

Screenplay

Written by Nicholas J Pritchard

EXT. CAR PARK - EARLY EVENING

Two runners, Sarah and David stretch in an empty woodland car park, their cars parked a short distance behind them. They wear similar clothing, and stand with a closeness that belies a prior relationship, each stealing furtive glances at the other stretching.

As David finishes stretching he shakes his head, clearing it, and turns towards Sarah.

DAVID

You ready?

Sarah nods, mid way through stretching her arm.

SARAH

Lets get going, I want to beat my time today.

She jogs on the spot, psyching herself up. He smirks and whirls his arms, similarly preparing.

DAVID

A drink says I beat you, and your time.

Sarah hesitates for a moment, weighing the odds, then smirking shakes off, turning to face him.

SARAH

Make it dinner and you've got a deal.

He chortles, and with a finger salute sets off at a rapid pace.

DAVID

Try to keep up!

She waits a second, tilting her head in a glance at his ass, then plugs in her headphones, taking a moment to let the beat wash over her. Focused, she enters a ready position, then sets off at pace.

WOODLAND TRACK - DUSK

Sarah jogs down a woodland track, lined on either side by varying levels of undergrowth, jumping over obstacles and dodging natural debris. After a stint she sees David in the distance, and starts to push herself harder to catch him.

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Soon she is on his heels, and with a mocking gesture she overtakes him. His surprise causes him to trip into a ditch, and as she looks back stifling a laugh his head pops up cursing.

SARAH

See you at dinner.

Annoyed, David slaps the ground and then takes off after her, but she's already out of sight.

WOODLAND TRACK - EARLY NIGHT

Sarah runs along the now dark track, behind her in the corner of her eyes she sees a form catching up. Assuming it to be David, she smirks and speeds up attempting to hold her lead, but as she runs we see the figure is faster, much faster, and quickly it has caught up.

As it dashes past her it slams into her shoulder, spinning Sarah to the ground. She quickly scrabbles back to her knees.

SARAH

David, what the fuck was that! What do you think you're....

She pauses as she sees no-one else on the track in either direction.

SARAH

David?

As she stands she removes her ear bud, revealing the unnatural, complete silence of the woods around her. Uncomfortable she looks around her, squinting into the darkness, and then stares down the track in the direction she was running.

SARAH

Ok... well, i'm going back, you can meet at the car park when you're done being a...

SAM

HELP ME!!!

The scream startles Sarah as a bloodied Sam falls into her arms, crashing to her knees. She almost immediately begins to attempt to stand up, scrabbling against Sarah as she pulls her down slightly with her fervor.

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SAM

Please, you have to help me!  
PLEASE!

SARAH

It's ok, it's ok, what happened!  
Where did you come from!?

SAM

Please! Please don't let them take  
me!

SARAH

Who? Who wants to take you?

Sarah looks around as she ask this, frantically scanning the dark tree line, and another scream from Sam draws her attention back to the girl.

She is gone.

Sarah crouches with arms outstretched, for a moment looking for Sam in shock, then notices the blood still staining her hands.

For a moment she is frozen in a mixture of fear and uncertainty, then takes off at a sprint back down the track in the direction of the car park.

WOODLAND TRACK - NIGHT

Sarah runs at full sprint down the track, breathing heavily as she pushes herself to her limit. Eventually she has to stop and catch her breath, staggering as she looks behind her in fear before keeling over, clutching her sides in pain. She straightens, looking around into the dark woods, fear driving her eyes.

DAVID

SARAH!

David's voice rings out in the woods, distant yet clear in the silence of the forest. He shouts again, this time more clearly from down the track, and Sarah sets off towards him.

SARAH

David! David where are you!?

DAVID

SARAH!!

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She picks up her pace towards the voice, running almost frantically until she sees David stood facing away from her in the center of the track.

SARAH

David, David thank god.

He does not turn around, and she slows down as she gets closer.

SARAH

David? David I'm here, whats....

She gags as an awful, rotting burning smell assails her nose like a wall, scorching itself into her senses.

SARAH

Oh god, what is that.

Sarah takes another step forward.

DAVID

SARAH!!

The shout is a perfect mimicry of the earlier shouts.

SARAH

David stop! We need to get out of here, somethings wrong!

For a moment there's silence.

DAVID

You ready?

SARAH

David..

A cracking noise sounds from within David, and he hunches, then elongates, and his body begins to twist and deform into an unnatural state, his voice warping as his body does.

DAVID

A drink says... I beat you....

Sarah screams, and the camera pans to above the treeline, highlighting the city over the treetops, as the fairy whispers rise in a crescendo till they cover the scream.

END