

SCOUT  
by  
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Fade In:

**INT. CHERRY'S BEDROOM - MORNING**

The room is cluttered with stuffed toy cats of all colors and sizes. The Beatle's, peace signs and feline posters fill the walls.

A phone rings a few times in another room.

CHERRY KATZ, 15, 60's hippy type with strawberry blond hair and freckles, lays in her bed with her cat. She tenderly pets her tabby cat, Moe.

PHYLLIS KATZ, mid thirties, typical mother type, knocks and then peeks in.

PHYLLIS

Cherry dear, momma has to go over to Nana's for a bit. There's oatmeal on the stove.

Cherry is focussed on the cat laying next to her.

CHERRY

Bye.

PHYLLIS

Do you have any plans today?

CHERRY

Just the usual fun stuff.

PHYLLIS

Okay then. I won't be long.

She closes the door.

**INT. LIVING ROOM - MORNING**

Music plays in an upscale apartment.

Scout, a rat terrier, sleeps on the sofa.

An electric can opener is heard.

Scout quickly wakes with excitement and leaps off the sofa.

**INT. KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS**

SEBASTIAN, 70, distinguished with a well groomed beard and silver hair dressed in a well tailored robe, sits a bowl of dog food on the floor and addresses Scout in a deep characterize british accent.

SEBASTIAN

Breakfast is served my Lord.

Scout eats.

He takes a yogurt from a tidy well stocked fridge brimming with organic foods, pours himself a cup of coffee from a French press and washes down a viagra pill.

**EXT. SIDEWALK - DAY**

Sunny spring morning.

Historic houses line a red brick street in an upscale neighborhood.

Cherry strolls carefree down a sidewalk.

A city worker takes a shovel from his truck and walks over to a dead cat on the street.

Cherry walks over and looks at the dead tabby.

CITY WORKER

It sure is a shame that people let these rascals just run around.

She takes her phone out and snaps a picture.

CHERRY

He's in heaven now.

CITY WORKER

Let's hope this person never owns another one.

CHERRY

They won't.  
(cheerfully walks away)  
Have a nice day.

The city worker scoops the cat up and throws it in the back of his truck.

**EXT. LIBBY'S HOUSE/SIDEWALK - MOMENTS LATER**

LIBBY, 70, prunes her rose vine on her fence.

Cherry stops to admire the roses.

LIBBY  
(sweetly)  
Good morning Cherry dear.

CHERRY  
(cheerful)  
Good morning. They are so beautiful.

She clips a yellow rose and hands it to Cherry.

LIBBY (CONT'D)  
You know dear, I think this yellow one would look so cute in your beautiful hair.

Cherry takes the flower and places it over her ear and poses sweetly.

CHERRY  
How do I look?

LIBBY  
Like the angel you are.

CHERRY  
Aren't you sweet. Well, I better keep the pace. Lots to do. Have a nice day.

She walks down the sidewalk.

Libby smiles and watches her walk away.

**INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY**

Sebastian grabs the TV remote off the coffee table and turns on a news report in progress and eats yogurt. Scout sits by his side and watches him eat.

Reporter DANIEL WEST, 30, handsome and sharply dressed, stands in front of a police station.

DANIEL WEST  
...police now tell us that the 6 people killed in their homes this  
(MORE)

past month all lived alone with missing cats, but they are still not sure if there's a connection.

SEBASTIAN

Who cares about stupid cats?!

He flips the channel to a report in progress.

JENNIFER GARCIA, 30, latin and smartly dressed, stands in front of a ship yard.

JENIFER GARCIA

...authorities found a another woman's nude body in the port area this morning. The latest victim is identified as 28 year old Sandra Grogan...

SANDRA GROGAN'S picture is shown.

JENIFER GARCIA (CONT'D)

...of Hyde Park who went missing two days ago after going out for coffee.

He turns the TV off and scrapes the last of his yogurt with his spoon.

He offers the cup to Scout and he licks it clean.

He leaves the room for a moment and then returns twirling around the room to the music.

Scout wags his tail with excitement.

He playfully dances and hums his way over to the door and stops. He opens the front door and Scout eagerly jumps down from the sofa and runs outside. He sticks his head outside and looks around and then closes the door.

