Howl After Sunset

written by

Mike Randazzese

Address Phone E-mail Mikerandazzese@yahoo.com FADE IN:

INT. JARVIS CORRECTIONAL FACILITY - DUSK

The sun sets outside of Jarvis Correctional Facility. A young woman KIM (30s) is walking down a narrow hallway with guards blocking a gate.

She shows them her visitor's pass, and they open the gate for her.

At the end of a long corridor is the visiting area. It is empty today. No visitors, no inmates - just two guards behind the bullet proof glass.

An older middle aged guard escorts her to a seat. He calls out for an inmate.

GUARD

Inmate 10048294, Garrison, Henry.

A buzzing, a loud crank and a door opening is heard.

Two guards escort a tall, thin man with long hair and a beard. He hangs his head low, cuffs around both hands and feet.

They seat him across from Kim, behind the plexiglass. His eyes are hidden behind dirty, straggly locks and the beard has seen better days.

The man is 34 year old HENRY GARRISON. But here, he looks 54.

Kim hesitates, but she picks up the phone. Henry sighs, shakes his head, but does the same. She smiles, but with sadness.

KIM

Hey, babe....

HENRY

(anxious)

You shouldn't be here.

She sighs impatiently.

KIM

I know you said to come this morning, but I had to get the kids ready for school, nothing was working right and -

(she stops and sighs) I'm sorry.

A tear falls as he forces a smile.

HENRY

How are the babies?

KIM

They miss you.

HENRY

I miss them, too. Tell them I love them and that I'll always-

KIM

Please, not this again Henry. I know it's hard, but you gotta stop talking like that.

HENRY

It's already too late.

A look of confusion and sadness takes over her.

KIM

Enough, okay? We're gonna get you out of here. I talked to Scott yesterday and -

HENRY

I fired Scott an hour ago.

This angers Kim, but is also heartbroken.

KIM

WHAT? What do you mean you fired him? We have a trial coming and -

HENRY

It's over, Kim.

Henry looks at the clock on the wall behind Kim. It reads 6:45 pm. He sighs, and is more anxious.

Kim is momentarily shocked at what he said to her.

KIM

I don't get it. What's going on?

Under the clock is the exit down the long corridor. However we just see darkness.

A figure subtly emerges from the darkness. Its eyes glow a bright yellow.

Finally, we get a glimpse of a man in a black sweater vest, a white collard shirt, with a black tie and bowler hat. His face is bone white and emotionless.

He sits down in one of the seats in the waiting area. His eyes glued to Kim and Henry.

Henry notices, but pretends he doesn't. Kim doesn't notice anything.

HENRY

I-I... We don't have much time so I'm gonna try to explain as much as I....

He trails off while 3 more sets of glowing yellow eyes appear.

They are all dressed exactly the same as the other man. As well as the pale, bone white emotionless faces. Slightly individualistic.

Kim turns around to see what is distracting Henry. She sees nothing.

KIM

What? What are you looking at?

They all sit down and watch. Again, only Henry notices.

HENRY

You need to go.

KIM

What? What do you mean?

HENRY

It's not safe for you, here. You need to go - NOW.

She buries her face in her hands and softly sobs. A few tears fall down his eyes as well. Lips slightly trembling.

KIM

Stop! Just stop! You can't keep doing this.

HENRY

Kim, please...

The men smile in unison, yet still blank and robotic.

Henry's tears fall, but does everything he can to hold back from bawling.

HENRY (CONT'D)

Please go.

KIM

I'm not leaving until you talk to me. Tell me what's going on with you.

He softly cries in his hands and blabbers out his confession.

HENRY

I did it. I did it, okay?

She sits back in her seat, shocked and confused.

KIM

What do you mean, you did it?

HENRY

I-I killed those people...

There is momentary silence. Kim is too shocked to speak, but composes herself.

KIM

All of them?

HENRY

Yes. All of them.

KIM

But Henry, the way they were killed-

HENRY

I know.

She takes a deep breath. It is too much to take in.

KIM

Why?

For a moment, he is speechless. Unable to find the words to answer.

HENRY

The moon.

KIM

The moon?

The giggling of a child rings in Henry's ear. He flinches, but continues speaking as if it didn't happen. Kim doesn't hear the giggling.

She sighs and shakes her head in frustration. Then she pulls a cigarette out of her purse and lights it.

KIM (CONT'D)

What does that have to do with what happened?

