

THE CONTENTS OF THIS DOCUMENT ARE PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL

"MISSING"

By

Wintsarye

Story/Concept by Alex Goulding

SECOND DRAFT

MAY 2021

Copyright belongs to Yolanda Yip and Alex Goulding

1 EXT. FRONT OF A SCHOOL. DAY.**1**

A clear blue sky.

KELLY (V.O.)

It was a clear blue sky and everything seemed so... ordinary. There was... nothing that alarmed me and I just didn't think that there would've been an issue.

A bird flies past.

KELLY (CONT'D)

I felt like something wasn't right, but brushed it off, like how we always brush off little things that irks us in daily life.

From the blue sky, moving down to KELLY sitting in a park bench, in front of a school.

She is wearing business casual clothing, hair in a half up-do and slightly curled, with light makeup.

She looks at the kids leaving school.

KELLY (CONT'D)

But I really shouldn't have missed those signs.

CUT TO BLACK.

TITLE CARD AND OPENING CREDITS.

2 INT. HIGH SCHOOL. DAY.**2**

KELLY sits in a classroom with her classmates next to her as they all pack up.

She is wearing school uniform, has her hair in a ponytail, with no makeup on her face.

Her friend, JOSIE, gets up with her packed bag as Kelly slowly packs.

JOSIE

What is taking you so long, princess?

KELLY

Nothing! I just...

Kelly looks at her phone.

No notifications.

JOSIE

No texts from your parents, huh?

KELLY

Yeah...

JOSIE

Don't they own like, several businesses, and are quite busy?

KELLY

I am their daughter. They said they'll always make time for me.

JOSIE

So what? You're dragging on so you can hopefully get a text from them soon? Come on Kelly, you do that almost every Friday! You know they're probably...

KELLY

Friday is different! They always said they'll come pick me up on Fridays, so we can do things together, because it is the weekend and they finally don't have work! And... and sometimes they come pick me up even if they didn't text me beforehand!

Josie sighs.

JOSIE

You miss spending time with them, don't you?

Kelly sighs.

JOSIE (CONT'D)

They should just hire a driver. Then they can see you sooner because you can get home sooner. The bus takes a lot longer doesn't it?

Josie winks at her.

Kelly giggles then sighs.

KELLY

They are not *that* rich.

JOSIE

I'm just saying.

Josie waves her hands up.

She then flings her bag behind her shoulder.

Kelly sighs.

KELLY

I'll come with.

JOSIE

Good.

Kelly packs her bag slowly.

JOSIE (CONT'D)

Hurry up!

KELLY

What's the rush?

JOSIE

I need to get that bus at three... Oh whatever.
It is better if I stay and pester you, so you
stop brooding about the whole thing.

Kelly sticks her tongue out at Josie.

Josie laughs.

Their teacher, MS. JACKSON walks in.

MS. JACKSON

What are you two doing here?

JOSIE

Oh, Kelly is just packing her things.

KELLY

Sorry Ms. Jackson, I'm done soon...

Kelly packs a bit quicker.

Ms. Jackson looks at her watch.

MS. JACKSON

Look, the janitors have to come and clean the classroom soon, so just hurry up.

KELLY

Okay, okay, thank you.

Ms. Jackson leaves.

Josie laughs at Kelly.

KELLY

What? I'm trying my hardest to be quick. Stop being a pain.

JOSIE

Uh, what? *Me* being a pain? You are! Come on, they need to come in to clean and you are in their way! Other people need to go home, you know.

KELLY

Rushing me isn't going to make me pack faster!

JOSIE

I KNOW, but it will make me feel better.

Josie sticks her tongue out at Kelly.

Kelly grunts and finishes packing.

She stands up.

KELLY

Alright, let's go.

JOSIE

Way ahead of you.

Josie runs out.

Kelly laughs and follows her.

3 EXT. FRONT OF A SCHOOL. DAY.

3

The sky is clear and blue.

Kelly walks next to Josie as they laugh and joke around.

There is a car parked outside of the school and a man standing next to it.

As Kelly and Josie walk near to the car, the man gets up and waves at Kelly.

Kelly looks behind her.

MAN

Kelly!

Josie and Kelly are both shocked.

KELLY

Are you talking to me?

MAN

Yeah! Remember? I'm Uncle Jared!

The man, identifying himself as Uncle Jared, has a shabby looking car but wears surprisingly tidy clothes. His back is slightly slouched and he seems to have dark eye circles from lack of sleep.

