

PIXELS
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INT. APARTMENT NIGHT

OTS BLANK MAN

He plays a video game on his television set. Pixels glow and dance on the screen illuminating the otherwise pitch-black room. The creatures attack.. he puts up a noble fight but is defeated. Wounds open up on the screen and the words YOU ARE DEAD appear.

ECU BLANK MAN'S DEAD EYES

Bloodshot and watery they stare at the screen.

The screen flickers before going to snow seconds later the following scene overtakes the screen.

EXT. CEMETERY DAY

A cold and gloomy fall day. The naked trees sway under the intensity of the wind. A cheap pine coffin is slowly lowered into the earth. We PAN several sad and mourning faces...All except the last. The LOST MAN stares numbly into infinity.

A KNOCK AT THE DOOR brings the game back and pulls BLANK MAN'S attention away from the screen. He turns towards CAMERA and we see his face. Or more appropriately his missing faceYjust bloodshot eyes, mouth and hair. He rises and negotiates the darkness till he reaches the front door.

BLANK MAN'S POV

As he peers through the peephole. No one there.

He opens the door.

EXT. HALLWAY NIGHT

BLANK MAN steps out of his apartment and into the warmth of the fluorescent light that flickers nervously above him. He looks left and right; nothing but hallway stretching out into oblivion. A long pause... There is something, a presence, and for a faint moment the outline of a human figure a few feet in front of him.

SILhouettes POV

The same hallway is veiled in a brighter hue. BLANK MAN winces but seems to look through us. We are invisible to him.

Unable to re-capture the image, BLANK MAN dismisses it and

turns back into his apartment.

SILHOUETTES POV

SIHOUETTE reaches out his hand to touch BLANK MAN but the door is shut.

INT. APARTMENT DAWN

Sunlight seeps through the open blinds casting shadows across the room. They change pattern as the sun's position rises. We hear the music and sound FX of the video game.

ECU BLANK MAN'S EYES His eyes look even more weary and red. They dart focus in unison with the action on the screen. Never once do they blink.

A PHONE RINGS. The game is paused and BLANK MAN looks to the phone on the other side of the room. Four rings and the Machine pickups.

TELEPHONE OPERATOR (V.O.)

Hello this is Debra from the Phone Company. You have a delinquent balance of \$250.00 dollars. Since you have not returned our calls we will be disconnecting your phone service by end of day today. Please contact us to discuss resolving your account balance.

BLANK MAN rises.

INT. KITCHEN DAWN

Blank Man opens the Refrigerator door. The inside is completely empty apart from the last 2 remaining slices of a loaf of bread and some jam. He pulls both items out and puts together a Jam Sandwich.

INT. APARTMENT DAWN

BLANK MAN sits back down in front of the TV. The game is paused. Two bites of the sandwich before he grabs the controller and selects CONTINUE.

DISSOLVE
TO:

INT. APARTMENT NIGHT

The Sandwich is in the same state as when we left it. 2 bites.

The game still continues. BLANK MAN's eyes look beyond bloodshot. Black pockets have begun to form underneath them, a clear sign of sleep deprivation and hunger.

The PHONE RINGS again. BLANK MAN pauses and stares at the phone confused. The Machine kicks in again. We hear a Woman's voice and a child screaming in the b.g..

WOMAN'S VOICE (V.O.)

What the hell did I fucking tell you? Get away from there. Until you behave yourself you will not get any food do you hear. Stop Crying. Stop whining. I don't care if you're hungry. Grow up, godamn it. Why are you such a brat? Why? You better toughen up mister. At this rate you're gonna amount to nothing.

The sound of a slap and a child screaming... pleading.

MALE VOICE (V.O.)

(whispered over
phone crackle)
Where are you?

BLANK MAN eyes the machine curiously.

EXT. APARTMENT BUILDING DAWN

The sunlight spreads and brightens across the side of the building. We focus in on BLANK MAN's window. He is in the living room still playing the video game.

INT. APARTMENT DAWN

The sandwich is still untouched and beginning to mildew. A fly has begun to feast on it.

ECU BLANK MAN

He is looking peaked and battered. 2 Days of no food and sleep have taken their toll on him. Still he continues to play. His hands move with mechanical precision and his eyes have glazed over into empty stares. He somehow looks less human.

The phone RINGS. After 2 rings the machine picks up. It is the Woman screaming at her child again. Disturbed he raises the volume on the TV to mute out the Woman's ranting and the child's screams.

A Mutant shows up in the Video Game with the face of the LOST MAN, he whispers.

MUTANT LOST MAN

Where are you?

Agitated BLANK MAN blows the mutant away with a sudden burst of rage. More of the LOST MEN Show up on the screen, all whispering the same words. BLANK MAN shoots into the crowd creating a massacre.

The screen goes black. BLANK MAN watches the following with greater and greater anxiety.

EXT. ELECTRICAL PLANT- DAY

Huge electric cylinders are lined up like soldiers behind a fortress of brick and concrete.

LOST MAN walks into the plant.

INT. ELECTRICAL PLANT LOBBY DAY

LOST MAN slips unnoticed by security and turns into a large door.

INT. ELECTRICAL PLANT HALLWAY DAY

At the end of the hallway are the legs of the Electronic Cylinders. LOST MAN stops.

BLANK MAN moves in closer to the television.

INT. ELECTRICAL PLANT HALLWAY DAY

LOST MAN stares out of the set at BLANK MAN as he drops his coat. Underneath is a Bomb Jacket. Clenched in LOST MAN's left hand is a receiver. His thumb hovers over the receiver's detonation button.

BLANK MAN pulls right up to the Television screen; LOST MAN stares right back a small smile builds on his face.

LOST MAN (V.O.)

(whispers)

Here you are.

