

HAMARTIA

Written by

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DRAFT 7

1

EXT. ALLEY WAY - NIGHT

1

MAN (35, disheveled) back turned facing the pitch black Alleyway, he appears to be speaking to someone.

MAN
Please...please...

Passerby's look at the man in confusion.

MAN (CONT'D)
It's not my fault, you know it's
not

There's no response from the shadows.

MAN (CONT'D)
(angry)
Why are you doing this to me?

Still no response, his anger dissipates and he begins to look desperate.

MAN (CONT'D)
Rebecca...please

Hands reach out from the shadow and cup his face.

2

INT. BEDROOM - MORNING

2

EMMA (20s) wakes up in her bedroom clutching her neck, the call on her phone waking her. She reaches for it. It's from her MOTHER she ignores it.

3

INT. KITCHEN - MORNING

3

EMMA sits at the table scrolling through her phone eating a bowl of cereal. She listens to Mothers voicemail.

MOTHER
Emma?

Mother sighs.

MOTHER (CONT'D)
I wish you would pick up my
calls...how are you doing? Are you
eating well? How's the new job?

She pauses.

MOTHER (CONT'D)
We haven't talked in so long...I'm
only calling you
because...well...it's coming up,
the anniversary-

Emma ends the voicemail and continues to eat.

4 INT. BEDROOM - MORNING

4

As Emma gets ready for work, the TV is on in the background.

NEWSCASTER
A 35 year old man was found dead
earlier this morning who
authorities believe to be yet
another victim in a brutal string
of murders that have occurred
within the past month.

Emma continues to get ready, ignoring the TV.

NEWSCASTER (CONT'D)
Authorities say that the victims
head appeared to have been severed
completely from his body-

Emma pauses and looks at the tv.

NEWSCASTER (CONT'D)
- authorities made it to the scene
early this morning after a
receiving a call-

Emma turns off the TV and leaves the room.

5 INT. HALLWAY - DAY

5

As Emma leaves her apartment she is sent into a coughing fit
before exiting through the door. A figure stands behind her.

6 INT. COFFEE SHOP - DAY

6

Emma stands by the counter making coffee for herself. Her
coworkers OLIVIA (20s) and SAM (20s) talk about what's been
happening in the news.

OLIVIA
Yeah it's wild, apparently his head
was found like, 2 blocks away

SAM

Ew what? That's so gross how do you know that?

OLIVIA

It was on the news, apparently some kid found it while he was walking to school

SAM

That's traumatizing

OLIVIA

Yeah I feel more bad for the kid, the guy had it coming

Emma and Sam stare at Olivia.

OLIVIA (CONT'D)

What? He was a dick

EMMA

Did you know him?

OLIVIA

No, but he was on the news for something else a few months back, remember the Rebecca Williams case?

SAM

(cringing) Don't remind me..that poor girl

OLIVIA

Yeah he was the one that assaulted her...first date gone wrong type of thing, he got sentenced to a year in prison but it was shortened to 3 months.

SAM

That's so messed up.

OLIVIA

Tell me about it, well at least her parents have some sort of closure now that he's gone

EMMA

What about Rebecca?

Olivia looks solemn.

OLIVIA
She committed suicide the week he
was released, it wasn't in the news
but my friends mother knows her
family..it was so sad.

Emma takes a sip of her coffee, Sam and Olivia look over.

SAM
What do you think?

EMMA
Uh...shit happens I guess

Sam and Olivia stare shocked at Emma's nonchalant response.

OLIVIA
(shocked)
Emma!

A couple of customers turn to look at the three behind the counter.

SAM
Olivia, lower your voice - (pause)
Emma...your nose

Emma puts her hand under her nose, pulls back, and sees her blood.

7 INT. KITCHEN - NIGHT

7

Emma, washes her dishes as her phone vibrates, she looks and it's Mother again. She turns off the phone.

FLASHBACK TO:

8 INT. PLAYROOM - DAY (FLASHBACK)

8

Emma aged 13 and her younger sister MARGOT (10) are arguing. Emma stands over her crying little sister, Emma holds a stuffed bunny with it's head torn off.

EMMA
You're too old to be playing with
stuffed animals

Margot doesn't listen and keeps crying.

EMMA (CONT'D)
(frustrated)
Stop crying!

Mother runs in and snatches the bunny away from Emma.

MOTHER

Emma! Apologize to your sister,
right now! What're you doing?

EMMA

B-but you made me get rid of my
teddy when I was 10, it's not fair!

Emma is starting to get angrier, tears fall down her face as she watches Mother crouch down and hug a still crying Margot.

MOTHER

(sternly)
Apologize. Now.

Emma clenches her jaw and balls her hands into fists, looking at her sister with resentment but says nothing.

