

WHITE ROSE

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INT — BEDROOM — NIGHT

AMY, 17, is seated at her desk. She has long blonde hair and a delicate face. On her desk is an open laptop, various notebooks and magazines, and a cut white rose, lying on it's own.

She is crying, and keeps wiping her damp hair from her face. She is looking at photographs on her laptop. They all show her with a young boy, smiling, in various different locations.

She closes the laptop and takes a breath as she tries to regain her composure.

Suddenly, she hears a noise outside, like a tree branch snapping. She looks out of the window. It is dark and stormy, and nothing can be seen.

There is a sudden flash of lighting. Amy jumps, not expecting the sudden noise. Outside, the lightning illuminates a large tree near her window. It is empty, but one of the large branches has broken.

Amy shakes her head, angry for being scared of the storm, and stands to leave the room. She grabs her bag from the back of her chair and stares at the white rose on her desk. Silently, she puts it gently in her bag.

As she walks out of the door, there is another flash of lightning. There is a large shape in the tree outside her window.

INT — LIVING ROOM — NIGHT

AMY walks down the stairs into her living room. Her MOTHER is sat on the couch, watching a rom-com on the TV. Her brother, STEVE, is playing on a portable games console, not paying attention to anyone or anything.

AMY

I'm just going over to the library for a while.

MOTHER

Ok, be back by ten.

AMY

Sure.

Amy walks towards the front door, about to leave.

STEVE

(Without looking up from his
game)

Library closed an hour ago.

Amy stutters for a second, unsure of what to say.

AMY

I'll go see Emma, I think she has
the book I'm after anyway.

Her Mother stares at Amy for a while, considering what has been said. She is about to speak, but changes her mind, and just nods in approval.

Amy breathes a sigh of relief and opens the door. Just as she is about to step outside, Steve puts down his console and walks behind her, towards another room.

STEVE

What book you after anyway,
'Dances With Wolves'?

Amy stops in her tracks. She looks back, but Steve has already left the room. A tear runs down her face as she slams the door and runs out into the street.

EXT — THE WOODS — NIGHT

AMY is sat on a rock, holding the white rose and twirling it between her fingers. It is still raining, and she is soaked.

Her make up has run down her face, but it's not clear if that's because of the rain or because she has been crying.

A brunette girl, EMMA, walks towards Amy and sits next to her, holding an umbrella over her head. Amy does not acknowledge her.

EMMA

Your mum rang. I told her I'd
find you for her.

(Beat)

She's worried about you, you
know.

Amy continues to ignore Emma, still twisting the rose between her fingers.

EMMA (CONT'D)

You need to stop coming here.
It's not good for you.

AMY

I like it here.

EMMA

Ok, I'll be honest, that's a little weird.

(Pause)

And you should probably stop buying those roses, it's only going to remind you of him.

AMY

I didn't buy it.

EMMA

(Ignoring what Amy just said)

And you need to go home. If you stay out in this rain any longer, you're going to dissolve.

(Pause)

What do you mean you didn't buy it?

Amy continues to play with the rose, staring at it intently.

EMMA (CONT'D)

Surely those things don't live that long. Was it fake or something?

AMY

It's new. I found it in my room.

Emma looks at her confused. Amy continues to stare at the rose.

AMY

There's been one in my room every week. Every week since...

Amy breaks down in tears. Emma leans in to comfort her, putting the umbrella down on the floor.

EMMA

Do you know where they're coming from?

Amy shakes her head.

EMMA (CONT'D)

It's probably your brother being mean. I always knew he was an idiot, but I didn't think he'd sink this low.

AMY

I don't think its Steve.

(Pause)

I think it's John.

EMMA

Oh Amy. You know it can't be John. John's...

(Pause)

John's dead, and kidding yourself that he isn't is only going to make things worse for you.

The two girls hug each other as Amy cries. She lets go of the rose and it falls into a puddle.

Something moves through the woods in the background, unnoticed by the girls.

INT - AMYS BEDROOM - NIGHT

Amy is sat on her bed. She has changed out of her wet clothes into some pyjamas, but her hair is still soaked.

In front of her are various newspaper clippings. One reads "BOY ATTACKED BY WOLVES". The picture shows the area of the woods from the previous scene. Another newspaper reads, "WOLF BOY BODY NOT FOUND - PRESUMED DEAD".

There is a noise like breaking crockery from downstairs. Amy looks up, startled.

