

SCENE 1

BLACK SCREEN

TEXT

There is something peripheral in the darkness that tugs at the minds of a few. They wear its mark upon their souls that only they have eyes to see... It's almost frightening.

FADE IN:

EXT. PARK - EVENING

EST CRANE TO ECU

A small boy stares at something out of view, spellbound.

OS

We see a bleak and regal CLOWN motionless staring back towards the boy, he is a living harlequin doll with malice for intent. The only indication that the CLOWN is alive is his rising and falling chest as he breathes.

FADE OUT.

SCENE 2

INT. BATHROOM - MORNING

A YOUNG MAN in his mid twenties is washing his face in the sink apparently shaken from his night of sleep. He stares at his own reflection in a dark contemplation. Taking a deep breath he begins drying his face with a hand towel.

From the side of the man the same CLOWN is visible for a split second. The man pulls the towel from his face and looks inquisitively towards the CLOWNS location. After seeing nothing the YOUNG MAN walks out of the bathroom.

The YOUNG MAN enters his bedroom where he puts his shoes on and a short sleeve button up shirt that seems ill fitting on him. Pulling his hair back, the YOUNG MAN looks glum and unhappy as if he is going through the motions. He picks up his badge for work from a night stand and puts it around his neck exiting the bedroom.

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CONTINUED:

The YOUNG MAN walks through his living room and into the kitchenette where his work folder lays on the counter.

INSERT - PAPERS IN FOLDER

The papers from the YOUNG MANS work have sharp sketches of odd looking faces with toothy smiles.

The YOUNG MAN closes the folder and walks back through the living room towards the front door. The CLOWN is hidden, barely within view.

SCENE 3

EXT. APARTMENT COMPLEX - MORNING

The YOUNG MAN locks his door and walks down a sunny sidewalk away from his apartment. Although the world around him looks cheerful and alive, the YOUNG MAN is unaffected by it. He moves through his steps mechanically.

Behind the YOUNG MAN the CLOWN becomes visible. Sensing the shift in the air the YOUNG MAN looks behind him to find nothing there. The YOUNG MAN shakes his anxiety off and moves on towards his day.

SCENE 4A

EXT. CITY STREET - CONTINUOUS

Leaving his apartment complex and crossing the street the YOUNG MAN walks towards a cafe.

SCENE 5

INT. CAFE - MORNING

The YOUNG MAN enters the cafe and orders coffee. He doesn't smile or interact with anyone in the coffee shop. He walks out as somber as he entered.

SCENE 4B

EXT. CITY STREET - MOMENTS LATER

Outside of the cafe the YOUNG MAN catches a glimpse of the CLOWN standing by the wall. As the YOUNG MAN looks over the CLOWN seems to have disappeared. The YOUNG MAN shakes his head trying to reset his mind. He walks down the sidewalk towards the nexus of the city.

As the YOUNG MAN is walking along the sidewalk the CLOWN once again becomes visible on the other side of the street. The YOUNG MAN looks over and sees nothing. Nervously busying himself he tries to read the papers in his folder while he walks.

Checking his bearings while walking the YOUNG MAN lowers the paper a little to quickly see around it. The face of the CLOWN greets him. The YOUNG MAN freezes and gasps as a STRANGER bumps into him. The YOUNG MAN looks for the CLOWN and again does not see him. The STRANGER yells at the YOUNG MAN and keeps walking the way he came.

The YOUNG MAN closes his eyes and swallows hard and trying to shake his delusions. He becomes increasingly paranoid and scans the street for any sign of the CLOWN.

The CLOWN can be seen everywhere but never in the same place twice. With eyes darting back and forth the YOUNG MAN finds he cannot control his breath or his nervousness.

The CLOWN mocks him from many different areas all at once. The YOUNG MAN turns abruptly away from the visions and is standing face to face with the CLOWN.

The man squints hard, taken by childish fear. The YOUNG MANS coffee spills onto his wrist and his burning hand loses grip on the cup that crashes to the ground.

The YOUNG MAN looks up and sees no CLOWN.

The YOUNG MAN scurries away attempting to escape this particular street and the CLOWNS omniscience.

SCENE 6

EXT. SHOPPING ALLEY - MORNING

The YOUNG MAN stops behind a building hunches over and tries to control a panic attack. After a few seconds of breathing he feels as though someone is watching him.

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CONTINUED:

Slowly looking up into the alley way he sees what looks to be the CLOWN'S face sitting in the alley staring off towards something. The YOUNG MAN'S curiosity begins to peak and while still breathing irregularly he walks slowly and cautiously towards the CLOWN'S visage.

The YOUNG MAN stares at the CLOWN face to face. He brings his hand up and almost touches the CLOWN'S face and recoils back taking a step away. The CLOWN'S eye shift to look at the mans face.

The YOUNG MAN'S mind seizes and he stares at the CLOWN in shock. He minutely shakes his head back and forth in a full state of derangement. The CLOWN uses this moment to show the YOUNG MAN his form.

Stepping from the alley the CLOWN erects himself to his full height. The CLOWN is over 7 foot tall with a large war-hammer strapped to his back, a yellow smiley face is painted onto the war-hammer. Towering over the YOUNG MAN he advances one long leg towards him.

