

Shy Killer

By

Ryan Henry

FADE IN:

EXT. FRONTYARD - EVENING

JOSHUA - a twelve year old boy- and his best friend CHRIS - twelve years old- are both passing around the football.

JOSHUA  
Chris, go long!

CHRIS  
Dude, you can't pass that far.

JOSHUA  
I'll try!

CHRIS  
You're gonna fail big time. I'm just warning you.

JOSHUA rolls his eyes in disagreement. CHRIS starts running backwards about 30 yards away from JOSHUA. JOSHUA gets a look of nervousness.

CHRIS (CONT'D)  
Josh, you are going to fail! Give up!

JOSHUA  
(whispers)  
Oh shut up.

JOSHUA throws a perfect spiral to CHRIS. CHRIS catches it swiftly in his two hands.

JOSHUA is shocked. JOSHUA pulls his fist down with excitement. CHRIS runs up to JOSHUA with a look of amazement.

JOSHUA  
And you were saying?

CHRIS  
You got lucky. I'd like to see you do that same pass again.

JOSHUA  
Challenge accepted.

CHRIS runs back to his position.

(CONTINUED)

CHRIS

Go!

JOSHUA is about to throw the ball, as JOSHUA'S MOM interrupts.

MOM

Josh, get in here!

JOSHUA

Mom, I'm in the middle of something!

MOM

Now, Josh.

JOSHUA sighs and runs up to her.

JOSHUA

Yeah, mom?

MOM

What is this?

JOSHUA'S MOM holds up a test that has big "F" on it.

JOSHUA

I missed a few questions. I'm sorry.

MOM

I thought we had a deal?

JOSHUA

Mom, I'm sorry. I'll get an "A" I promise!

MOM

You said that last time.

JOSHUA says nothing.

MOM (CONT'D)

Give me the ball.

JOSHUA

But, mom!

MOM

Now please.

JOSHUA gives his mother the football. She takes it inside. JOSHUA walks back to CHRIS. JOSHUA looks angry.

(CONTINUED)

CHRIS  
What happened?

JOSHUA  
Nothing.

CHRIS  
Where's the ball?

JOSHUA  
My mom took it.

JOSHUA starts to walk near the forest.

CHRIS  
Where are you going?

JOSHUA  
Follow me.

CHRIS  
Nope. I'm not going in the woods.  
You enjoy.

JOSHUA  
You scared, huh?

CHRIS  
I'm not scared... I'm just...  
Afraid.

JOSHUA  
Ugh. Come on!

EXT. WOODS - MOMENTS LATER

JOSHUA and CHRIS are walking in the woods alone. CHRIS has a very concerned look on his face.

CHRIS  
Are you sure you're allowed to go  
this far?

JOSHUA  
Yeah totally. I've been further.

JOSHUA and CHRIS continue walking. JOSHUA looks around. CHRIS' cellphone suddenly starts ringing.

JOSHUA  
Who is it?

(CONTINUED)

CHRIS

My mom.

CHRIS puts the phone to his ear.

CHRIS

Hello... With Josh... Alright...  
Bye.

CHRIS hangs up the phone.

JOSHUA

What did she say?

CHRIS

I gotta go. Have fun in the woods.

CHRIS exits the scene. JOSHUA'S expression goes from adventurous to a bit more concerned. JOSHUA looks around. As he walks he grabs a long stick. He goes deeper and deeper into the forest.

As he walks, he suddenly sees something zoom by him super fast. He is startled. Then, the sound of a loud thump is heard.

The thing was black and it was running like a cheetah of some sort. He looks over to see if it's there.

JOSHUA

(concerned)

Hello?

There is no answer. Suddenly, five seconds later, JOSHUA hears the sound of a unidentified animal cry. The sound is quite disturbing.

JOSHUA

(disturbed)

Who... Who's there?

JOSHUA puts his stick up to his face in defense. The more he walks, the louder the sound gets. JOSHUA starts to run closer. He drops the stick in shock. In front of him is a baby black GRYPHON --A mythical creature of the body of a lion and the head of an eagle--. But this GRYPHON is the size of a cat and it's wings are stuck to it's side. The GRYPHON is bleeding profusely from it's side.

JOSHUA is shocked.

(CONTINUED)

JOSHUA  
(under his breathe)  
Oh my God.

JOSHUA runs up to the animal, hesitated. He takes a good look at it. The baby GRYPHON makes the sound a cat would make when it's in pain. JOSHUA is breathing heavily. He immediately runs to the little creek that's near by them in the woods. He scoops up some water in his hands. He runs back to the creature and forces it to sip on it. The baby GRYPHON starts to purr loudly like a cat.

JOSHUA  
(interested)  
You're like a cat... but with the  
head and chest like a bird.

JOSHUA notices two little flaps on the sides of the animal. He lifts them up, they are wings.

JOSHUA  
With wings? Dang, you're cool.