He sighs and looks down at the floor. Then he looks at the men - still watching.

HENRY

Well, that night I went for a walk. The moon was full and I started seeing these....

He pauses and looks over at the men once again.

HENRY (CONT'D)

People. Beings? I don't know what they are, but they're following me.

A loud high pitched, whistle makes Henry wince, but Kim is not phased.

KIM

Following you? You know that for sure?

He attempts to ignore the noise.

HENRY

I know this is going to sound crazy, but.... Only I can see them. They're with us right now.

Kim turns around. Quickly scanning the room, seeing nothing. She starts to speak, but gets interrupted

HENRY (CONT'D)

I told you. Only I can see them.

The whistle gets louder as Henry speaks, drowning out his voice. The men loudly laugh in unison along with the whistle, messing with Henry's senses even more.

He tries to speak through it.

To Kim, it is silent. The only sound is blabbering Henry. A man who can barely structure a sentence. A man who lost himself. A sad, empty shell of who he used to be.

To Henry, life is a constant battle within a living nightmare.

KIM (CHANGING THE SUBJECT) So what else happened that night?

HENRY

I felt dizzy. Then I was on the ground. I don't remember falling, but I just see more of these people surrounding me. I look up and they're looking down at me. I got sicker than shit and started throwing up.

Kim shakes her head, with a look of disappointment.

KIM

No. Henry you were high. Okay? You didn't kill those-

The whistling and the laughter intensify drastically as she spoke, which makes Henry finally break.

HENRY

Let me finish!

She gets quiet, immediately. Shrivels up like a scolded child.

HENRY (CONT'D)

We don't have much time! This has nothing to do with drugs! Please listen!

From Henry's point of view, the whistling is a loud roar and the laughter is like a violent storm that he has to shout over.

Kim's point of view shows a man breaking down. Losing his cool. She looks at him confused and terrified.

Henry notices. His eyes begin to water.

HENRY (CONT'D)

I-I didn't mean to yell, it's just.... Its so important you hear me right now.

She gives him an empathetic nod and allows him to continue. The whistling and the laughing go up and down, but Henry is able to speak through it.

Her POV only shows Henry speaking.

HENRY (CONT'D)

I started puking my guts out. Like uncontrollably. I'm not talking too many shots of whiskey. This felt....scary. I dunno? Like I was dying.

The men get up and walk closer to Kim. Henry tries to ignore them. They stop right behind her, but stare blankly into Henry's eyes.

HENRY (CONT'D)

Um... Then, my body was just pulsating. Like the worst muscle spasms, joint pain I ever felt in my life. I was screaming, but I didn't hear anything come out. Almost like a dry heave, but a scream.

Henry clears his throat and lightly presses his fist against his chest.

HENRY (CONT'D)

All I can remember next is the fear on their faces. There was so much blood.

The men speak in a raspy whisper. Again, only Henry hears this.

MEN

It's time.

He loses his place and his attention shifts toward the men. Kim notices he's looking over her shoulder. She looks behind her to see nothing.

It's dead silent in the room. Every time Henry speaks, his words slur and trail off. His eyes droopy and head tilted.

KIM

Henry, these people were ripped to pieces. You didn't do that. It was a bear or something. Maybe you had a psychotic break and ended up at the wrong place, at the wrong time?

He holds in a gag.

HENRY

Shit. You need to go!

The guards look over at the commotion.

GUARD

Take it down a notch, Garrison!

Kim nods to the guards.

KIM

(To the guards)

Sorry, sorry. Just give me a second with him?

HENRY

(Places hands on the Plexiglas divider)
I don't think this is strong enough.

KIM

It's gonna be okay, just talk to me. It's another attack. Nothing more. Just look at me in my eyes - breathe. Remember the 4 second trick?

HENRY

What? Yeah..

Several more men in black sweater vests, ties and bowlers walk into the room. Eyes glowing a bright yellow. They stand behind the other men.

All of them whisper incoherently and scattered, like night peepers.

Henry closes his eyes and nods.

KIM

Okay, the 4 second trick. You ready?

HENRY'S POV

The whispers get louder and louder along with the roaring whistle. He tries to ignore the storm around him.

So far he's hanging on, but it takes every ounce of energy to keep it in check.

REALITY

The reality shows a mostly empty room and a mentally ill man trying not to break.

One of the guards shakes his head and rolls his eyes.

