

...And I Take You

FADE IN:

INT. APARTMENT - BEDROOM - NIGHT

Darkness. A pair of hands strangle the neck of ROSE(10).

The strangler, MICKEY(35), tall and muscular, applies more pressure to the child's neck.

She pathetically whimpers under the force until her movement stops. He releases her now warped neck.

INT. APARTMENT - HALLWAY - NIGHT

Mickey exits the room. His shirt has blood stains on it. He walks into the --

INT. APARTMENT - KITCHEN - NIGHT

Walks over to a pile of prescription pill bottles laid out on the counter.

He pops open one of the bottles and downs a couple pills.

MICKEY

You're not here, you're not here...

A woman, SIDHE(30), attractive, blonde, draped in a white robe, appears out of thin air by his side.

SIDHE

What would it accomplish for you if I wasn't?

Mickey jumps away in fright.

MICKEY

Stop! Please! Just leave me alone!

SIDHE

Mickey Jamison. Producer. Executive. Businessman. You're scared now, aren't you?

Mickey shuffles back to the pills and picks through the bottles.

MICKEY

Schizophrenia, dementia, catatonic, paranoid, hebephrenic-

He pops a couple more pills from different bottles.

SIDHE

Say the drugs work and I go away.
It won't change the fact that you
just murdered your daughter.

MICKEY

This isn't real. None of it is.

SIDHE

You're not in a position to
determine what's real and what
isn't.

MICKEY

No. I'm in charge of my life. Not
you. Not anybody.

SIDHE

All I asked you to do was commit
one good deed. Just one.

Mickey snaps back.

MICKEY

You said someone was gonna die!

SIDHE

If you don't reverse some of the
negative energy you bring to your
life, then yes. Someone you know
who is very close to you will die.
A fair warning.

MICKEY

I'm not a bad guy.

SIDHE

Aren't you? Your life on paper
doesn't look good at all, Mickey.

MICKEY

I pay my employees well. I give
them money whenever they ask for
it!

SIDHE

But you don't respect them and deep
down your aura burns with hateful
energy if and when they do ask.

Mickey paces.

MICKEY

I buy my wife expensive jewelry. I
buy my daughter only the best toys.

SIDHE

But you don't show them the
unconditional love they deserve.
You hate your wife's surgery scars.
You never go to your daughter's
recitals because you hate ballet.

MICKEY

I let my father-in-law move in with
us! He was being foreclosed! How
does that make me a bad person?

Mickey heads for the exit, passes by the oven which has the
bloody body of an ELDERLY MAN jammed into it.

INT. APARTMENT - FAMILY ROOM - NIGHT

Empty beer bottles all over the place. Mickey takes one last
swig from each one and then throws them at the wall.

MICKEY

You're a demon. Right? Is that
how it goes?

SIDHE

I'm not a demon nor am I an angel.

MICKEY

You're saying I'm a bad person.
You're saying I don't do anything
for the people in my life. You
threaten me with death!

SIDHE

No, I said if you don't reverse the
negative aura that you emit, then
someone close to you will die.

MICKEY

Negative aura my ass.

Mickey walks by a chair, where the body of a WOMAN(20s), lays
in a pool of her own blood. A screwdriver is jammed into her
right eye socket.

INT. APARTMENT - MASTER BEDROOM - NIGHT

The sheets on the bed are all unmade.

SIDHE

Look at what you're doing. You're telling me this isn't the results of a negative aura? What's your wife going to think when she learns of your infidelity?

MICKEY

This isn't real. Pills or no pills, I wouldn't do this.

He searches through his closet.

SIDHE

You know how some people say that Jesus came to them? And how others say they saw Satan?

Mickey pulls a long wooden locked box out of the closet and places it on the bed.

MICKEY

Yeah, Jesus freaks and Satanists. Two equally insane breeds of people.

He fumbles with his keys for a second until he unlocks the box and pulls out a hunting rifle.

SIDHE

Insane says the man with three dead bodies in his apartment.