END FLASHBACK

9 INT. KITCHEN - NIGHT

9

Emma begins to cough again against the back of her hand. This time it's more aggressive as she doubles over the counter. When she pulls away she notices tiny specs of blood.

10 INT. LIVINGROOM - NIGHT

10

The TV is on as Emma lays on the couch, there are tissues littering the coffee table in front of her, she looks more tired as she focuses to keep her eyes open.

As she lays there a figure is seen standing off into the background, it can almost be a piece of furniture if it didn't look so human. Emma doesn't notice.

FLASHBACK TO:

11 EXT. PLAYGROUND - DAY

11

Emma (15) sits on a bench reading a book as Margot plays in the play structure, occasionally looking over at Emma who pays no attention. Margot (13) goes to sit on the swings.

MARGOT

Emma, will you come push me?

Emma doesn't look up from her book.

EMMA
No, I'm busy

Margot pouts and continues to look at her sister.

MARGOT
Please? I need help I can't do it
on my own

EMMA
Just kick off the ground and swing
your legs it's not that hard.

Margot attempts to swing her legs but doesn't move.

MARGOT
(whines)
Emma please...

Emma huffs and gets up, she marches behind her sister and begins to push her a little too hard.

MARGOT (CONT'D)
Emma stop that's too high!

Emma ignores her sister and keeps pushing.

EMMA
You wanted my help right? This is
how you do it.

She continues to push her.

MARGOT
Emma...Emma stop! Stop!

Emma violently grabs the swing bringing it to a stop. Margot stumbles off and falls to the ground.

END OF FLASHBACK

12 INT. LIVINGROOM - NIGHT

12

Emma awakens and looks around. The TV is still on, it's the only light in the room. Her eyes land on a figure in the corner of the room, she stares at it for a moment then goes to turn on the lamp on the table by the couch. It's a coatrack.

Emma puts a hand over her mouth and gets up from the couch and runs to the washroom.

13 INT. WASHROOM - NIGHT

13

Emma is vomiting in the toilet. She gets up, flushes, and goes to stand in front of the mirror. She looks more tired, her face even more sickly than before, the shadows under her eyes prominent. She inspects what looks to be bruises around her neck, frowns but lets it go. She begins to brush her teeth.

As Emma ducks her head to spit, the same shadowy figure from earlier is behind her.

CUT TO:

14 INT. BEDROOM - DAY

14

Light filters in through the windows of Emma's room. Trailing over the bloody tissues and mess until landing on Emma who is wheezing, looking like she had not slept.

15 INT. COFFEE SHOP - DAY

15

Emma is at work, she wipes the counter and watches a MOTHER (30s) and her DAUGHTER (12) enter the coffee shop.

MOTHER

Hi there, can we get two hot chocolates please?

Emma rings their order in.

EMMA

Anything else?

Mother turns to her daughter.

MOTHER

What did your sister want again?

Daughter turns back to Emma.

DAUGHTER

A blueberry muffin please.

Emma nods and finishes ringing in their order. She brings out the muffin and gives it to them.

EMMA
I'll bring over the hot chocolate
in a minute.

The two of them nod and go sit at a table. Emma watches them from the counter.

FLASHBACK TO:

16 INT. KITCHEN - DAY

16

Emma (16) and Mother sit on opposite sides of the kitchen table. Emma has her hands on her lap looking downward, Mother seems to be scolding her.

MOTHER
Do you understand, Emma?

EMMA
Why do you always have to treat her
better than me?

Mother sighs.

MOTHER
I'm not treating her better, I was
the same with you when you were
young.

Mother shakes her head.

MOTHER (CONT'D)
I don't know what's gotten into
you, you used to be so nice to your
sister, what's happened?

EMMA
I never liked her! She's so
annoying and stupid, she thinks
she's so much better than me.
Sometimes I just want to-

MOTHER
(shocked)
Emma!

END OF FLASHBACK

17 INT. COFFEE SHOP - NIGHT

17

As the coffee shop begins to close for the night, Emma begins counting the till. A child's hand reaches and grabs her elbow from behind, she spins around and sees Sam standing there.

SAM

(shock)

Hey, uh, sorry if I scared you, I'm going to be heading out now, you good to finish up?

Emma exhales and nods.

EMMA

Yeah, I'm good.

Sam stares at Emma for a few minutes.

SAM

Are you sure you're okay? You look a little...sick

EMMA

Yeah, I'm fine, I just think I'm coming down with something, don't worry about it. I'll see you later.

Sam waits a minute then nods, and leaves Emma alone. As Emma turns back to the till two drops of blood land on her hands. The light above her flashes and she looks up.

CUT TO:

18 INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

18

Emma sits up in her bed, the moon is the only source of light coming through her windows as she and a figure at the edge of her bed stare at each other. The sound of her alarm bleeds into the scene.