KIM (CONT'D)
Here we go... Breathe in
1..2..3..4 - hold it, 1...2...3...4

Henry opens his eyes to see the room is full of the men behind Kim. Shoulder to shoulder. Eyes bright yellow and faces twisted, distorted and not of this earth.

He closes his eyes, and the screen goes black. He inhales.

We hear the commotion get louder and louder, but Kim's angelic voice breaks the chaos.

KIM (O.S.) (CONT'D) Now exhale, 1...2...3...4...

Silence. The chaos stops and so does Kim's voice.

EXT. HIKING TRAIL - DAYTIME - FLASHBACK/VISION

Henry and Kim are walking down a hiking trail. Both of them are a couple of years younger and in better health. You would never be able to recognize Henry.

His beard is short and groomed, physically fit and full of smiles.

Kim is giddy like a child. She clearly adores the man she is with as well as him with her.

They laugh as they turn a corner.

HENRY

Oh! I forgot to tell you! We just got added on to the show on Friday.

KIM

NICE! What time do you guys go on?

HENRY

We are second, so I think around 9:30? It's 5 bucks to get in, but I got you.

She smiles and holds his hand.

KIM

That's sweet of you.

HENRY

That's if you can go, of course.

KIM

DUH! I wouldn't miss it!

Henry couldn't smile bigger if he tried. The joy in his face is not something you'd expect from the same person in that prison.

He looks at Kim who practically glows. A far different woman than now.

HENRY

Really? You like us that much?

She hesitates, then smirks.

KIM

Welllll. I like YOU!

They both break out in laughter. Then he kisses her.

In the distance, a man is watching. He is blurry at first, but then we get a clearer look.

It Henry, modern day Henry, with the dirty beard and prison jumpsuit.

He smiles at his past self. A tear falls. They don't notice him.

Kim's voice appears like an angel in the sky.

KIM (O.S.) (CONT'D)

Now hold it...1...2...3....4

A flash of Kim with a horrified look, screaming - comes into frame. Modern Henry notices, but his old self is still kissing former Kim.

HENRY

Wha...?

Another flash, followed by a growl that rivals thunder.

A scream is heard in the distance.

They stop kissing and look at Henry. Their eyes light up a bright yellow like the men in the room.

Both are emotionless.

HENRY/KIM (CONT'D)

It's time..

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT.

Kim and Henry are laying in bed together, cuddling and talking about their day. He is still in the prison jumpsuit, while Kim is in pajamas. Both are in great spirits.

They are currently in a fun debate, laughing and teasing one another.

KIM

You realize Halloween 3 still sucks, though, right?

Henry turns red and tries to mask a smile.

HENRY

Oh you're gonna go there, huh?

He starts tickling and poking at her sides, as they wrestle around - laughing and having a great time.

KIM (SINGING/MOCKING TONE)

2 more days 'till Halloween, Halloween. 2 more days 'till Halloween, suck my fat cock!

Henry bellows with laughter.

HENRY

Clever!

KIM

You like that? You like that damn thing repeated throughout the whole movie?

They both laugh.

HENRY

Cut it out! You know you'd love it if it was called something else

Her smile remains, but it almost looks painted, frozen. She doesn't even blink. Her eyes are wide and bold.

HENRY (CONT'D)

Um okay? Creeper.

She doesn't move and it makes him nervous.

HENRY (CONT'D)

ET phone home?

Nothing. His nervous smile turns to worry.

HENRY (CONT'D)

Kim? Alright, you got me. You know

A flash of Kim screaming in agony appears once again. Henry jumps back, but the "Painted Smile Kim" continues to lay there and stare into his eyes.

Then the lights in the room turn off, but the TV is on.

It shows a blurry security camera in the prison waiting/visitor area. Blood is splattered along the walls, floors and the ceiling.

The entire room looks as if a tornado hit it.

The partition glass that separates inmates from visitors is completely shattered.

The chairs in the waiting area are scattered all over. The top half of one of the guards' body is on the floor.

The camera switches to the hallway entrance. The security gate is ripped off the wall and blood is smeared along the floor, along with a few limbs.

Several prison guards are seen backing toward the waiting room/camera, weapons aiming at the darkness.

A ferocious roar shakes and distorts the audio with its power. Yellow eyes shine through the darkness, but a couple feet taller than the group of guards - roughly 8 feet.

The TV turns to snow as soon as the monster comes into frame.

