

ZOMBIE ROMANCE

written by

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FADE IN:

INT. APARTMENT - BEDROOM - NIGHT

A cozy modest space. A LED speaker illuminates a glass of water and a couple of pills on the night table.

BARBARA, (35), one arm hanging down from the bed, buries her head under the pillow and groans.

The door creaks open. A big fluffy dog slips inside. It crosses the room and licks Barbara's hand.

A Molotov Cocktail passes by the window and smashes beneath.

Barbara pushes the dog away and pulls the blanket over herself.

BARBARA
(muffled voice)
Go away, Max. Daddy will take you
out.

EXT. APARTMENT - HALLWAY - NIGHT

A shuffle of approaching feet behind the front door. A key rattles and falls onto the floor. Clang. The same shuffle. A key fumbles in the lock. Two snaps and the door opens.

INT. APARTMENT - HALLWAY - NIGHT

HARRY (37) steps in. A tall burly silhouette in a raincoat. The door clicks closed.

BARBARA
Hon...? Take Max out for walkies,
please.
(groans)
Bloody migraine knocked me out...

Harry doesn't answer. He hobbles to the bedroom and steps on a dog's toy, a rubber ball. It squeaks and flashes colorfully. Harry stops and stares at the flashing ball. Black veins cover his round face, caked blood on his ear. Blood drips copiously from his left hand, two fingers missing.

BARBARA
Baby...? You still there? Power's
out again. Better just come to bed.

The ball rolls out. The dog growls at the end of the hallway. His eyes glow yellow in the dark. Harry growls in reply, his eyes glow too. The dog retires into the kitchen. Tail between its legs.

The sound of GUNSHOTS.

INT. APARTMENT - BEDROOM - NIGHT

The door opens and Harry walks in. Barbara rolls over still keeping the pillow above her head.

The smash of breaking glass on the street. Someone gives a short scream. Silence.

Harry flops on the bed's side near Barbara's feet. He strokes her foot with his healthy hand.

BARBARA

My head is splitting...

(pauses)

Ohhh, yeah... That helps...

(moans)

What's going on outside? Is that screaming? Never mind it's probably my head.

Harry struggles to say something, but manages a hoarse snarl. His breathing is getting louder, whistling. He squeezes Barbara's foot way too hard. She yells and pushes the pillow away.

BARBARA

Ouch! That hurts.

She sits upright, peers into the darkness.

BARBARA

(anxiously)

Baby...?

Her hand fishes around under the pillow. She grabs the phone and taps the screen. The cell-flash shines into Harry's face. He shields his face with bloody hands, bounces back and thuds on the floor.

BARBARA

(screams)

Harry!

Two gunshots pierce the night. Barbara shrieks again. She runs up to the window.

BARBARA
Jesus Christ!

MAN'S VOICE (O.S.)
Fucking die, already! Just die!
Die...!.

She turns back to Harry and flashes the cell-phone light on him. He growls loud like a dog. Barbara turns it off immediately. Harry's eyes glow bright yellow.

BARBARA
Wait wait wait... I'll dial 911!

Harry coughs.

HARRY
(hoarse voice)
Late...

He pulls a bloodied note from his pocket.

Static from Barbara's phone, then -

RECORDED VOICE (V.O.)
... a state of emergency has been
declared... Remain in your homes.
Barricade and arm yourselves...

Barbara drops the phone. She looks at Harry and accepts the piece of paper with a trembling hand. The bloody scribble says 'INFECTED! Death inevitable...'

Harry struggles to smile, but clacks his teeth instead.

Barbara looks at Harry again, then reads the note the second time like she can not grasp the point. She flips the note. The other side says 'Forever and ever yours...' Barbara's hand flies to her mouth, she gasps... It dawns on her, Harry is infected with a deadly virus.

She tries to pull herself together: takes a deep breath and wipes away tears.

BARBARA
Remember our 'What if...' game?

Harry coughs and blood sprays out from his mouth. He nods. Dark veins all over his face pulsate like small snakes.

BARBARA
What if...
(sobs)
...you turned into a monster

(giggles)
...would you turn me as well or
prefer death?

She laughs through tears and takes Harry's hand.

BARBARA (CONT'D)
I love you. Forever and ever.

Harry nods.

INT. APARTMENT - HALLWAY - NIGHT

Screams and gunshots echo outside. The dog barks, its snout pressed to the window.

INT. APARTMENT - BEDROOM - NIGHT

Barbara and Harry are kissing. Dark veins cover Barbara's face.

BARBARA
Oh... Migraine vanished!

She coughs and blood sprays out from her pale mouth. Blood stains color the white sheets.

BARBARA
(wheezes)
I'm ravenous!

Harry's eyes roll, baring the whites of his eyes. He sniffs Barbara.

Barbara snarls. Her eyes glow yellow. Nose in the air, she sniffs noisily.

The dog shows up in the doorway.

Harry moves awkwardly toward the dog. Barbara grabs his hand and follows him. Both of them clack teeth loudly.

The dog whimpers.

FADE OUT.