

LOSS

Written by

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DARKNESS

Crash.

EXT. STREET

The crash carries over and morphs into high-pitched ringing.

We creep up to a smoking car, an arm hangs out of the window.

We peer over the window and see GEORGE YUAN (27),
unconscious, bleeding from his ears.

SMASH CUT TO:

INT. HOSPITAL CORRIDOR

George, semi-conscious, is being rolled through a hospital
corridor on a stretcher, blood pours out of his ears.

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM

GEORGE'S POV:

George leans up and through blurry vision, we can see his
wife, GINGER (27, hair tied up with red ribbon), pleading
with the DOCTOR.

She turns to look at George and then rushes by his side.

EXIT POV.

George with a dazed and confused look on his face, puts his
hand to his ear and notices that it's bandaged.

GEORGE
(inaudible - to Ginger)
What's happening?
(inaudible - to doctor)
What's happening?

Ginger gently puts her finger to his lips, lovingly shushing
him, then holds his face and turns back to the doctor,
pleading.

The doctor presses his lips together remorsefully whilst
writing on a pad. He walks over to George, smiles
sympathetically and shows him.

It reads:

"Hello, George. I'm Dr. [BLAH BLAH]. I'm very sorry to tell you that..."

We can't see the rest.

George gasps in fright and puts his hands to his ears.

INT. GEORGE'S HOME - LIVING ROOM - NEXT DAY

George is sitting on a sofa - his face blank with trauma.

Ginger approaches from behind with a cup of tea. She taps him on the shoulder which startles him.

She smiles with sympathetic warmth and then passes him the cup and sits beside him. She tries to mouth something to him. George shakes his head - doesn't understand her. She tries again - but he still doesn't understand - the urge to cry rises in George, he tries to hold it in.

Ginger wells up too, wraps her arms around his waist and puts her head on his shoulder.

George can't help it, the tears flow over the wall.

INT. GEORGE'S HOME - KITCHEN - LATER THAT DAY

George stands with his hands on the counter, watching ripples in a CUP OF TEA caused by a SPEAKER that's on but inaudible to him. His breathing quickens, he's bubbling with frustration, holding back tears.

He can't hold them anymore - he picks up the cup and smashes it on the floor.

Ginger enters the room, she gently touches his shoulder and leans around to look at him - he turns to her for a moment but then raises the back of his hand to her. He doesn't want to look at her.

She withdraws her hand - hurt.

INT. LIVING ROOM - LATER

George sits at a desk working.

He feels something that disturbs his flow, reaches into his pocket and pulls out his phone - a text message that reads:

"Hi George - hope you're well. We're all thinking of you. We're really sorry about this but because of budget cuts we're having to let some of our remote workers go. Please know that this has nothing to do with your..."

The phone shakes the more he reads, but then before finishing he throws the phone off the ground.

GEORGE
(inaudible)
Fuck!

INT. BAR - NIGHT

George sits at the bar looking drunk. He waves at the BARMAN who looks at him. George points at his glass, curtly ordering another.

The barman shakes his hands - no.

GEORGE
(inaudible - pointing
aggressively at glass)
Fucking get me another.

The barman looks back at him sternly, then writes on a napkin:

"You better go home."

George huffs, then stands up all woozy.

He looks around with murder in his eyes as he sees people laughing and talking.

INT. LIVING ROOM - LATER

George stumbles into the living room and then kerplunks his ass onto the couch.

The lights come on and Ginger enters the room in her PJs. She has a look of incredulity on her face.

She holds her palms out and mouths:

GINGER YUAN
(mouthing)
Where have you been?

She taps her wrist as if she had a watch on - 'it's late', she means.

He raises his hand to block her out of his vision and closes his eyes, struggling to hold back puke.

She takes a notepad from the table and writes something. She aggressively pulls his hand away from his face and shows him the notepad:

"The world doesn't stop when you close your eyes."

He reads it then aggressively bats the pad out of her hand.

Her mouth drops in shock. She squats down to his level, grabs him by the cuff and shakes him.

GINGER YUAN (CONT'D)
(inaudible)
What's the matter with you?!

He loses it, his eyes become alert with rage, he grabs her by the wrists and flings her onto the sofa.

The ribbon holding her hair together comes undone. She lies there fearfully watching him, mouth agape in horror for a few moments. He towers over her looking enraged, deranged, about to topple over.

She takes a breath, her face becomes composed, she gets up and storms out of the room.

The wooziness takes over George and then he passes out onto the sofa.

INT. LIVING ROOM - NEXT DAY

GEORGES POV:

Blurry again - suitcases, Ginger is putting on shoes.

EXIT POV:

George wipes his face and quickly gets up - he's worried, looking back and forth between the suitcases and Ginger, who looks at him with resolute resentment.

GEORGE
(inaudible)
Wh- wh- wh-

She turns to go but then he grabs her.

GEORGE (CONT'D)
(inaudible - hands out
pleading)
Wait.

He grabs the notepad, writes something, then shows her:

"You can't leave me like this."

She reads, shakes her head, then takes the notepad and writes something herself:

"I can't stay with you like this."

George's shoulders drop. She takes the suitcases and leaves.

George drops to his knees, then to his side.

INT. LIVING ROOM - LATER

EXTREME CLOSE UP ON:

George's hand taking THE RIBBON from the sofa.

He brings it to his face and reverently expects it, caressing it between his fingers.

INT. LIVING ROOM - FLASHBACK

GEORGE'S POV:

Bright and warm colours.

From behind: Ginger ties her hair up with the red ribbon.

She turns back to George and lovingly smiles.

END OF FLASHBACK

INT. LIVING ROOM - RESUMING

EXTREME CLOSE UP ON:

The ribbon wrapped around his arm and hand.

EXTREME CLOSE UP ON:

George's weary face, looking down at his arm. He winces in pain.

EXTREME CLOSE UP ON:

His arm is now covered in blood. He's sliced his wrist. His hand trembles.

EXIT EXTREME CLOSE UP

George falls backwards, rolls over to his side, clutching his bleeding arm.

A piece of paper leans against the table, it reads:

"The world doesn't stop when you close your eyes."

George's breathing slows. He closes his heavy eyes.

CUT TO BLACK.