Mickey loads the gun.

MICKEY

You're not killing anyone. I won't let you.

SIDHE

So in that mind of yours you think that killing them yourself is the solution to potentially protect them from me?

BANG! Mickey fires at Sidhe's chest. She doesn't even flinch. No mark on her at all. Mickey heads for the exit.

MICKEY

You said you were gonna kill someone.

INT. APARTMENT - FAMILY ROOM - NIGHT

Mickey places the rifle on the couch and paces.

SIDHE

No. Again, I said if you don't change your negative aura then someone close to you will die. You should consider yourself eternally lucky that you're even being given this chance, this warning.

MICKEY

Oh, lucky. Yeah. Sure.

SIDHE

I'm serious. More often than not, the ones who see Jesus are the results of something bad in their lives. The ones who see Satan are the results of something good in theirs. Life is so good that being tempted by evil...maybe it can get better. But you? You can still change. You're not nearly bad or good enough to go to either side. Jesus takes the bad ones, Satan takes the good ones. And I take you.

MICKEY

And you kill my family.

SIDHE

No. How can I kill someone if I'm not even really here?

The front door unlocks. In steps ELLEN(30), attractive, exhausted.

ELLEN

Hey. Sorry I'm late. We were down two waiters tonight so I had to cover and there were these loud kids who wouldn't shut up and-

Ellen notices the woman's bloody corpse. And the shattered beer bottles. And Mickey's bloody clothes. And the rifle.

ELLEN (CONT'D)

...Mickey?

Mickey picks up the rifle.

MICKEY
Ellen, don't be afraid.

Sidhe stands next to him.

SIDHE
Mickey, you don't know what you're
doing.

MICKEY
Shut up!

ELLEN
Mickey?! What are you doing?

MICKEY
It's okay, babe. I'm taking care
of everything. I'm making it nice
and quick so no one can hurt you.

ELLEN
Put the gun down, hun. Let's talk
about this.

SIDHE
Don't damn yourself even more.

ELLEN'S P.O.V.

Mickey looks like a madman. Sidhe is nowhere to be seen.

BACK TO SCENE

MICKEY
I said shut up!

Tears come to Ellen's eyes.

ELLEN
Mickey! Put the gun down!

SIDHE
Put the gun down, Mickey.

ELLEN
Where's Rose?

MICKEY
You'll see her soon. Don't worry.
No one's gonna hurt either of you.

Mickey cocks the rifle. Tears come to his eyes.

MICKEY (CONT'D)
Believe me, this is for the best.

ELLEN
What-how is this-

MICKEY
Do you have your cross?

Ellen grabs the cross around her neck.

MICKEY (CONT'D)
Good.

BANG! Mickey blows a shot into Ellen's head. She drops dead in a pool of blood and flesh.

He lowers the gun. Sidhe shakes her head.

SIDHE
You just don't get it. You never did. It's always been about you.

MICKEY
I'm protecting them. No demon of Hell is gonna kill my family.

SIDHE
I'm not a demon of Hell and I wasn't going to kill your family.

MICKEY
You said someone was going to die, so I broke the cycle. This isn't even real.

Blood from Ellen's wound drips down her head. Her cross is still gripped in her hand.

He starts over to her.

SIDHE
Still don't think so?

MICKEY
No, I don't. Now get outta here. You have no reason to be here anymore. I've broken your spell. There's nothing left-

He trips over a beer bottle, falls to the ground, and BANG! A shot goes right between his eyes. He falls in Ellen's lap.

INT. APARTMENT - BEDROOM - NIGHT

Rose's neck wrangled with dark fingerprints.

INT. APARTMENT - KITCHEN - NIGHT

Blood drips from the corpse of the elderly man.

INT. APARTMENT - FAMILY ROOM - NIGHT

The woman with the impaled eye lays motionless.

Mickey and Ellen embraced in a pile of bloody flesh.

Sidhe sighs.

SIDHE

It's always the selfish ones.

She vanishes into thin air.

FINAL FADE.

THE END