

GUY IN THE CORNER

REVISION 4

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1

INT. HOUSE - DAY

1

The camera pans over a table showing parts of model aeroplanes and pieces of half finished boats and cars. ALEX sits struggling to glue two pieces of a plane together. He is slow and awkward, but is concentrating hard. After several attempts with love and care manages to touch the pieces together. His excitement and happiness bubble out at his great success.

ALEX gets back to his creations as a door key opening noise can be heard. ALEX turns toward the doorway where JENNA enters.

ALEX

Jen-Jen!

JENNA's tired face lets out a small smile as she stacks her shopping by the front door and walks toward ALEX.

JENNA

How are you today Alex? PAUSE. I got something for you!

ALEX sits upright and smiles.

ALEX

I got a present!

JENNA

Presents are just for good boys, and I don't think you've been a good boy.

ALEX

Good good! I'm good! I go to bed on time and I tidy and I make you sandwiches!

JENNA

You are good. That's why you need to tell me where you were last night.

ALEX

I was in my room.

JENNA

I went into your room and you weren't there. You know how I like it when you're there.

JENNA sits strokes ALEX's arm with a single finger as she sits down slowly next to him. ALEX starts to recoil in a reflex as he feels JENNA's finger, but quickly stops.

JENNA (CONT'D)

You've never been out at night before and I was very upset. Do you want me to be upset?

ALEX withdraws slightly and starts moving wooden boat pieces from the table around in his hand.

ALEX

No I don't want Jen to be upset.

JENNA's words becomes ones of anguish.

JENNA

It was a girl wasn't it?

ALEX

No I didn't see a girl.

JENNA doesn't believe ALEX.

JENNA

She'll treat you just like everyone else does. You know what people do when you walk down the street?

ALEX

They stare at me and ignore me.

JENNA

Because they hate you Alex. PAUSE.  
But I don't hate you.

ALEX doesn't say a word and plays with his wooden boat pieces.

ALEX

I made a boat!

ALEX's arm shoots up holding up the crappy looking boat for JENNA to see.

JENNA

It's a very nice boat.

ALEX becomes excited at JENNA's attention.

ALEX

It has a mast and a rudder and it's going to sail the seas!

The sail falls off. JENNA becomes frustrated at ALEX.

JENNA

It's these damn toys isn't it! You spend so much time with them you've got no time for what's important.

JENNA shoots to her feet, looks around, picks up a box from the floor and slams it onto the table.

JENNA (CONT'D)

That's it I've had enough! These are going!

JENNA starts placing the pieces of models into the box. ALEX panics and in fast movements grabs helplessly at the box.

ALEX

No girl! No girl! No girl! I went out to play and I...

JENNA continues to pick up the pieces as she reveals some glue stuck onto the table she interrupts.

JENNA

What the hell is this! Look at this! You've ruined my table!

ALEX is in tears as JENNA starts throwing the pieces haphazardly into the box as quickly as she can.

ALEX

Please listen! Listen please!

JENNA

It's too late now, these have to go.

ALEX stands as JENNA steps toward the wall and starts ripping posters down, crumpling them up and pushing them down into the box.

ALEX

No! No! Not MX poster that is my best one!

JENNA ignores the pleas of ALEX and continues. As JENNA's attention is on the posters ALEX quickly scans the table and spots a small wooden piece of boat on the table that JENNA has missed.

JENNA

It's all going and I'm getting rid  
of it for good, then maybe you'll  
have some respect.

ALEX's eyes look down as his head stays facing JENNA as he reaches down and palms the wooden piece in his hand and puts it to his side. JENNA continues until everything is packed, she picks up the box and walks out to the garden.

ALEX pleads with JENNA to stop, there is no girl and tries hard to keep up with her as he lags behind.

2 EXT. BACK GARDEN - DAY

2

JENNA tips the box into a metal container, she picks up a petrol can and sprinkles it's contents. ALEX is watching with tears in his eyes from the kitchen, face pressed against the back door. He grasps up against the glass as JENNA takes and lights a match then drops it onto the pile. JENNA walks inside as the pile ignites in a frenzy.

Cut to ALEX where he stares at his whole world burning, he can do nothing.

ALEX

Fire all gone.

His hands slide down the glass, as he looks down at his open palm where he holds his last single wooden piece.

Camera pulls back up to ALEX, as his expression changes to one of darkness.

3 INT. HOUSE CORRIDOR - NIGHT

3

Night time. ALEX emerges from his bedroom and creeps as best as he can down the corridor towards JENNA's bedroom. ALEX peers around the door to see JENNA sleeping. ALEX slowly pulls the door closed, as it clicks he stops and listens for any movement. He doesn't hear anything, breathes and turns to hold a broom stick. He takes the wooden piece from his pocket and remembers it one last time. ALEX smears glue on both sides of the piece and centres and places it on the end of the broom stick. He lifts it above his head and presses it over the smoke alarm sensor.

ALEX picks up the petrol can and starts pouring it over JENNA's bedroom door and on the floor of the corridor outside. As he does he fumbles the can making a noise. ALEX freezes.

JENNA

Who's that? Who's there?

ALEX hastily pulls the box of matches from his pocket. He scrambles to light one, but it goes out. He keeps trying to light matches as he walks toward the back door, each time they go out, he discards them and they fall onto the petrol on the floor.

JENNA calls out.

JENNA (CONT'D)

Who's there? Who's there?

ALEX finally lights a match, he pulls it to his face.

ALEX

Fire all gone.

ALEX tosses the lit match to the floor. A rush of fire is heard.

THE END.