JOSHUA carefully tries to lift the hurting GRYPHON with his hands. The GRYPHON screams.

JOSHUA  
(scared)  
I'm sorry, I'm sorry!

JOSHUA scoops up the GRYPHON and creates a little cradle with his shirt. He lays the little GRYPHON in there, hiding it. JOSHUA runs all the way home.

INT. HOUSE - MINUTES LATER

JOSHUA runs inside his house and slams the door. The pouch that the GRYPHON is being held in is very visible. JOSHUA'S MOM notices it.

MOM  
Josh, what's that in your shirt?

JOSHUA  
(rushed)  
Nothing, mom!

JOSHUA runs upstairs to his bedroom and locks the door. He carefully lifts the GRYPHON out of his shirt and places it on his soft bed. Blood is all over his shirt. JOSHUA, disgusted, pulls off the shirt and throws it across the room.

(CONTINUED)

The GRYPHON has stopped bleeding. The creature just lies there. JOSHUA stares at the GRYPHON. The GRYPHON starts to scream again.

JOSHUA

No, shhh! Please, shhh! Be quiet!  
I'll be right back!

JOSHUA runs out of his room, and slowly closes the door. He runs downstairs. He quickly grabs the first bowl he sees, and fills it with water. He turns off the water, and runs back. He suddenly runs into his mother, spilling the water all over her.

JOSHUA'S MOM looks angry.

MOM

(angrily)

Josh, what are you doing!?

JOSHUA

I was getting some water!

MOM

In a bowl? And what did I say about drinks upstairs? Look what you did!

JOSHUA

I'm sorry, mom! I'll clean it up.  
But I really need to get upstairs!

MOM

No, you are going to clean this mess up right now!

JOSHUA sighs and uses his shirt to clean up the water on the floor. He immediately gets up and runs upstairs with the bowl. JOSHUA'S MOM rolls her eyes.

CUT TO:

INT. JOSHUA'S ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

JOSHUA, with the bowl refilled, places the bowl full of water next to the GRYPHON. The animal almost throws itself into it as it gulps down all the water in less than 10 seconds.

JOSHUA smiles.

FADE OUT:

FADE IN:

EXT. BUS STOP- EVENING

3 MONTHS LATER-

JOSHUA and CHRIS get off the bus, with their backpack on.

CHRIS  
Dude, how do I know you're not  
lying to me?

JOSHUA  
Chris, I swear! I'm not lying! But  
you have to promise not to tell  
ANYONE!

CHRIS  
Why would I tell someone something  
that's not true?

JOSHUA  
Why wouldn't you?

CHRIS thinks for a moment.

JOSHUA  
Toche.

EXT. HOUSE - MOMENTS LATER

JOSHUA and CHRIS walk up to JOSHUA'S front lawn. They hear lots of destruction going on inside the house. JOSHUA is obviously concerned. He starts running into the house.

INT. HOUSE - CONTINUED

JOSHUA and CHRIS run inside to find the GRYPHON, almost the size of a full grown lion, the head of an eagle, and body of a lion with wings, eating all the raw meat he could find.

The refrigerator is knocked down on the ground

CHRIS  
(scared)  
Oh my god! What the heck is that  
thing!?

JOSHUA  
(angry)  
Its a Gryphon!

JOSHUA runs up to it and hugs its long neck, stroking it firmly. The GRYPHON purrs loudly.

(CONTINUED)



CHRIS  
Does it bite?

The GRYPHON immediately looks up at CHRIS with a look of anger. The GRYPHON roars and attacks CHRIS. CHRIS falls flat on his back, screaming for dear life as the GRYPHON bites CHRIS' arm, and tears some flesh off violently.

JOSHUA  
(horrified)  
NO!

JOSHUA, without even thinking, grabs a knife and stabs the GRYPHON in the back as CHRIS bleeds profusely, screaming. The GRYPHON roars loudly. JOSHUA helps CHRIS up and runs outside and immediately dials "911" on his cell phone.

JOSHUA puts the phone up to his ear. He could hear the GRYPHON'S violent clashes with the walls and furniture in the house.

JOSHUA  
(scared/rushed)  
Hurry! Pick up!

911 OPERATOR (O.S.)  
911, what's your emergency?

JOSHUA  
My friend has been bitten! Come quickly!

911 OPERATOR (O.S.)  
What is your address?

Before JOHSUA can reply, the GRYPHON breaks through the house flying high. JOSHUA drops his phone, and carries the injured CHRIS far away from the house into the woods.

EXT. WOODS - MOMENTS LATER

JOSHUA sits near CHRIS. CHRIS is in pain, and is still bleeding.

JOSHUA  
Chris, you alright? I don't know what happened... He just flipped out... I-I just...

CHRIS  
(in pain)  
Josh... It hurts so much!

(CONTINUED)

JOSHUA looks at CHRIS' hands. There are claws pushing in through CHRIS' nails.

JOSHUA  
Chris... What's happening?

