<u>COULROPHOBIA</u>

Written by

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We see a CLOWN sitting on a couch in a dark room. The only light is from the old CRT TV, it can be seen illuminating his pale and white painted face. He looks like an early 20th century clown.

The man smiles as he watches an old archived tape of clowns in a circus bringing joy and laughter to adults and children.

He seems inspired and is ready to bring that joy to others.

He gets up and turns the TV off, left in the dark he turns a light switch on to reveal a messy room filled with clown props and toys. It seems somewhat dirty and messy. The clown walks over and picks up an old sack, throws some juggling balls, handkerchiefs, and other stuff into the bag and heads for the door.

The door closes behind him and the camera lingers on the door for a few seconds.

2 EXT. AN OLD MOVIE THEATRE - NIGHT

The Clown begins walking along a deserted city street. He stops in front of an old movie theatre. As he begins to walk along he stops where he sees a poster for a horror movie. It seems to have a clown with blood on it's face and is called "Killer Clowns". You can see it upsets him a bit, as he shifts uncomfortably.

A MOTHER and her CHILD can be seen walking out of the theatre. She looks disheveled rummaging through her purse. The child looks distracted. He looks over to the clown and his face lights up.

He runs over.

CHILD

Hey Mister!

The clown begins to mime a happy face, the music is happy and upbeat. The lights from the theatre illuminate his face as he bends into his bag and continuously keeps pulling out a handkerchief. The child laughs joyously.

All of a sudden the kids shoulder jolts back. The camera pans up to the angry mother's face. The music intensifies. She seems to be disturbed by the clown.

MOTHER

Excuse me sir just what do you think you're doing?

She pulls the child's arm, but the child seems to resist a bit.

The clown mimes a sad face.

The child is pulled away.

He cries.

MOTHER (CONT'D)

Fucking creep.

The clown seems distraught. As he goes to put his props back into his bag, he leans against the wall, slumped in defeat he slowly drags himself down to the ground.

While sitting on the ground, two TEENAGERS come out of the theatre, they're holding popcorn.

They come out and see the clown. One seems terrified by him the other seems to be laughing.

TEENAGER 1

Look it's the clown from the movie.

Both teenagers start laughing throwing popcorn at him as they walk away.

He seems upset and confused.

He cries in his hands, sobbing lightly. The camera zooms out to show him small in the frame. Feeling small in the world around him.

All of a sudden he gets a tap on the shoulder.

He looks up and sees a little girl and her father who seem to be excited to see him.

Their eyes light up excitedly as the clown looks up hopefully at them.

He stands up from the ground, his shoulders high as he is about to do what he loves best.

He reaches in his bag and after rummaging around for a while he pulls out a fake bouquet of flowers.

The girl giggles looks up at her dad who nods and grabs the flowers from the clown. She seems happy and joyous.

Camera closes in on his face as he smiles, a glint can be seen in his eyes. The light from the theatre illuminates his face once again.

CUT TO BLACK