#### **INT. COFFEE SHOP - DAY**

The sixties retro style coffee shop resembles a head shop with a counter/display case full of pastries.

Cherry enters and walks to the counter.

Barrista SIMON, 22, earthy type with tattoo's and long hair, greets her.

SIMON  
Wuz up Cherry Kat? The usual?

CHERRY  
Yes please.

Cherry looks at a new lost cat flier on a bulletin board next to the counter. She takes out her smart phone and snaps a picture of the flyer.

Simon prepares her order and observes.

SIMON  
Someone should put those people out of their misery.

CHERRY  
What people Simon?

She places the phone into her bag and pulls money out and counts it.

SIMON  
You know, people who let their animals run free outside not giving any thought to all of the dangers. And then they come in here and post fliers crying the blues. They're pathetic!

CHERRY  
Addison Mizner once said...Misery loves company, but company does not reciprocate.

He pushes a coffee and danish toward her on the counter.

She places money on the counter.

CHERRY  
Thanks...keep the change.

Cherry walks away with a coffee and danish.

Simon picks up the money and smiles.

SIMON  
Better be careful out there, they found another woman. That makes 12 now you know.

**INT. DINING AREA - CONTINUOUS**

Booths line the walls and windows that face the street. Cherry slides into a booth with a window view.

She takes a bite out of her danish and a sip of coffee.

She looks out of the window and sees Scout sitting alone on across the street.

She takes out her smart phone and pulls up the picture of the flier she just took and stares at it for a moment. She flips to the dead tabby from the street and sees they are one in the same.

She looks out of the window and sees Scout staring up at her from the sidewalk below her window.

She gathers her things and slides out of the booth.

Cherry walks outside and approaches Scout. She reads his collar, strokes him, and looks around.

Simon enters and wipes her table. He watches her through the plate glass window as he cleans, and then he moves away. The sidewalk is empty.

**INT. LIVING ROOM - SAME TIME**

Classical music plays loudly.

Sebastian loads a video tape into a tape deck and then sits on the sofa and waits with enthusiasm.

(The video is not seen)

He calmly sits back and watches the TV.

He slowly unties his robe with eyes fixed on the TV.

He slumps down for comfort with eyes still fixed.

A woman's groans are heard on the TV.

He slowly opens his robe and fondles himself with eyes glued to the screen.

The music is timed to his convulsing. The tempo increases and volume rises.

The music crescendos and he shakes violently as he orgasms.

The music stops and the room is silent.

He slumps back with exhaustion.

A loud knock at the door startles him.

He rushes over to the tape deck and replaces the tape with another and pushes the record button.

The TV shows the action via a security cam from the upper corner of the room.

He closes his robe and walks over to the door and looks into the peep hole and opens it and smiles eerily, yet polite.

CHERRY

Does this little guy belong to you?

SEBASTIAN

Indeed he does. Where did you find him?

Sebastian takes Scout from Cherry.

CHERRY

Sitting on the side of the road.

(she strokes Scout)

Poor thing was so scared. He could have been hit by a car.

SEBASTIAN

Well he's not scared anymore thanks to you. Little man, why in the world would you run away from big daddy? Where are my manners?

(he backs away from the door)

May I offer you anything for your trouble?

CHERRY

Actually a nice tall glass of water would be nice. I'm spitting cotton out here.

SEBASTIAN

Of course. Please come in out of the heat.

Sebastian sits Scout on the floor and walks to the kitchen.

Cherry slips into the apartment and looks around.

SEBASTIAN(O.S.)  
So...what is your name dear?

CHERRY  
Cherry...Cherry Katz.

SEBASTIAN(O.C.)  
That's a very pretty name.

Cherry looks down at the 12 stacked video tapes next to the TV with suspicion. She sees herself in the TV via a security camera.

CHERRY  
I don't know what I would do if one  
of my cats ran away. I would just  
die I tell you, I would just die.

Ice falling into a glass is heard in the kitchen.

SEBASTIAN (O.S.)  
How many do you have?

The faucet is heard in the kitchen.

CHERRY  
Just one. His name is Moe.

Cherry hears stirring in the kitchen.

SEBASTIAN (O.S.)  
I'm not a fan of the felines  
myself. Actually, I'm allergic to  
them. I guess it would be fair to  
assess that I actually hate them.