BLANK MAN shakes his head but LOST MAN does not obey. He lifts his feet and darts towards the cylinders.

BLANK MAN's palm presses against the screen in some way hoping to stop the event from unfolding.

LOST MAN is half way there.

BLANK MAN turns to the game controller and clicks buttons desperately. START, SELECT, A, B, X, Y. Nothing helps.

FEET, 10 FEET, 5 FEET

BLANK MAN
(on the verge of
tears)
NO!!

The first few frames of an explosion and then The TV, lights and all other electrical items shut down. The room is dark except for the beginnings rays of sunlight seeping into the Apartment from outside. We see the silhouette of BLANK MAN frozen. There is the faint sound of him WEEPING. He catches his reflection in the curved glass of the television. For a moment the face of the LOST MAN flickers over his.

FLASHBACK

Visions race quickly across the screen. A series of memories condensed into 1 Minute.

INT. KITCHEN DAY

A skinny, undernourished 8-year-old BOY attempts to open a can of Ravioli and spills it. An attractive but unkempt and soused woman enters the Kitchen with a wine bottle in one hand and a glass in the other. She sees the mess and goes ballistic.

WOMAN
What the hell did I fucking tell
you? Get away from there. Boys
who throw up don't eat. You better
learn how to control yourself.

BOY
(hysterical)
But Mommy I felt sick.

WOMAN
What did I tell you about
throwing up? (smacks him) You

don't throw up on the floor. Now
get your ass out there and clean
up that fucking mess.

She kicks the screaming child out of the kitchen.

INT. PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE

Skinny BOY sits across from a stern looking principal.

PRINCIPAL

You don't seem to be eating. Are
you okay? Does your mother feed
you at home?

BOY wants to say something but holds back instead he
cautiously shakes his head in the affirmative.

INT. BEDROOM NIGHT

WOMAN drunk again; a glass of brandy in her hand. She hugs
the boy affectionately.

WOMAN

Mommy's little precious. You're
gonna be such a handsome man. But
you're always gonna love and take
care of mommy, aren't ya?

Boy shakes his head blissfully.

BOY

I love you Mommy.

WOMAN

I love you too sweetie. Mommy's
special boy. Mommy's oh so
special boy.

INT. MRS. DARCY'S APARTMENT LIVING ROOM DAY

The room is dark and dreary. For some reason the Air
Conditioning vents have been covered up with green fabric.

BOY'S POV

Boy is crying hysterically. WOMAN is kneeling in front of him
and behind her are a DISTINGUISHED MAN and MRS. DARCY.

WOMAN

Now Mommy is going out with a

friend. Mrs. Darcy will look after you. Okay?

BOY

But I don't want you to

WOMAN

(burst of anger)

Now you stop it! You be a big boy and do what you're told. Mommy will be back for you later, okay?

WOMAN rises and exits with DISTINGUISHED MAN. MRS. DARCY gives him a Blank, eerie stare and proceeds to bite her finger.

INT. MRS. DARCY'S APARTMENT LIVING ROOM LATER

Mrs. DARCY talking to herself, pulling on her hair and biting her finger till there's blood. Boy is playing video games, he eyes Mrs. Darcy, scared and confused. She sees him looking.

MRS. DARCY

(as if to explain herself)

The Super is trying to kill me.

She points to the vents covered in fabric.

MRS. DARCY (CONT'D)

He wants my apartment you see? He thinks I don't know but I know. He pumps radiation through those vents, hoping I'll die. But I've blocked them up.

BOY stares overwhelmed.

MRS. DARCY (CONT'D)

He's trying to kill m-

She gives up and resumes gnawing on her finger. Boy returns to the Video game.....His solace.

EXT. PARK DAY

It's winter and the park is covered in snow. Tubby UNCLE JERRY is laying on a sled 2 his size; BOY is perched on top of him. They slide down the hill at some ridiculous speed. BOY screams as they crash into a bush. Both laughing they rise from the vegetation. UNCLE JERRY'S face is just a pile of

snow. BOY Laughs hysterically.

UNCLE JERRY

What's so funny? Why youY.

UNCLE JERRY wrestles the boy to the ground. They Laugh.

EXT. PARK LATER

UNCLE JERRY and BOY sit on a Park Bench, snow still in their hair. He pulls 2 candy bars from his pocket and hands one to the boy. They eat together, almost in unison.

BOY

Uncle Jerry?

UNCLE JERRY

Yeah buddy.

BOY

Can we do this every weekend?

UNCLE JERRY

(hugs him with
one arm)

Sure we can kid. Sure we can.

EXT. PARK - DAY - YEAR LATER

LOST MAN walks with a much older and unhealthier UNCLE JERRY laughing. UNCLE JERRY falls to the floor suddenly. LOST MAN kneels at his side shocked.

LOST MAN

(numb)

But you're my only friend.

EXT. CEMETERY DAY

A gloomy, cold fall day. The naked trees sway under the intensity of the wind. A cheap pine coffin is slowly lowered into the earth. We PAN at Mach 3 several sad and mourning faces...All except the last. Pause on LOST MAN who stares numbly into infinity.

END FLASHBACK

INT. APARTMENT - DAWN

LOST MAN is now clearly reflected in the TV's Curved glass.

BLANK MAN turns his head towards the window exposing his face

to the light. His face is no longer blank it has been replaced with the face of the LOST MAN. Tears pour down his face. He rises and walks to the window staring at the rising sun and his reflection in the glass.

LOST MAN
(weeping
uncontrollably)
Here I am....Here I am!!!!

EXT. APARTMENT - DAWN

CAMERA slowly pulls away from LOST MAN at the window and ventures higher and higher till we are soaring above the tips of the metropolis.

ROLL CREDITS