

Unbroken

By

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1

INT. CAR - DAY

1

JOHN checks the rear view mirror. Like the rural road before him, the road behind him is entirely empty.

KRISTINA watches the trees race by outside the passenger window.

The car WEAVES. John brings it back under control.

KRISTINA  
(under her breath)  
Jesus.

JOHN  
What? You want to criticize my  
driving, too?

KRISTINA  
Would it matter?

JOHN  
No, Kristina. It wouldn't.

The car weaves again.

KRISTINA  
Pull over. I'm driving.

JOHN  
Like hell.

Kristina grabs the wheel.

KRISTINA  
Dammit, John. Pull over. Now.

JOHN  
Get your goddamn hand off-

KRISTINA  
John!

Kristina sees the MAN standing in the road a split second before John does, not that it matters. John SLAMS on the brakes, knowing it's already too late.

Tires SCREECH. The car stops. John and Kristina look up.

The road before them is EMPTY.

(CONTINUED)

JOHN  
Did I hit him?

KRISTINA  
I didn't feel-

BLOODY HANDS slam on the driver side window. Kristina SCREAMS. The rear driver side door opens and a battered BRANT climbs in. A frantic exchange occurs as all three talk over one another.

BRANT  
Please, help. There's been an accident-

JOHN  
Get the hell out of my car-

BRANT  
My house is right up the road. Just drive. Please-

KRISTINA  
John, we need to help him-

JOHN  
We don't need to do a damn thing-

BRANT  
Drive!

John relents, throws the car into gear, and drives.

2 EXT. DRIVEWAY - DAY 2

The car pulls into a long gravel driveway that leads to a small, rustic house.

3 INT. CAR - DAY 3

John stops by the house. LANA stands in a sliding glass doorway, waiting. John rolls down his window.

JOHN  
We've got a guy here who needs help.

Lana locks eyes with Brant. Her face falls. Fighting back tears, she disappears inside the house.

John looks to Kristina, and they exchange expressions of mutual confusion.

(CONTINUED)

RICK appears in the sliding glass door. He motions for them to come inside.

Kristina climbs out of the car and hurries inside. John hops out, opens the back door, and stops.

Brant is gone.

4

INT. KITCHEN - DAY

4

Lana stands at the sink, her back to the door, composing herself. Rick rubs her back, comforting her.

Lana drinks from a tumbler. The scotch bottle on the counter makes it pretty clear what she's drinking.

Kristina stands inside the door. John enters. Kristina looks past John, but Brant is nowhere to be seen.

KRISTINA

Where is he?

RICK

People see him all the time on this stretch of road.

KRISTINA

Who?

LANA

Brant. My husband.

A pained look from Rick. Lana catches her mistake.

LANA

Sorry. First husband. He was killed last year. Hit and run.

KRISTINA

Wait. Last year?

John's face darkens.

JOHN

Is this a joke?

The look on Lana's face is all the answer he needs.

JOHN

So you're saying, what? That I just picked up a...

(CONTINUED)

RICK  
Ghost.

JOHN  
Bullshit.

Kristina slaps John's shoulder, indignant. A look crosses her face, as though she can't pinpoint exactly why she's so angry with him.

JOHN  
You people are batshit crazy.

RICK  
(bristling)  
Watch your tone, mister. This has been hard enough on us. You don't need to go making it any harder.

JOHN  
Me? Her husband's dead-

RICK  
I'm her husband now-

JOHN  
- and you're encouraging her to go on believing-

KRISTINA  
Stop it, John. You're being an ass.

Uncomfortable silence. John composes himself, locks eyes with Lana.

JOHN  
You honestly believe the ghost of your dead husband walks up and down that road, hitching rides from strangers?

LANA  
Not strangers. Assholes.

Tears in Lana's eyes. This is too much. She pushes past John and leaves the room.

RICK  
(to John)  
Letting go isn't easy. The dead... they linger.

Lana reappears, holding a GUN. John and Kristina tense, but Rick remains calm.

(CONTINUED)

LANA  
 I can't do this any more, Rick.  
 This is wrong. All wrong. I just  
 want it to end.

Rick raises his hands, placating.

RICK  
 Shh. It's okay, it's okay. You can  
 put that away, Lana. You don't need  
 to do this.

LANA  
 I'm ready to die.

RICK  
 You're already dead.

Lana looks at the gun in her hand. BLOOD drips onto the  
 weapon. She looks up at John and Kristina.

John and Kristina see a GAPING HOLE in the side of Lana's  
 head.

RICK  
 We're all dead.

Rick smiles, looks down. A GAPING, BLOODY HOLE has appeared  
 in his own chest. A gunshot wound. He looks up at John and  
 Kristina. His smile is dark, yet placid.

Terror grips John and Kristina. John grabs Kristina's hand  
 and drags her through the door.

5 EXT. DRIVEWAY - DAY 5

John and Kristina rush to their car. Rick and Lana appear  
 outside, by the sliding glass door, wounds bleeding. They  
 watch John and Kristina in silence.

6 INT. CAR - DAY 6

John backs down the driveway. Kristina watches the house  
 shrink in the distance.

Brant appears in the driveway behind the car. John drives  
 through him. Brant watches the car pull out onto the road.

John clutches the wheel. Kristina relaxes as they put  
 distance between them and the ghosts. She looks to John.

BLOOD drips from a wound in John's head.

(CONTINUED)

KRISTINA

John. You're bleeding.

John ignores the dripping blood. He glances at Kristina. Her face is a jigsaw of cuts and slashes.

JOHN

This isn't happening.

Kristina's face changes back to how it appeared before this nightmare began, undamaged. It shifts again to tatters, and John forces it back to unblemished perfection.

The car veers to the left, racing toward a TREE.

CUT TO BLACK

Breaking glass. Wrenching metal.

7 INT. CAR - DAY

7

JOHN checks the rear view mirror. Like the rural road before him, the road behind him is entirely empty.

KRISTINA watches the trees race by outside the passenger window.

The cycle begins again, all the way to where Kristina sees the man in the road ahead of them.

KRISTINA

John!

FADE TO BLACK

BEGIN CREDITS

8 INT. FAMILY ROOM - DAY

8

One shot from a prosumer camera. Ghost hunters setting up in the background. The CAMERA OPERATOR interviews the homeowners, a HUSBAND and WIFE.

CAMERA OPERATOR (O.S.)

And you live here, knowing full well that this place is haunted?

HUSBAND

Yessir.

(CONTINUED)

CAMERA OPERATOR (O.S.)  
Do you know how it happened?

WIFE  
They'd been fighting, Brant and Lana. Brant was walking alone on the road when the car hit him. The driver took off, lost control of his car, and wrapped it around a tree.

CAMERA OPERATOR (O.S.)  
Was the driver killed?

HUSBAND  
Him and his wife both. Brant's brother, Rick, tried helping Lana out, but she was too far gone. Took to drinking pretty heavy. One year later to the day, she shot Rick, then killed herself.

WIFE  
So tragic...

END CREDITS

FADE TO BLACK