

JACKAL

Written By

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INT. PARKING GARAGE - DUSK

ALEXIA and her group are involved in a firefight with raiders. Both she and VERONICA are taking cover behind a car.

VERONICA

I'm down to one magazine. You?

ALEXIA

Three rounds.

Veronica kicks a duffel bag in her direction.

VERONICA

Get these meds back to basecamp.
We'll cover you.

Veronica signals to JEFF. Jeff nods. They both spring from cover as Alexia bolts towards the edge of the platform and dives over the barrier.

Veronica and Jeff are killed in a hail of bullets as Alexia hits the ground running.

FADE OUT:

INT. BASE CAMP - NIGHT

MAXWELL, the leader of this band of survivors is admonishing Alexia.

MAXWELL

How could you let them die?

ALEXIA

Let them die? I did the best I could! Veronica told me to take the medication and-

MAXWELL

That was my wife! And now she's dead!

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

Alexia awakes with a start. Maxwell's last words echo in her head as she sits on the edge of bed and pours herself a drink from the bedstand.

She drinks it and returns to bed.

CUT TO:

EXT. HIGHWAY - DAY

Alexia is driving as GARY is riding shotgun. LEX, GIBSON, and SARAH are riding in the back.

CUT TO:

INT. SEDAN - DAY

ALEXIA

...and you're absolutely sure this farm is abandoned?

GIBSON

Oh yeah totally. And there's all sorts of food stockpiled there. They must've jumped ship in the middle of the night or something.

LEX

You better be right. This is the third day in a row we've been on a random goose chase and we're running low on food.

SARAH

...real low.

ALEXIA

Come on ladies, give the guy a break. None of us have had any luck recently. Just stay positive and-

CUT TO:

EXT. HIGHWAY - DAY

Their vehicle comes in hot around a blind corner and plows into a zombie horde.

The car rolls over, taking out most of the zombies and slides to a stop.

CUT TO:

EXT. HIGHWAY - DAY

Alexia shakes off her daze, rubbing blood from her eyes, and crawls out of the car. Zombies are quickly approaching. She attempts to pull Sarah from the wreck and her arm comes unattached. Alexia falls back in revulsion, sees the zombies coming, and runs.

CUT TO:

INT. OFFICE - NIGHT

ALFRED, a group leader, is admonishing Alexia.

ALFRED
All of them? Dead?

ALEXIA
Yes, I'm sorry.

ALFRED
Since you've arrived we've had nothing but bad luck. We lost two generators. A zombie fell into the well. And now we lost four of our family. And a car. And we're out of food.

ALEXIA
You can't blame all of me for this.

ALFRED
We can. We're a superstitious lot.

Alexia drops her face into her hands.

ALEXIA
There's no winning this one.

ALFRED
You have to leave. I think it's best if you left tonight, before the last of us wake up.

ALEXIA
Can't we just discuss this? My daughter and Eric and I are-

Alfred slams his hand down on the desk.

ALFRED
No! GET OUT!

CUT TO:

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

Alexia awakes with a start, again. Alfred's last words echo in her head as she gets out of bed and pours herself a drink from the bedstand.

She drinks it and returns to bed.

CUT TO:

EXT. BARN -NIGHT

Alexia and Eric are escaping a burning farmstead. Gunfire is in the distance

ERIC

We have to go!

CUT TO:

EXT. GARDEN - DAY

Alexia and Eric are cradling a child in their arms.

ALEXIA

You want a new name? Are you kidding?

HOPE

(giggling)

Yes, I like Hope.

ERIC

You got it kid. Hope it is.

CUT TO:

EXT. GARDEN - DUSK

Alexia is defending Eric and Hope from a zombie horde as survivors die around them.

CUT TO:

EXT. HIGHWAY - DAY

ERIC

She has been BIT, Alexia. Unless we can find a doctor or a medic she is going to die.

ALEXIA

I know, I know. I'm trying to figure out what to do.

ERIC

There is nothing you can do!
There's nothing any of us can do!

ALEXIA

We can go find a-

ERIC

No! She's going to die! And I'm pretty sure I'm going to die to!

ALEXIA

You didn't get bit, what are you talking about?

ERIC

Don't you get it Alexia? Everyone around you dies. You're like some sort of goddamned magnet for death and destruction. How many people have we watched die since I met you? How many people died before we met?

ALEXIA

None of this was my fault! Stop this!

ERIC

You are a curse! A fucking Jackal-headed god of death!

Alexia slaps Eric.

CUT TO:

SCENE IS BLACK - ALL DIALOGUE IS (V/O)

HOPE

(coughing)

Mommy, am I going to turn? Am I gonna become a zombie?

ALEXIA

No baby. I won't let you turn.

HOPE

Promise me.

ALEXIA

I promise.

SOUND OF A GUNSHOT

CUT TO:

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

Alexia awakes with a start, one last time. The gunshot echoes in her head as she gets out of bed and drinks directly from the bottle.

She puts on a jacket, picks up a massive fire axe, licks it, and leaves the room.

From the next room comes shocked screaming and the sounds of murder.

FIN.