KELLY

Uncle Jared?

Kelly pauses a bit and thinks.

She looks at him up and down, as Josie pulls her to one side.

JOSIE

(whisper)

This man... is your uncle?

KELLY

(whisper)

Erm...

UNCLE JARED

I was there at that family barbeque last fall, remember? We went to your house and I was in charge of bringing the soft drinks. But somehow it was shaken up in my car so it popped when I opened it there. It spilt all

over the grass and your father was a bit annoyed at that.

KELLY

OH! Yeah! I remember that.

Uncle Jared smiles.

UNCLE JARED

My car is a bit old and the suspension is a bit... botched. But she is still a beauty.

He strokes the car a little.

KELLY

So what are you doing here?

UNCLE JARED

Your dad asked me to pick you up!

KELLY

Oh! He didn't...

UNCLE JARED

He is in a meeting so he doesn't have time to text you to tell you he can't come. So he asked if I can help him with that. I was around, so here I am.

KELLY

Oh! I see...

UNCLE JARED

Yeah!

Uncle Jared walks to the passenger's side and opens the door for her.

UNCLE JARED (CONT'D)

Come on, let's go!

Kelly looks at Josie and Josie is a bit reserved.

JOSIE

(whisper)

Look, do you know this guy?

KELLY

(whisper)

Well... I did see him in family gatherings but very rarely.

UNCLE JARED

Yeah I don't go to them too often. It is just... too many people for me. Don't worry, your dad knows, so it is all good.

KELLY

I'll just give him a call...

UNCLE JARED

(hurriedly)

Oh, please don't. He is in a meeting. You know how it is.

Kelly sighs.

KELLY

Yeah...

UNCLE JARED

Don't worry, I'll just drop you home and it will be a fine and dandy trip.

KELLY

Alright.

Josie looks at her and Kelly turns to Josie.

KELLY

It should be okay. I'll send my dad a text anyways.

JOSIE

Alright. Let me know when you get home, yeah?

KELLY

Of course.

They hug and Kelly gets in Uncle Jared's car.

Kelly gets in Uncle Jared's car and she looks around.

It is slightly dirty and the car fragrance is in the front, clipped onto the vent, seemingly empty.

UNCLE JARED

Oops, don't worry about that.

He pulls down the car fragrance and throws it to the back seat.

He starts driving and Kelly looks out the window.

She looks down on her phone and is about to text her dad.

UNCLE JARED

Are you texting your dad?

KELLY

Yeah.

UNCLE JARED

Didn't your parents tell you the dangers of looking at your phone while the car is moving?

Kelly is confused.

UNCLE JARED (CONT'D)

It's bad for your eyes. Just let him know when you get home.

Kelly hesitates.

UNCLE JARED (CONT'D)

One of my exes was an eye doctor. Trust me.

Kelly puts her phone down and looks out the window again.

At a red light, Uncle Jared starts putting a gas mask on and Kelly looks at him in confusion.

KELLY

What are you doing?

UNCLE JARED

(muffled)

Oh, I just don't want to breathe in the fumes.

KELLY

What fumes?

Uncle Jared sprays an unidentifiable spray onto her face.

She screams and tries to open the door before it fully took effect and knocks her out.

UNCLE JARED

Umm, much better.

He starts humming as he drives to a very shabby looking neighbourhood.

5 INT. UNCLE JARED'S HOUSE. DAY.

5

Kelly wakes up slowly and opens her eyes.

Uncle Jared is in front of her, stirring a pot on the stove.

The house is an apartment and it is tiny - it has one table, a few chairs, and a kitchen that is visible from the living area. The bedroom is right next to the kitchen and the bed is visible from the living room.

She finds her ankles and arms tied to a wooden chair that is nailed to the ground. Her hands are tied behind, all with heavy duty zip ties.

She tries to move and say something but her mouth is stuffed with a cloth.

She tries to struggle but it does not work.

Uncle Jared keeps cooking and doesn't look up at her.

UNCLE JARED

Please, don't move too much. It would hurt me to see your wrists and ankles getting dug in by the zip ties. And don't worry, they are UV resistant and can withhold a lot of weight. So, it is useless to resist.

Kelly stares at him.

He keeps stirring the pot and hums.

UNCLE JARED (CONT'D)

You must have a lot of questions for me now. Look, I am not interested in you. I am not a psychopath, or a rapist, you see. I have no interest in young girls.

He then stops stirring the pot.