AMY

Mum? Was that you?

Snoring can be heard from the room next door.

AMY

Guess not.
(Pause)
Steve?

There is silence. Amy looks around her room, grabs a tennis racket from the floor, and carefully heads downstairs.

INT — THE KITCHEN — NIGHT

Amy slowly opens the kitchen door and looks around, tennis racket at the ready. One of the windows is open.

There is a full moon at the window, but it's covered by cloud. It shines enough light through the window to illuminate the broken plate on the floor.

AMY

Steve? Steve, are you down here?

Amy raises the tennis racket above her head and walks further into the kitchen.

AMY (CONT'D)

Look, whoever is here, I'm armed with a tennis racket and I'm not afraid to use it.

Amy winces as she realises how stupid she sounded.

Another bolt of lightning lights up the sky. In that split second, Amy sees a silhouette of a man standing in the kitchen. She screams as the man runs past her up the stairs.

Amy drops the tennis racket and grabs a knife from the side. Without stopping to think, she follows the man up the stairs and into her bedroom.

INT — AMYS BEDROOM — NIGHT

Amy runs into her room, brandishing the knife. As she enters, she sees a white rose has been placed on her desk. She stops for a moment.

AMY

You sicko! What the fuck are you trying to do to me! Do you think this is fucking funny!

The mystery man is halfway out of Amy's window, but stops and re-enters. He is facing Amy, silhouetted against the window.

Amy is in floods of tears, and is waving the knife around in front of her.

MAN

Wait! I didn't mean it like that. I didn't want you to see me, I didn't want you to find out like this.

AMY

What? I don't understand. What are you talking about?

The man walks forward from the shadows and into the light coming in from the hallway.

He is a tall man, with a large beard and long, unruly hair. His nails are long and yellowed and his eyes are bloodshot. He has no shoes and his clothes are dirty and ripped. He has scars all across his face and dirty, sharp teeth.

AMY (CONT'D)

Who are you? Get out of my room!
Get out of here!

The man looks distraught.

MAN

Amy, it's me.

Amy falls to the floor in tears, dropping the knife.

AMY

Stop it, this isn't fair. He's dead.

MAN

Amy, I'm not dead, I'm just...
(Pause)
...different.

Amy takes a breath and looks up at the man with tears in her eyes. She reaches out and touches his face.

The man closes his eyes and breathes in deeply, taking in her scent as she moves her hand across his face.

Through the window, the cloud begins to move away from the full moon.

Amy starts to cry.

AMY

Why did you go? They said you were dead. Why did you just go and let me believe them? Why did you leave me?

MAN

I'm so sorry Amy. I wish I could show you why, I really do, but I can't ... I won't. It's not fair.

Amy steps back, distraught.

AMY

Not fair! Not fair is leaving me! Not fair is making everyone think you're dead! Not fair is leaving me roses with no explanation! Not fair is telling me you love me and then disappearing from my life!

Amy starts to run towards the man, flailing her arms around. As she moves closer to him, he steps backwards.

MAN

I'm sorry, I'm so sorry. I should have come back and explained, but I was scared.

AMY

Scared of what?

Amy starts to get closer to the man. He looks out of the window at the moon, and jumps backwards.

MAN

Keep away from me! I can't have you near me, not now. I don't want to give you this. Please, stay away.

AMY

I don't understand. Whatever is wrong, we can work it out. John, I still want to be with you.

The man is cowering near the window, panicked. He tries to open the latch, but his hands are shaking.

MAN

Stay away. I'll come back, we can talk, but not now. Not like this.

Amy moves closer

MAN (CONT'D)

I said stay back!

Amy reaches out to touch the man. As she does, the cloud moves away from the full moon.

The man yells. He leaps up, writhing in pain. Amy runs forward to help him.

MAN (CONT'D)

Stay back!

The man's voice sounds different, like a growl. He stands, silhouetted against the moonlight. He looks hairier than before, and taller.

He glances at the window and tenses, about to jump.

Amy lunges for him, hand outstretched, just as the man jumps, leaping through the window and sending shattered glass everywhere.

She tries to grab him, but misses. Her hand scrapes past his foot, which now has long claws instead of toenails.

Amy looks down through her broken window, into the garden. A creature on all fours runs towards to horizon.

She looks down at her hand. She has scratched it on a claw when she reached out for John's leg.

Amy smiles and picks up the rose from her desk, twirling it between her fingers.

FADE OUT:

THE END