

WEDDING DAY

Written by

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FADE IN:

EXT. CATHEDRAL - DAY

The sun shines. Birds chirp on a crisp Fall morning.

INT. CATHEDRAL - DRESSING ROOM

JOHNNY (early 30s) faces a mirror while attempting to tie his bowtie for the third time.

When failing again, he GRUNTS; frustrated.

JOHNNY

Why can't I get this right? Why
can't I ever get anything fucking
right?

MALE (O.S.)

I know what you're doing. And I
need you to stop.

Hands quickly twist Johnny around to view-- THEO (30s) and his million-dollar smile. He ties Johnny's bowtie with ease.

Johnny SIGHS.

JOHNNY

You'd tell me if we were making a
mistake, right?

Theo keeps quiet as he adjusts Johnny's suit.

JOHNNY (CONT'D)

Theo?

Still saying nothing, Theo continues to clean Johnny up.

JOHNNY (CONT'D)

Theo.

THEO

(laughing)
Relax, man. Of course I would.

JOHNNY

Marie and I aren't jumping into
this too fast? Be honest with me.

THEO

After five years? You absolutely
are.

JOHNNY

Come on, you've got jokes but I'm serious.

THEO

I'm serious when I say that you have nothing to worry about. Whatever you're thinking, I promise it won't matter when you see her.

JOHNNY

But lately I've been feeling--

THEO

It won't matter.

JOHNNY

And I only proposed because I--

THEO

(slower)

It won't matter.

With a big grin, Theo SLAMS his hands down onto Johnny's shoulders.

THEO (CONT'D)

Every man gets cold feet before his wedding.

JOHNNY

Did you?

THEO

Are you kiddin' me? I was the pussy king of college. And to finally settle down?

Theo shudders.

THEO (CONT'D)

I still have nightmares about my wedding.

JOHNNY

Really? Should I ask your wife if she feels the same or--

THEO

Not if you want to live long enough to reach that altar.

Both men laugh.

Theo delivers a long sigh before patting Johnny on the back.

THEO (CONT'D)
 Don't feed into that fear, and
 you'll be a golden man.

Johnny slowly nods, feeling slightly more reassured.

Theo smiles and makes his way towards the exit. But he stops just before leaving to turn back to Johnny.

THEO (CONT'D)
 Marie loves you, man. All you gotta
 do is love her back, and the
 universe will do the rest.

Theo closes the door behind him.

Johnny looks back at his reflection.

JOHNNY
 (lowly)
 And the universe will do the rest.

INT. CATHEDRAL - DRESSING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Johnny finishes fixing a mistake with his hair when--

MARIE (O.S.)
 (muffled)
 I can't...

Johnny's hand TWITCHES, instantly running fear through his veins.

His heart beats faster.

MARIE (O.S.) (CONT'D)
 (muffled, tearful)
 I can't do this...

His hand TWITCHING again, Johnny grasps it.

JOHNNY
 (whispering)
 No.

He balls his hand into a fist and takes a deep breath.

JOHNNY (CONT'D)
 (to self)
 Relax.

Frowning, Johnny approaches his dressing room door as a pit forms in his stomach.

He puts a shaky hand on the knob and easily CRACKS it open...

HALLWAY POV: Further down, a blond-haired woman stood huddled in a corner wearing a long, flowing white gown. It was MARIE (30s).

MARIE
(sniffling)
I know.

A mass of BLACK SMOKE rises from her heels and surrounds her.

MARIE (CONT'D)
(lowly)
I love you, too... can I see you?
Just for a minute.

Johnny immediately shuts the door. Closing his eyes, he tries to collect himself.

But when opening them again, they were a PINK GLOW that could see through the door to Marie, who was now with Theo.

Turning away, he begins to see TRANSPARENT, PINK-COLORED COPIES of Marie and Theo being intimate across the room.

JOHNNY
Stop it.

Johnny shuts his eyes and covers his eyes to drown out their moans.

JOHNNY (CONT'D)
(tearful)
Stop it.

But they get louder, and louder until--

JOHNNY (CONT'D)
Stop it!

