed the earth was forever shrouded in darkness. A planet covered in concrete.

Porter walks through a vacant parking lot.

NARRATOR(V.O.)

He had a master who took care of him. Warned him to never come out after dawn. To forever stay in his windowless room from the hours of five to eight. Sleep, is all he did.

EXT. SIDE ROAD - NIGHT

Porter walks down the lonely streets.

NARRATOR(V.O.)

The man did this for fourteen years. He began to wonder, why he couldn't leave.

INT. NEIGHBORHOOD - ENTRANCE - NIGHT

Porter enters the sleeping streets.

NARRATOR(V.O.)

The idea of escaping bounced inside his head. Unable to get out.

EXT. NEIGHBORHOOD - NIGHT

Porter stops and pulls out his phone.

He Dials 911.

NARRATOR(V.O.)

He started to forget when he didn't wonder.

EXT. HOUSE - NIGHT

Porter approaches the house with the front door already open.

NARRATOR(V.O.)

He eventually did.

INT. HOUSE - CONT

Porter stops at the front door, he sees someone.

AL (16) Porter's brother, stands across from him.

AL

Where'd you go?

Al's voice is the same as the narrators, only now it shakes.

Porter doesn't respond.

FLASH FRAME: Daylight. Al staring into something with anticipation.

AL

You left me.

Tears begin to fall over Al's face.

PORTER

I didn't mean to.

(CONTINUED)

FLASH FRAME: A pigeon flails on the pavement about to die. Blood flows from it's fragile body.

AL  
Porter, I'm scared.

PORTER  
How could you have done this?

FLASH FRAME: Blood spills over white tile.

AL  
I hear voices.

Al leans on the wall beside him.

Porter stands with no words as red and blue lights emerge behind him.

Al drops something with a *clank*.

He pulls up his hand, covered in *blood*, to whip away the tears.

AL  
You're the only family that I've got now.

A policeman walks up to the front door and turns on his flashlight.

EXT. YARD - DAY

Porter push's Al onto the fence.

PORTER  
(angry)  
Don't do that! Don't you ever do that!

Al curls his body.

Porter sees him holding a pocket knife, he knocks it out of his hand.

PORTER(CONT)  
It's bad alright Al! Listen.  
(calmer)  
If anyone else sees you doing this kind of shit, mom might put you somewhere bad alright?!

Al shivers like a dog.

(CONTINUED)

PORTER(CONT)  
I'm just looking out for you.

Al begins to cry as Porter scouts the area.

PORTER  
Come on, lets get out of here.

Porter gently grabs Al by the arm, reassuring him that everything is going to be okay.

THE END.