HENRY (CONT'D)

What the hell?

Kim is now sitting up. Her eyes are bright yellow with an emotionless expression. This startles Henry as he jumps out of bed.

Three figures slowly rise from her side. All three with the same yellow eyes. They are the men in the black suits.

They walk around the bed toward Henry. He backs away in terror, but the door opens and 2 more of them come in -surrounding Henry.

MEN IN UNISON

You're with us now...

One of them places his right hand on Henry's chest and he winces in pain. A grunted scream grits through his teeth.

FADE TO BLACK.

EXT. JARVIS CORRECTIONAL FACILITY - FRONT LAWN/ENTRANCE - NIGHT

We start out in darkness, but could hear commotion. Police sirens, several people talking at once and helicopters are heard.

The darkness turns into a blur, then we see a large bright full moon. Night clouds shift its way through, blocking the moonlight.

Shallow breathing is also heard as well as some choking sounds.

We pan out to see Henry laying on his back on the front lawn of the prison entrance - next to the flagpole.

He is covered in blood with several bullet wounds in his bloody.

Surrounding him are several police vehicles. There is a line of officers, and prison guards in firing position. The gun smoke is clearing.

OFFICER (O.S.)

Hold your fire!!!

The front line cautiously approaches Henry with their weapons still drawn.

OFFICER 1

Jesus...

The group looks at eachother in shock.

OFFICER 2

There's no way. No fucking way....

OFFICER 1

Shit! I think we killed an innocent man!

OFFICER 2

We all saw the same thing. You know it and I know it. That's a -

OFFICER 1

My god...

Henry struggles to breathe, let alone talk. But he tries to get out a few words.

HENRY

Kih-Kimmm

One of the officers leans in to hear him?

OFFICER 3

What? What are you saying.

HENRY

Kih-Kimmmm

The officer turns to the group.

OFFICER 3

I think he's asking about her.

He points to what looks like roadkill.

A mangled mess lays beside Henry. It's Kim's body. Her head is barely intact to a body ripped to shreds.

Henry has just enough strength to see her. He cries as hard as his body will allow, but chokes on his own blood.

The clouds drift pass the moon, allowing it to shine.

Henry's choking slows as the wounds seem to disappear. His breathing steadies and goes back to normal. His eyes change into a deep yellow. Fangs subtly appear behind his bloodied lips.

The officers notice and back away with shock, weapons still drawn. Nervous.

Henry is able to stand up. All he could focus on is Kim's mangled body. He doesn't seem to care about the commotion surrounding them.

He sobs.

OFFICER 2

Get on the ground!

All the others join in and point their weapons, yelling commands. Henry ignores them and leans over Kim.

Her eyes are wide open. He closes them with his right hand. Several shots ring out, hitting Henry, ripping at his flesh. But he doesn't flinch.

He casually looks over at the firing squad with empathy. They continue firing but his wounds heal almost as fast as they appear.

HENRY

(To the guards)

Run.

The look of empathy turns predatory. Thick dark hair protrudes from his face and skin.

Cut away to the guards/police horrified, but still shooting.

The screen goes black as we hear a low, guttural growl behind the gunshots.

INT/EXT - BLACK SPACE

The screen is black. The sounds of growling and gunshots stop. Silence.

In the distance, we see a woman in a white dinner dress walking. It's Kim.

Coming from the opposite side is a sobbing Henry.

HENRY

I'm so sorry. I swear I didn't-

Kim smiles, and gently puts her fingers to his lips.

KIM

Shhhhh. None of that matters now.

Several slow, echoing footsteps are heard in the distance. Roughly a dozen men with the fedoras appear out of the blackness.

KIM (CONT'D)

I'll be here every time the moon is full. You wont be lonely anymore.

A flash of a brutal, chaotic scene emerges. Screams mixed with growls are heard, along with scattered gunshots. The officers and prison guards who fired at Henry are getting torn apart.

The flash lasts only a second.

Henry jumps and cries out, but Kim soothes him. The men surround them.

KIM (CONT'D)

I finally see what you see. I feel what you feel. I will never leave your side again.

Her hands grip his shoulders. Not too hard at first, but then begins digging her nails into his skin. Her voice subtly deepens as her eyes turn black.

KIM (CONT'D)

I will torment you over and over and over. I will tear you down and rip you to pieces.

Henry jumps back but bumps into one of the men. The man does not budge or show any emotion.

