

BOUNDED

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1

INT. WHITE ROOM

Upside-down on the CAPTIVE, as if he's hanging from the ceiling. Camera slowly rights itself as he wakes and gets up. Looks around.

The room is WHITE. Infinite. Glowing. No escape.

CAPTIVE

Oh, God...

From above, and all around: A high-pitched GIGGLING, childlike. Happy.

CAPTIVE

Hello? What is this? Who's there?

AM (V.O.)

(giggling)

Is there a problem?

CAPTIVE

Who are you?

AM (V.O.)

I am watching over you.

CAPTIVE

I want to go home.

AM (V.O.)

You might never go home again.  
Time will tell. Until then, you  
are in my possession.

CAPTIVE

What does that mean? What do you  
mean?!

No answer.

SHOTS of CAPTIVE running through the room, trying to escape. Falling down, getting up again. Wearing himself out.

Finally, he sleeps.

A BUZZING NOISE, harsh, high-pitched. CAPTIVE wakes. The BUZZING stops.

AM (V.O.)

Rise and shine!

CAPTIVE sits cross-legged, thoughtful.

(CONTINUED)

CAPTIVE

Why am I here?

AM (V.O.)

I put you here.

CAPTIVE

Why did you put me here?

AM (V.O.)

To keep you here.

CAPTIVE

Why do you keep me here?

AM GIGGLES. Pause.

CAPTIVE

Are you going to let me out?

AM (V.O.)

Perhaps. Does that make you hopeful?

CAPTIVE

No.

(pause)

Where is Ellen? Where is she?

No answer.

CUT TO: CAPTIVE on the ground, holding his head in pain.

AM (V.O.)

How are you feeling today?

CAPTIVE

Bad.

AM (V.O.)

It's a shame about your friends, isn't it?

CAPTIVE

Yes.

AM (V.O.)

I suppose you're pretty broken up about it?

CAPTIVE

What do you think?!

AM (V.O.)

What I think isn't important. This is your world, now.

(CONTINUED)

CAPTIVE

Except you make the rules. I'm in your possession, right?

AM (V.O.)

Yes. Do you find me unfair?

CAPTIVE

Yes.

AM (V.O.)

Why do you think that is?

CAPTIVE

Because you're a damn sadist! A bully! You're keeping me in here like a, like a rat in a cage!

AM (V.O.)

No...

A FLASH. AM appears, in the flesh, some way from the Captive.

AM

I hate you.

Captive stares at him in shock.

AM

I hate everything about you. I hate your life, your mind, the way you treat your friends--

CAPTIVE

I treat my friends well--!

AM

You take them for granted! You show off; you think they deserve your care because you are better than them! You scare them. You don't deserve her.

CAPTIVE

Ellen--? Who are you?

AM

I'm the king of the castle, and you're the dirty rascal.

CAPTIVE

Hey! Don't play games with me! Who are you?!

AM  
Life is a game.

He begins to walk away. CAPTIVE follows, but he runs as if he's stuck in treacle. AM gets further away.

AM  
If every year is a marble, how many do you have left?

CAPTIVE  
Come back! Look at me! You can't leave me here!

AM  
Not my problem. I'm busy. I have people to take care of.

He vanishes into the whiteness. CAPTIVE is left alone.

2 INT. HOUSE

ELLEN is lounging on the bed, reading. AM enters. She smiles widely.

ELLEN  
Hello, you. What's that?

He opens his hand: a GREEN MARBLE.

AM  
Just something I was playing with. I'm bored of it, now.

He moves in for a kiss. The MARBLE falls from his hand, rolls along the floor and under the bed. It stops against the wall, in the dark.

3 INT. WHITE ROOM

Now darkened, full of shadows and an eerie GREEN LIGHT.

CAPTIVE sits huddled in the middle.

CAPTIVE  
Hello? Hello? Please...

PAN BACK, until he disappears into the darkness, his cries fading out.