"THE PAST FOLLOWS"

SUPERMARKET

Written by

J. Michael Miller

INT. SUPERMARKET - DAY

SUPER: "TWO WEEKS AGO"

THE MAN IN THE TRUCK, 30, walks through the aisles. He smiles at THE BUTCHER, 30. The Butcher hands him wrapped meat.

*

*

BUTCHER

Here ya qo.

THE MAN IN THE TRUCK

Thanks. Take it easy.

BUTCHER

That's the plan.

The Butcher laughs. The Man in the Truck turns around and bumps into Maddie.

MADDIE

Hey! Watch it!

THE MAN IN THE TRUCK

I'm so sorry.

The Man in the Truck stares at Maddie and a look of realization spreads across his face. He glances down at COLE, 5. The Man in the Truck's face turns white.

MADDIE

Just watch where you're going next time.

THE MAN IN THE TRUCK

You're... you're right. Sorry again.

The Man in the Truck rushes away to a nearby aisle. He looks back at Maddie and Cole.

MONTAGE - THE MAN IN THE TRUCK REMEMBERS

-The Man in the Truck pretends to inspect fruit but watches * Maddie and Cole.

-The Man in the Truck peeks around the corner of an aisle at Maddie and Cole.

-Maddie and Cole push a shopping cart. The Man in the Truck follows Maddie and Cole from a distance and holds a basket.

*

*

*

*

-A rubber ball rolls across the supermarket and stops at a pair of small shoes. Cole picks it up. The Man in the Truck watches Cole. Maddie turns her head, and he we sees the side of her face.

END OF MONTAGE

INT. MADDIE'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

The side of Maddie's face rests on a pillow. BRYAN, 30, snores off camera. The couple sleep on opposite sides of the bed with their backs towards each other. Maddie jolts awake and sits up.

MADDIE

Oh, my God. The man in the truck... was it... don't be silly, Maddie. It couldn't be him.

INT. MADDIE'S KITCHEN - DAY

Maddie faces the stove and cooks breakfast. She serves the food onto plates. She sets the plates of sausage, scrambled eggs, and toast on the counter. Bryan enters.

MADDIE

Oh. Good morning. I made breakfast.

BRYAN

Morning.

Bryan grabs his keys and a slice of toast. He ignores Maddie and walks out of the house.

MADDIE

(to self)

Bye.

Maddie walks behind the counter and sinks into a kitchen chair. Her face falls into her hands. Cole, ALLEN, 7, and CHANCE, 7, bounce in. Maddie wipes the start of tears from her eyes and stands up.

EXT. MADDIE'S FRONT YARD - DAY

Cole, Allen, and Chance run in the grass and play tag. Maddie watches and smiles. LYNN, 13, walks up to Maddie from behind.

LYNN

I'm going over to Jen's house.

MADDIE
Oh, you think so?
LYNN I was just letting you know.
MADDIE Last I checked you were still grounded for sneaking around with a boy.
LYNN I wasn't sneaking!
MADDIE Call it what you want. You're not allowed to date. Especially an older guy.
LYNN It wasn't a date! I went with my friends, and he's a friend too.
MADDIE A boyfriend?
LYNN God, Mom! He isn't my boyfriend.
MADDIE He sure as hell isn't. The answer is no, and I'm not changing my mind.
LYNN Maybe if you and Dad didn't fight all the damn time, I might want to stay home!

Lynn storms off.

INT./EXT. THE MAN'S TRUCK - DAY

A dark green truck is parked on the side of the road near Maddie's yard. The Man in the Truck sits inside. his truck. He sips coffee, grabs binoculars and puts them to his eyes. He zooms in.

THE MAN IN THE TRUCK I can't believe it. Why did she never tell me? He has to be --

*

*

*

*

A shotgun barrel blocks the binoculars' view. The Man in the Truck lowers the binoculars and finds Maddie. She points a shotgun at him.

MADDIE

Give me one reason I shouldn't pull the trigger right now.

INT. BRYAN'S TRUCK - DAY

Bryan sits in his truck and glances at the dashboard clock. He sighs.

BRYAN

Can't put it off any longer. Guess I better be getting home.

He turns the key, and his truck rumbles to life.

EXT. MADDIE'S FRONT YARD - DAY

Chance and Allen walk away from Cole towards the garage.

COLE

Can you bring me a juice box?

ALLEN

Get it yourself.

CHANCE

I'll get you one, Cole.

Cole stands alone at the edge of the yard and waits. A pair of hands lift Cole into the air. The Man in the Truck carries Cole away.

EXT./INT. THE MAN'S TRUCK - DAY

Maddie's body lays on the ground outside of a truck with the * driver's door open. The Man in the Truck steps over Maddie * and tries to put Cole in the truck. Maddie lays unconscious * on the ground, and the shotgun lays next to her. *

THE MAN IN THE TRUCK I wish it didn't have to go this way, Maddie.

COLE

Stop!

THE MAN IN THE TRUCK

Hush.

COLE

Put me down!

THE MAN IN THE TRUCK

Please be quiet. Please.

The Man in the Truck throws Cole inside and gets in his truck. He looks down at Maddie.

THE MAN IN THE TRUCK (CONT'D)

Why didn't you just tell me?

The Man in the Truck drives off.

INT. MADDIE'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Maddie sits on the bed and cries.

BRYAN

Everything is going to be okay.

Please don't cry. You know I hate
it.

MADDIE

I'm sorry. Are my tears inconvenient for you?

BRYAN

That's not what I meant. You just need to calm down.

MADDIE

Calm down? How am I supposed to calm down when Cole is missing?

BRYAN

I know. I miss him too.

MADDIE

What if we never get him back? What if we've lost Cole forever?

BRYAN

The police will find him. They're out there looking right now.

MADDIE

Frankly, I don't understand why you aren't going crazy too. He's your son too, you know.

*

*

BRYAN

			_						
I'm	າ ງ່ຽ	ıst	as	cor	ncerne	ed as	you	a	re,
but	Ξ	th	ink	we	both	know	Cole)	isn'
my	sor	1.							

Maddie freezes. Her face goes white and she stares at Bryan.

END.