

Locked Away

by  
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a  
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production

First draft,  
5th September, 2012

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1 INT. TOWER - MAIN ROOM - DAY

A MOBILE on a bedside table, next to a CLOCK reading 5:30pm.

BEN sits under the window, huddled, alone.

A KNOCK at the door. He glances up at the clock.

2 INT. TOWER - HALLWAY TO MAIN ROOM - DAY (CONT.)

The CARER stands primly outside, holding a simple meal on a tray. She places it on the floor next to the door.

3 INT. TOWER - MAIN ROOM - DAY (CONT.)

Ben listens as her footsteps fade away.

4 INT. TOWER - HALLWAY TO MAIN ROOM - DAY (CONT.)

The tray on the floor. Slowly, the door opens and Ben's hand creeps out to slide the tray inside. Door closes.

5 INT. TOWER - MAIN ROOM - DAY

Ben sitting in the middle of the floor, eating calmly, staring into space.

LATER:

Asleep, sprawled on the floor, the tray next to him.

LATER:

KNOCK-KNOCK.

Ben starts awake. Gets up, groggy, checks the CLOCK: 8:30am.

Swipes his MOBILE from the bedside table. Puts it on the floor and jabs a couple of buttons.

BEN

Good morning.

A voice from the phone, seemingly replying. Ben cuts in throughout the speech, as if answering the voice.

VOICE

Hey, so, you have got to try paella.

(CONTINUED)

BEN

I have.

VOICE

I can't believe I've never had it before.

BEN

I have!

VOICE

There's this place in El Playazo, they pile it up -- I've literally eaten a rice mountain. Anyway, my flight's due in about ten minutes, so this is me signing off.

BEN

Good luck.

VOICE

And I'm making paella when I get back, you've gotta try it.

BEN

I already have!

VOICE

I'll see you on the other side. Don't wait up.

The message ends.

BEN

I'll be here.

LATER:

BEN at the window, idly watching the sky. SOUND of an airplane passing over.

LATER:

The CLOCK, reading 5:30pm. On time, a KNOCK at the door.

Ben eating his meal, staring into space.

LATER:

He finishes his food, takes the plate to the door. Opens it.

The CARER stands there, waiting.

He SLAMS the door, runs to the corner and cowers.

A KNOCK.

(CONTINUED)

And ANOTHER.

It doesn't stop. Ben cowers, overwhelmed, holding his head. The door handle rattles, each sound HITTING Ben, working him up even more --

Silence.

He sits, breathing heavily, worn out.

LATER:

The MOBILE on the table. Ben replays the message:

VOICE

Hey, so, you have got to try paella. I can't believe I've never had it before. There's this place in El Playazo, they pile it up -- I've literally eaten a rice mountain. Anyway, my flight's due in about ten minutes, so this is me signing off. And I'm making paella when I get back, you've gotta try it. I'll see you on the other side. Don't wait up.

This time, Ben gets upset.

BEN

I won't.

LATER:

The CLOCK reads 8:30am.

Ben sitting, huddled up, waiting for the knock.

It never comes.

He checks the time, watches the door. Still no knock.

He puts his face in his hands.

LATER:

The CLOCK reads 5:25pm.

Ben is standing at the door, hands balled into fists. Making a decision.

He reaches out and UNLOCKS the door. Goes and sits down.

6 INT. TOWER - HALLWAY TO MAIN ROOM - DAY

The CARER walks up the stairs and approaches the door.  
KNOCKS -- the door is already open. She steps inside.

7 INT. TOWER - MAIN ROOM - DAY (CONT.)

Entering, she sees BEN sitting on the bed, nervously waiting.

She puts the tray down and sits next to him. Both unsure.  
She reaches out to him.

CARER

Hello.

CUT to CREDITS.