CHRIS  
(voice getting deeper)  
What?

JOSHUA  
Your nails... They're claws.

CHRIS starts to moan. The moaning increases by more each second. It looks as if CHRIS is going through a siezer. CHRIS gets up and rips off his shirt, as he yells loudly in pain.

CHRIS' starts morphing disturbingly. JOSHUA watches with shock as giant eagle wings rip through CHRIS' shirt and black feathers grow on CHRIS' back and replace his hair. Fangs start to pierce through CHRIS' gums. CHRIS' scream starts to turn into a roar. The transformation is now finished.

JOSHUA is in shock and scared. JOSHUA is breathing hard and loudly as tears slowly flow down JOSHUA'S face.

CHRIS, using his huge wings, flies into the air and zooms off.

JOSHUA stares at the sky in wonder.

JOSHUA  
(to himself)  
The bite... There must've been some  
sort of reaction toward Chris...

EXT. SKY - MEANWHILE

CHRIS, this half human half gryphon with a wingspan of 42 feet, is flying high in the sky, and finds the GRYPHON. CHRIS tackles the GRYPHON in mid-air and sends them both crashing hard into the ground.

EXT. FOREST - MEANWHILE

Meanwhile, JOSHUA is running as fast as he can through the trees and bushes to try and find the deformed CHRIS. JOSHUA stops in his tracks because he hears the screaming of creatures. JOSHUA looks around to find the GRYPHON and deformed CHRIS fighting.

(CONTINUED)

JOSHUA runs toward them. JOSHUA stops and stares at the two large creatures as they battle violently.

The DEFORMED CHRIS takes his large claw, and scratches the GRYPHON in the most painful of ways. The GRYPHON screams.

JOSHUA  
(yell, frightened)  
Stop! Just stop, guys!

The GRYPHON and CHRIS look at JOSHUA confusedly. JOSHUA is brave. He walks up to the great GRYPHON and looks deeply into it's eyes.

JOSHUA  
(frightened, calm)  
Why did you bite him? I know you  
can't understand me, but why? Self  
defense?

The GRYPHON looks down at the ground. The GRYPHON slowly nods his large eagle-like head.

JOSHUA is surprised.

JOSHUA  
You can understand me?

DEFORMED CHRIS watches everything. CHRIS walks on all fours in front of JOSHUA.

JOSHUA  
Chris, I can get you back to  
normal... Everything will be back  
to normal.

CHRIS shows an expression signalling he understands and is trusting JOSHUA.

JOSHUA thinks for a moment. JOSHUA walks over to CHRIS and the GRYPHON.

JOSHUA  
If you guys want to live, you must  
find somewhere safe.

CHRIS starts huffing and puffing in fear as does the GRYPHON.

JOSHUA  
Calm down, please! You guys have  
to... if you want to be safe. I'll  
be ok.

JOSHUA gives CHRIS a big hug.

JOSHUA  
I'll miss you, Chris.

GRYPHON whines loudly. JOSHUA runs over the GRYPHON and hugs him harder.

JOSHUA  
I'll miss you too, buddy.

He lets go of the GRYPHON and looks at both two of the tall, ferocious creatures.

JOSHUA  
I want you guys to get along. Put your differences aside and take care of each other. Now go. Go far away. I mean far, far away. Go to places humans have never discovered. I need you two to fly as fast as you possibly can. Now go!

GRYPHON and CHRIS flap their giant wings hard. The speed increases the more they flap them. The sound of air being sliced by the giant wings is heard. It blows JOSHUA'S hair.

A tear slowly drips down JOSHUA'S face. The GRYPHON and CHRIS both fly off high into the sky.

CLOSE UP:

JOSHUA'S expression is quite depressing.

The sky is empty. All that is in the sky are the tree tops and clouds.

SLOW PAN OUT:

JOSHUA'S tears increase. He stares into the sky as the camera slowly pans out on the scene. Behind JOSHUA comes running his mother and police officers. JOSHUA'S mother hugs JOSHUA tightly as he continues to stare up into the sky.

FADE OUT:

BLACK OUT

FADE IN:

EXT. JUNGLES OF SOUTH AFRICA - DAY

EXTREME WIDE SHOT:

SUPER: South Africa, 2 Years Later

The jungles of South Africa are shown. 2 years later, two great creatures are seen flying above the tree tops. This is GRYPHON and CHRIS.

MEDIUM CLOSE UP:

GRYPHON'S wings begin to slow down. GRYPHON is obviously struggling. GRYPHON starts to fall from the sky and into the trees of South Africa.

CHRIS dives down after GRYPHON in attempt to save GRYPHON. The trees have been crushed down. GRYPHON is panting hard. CHRIS looks at GRYPHON confusedly.

Suddenly, the sound of crying is heard. But this is a different cry. It is the cry of a baby Gryphon. It turns out GRYPHON was a girl.

Now, a new generation of GRYPHONS has begun.