He shoves the man aside and backs away into the blackness.

Kim's eyes turn a bright yellow along with the men. They all give a sinister smile in unison.

KIM (CONT'D)

You will never know peace.

HENRY

I'm so sorry. (Sobs)

INT. BLACK SPACE - SUBCONSCIOUS

Henry backs away into more darkness. He is lit up like a spotlight, but there is nothing around him - only black space. The truest black that the eyes and mind could possibly comprehend.

He looks around, terrified.

A loud ZIP is heard and a screen illuminates the black space. Like a projector or large TV.

It shows what appears to be a CCTV camera near a gas station.

It's night and no one is around. The sound of the wind in the video echoes through the space.

A young man and a young woman enter.

They are holding hands and happen to walk by the gas station.

They stop. Puzzled, then look around.

A loud growl not only startles the couple, but Henry as well.

HENRY

Oh no...

Henry runs toward the screen. He hesitates but then slowly touches it, and lightly flicks it.

A loud TKKKK! is heard. No different than a normal TV. He panics, but attempts to call out to them.

HENRY (CONT'D)

Get out of there!!

The growl gets louder and the woman clutches on the guy. Both are panicked, but they're the only people around.

HENRY (CONT'D)

RUN! GODAMMIT! RUN!!!!

It is no use. They can't hear him. They don't respond to his plea.

HENRY (CONT'D)

Fuck.

The next growl is earth shattering. The screen shakes violently and even the black space.

Henry struggles to keep balance from its ferocity.

WOMAN

Oh my god, what is that?

The man appears more terrified than she is. He is too scared to respond and clutches onto her - tightly.

POV

The screen changes to a POV shot from a dark alley along the gas station. We see the couple begin to power-walk down the road toward a more lit up area.

The POV follows, but they do not notice.

BLACK SPACE

Henry starts pounding his fists on the screen. It gets closer and closer. He is yelling and screaming for them to run and get out of the area.

He knows they can't hear him and they don't, but he begs and pleads. His fists bleed with every strike.

It's too late.

The last thing the screen shows is a horrified look on the couple's faces and then black.

The sounds of growling, screaming, agony, ripping and shredding echo through the black space.

Henry collapses onto the screen, sobbing and shaking. Still pounding his bloody fists.

HENRY

NOO!!!!! Stop it!!!

The blood curdling screams turn into gasps for air as well as choking. The growling and ripping continue.

HENRY (CONT'D)

LEAVE THEM ALONE!!!!!!

Silence.

The only sound we hear is Henry begging and crying, but finally stops pounding.

HENRY (CONT'D)

I'm so sorry. I'm so fucking sorry...

A slow clap interrupts. Henry looks back to see Kim sarcastically clapping. She has five of the men with her. They clap with her.

KIM

You were incredible.

HENRY

I didn't ask for this! I swear I didn't mean for any of-

KIM

It doesn't matter. They all know it's you. You'll be on the run until you die.

HENRY

FUCK YOU! You're not Kim.

Henry runs the opposite direction, but then collapses to his knees.

His body tenses dramatically as he drops to his side. He is having a seizure.

HENRY'S POV

Flashes of the black space as well as a dimly lit forest, flicker back and forth. Wolves howl in the distance, as fisher cats join the choir.

During the flashes of the black space, we see several pairs of legs walk into frame. A laugh of a woman follows.

KIM

You made it baby.

The howling turns into angry, ferocious roars. The legs of what were once human now have dark fur and appear dog-like, but massive.

The black space flashes turn into several beasts with yellow eyes and razor sharp teeth, biting and ripping at Henry.

The flashes of the forest continue as Henry screams in agony.

The ripping, the tearing and the screaming intensify.

EXT. FOREST - DAWN

Henry's eyes pop open and lets out a dramatic gasp for air. He grabs at his body and shakes violently, until he realizes where he is.

He is still in his prison jumpsuit, but suffers no wounds. The blood stains are from the healed gun shots and the victims.

We look through the trees and see the sun shine. The moon is barely noticeable.

A whisper appears from the sky, blending in with the wind. It's Kim, the voice of an angel.

KIM (O.S.)

When the moon is full, I'll be there.

Police sirens interrupt, but are far in the distance. This gets his attention as he rushes through the forest.

A fugitive on the run.

KIM(O.S.) (CONT'D)

To rip you to pieces. Over, and over and over....

The screen cuts to black.

THE END

FADE OUT