The YOUNG MAN turns and runs from the alley quickly and panicky. His folder flies from his hand and papers scatter as he runs. Finding himself on a long road with few places to hide the YOUNG MAN sprints towards the downtown area of Las Vegas, looking back occasionally to see if the CLOWN is there. Some times he sees the CLOWN and sometimes he does not.

SCENE 7

EXT. BUILDING IN DOWNTOWN - DAY

The YOUNG MAN turns a corner unable to control his breathing. He slams his back against the wall and looks up towards the sky panting and sweating. The man wheezes and coughs bending his head to cover his mouth.

The CLOWN peeks his head around the corner and looks to the YOUNG MAN. The CLOWN is blurred out so that his features are not very apparent.

The YOUNG MAN looks up from coughing and slowly turns his head towards the on looking CLOWN. Both figures stare at each other for a very brief moment in time and the YOUNG MAN runs away from the CLOWN.

The YOUNG MAN continues to run away along the front of a windowed building. As he runs by the building the CLOWN becomes his reflection in the glass.

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CONTINUED:

The YOUNG MAN turns another corner and runs down a long alley as the CLOWN pursues him. The CLOWN seems to be enjoying the chase through the alley, like a child would a game of tag.

The YOUNG MAN continues to run along the alley nearing a corner as the VICTIM, a larger man with a hardened look, peeks out from around the corner to get see what noise he hears.

With the VICTIM are a few of his friends all enjoying a nice day.

The YOUNG MAN slams into the VICTIM spilling the VICTIM'S drink, stopping and knocking the YOUNG MAN to the ground. The VICTIM yells at the man for spilling his drink. The YOUNG MAN looks back to see the pursuing CLOWN. The YOUNG MAN darts by the victim as the CLOWN approaches, sees the VICTIM, pulls his war-hammer and crushes the VICTIM'S skull with one strike.

The CLOWN steps over the VICTIM'S motionless figure and past his friends who stare down at his body.

The YOUNG MAN continues to run headlong down the alley until he reaches a gate. The YOUNG MAN opens the gate and walks through it.

#### SCENE 8

EXT. CROWDED STREET - DAY

The man enters the crowded area and walks through the mass of people sometimes bumping into strangers. He looks behind him and sees the CLOWN standing above the crowd staring back at him. The man hunches low and walks faster as though he is trying to stay out of view. The YOUNG MAN pushes his way out of the crowd and down a side street.

#### SCENE 9

EXT. FINAL ALLEY - DAY

The YOUNG MAN stop at a corner and walks a short ways into an alley. He leans against the wall and slides to the ground in a sitting position exhausted and broken. The YOUNG MAN looks as though he is going to give up entirely.

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CONTINUED:

The CLOWN steps out into the alley for the YOUNG MAN to see. The YOUNG MAN does not attempt to run, he just looks to the CLOWN expectantly.

The CLOWN waves towards the YOUNG MAN for him to come to him. The YOUNG MAN rolls his eyes around in his head as a protest. The CLOWN waves again. The YOUNG MAN looks to the CLOWN in anger.

The YOUNG MAN gets up and slowly walks towards the CLOWN hanging his head in defeat. The CLOWN never changes his expression. The YOUNG MAN reaches the CLOWN with his head slumped. After a moment the man finally lifts his head to see the CLOWN. The CLOWN pulls his war-hammer from his back and the YOUNG MAN flinches preparing for death.

Instead, the CLOWN holds the war-hammer vertically out. The YOUNG MAN looks to the war-hammer and back to the CLOWN who barely nods and affirmation to the YOUNG MAN. The YOUNG MAN looks back to the war-hammer and creeps his hand up to touch it, pulling his hand away before he reaches it. The CLOWN moves the war-hammer further towards the YOUNG MAN and nods in affirmation again.

Slowly and speculatively the man reaches up and grabs the war-hammer that the CLOWN lets go of formally and deliberately. The war-hammer is heavy in the YOUNG MAN'S hands at first.

The YOUNG MAN hefts the war-hammer horizontally in his hands and looks to the CLOWN who blinks expectantly. The YOUNG MAN looks back to CLOWN and his face turns to strong determination.

The YOUNG MAN swings the war-hammer towards the CLOWN, who never moves or flinches, smashing it into his tall legs sending the CLOWN crashing to the ground. The man turns to walk away and quickly strikes the CLOWN while he lays prone. The war-hammer assault turns into a flurry of angry, unhinged, crushing blows. As the CLOWN receives these bashes, he wears an emotionless smile while looking towards the sky.

Blood spatters both characters as the YOUNG MAN continues a frenzied and uncontrolled attack on the CLOWN. When the YOUNG MAN is finally done the CLOWN lays motionless in his own blood. The YOUNG MAN looks up and his face has a similar makeup to the CLOWN that is smeared from sweat and blood.

The YOUNG MAN stares innocently at the camera.

END

## SCENE 9 ALTERNATE

## EXT. FINAL ALLEY - DAY

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There is no evidence of the CLOWN as the man turns and reveals that he now has the CLOWN makeup. The YOUNG MAN bounces down the alley way much like the CLOWN as he leaves the frame.

END