UNCLE JARED (CONT'D)

However, I know people who are. And you will be much of value to them, and they can give me money.

He looks around and smiles.

UNCLE JARED (CONT'D)

You can see, I need *that*. So as long as you cooperate, your life wouldn't be so horrible.

He keeps stirring the pot.

UNCLE JARED (CONT'D)

I thought about blackmailing your parents but then, I'm not sure how all those work, and all the back and forth just seems... too risky. However, I can let someone else do it if they please.

He walks towards Kelly and touches her face.

UNCLE JARED (CONT'D)

Or I can sell you as this young pretty girl...

Kelly moves away from his hand.

Uncle Jared laughs and raises his hands up.

UNCLE JARED (CONT'D)

The possibilities are endless, Kelly.

He walks back to the kitchen and keeps stirring the pot.

He then turns off the stove and spoons some of the liquid out from the pot.

UNCLE JARED

Try this for me. It is a new formulated recipe.

He takes out the cloth from Kelly's mouth but then she spits at his face.

He wipes it off with the cloth he just took from her mouth.

UNCLE JARED

Did not realise rich people can raise such animals. But well, to each their own.

He puts the spoon near her mouth.

UNCLE JARED (CONT'D)

Now try this.

Kelly pushes the spoon away and it spills on her lap.

KELLY

AHH!

UNCLE JARED

It is just cooked and boiled, so of course it is hot. Use your common sense, Kelly.

Uncle Jared puts away the spoon and sighs.

Kelly looks at him.

Suddenly, she starts screaming.

KELLY

HELP!!!! HELP ME!!!! THIS MAN IS INSANE!!!

She keeps screaming.

Uncle Jared just sighs and put the cloth back in her mouth.

It almost chokes her as she gags a bit.

UNCLE JARED

You are not going to cooperate. What was I even thinking?

He sighs and walks around.

UNCLE JARED

Well, Jared, you are a little bit out of your mind. This is a part of the plan, you know. This *is* it! You are going to ruin everything if you don't stick to the plan and I can't

believe you are trusting a young teenager to be good and let you sell her for money!

Uncle Jared sighs and looks at Kelly.

UNCLE JARED

I would be pissed if I was in your position too. But think about it. If I sold you to a rich man as his third wife or something, you will live such a good life! You wouldn't even need someone to pick you up from school. You will have a driver, a big house, and we will both benefit from it, you know?

He paces as he speaks.

UNCLE JARED (CONT'D)

I knew that the family doesn't like me and wouldn't just give me money, because I am the loser of the family, I guess. Well, I don't like them either so guess what, we are all on the same fucking page.

Uncle Jared laughs and looks at Kelly.

UNCLE JARED

Kelly, you are my way out! Don't you get it? Don't you want to help me?

Kelly looks at him in anger.

UNCLE JARED

No, of course you don't.

Uncle Jared walks back to his kitchen.

Kelly grunts and tries to move but she can't.

She looks around and she looks quite angry.

6 INT. UNCLE JARED'S HOUSE. NIGHT.

6

Kelly is asleep on the chair and suddenly wakes up.

She is visibly tired, with dark eye circles and a sunken cheek.

Her stomach growls, signifying her hunger.

She rolls her eyes, looks and sees Jared in his bed.

She tries to jump up to get the chair off the ground but it will not budge.

She keeps trying.

She starts to tear up around her eyes, due to the pain of the zip ties digging into her skin.

Suddenly, she hears him wake up.

UNCLE JARED

What on earth are you doing? I'm a light sleeper and this isn't going to help my biological clock.

He yawns.

Kelly looks at him and doesn't say anything.

UNCLE JARED

Oh wait, of course you can't tell me.

He takes out her cloth and she starts screaming again.

Her voice is more raspy and breathless, compared to last time she screamed.

KELLY

HELP ME!!!! PLEASE!!! JUST HELP ME!!!!

He quickly puts the cloth back in her mouth and slaps her.

She looks away after the slap.

UNCLE JARED

Crikey, feisty one. You really want this, don't you?

She stares at him.

He nods and grunts.

UNCLE JARED

Alright then!

He rolls up his sleeves and slaps her.

He keeps slapping and Kelly starts to cry.

UNCLE JARED

You better be crying because you realise what a pain you are.

He shakes his hand in the air to alleviate the pain of the slaps on his hand.

UNCLE JARED

Making me do this.

He walks back to his room.