19 INT. BEDROOM - DAY

19

Emma sits on her bed on the phone, it seems as though there are more tissues littering her room. The blinds are now closed, shutting out the sun.

EMMA

Hey, I don't think I'll be able to come in....yeah I feel like I'm getting worse...Ok. Yeah..I'm sorry. Thanks so much...okay..bye.

Emma hangs up and lays back down.

ONE WEEK LATER

20 INT. BEDROOM - DAY 20

Clothes, tissues, half eaten dishes litter Emma's apartment. All the blinds are closed shut in order to block out any light. Emma lays in a fetal position, resembling a child, as she clutches her stomach. She hears a door knock.

21 INT. HALLWAY - DAY 21

Emma slowly makes her way to the front door, she looks through the peephole then opens the door, it's Mother holding food.

MOTHER

Can I come in?

22 INT. KITCHEN - DAY 22

Emma and Mother once again sit on different sides of the table. The same position as her flashback.

MOTHER

Emma...

EMMA

I'm fine.

Mother sighs.

MOTHER

You haven't been answering my calls, I tried to visit you at work and apparently you've been calling in sick every day?

EMMA

Yeah, I just need some time to rest and get better

MOTHER

Emma...I...I know that this time of the year is hard for you-for all of us, but it's important for us to be together as a family.

Mother pauses.

MOTHER (CONT'D)

(hesitant)

I'm sure Margot would want us to be
in each others lives-

EMMA

Stop.

MOTHER

I know you blame yourself over what
happened but, it was an accident,
you were just kids you didn't know
what you were doing.

EMMA

I don't blame myself for Margot's
death mom, it was an accident and
we were kids.

Mother seems to relax a bit.

MOTHER

Really? That's a relief, I always
knew you two had a strained
relationship and I was worried
you'd begin to blame yourself for
her death...

Emma nods. Mother sits back, and exhales.

MOTHER (CONT'D)

You've always held this animosity
towards her that I just never
understood...sometimes I can't help
wonder if it was my fault.

Emma scoffs.

EMMA

You always did prefer her over me.

MOTHER

You know that's not true.

Emma leans back and crosses her arms, looking away from
Mother.

EMMA

Do I?

MOTHER

Listen, we're holding another get together with the family next week to commemorate your sister-

Emma's head snaps back to Mothers and she stands up from the table

EMMA

God Mom! Just get over it already, its been 10 years - I have!

Mother looks at Emma, shocked at her outburst.

MOTHER

I-

EMMA

You know what? I don't care, take your meatloaf and go-

Emma slides the food across the table.

EMMA (CONT'D)

I'm glad that I've separated myself from you - all you do is think of her still - it's like she never even died.

Mother says nothing, tears fill her eyes as her daughter looks down at her.

EMMA (CONT'D)

Just get out, I have to work in the morning.

Emma leaves her mother sitting there with the meatloaf.

23

INT. SHOWER - NIGHT

23

Emma stands in the shower, eyes closed and her head resting against the wall, her state hasn't improved after her conversation with Mother. It only looks as though it's gotten worse.

As Emma's eyes are closed she sees quick flashes of memories run through her mind:

- A child's hands grabbing another's forearm.
- Hands holding a pillow

- Emma's angry face

Emma's eyes flash open and she turns off the shower.

24 INT. HALLWAY - NIGHT

24

Emma steps out of the washroom in her pajamas when she stops and stares down her dark hallway, a figure stands there. It's tall with long limbs it doesn't resemble anyone Emma knows. She is frozen in fear.

It begins to walk towards her, and as it does it shrinks and takes the form of a young Margot.

EMMA

W-what? Margot?

The apparition doesn't respond and continues to walk towards her.

EMMA (CONT'D)

Margot?

It begins to pick up it's pace towards her. Emma takes this as an opportunity to run into her bedroom.

25 INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

25

As Emma closes the door backs away and as she turns, is caught by the apparition, she stumbles away from it but falls over, it hovers over and brings it's hand to her neck.

FLASHBACK TO:

26 INT. PLAYROOM - DAY

26

Emma and Margot are seen playfighting on the ground, Margot is laughing as Emma is on top of her hitting her with a pillow.

MARGOT

(laughing)

Emma! Stop!

Emma continues to hit her until she holds the pillow down on Margot's face. Margot tries to pull the pillow off of her but Emma holds down on it harder until Margot starts to grab Emma's forearms.

Emma's face changes from playfulness to anger. She continues to hold the pillow down on Margot's face until Margot stops thrashing and lays still.

END OF FLASHBACK

27

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

27

On the ground, the apparition once again looks like Margot as it sits on Emma's chest, who lays there paralyzed with fear. A lone tear slips out Emma's eyes.

EMMA

Margot...

It leans in and opens it's mouth, it's jaw resembling a snake as it unhinges itself, ready to consume Emma.

THE END.