Johnny POUNDS the floor, smashing the floorboards to pieces.

Eyeing his shaky hands and all he's done, he panics.

JOHNNY (CONT'D)
No, no, no, no, not now.

Trying to stand on wobbly knees, Johnny's body suddenly JOLTS and veers into the wall.

He grips his tightening chest, which begins to burn.

JOHNNY (CONT'D)
Please. No--

He's thrown to the floor by an internal force that causes him to vomit an opaque red mess across the carpet.

JOHNNY (CONT'D)
Please.

His body aching, Johnny crawls forward until he reaches the full-length mirror and pulls himself up.

He looks at his reflection, staring into SWIRLING, RAINBOW IRISES.

JOHNNY (CONT'D)
(whispering)
Eros.

Tears fall as the reflection tilts its head in curiosity.

JOHNNY (CONT'D)
I--

Johnny RAMS his head into the mirror-- cracking it.

Blood spurts and spills from his forehead as he blinks deliriously.

JOHNNY (CONT'D)
I-- s--still love her.

The reflection slowly smiles before Johnny forcibly hits his head again and again and again.

INT. HALLWAY

Hearing glass SHATTER, Marie stops outside the door.

She frowns, concerned.

MARIE
Johnny, are you okay?

JOHNNY
(muffled)
No, no, no, no, no, no, no--

Marie backs away, fearful and worried.

THEO
Marie?

Theo appears beside Marie.

THEO (CONT'D)
What's wrong?

MARIE
It's Johnny, he's-- I think he
knows about--

A sudden CRASH startles Marie.

JOHNNY
(screaming)
Nooooo! Nooooo!

Theo steps forward and pushes the door open.

THEO
Johnny?

Marie GASPS.

INT. DRESSING ROOM

Johnny stands in the middle of the floor, naked and bruised, brutally TEARING into his chest with razor-sharp claws that splay blood everywhere.

THEO
Johnny--

And with a final pull, Johnny RIPS his heart free, releasing an ear-piercing ROAR that forces Theo and Marie to their knees as the windows SHATTER around them.

Breathlessly examining the pulsating organ, Johnny begins to squeeze it.

THEO (CONT'D)
Johnny!

But Theo steals his attention.

THEO (CONT'D)
Johnny, I-- I don't know what the
hell's going on, but I want to
help.

Theo takes a cautious step toward Johnny when Marie grabs his hand.

MARIE
 (tearful)
 Theo, don't--

But Theo pulls himself free and continues moving closer.

Johnny quietly watches.

THEO
 Because you and I have known each
 other for years, right? We're like
 brothers.

Theo inches closer.

THEO (CONT'D)
 We're family, Johnny. No matter
 what we put each other through--

Theo nervously eyes the still-beating heart in Johnny's palm.

THEO (CONT'D)
 Or crazy ass secrets we've kept,
 we're always gonna be on top
 together.

Now, only a few feet away, Theo gives a shaky smile to
 Johnny's glowing sight.

THEO (CONT'D)
 That's what today's all about,
 Johnny. How love conquers all.

Turning his smile into a hopeful one, Theo looks at Marie's
 tear-streaked face and nods reassuringly.

JOHNNY
 Love.

THEO
 (eyes on Johnny)
 That's right.

JOHNNY
 Does not conquer all.

Theo frowns as Johnny's eyes grow brighter.

JOHNNY/EROS
 (distorted)
 I do.

CRUSHING his heart; LARGE, JAGGED WINGS instantly eject from Johnny's spine as his flesh bubbles and dissolves, partially revealing a CRIMSON, SCALY surface.

MARIE

Oh my God.

Digging into his ribcage, Johnny breaks off a pair of bones that quickly morph into a GOLDEN BOW AND ARROW.

THEO

Jesus Christ, Johnny, what the fu--

SNAP!

Theo's head drops to the floor by the WHIP of a wingtip.

Marie SCREAMS, horrified as Johnny LAUNCHES into the air.

Igniting a SHRILL SCREECH, he BLASTS out of the room, SPLATTERING Marie against the walls before turning down the hall where terrified cries fill the air.

FADE OUT.