Kelly keeps quietly crying in the dark night with slight moonlight coming into the room.

7 INT. UNCLE JARED'S HOUSE. DAY.

7

Kelly wakes up and sees Uncle Jared making some food in the kitchen.

Her face is sore and her cheeks are red and swollen.

Uncle Jared walks out with a bowl of food.

UNCLE JARED

I doubt you'll want this food, so I'll just keep it to myself.

He eats on the chair next to hers as she just looks at him.

UNCLE JARED (CONT'D)

This is what you get.

Suddenly, his phone rings.

He picks it up.

UNCLE JARED

Hello?... Yes... I sent you pictures!... Yeah, she is fine... No, of course. She isn't eating but look, she is a charmer despite her flaws... Yeah... A few days?! It already has been a few days!! When are they... Alright, alright... Yes. She isn't going anywhere... Yes! I'm trying to keep her... Just refer to the photo I sent... Now? Are you sure?? Alright... Give me a second...

Uncle Jared gets up and takes a photo of Kelly.

Kelly flinches from the flash.

He presses a few buttons before picking up the phone again.

UNCLE JARED

Do you see it?... No, of course she is not willing... The buyer likes the look of her and she'll look just like the photo when he feeds her!... What?? That is insane... You...

He looks at his phone in awe.

UNCLE JARED

Fucking hung up on me.

He looks at Kelly and looks very frustrated.

He slaps her.

UNCLE JARED

I TOLD YOU TO EAT AND YOU JUST WON'T! IT IS NOT MY FAULT.

He pushes a chair nearby and looks extremely angry.

He paces a bit before standing in front of Kelly and pointing his finger at her.

UNCLE JARED

Guess what, I know organ buyers as well and I'm sure your liver works very, very well.

He laughs and Kelly is scared.

He keeps laughing, then goes and makes a call.

Kelly looks miserable and suddenly someone knocks at the door.

UNCLE JARED

WHAT IS IT NOW?

Uncle Jared opens the door slightly and talks to the people outside, whilst blocking their view.

WOMAN AT DOOR (O.S.)

Hello, is this Jared Aceman?

UNCLE JARED

Yes?

WOMAN AT DOOR (O.S.)

Can we please come inside?

UNCLE JARED

What's the issue?

WOMAN AT DOOR (O.S.)

We would like you to assist with a disappearance case of Kelly...

UNCLE JARED

Who is that? I don't know who you're talking about.

WOMAN AT DOOR (O.S.)

I haven't finished...

UNCLE JARED

I don't know any Kelly.

Kelly grunts her hardest with the cloth in her mouth.

WOMAN AT DOOR (O.S.)

What's that?

UNCLE JARED

That's my dog. She can be such a bitch sometimes. Just needs everyone's attention.

WOMAN AT DOOR (O.S.)

Oh.

Silence.

Suddenly the door is pushed wide open.

Uncle Jared is pushed onto the ground by the woman at the door.

The woman at the door is actually a policewoman, followed by a policeman.

A policeman rushes in and helps Kelly.

The cloth in Kelly's mouth is pulled out and she gags a bit.

KELLY

Thank god you're here.

UNCLE JARED

God isn't real. You're such an idiot.

POLCEWOMAN

Keep your mouth shut.

The policewoman takes Uncle Jared out.

KELLY

How did you find me?

POLICEMAN

Someone recorded this man's car license and reported it to us when you went missing after 48 hours. It took us a while to track down his address but she gave us a first name so it definitely helped. He also had criminal records on our files as well.

Kelly smiles.

KELLY

Josie.

POLICEMAN

Your parents didn't see you at school when they were supposed to pick you up, but they thought you just went out with friends and didn't tell them, so they didn't think too much about it. Then they realised you didn't go home, and you were nowhere to be found..

The policeman keeps talking as his voice slowly gets muffled.

Kelly looks at the door and thinks deeply..

FADE TO:

8 EXT. FRONT OF SCHOOL. DAY.

8

A school bell rings.

Kelly is startled by the school bell ringing as she was in deep thoughts.

She watches as kids come out of the school.

A teenage girl runs towards her.

TEENAGE GIRL

Mum! You're here!

KELLY

Of course I am. If I told you I'm coming, I'm coming.

TEENAGE GIRL

Of course. As you told me...

KELLY

I wouldn't miss you for anything.

They get up and leave.

We see them leave and we see a beautiful sky, turning into all different colours as it is near sunset.

CUT TO BLACK.