

MYSTIC VALLEY

Written by

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WGAw

FADE IN

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

Still and quiet like a tomb, Elliot steps inside and crawls into bed. He tosses and turns until he finds a comfortable position.

As he drifts to sleep, the closet door slowly creeks OPEN. A heavy pound of footsteps echo in the dark.

Elliot's heart is racing as the frightening pace suddenly stops at his bed.

He bolts up.

ELLIOT

Who the hell is that? I have a gun!

Elliot scans the empty room.

A second later, his eyes widen in terror as the perverse tone of harsh breathing bounces off the walls. Trembling in fear, Elliot pulls the covers over his head.

Without warning, the covers are yanked off the bed. Startled, Elliot screams like a frightened school-girl and runs out of his room.

INT. HALLWAY

Sloan steps out of her room and watches as Elliot races through the hallway, screaming.

SLOAN

Hey Elliot! Can you get me a glass of water while you're up?

INT. LIVING ROOM

Elliot stumbles down the stairs and hits the bottom with a brutal thud. As he pushes himself up and reaches for the door, he jerks it open and comes to face to face with Diane.

Elliot screams and passes out.

INT. POLICE STATION - MORNING

Debbie watches as Sheriff Salvucci studies the crime scene photos of the Prewitt home.

INSERT PICTURES

Pinned to the board are pictures of three different pools of blood; one in the living room, the kitchen and Jesse's bedroom.

Sheriff Salvucci takes a long sip of his coffee.

DEPUTY DEBBIE

You've been staring at those pictures for hours.

SHERIFF SALVUCCI

So?

DEPUTY DEBBIE

So! I'm bored. If I don't make a bust soon, I'll have a fit. I mean it.

SHERIFF SALVUCCI

I know you will. But this is all a part of the glory of police work.
(beat)
There's something not right with these patterns.

DEPUTY DEBBIE

What?

SHERIFF SALVUCCI

I just don't think that this is our scene of the crime.

DEPUTY DEBBIE

Of course it is.

SHERIFF SALVUCCI

No. It's too neat.

DEPUTY DEBBIE

Not a damn thing wrong with neat.

SHERIFF SALVUCCI

Says who?

DEPUTY DEBBIE

Says me! Didn't you recognize my voice?

SHERIFF SALVUCCI

Never mind. There's nothing significant here.
(gestures to pictures)
(MORE)

SHERIFF SALVUCCI (CONT'D)
Blood behaves the same way as
spilled water. There is no force of
impact anywhere.

DEPUTY DEBBIE
No spatter.

SHERIFF SALVUCCI
Exactly. And doesn't that pattern
look familiar to you?

Deputy Debbie takes an intimate step closer and reviews the
pictures.

DEPUTY DEBBIE
It looks like an old woman being
attacked by a ferret.

Sheriff Salvucci raises an eyebrow.

DEPUTY DEBBIE (CONT'D)
No?

Officer Logan bursts inside, trying to catch his breath.

OFFICER LOGAN
Sheriff! They found it!

SHERIFF SALVUCCI
Found what?

OFFICER LOGAN
The car, Sheriff. Bill and Linda's
car. They found it at the bottom of
Lake Pallaton.

Deputy Debbie grabs her jacket and follows the Sheriff out of
the door.

SHERIFF SALVUCCI
Get Perdy and Hiroshi there double
quick. Debbie, grab those pic's!

Debbie runs back inside and quickly snatches the pictures off
of the board.

INT. SCHOOL HALLWAY

Parker opens his locker and stares blankly at the stack of
books inside. Cindy saunters over and lays a consoling hand
on his lower back.

CINDY
Penny for your thoughts.

PARKER
It's not worth it. Trust me.

CINDY
I doubt that. Parker, you look like somebody just stabbed you in the back.

PARKER
I'm just tired, Cindy. I got a lot on my mind.

CINDY
Like what, babe?

PARKER
Just crap.

CINDY
I'm down if you want to vent about crap.

PARKER
No thanks.

CINDY
Seriously, what's the issue?

Parker sighs in frustration as he causally looks over his shoulder.

PARKER
I was just thinking about Jesse.

CINDY
Oh. What about her?

PARKER
Just wondering where she is and if she's okay.

Cindy manages a wry grin as she glides her hand up and down Parker's back.

CINDY
You must have really cared for her. That is so cute.

PARKER
I still do.

CINDY
Right. We have something in common
then.

PARKER
We do?

CINDY
Hell's to the yeah. Can you keep a
secret?

PARKER
I can manage.

CINDY
I think Gabe and Jesse had a thing.

PARKER
Take it from me...Jesse was not
dating Gabe. No way.

CINDY
I totally agree. I think they
skipped the dating part and went
straight for the nasty.

Parker looks as if he swallowed a bitter pill.

PARKER
How do you know?

CINDY
A woman knows. They were close
after all.

PARKER
How close?

Cindy takes a cozy step towards Parker and sweeps her breasts
across his arm.

CINDY
This close, maybe. Could be closer.

Parker slams his locker close and storms away. A naughty
smirk surfaces on Cindy's face as she watches him leave.

CINDY (CONT'D)
Just planting my seeds, boo.

INT. LIVING ROOM - LATER

Elliot is passed out on the sofa. Diane leans over and slaps him across the face.

DIANE
Come on Elliot! Wake up!

ELLIOT
(groggy)
Diane?

As Elliot's eyes flutter open, Diane smacks him on the cheek even harder.

ELLIOT (CONT'D)
Ouch! What the hell did you do that for?

DIANE
I wanted to make sure you were awake.

ELLIOT
You couldn't tell?

DIANE
Oops.

ELLIOT
What are you doing here?

DIANE
You passed out.

ELLIOT
No. Here in Mystic Valley. Are you stalking me?

DIANE
You're not stalk-worthy, Elliot. I live here now.

ELLIOT
Why?

DIANE
I was looking for a place to start over after our divorce. I needed to find myself again. Figure things out.

ELLIOT
So your dad finally cut you off?

DIANE

The son of a bitch took everything.
He took my cars, my clothes! He
even took my hair extensions, El.
What kind of sick freak takes a
woman's weave?! I was so
embarrassed, I had to leave the
city.

ELLIOT

(to himself)
Cry me a river.

DIANE

What did you just say?

ELLIOT

Nothing.

DIANE

Anywho, word travels at the speed
of light around here and I heard
that you moved into your uncle's
house.

ELLIOT

And here you are.

DIANE

So here I am.

ELLIOT

Again...Diane, why are you here, in
my home?

DIANE

Oh...You mean here, here? Yeah, I
just came to tell you to get the
hell out of Mystic Valley.