#### **INT. LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS**

Sebastian enters with a glass of ice water.

SEBASTIAN  
Nothing personal dear.  
(he offers the glass to  
her)  
Here, this ought to do the trick.

She stares at the glass for a moment.

CHERRY  
You know it's funny, but I'm not as  
thirsty as I thought.

She reaches into her bag unnoticed.

SEBASTIAN

It's here, you may as well drink  
it. I did go through the trouble.

Cherry stares into Sebastian's eyes.

CHERRY

As much trouble as I?

She looks down at Scout and then back up to his eyes.

She looks over his shoulder at the security camera in the  
upper corner of the room.

He turns to look at his security camera and then back at  
her.

He moves his look down to her hand in her bag.

SEBASTIAN

What's in the bag?

She quickly pulls a large knife out and jabs him in the gut.

The glass of water drops from his hand and crashes to the  
floor.

He looks into her eyes and then falls onto the floor.

Cherry holds the bloody knife down by her side and looks  
down at him.

CHERRY (CONT'D)

(softly)

Cat hater.

His head lays dead in a puddle water and broken glass with  
eyes wide open. Scout licks the tainted water off the floor.

She pulls a blood stained rag from her bag and wipes the  
knife, and then wraps the knife in the rag and places it  
into her bag.

Cherry sits down on the sofa and pulls out her cell phone  
and looks at the recent photo she took of the new lost cat  
flier. She then presses her key pad 7 times.

Scout lays asleep next to Sebastian.

CHERRY

Hi my name is Cherry and guess what? I found your kitty. I'm sure your family has been worried sick...Oh? Well then, I'm sure you've been worried sick. I can bring the poor creature over now if it's a good time. I wouldn't want to interrupt you if your entertaining. Your alone? Oh good. I'll see you soon. Bye now.

Cherry ends the call. She looks at the TV and then at a stack of video tapes next to it.

She moves over to the TV and pulls a hanky out of her bag and pushes the eject button and ejects the tape marked #13. She looks at Sebastian on the floor and holds the tape marked #13 up in the air.

CHERRY

Didn't you know that the number 13 is unlucky?

She places it in her bag, and then replaces it with tape #12 from the stack and presses play.

She sits down on the sofa and calmly watches the TV.

(Tape) Classical music begins playing on the video. B&W security camera footage captures Sabastian answering the door. Sandra Grogan wearing a jogging suit holds Scout in her arms outside the door. Sebastian greets her and she reluctantly enters the apartment.

The edited video switches to color and shows a Visqueen covered room with a single light bulb hanging in the middle. The back of a blond young woman hangs by her hands under the light wearing only panties and duck tape on her mouth. A small table sits near by with an ice pick laying on a clean white towel.

Sebastian enters the room wearing red bikini briefs and a Go Pro on his forehead.

She struggles with the rope and looks around with wide eyes.

He swings her around to face a camera that sits on a tri-pod across the small room. He teases her a bit and then pulls down her panties. He then pushes his briefs down around his ankles and has rough intercourse with her.

He orgasms quickly and then stands looking into her eyes. She stares back with hate.

He pulls up his briefs and then walks over to the table and picks up an ice pick and then returns and faces her.

He teases her with the point of the ice pick across her cheeks. Her eyes widen with fear. Tears roll down her cheeks and drip from her jaw bone.

The ice pick comes to rest below her left eye and rest for a moment.

The tip slowly slides into her cheek upward all the way up to the handle. He slides it out and blood oozes down her cheek.

Sandra's eyes go lifeless. He moves in and kisses her lightly on the lips.

The tape ends and the room is quiet.

Cherry sits quietly with her eyes fixed on the TV and her mouth ajar in awe.

She slowly looks down at Sebastian and Scout on the floor and slowly shakes her head back and forth with with dismay.

CHERRY  
(softly)  
Your a bad bad man!

She rises from the sofa and bends down and pets Scout who lays motionless.

She lets out a long sigh, rises, and walks toward the door.

CHERRY  
(cheerful)  
Oh well, I better keep the pace.  
Lots to do. Have a nice day.

She takes out a hanky and grabs the door knob.

Sebastian blinks once unnoticed.

THE END

