

OVERCOME BY CRAZY

Written by

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EXT. CABIN - DAY ("WASHINGTON STATE")

Fog rolls over rain soaked ground. Mist hinders visibility. A camper and truck sit backed up to thick overgrown woods. A makeshift fire CRACKLES in the middle of the log road spur.

WALTER, 62, crazed looking mental patient holds a knife to JASMINE, 17, sweet, terrified girl. She cries.

CAROLINE, 45, fierce, mother of Jasmine and Desiree, pleads with Walter. DESIREE, 14, cries behind her mother.

Caroline holds her hands in the air.

CAROLINE

Walter. That's your name, right?
Please let her go.

JASMINE

Momma. I'm so scared. Please--

CAROLINE

Honey, Walter doesn't want to hurt you. He's just scared.

Caroline inches forward through the ferns and bushes.

Walter backs up to an old cabin covered in moss. He pulls Jasmine with him.

CAROLINE (CONT'D)

Walter. I know how you feel. I live everyday in fear.

WALTER

You're a liar!

Walter digs the knife into Jasmine's neck. He looks around.

INT. HOUSE - DAY ("24 HOURS AGO")

A modest country home near the edge of town. Clean used furniture with a feminine motif.

Caroline enters She closes the door and locks the deadbolts. She peeks out both of the windows in the kitchen.

She places a box of cereal in a cupboard next to a pistol. She puts the bread in a cupboard next to a hunting knife.

She prowls down the hall. She listens outside the door of her girls room.

JASMINE (O.S.)

I wouldn't even ask. You know she's going to say no.

DESIREE

I don't care. I'm tired of her paranoia ruining my life.

INT. BEDROOM - DAY

Teenage bedroom. A mix of typical teenage rebellion and teenage good girl.

Caroline bursts through the door. The girls jerk up. Desiree leaps up and shoots a defiant look at Jasmine. Jasmine shakes her head side to side.

Desiree takes a deep breath and spills out her argument.

DESIREE

I wanna go into town for a concert with Riley, Stephanie and the other girls, they are going to be chaperoned by Riley's dad and there is no reason you have to worry!

Caroline strolls to the door. Desiree breaths. Caroline tuns back to Desiree.

CAROLINE

You should learn to listen to your sister. No!

Caroline walks out of the room. Desiree flops on her bed.

INT. KITCHEN - EVENIN

Caroline, Jasmine and Desiree sit at the kitchen table. Desiree stabs at her food. Desiree suddenly shoves her plate away.

DESIREE

Just have a drink already, and stop being a paranoid freak!

Caroline continues to eat. Jasmine kicks Desiree.

CAROLINE

No, it's okay Jasmine.

Desiree springs up from the table. Her chair knocks over.

DESIREE

Just forget it. I've only got four
years and I'm outa here!

Jasmine stomps out of the room.

INT. LIVINGROOM - NIGHT

Caroline sinks into her recliner and flips on the television.

ON TELEVISION SET:

REPORTER

Families are being warned to stay
away from the riots near downtown
Seattle--

BACK TO LIVING ROOM

Caroline leans forward. Her hands tremble. She storms off
like a bat out of hell.

REPORTER (O.S.)

In other news, be on the lookout
for Walter Breck, a 62-year-old
male who escaped Cedar Creek mental
institute--

Caroline barks into the girls' room.

CAROLINE

Let's go! Now! Move your asses.

Caroline and the girls gather items from around the house in
a choreographed motion.

The girls leave followed by Caroline. Caroline grabs the
pistol and the knife. She locks the door behind her.

INT. CAR - NIGHT

Caroline lugs their camper through miles of gravel roads.

DESIREE

What is it this time mom? Alien's
or World War Three?

JASMINE

Shh! Knock it off!

Desiree stares out the window of the car.

EXT. CAMPSITE - NIGHT

Caroline pulls the camper down a secluded log road spur. They set up camp and build a fire in silence.

Caroline grabs a flashlight. She shines the light into the woods around the camp. Desiree sulks near the fire. Jasmine walks behind Desiree, and flicks her hair.

CAROLINE
Anyone up for smores?

Caroline proceeds to the camper. The girls argue in her absence.

Caroline exits the camper. Caroline stops to listen to the conversation.

JASMINE
Count your blessings. You don't remember her as a drunk, but I do.

DESIREE
Just shut up. You're leaving in a year anyway.

JASMINE
Like I would ever leave you alone with her.

Caroline emerges from the shadow of the camper.

CAROLINE
You know girls, I think we will just stay tonight and go home in the morning.

Jasmine and Desiree look at each other puzzled.

CAROLINE (CONT'D)
Yeah, Maybe, I was overreacting a bit. I'll talk to Riley's dad and then maybe--

Caroline glances at Desiree. Desiree's smiles.

DESIREE
Mom, Are you serious? Oh, my god. You are the best.

Desiree pounces into her arms. Caroline holds up the squished bag of marshmallows. They all laugh.

CAROLINE

Okay. Okay. Let's cook some smores.

They all sit around the fire and roast marshmallows.

EXT. CAMPSITE - MORNING

Caroline exits the camper. She builds a fire, then makes her way around the camper. She stops in front of the left front tire.

She crouches down and runs her fingers across a slash on the flat tire. She repeats the motion on the rear left tire.

She rounds the camper and freezes. Her whole body trembles. Walter stands two feet from the camper door. He holds a hunting knife at his side.

WALTER

You're not going to take me back!

CAROLINE

Mr. I don't know what you're talking about. I'm just getting ready to leave.

WALTER

Liar!

Caroline's eyes flash a look at the camper.

WALTER (CONT'D)

They're in there aren't they?

CAROLINE

Who are you talking about? There's nobody here but me.

Walter steps toward the door. Caroline mirrors his movement.

WALTER

I'm not going back to that prison. I didn't do anything wrong.

CAROLINE FLASHES BACK

REPORTER(V.O.)

Walter Breck, a 62-year-old male--

BACK TO CAMPSITE

CAROLINE
Walter, right?

Walter raises the knife towards Caroline.

WALTER
I knew it, you are here to take me
back.

CAROLINE
No! I just want to leave.

Caroline steps towards the door. Walter cuts her off. Walter and Caroline flinch. Jasmine hurls the camper door open.

Walter grabs Jasmine by the ponytail. He presses the knife to her neck. Walter backs Jasmine into the woods.

Desiree darts out of the camper. Caroline runs after Walter and Jasmine.

CAROLINE (CONT'D)
Get back in the camper, Desiree!

Desiree follows Caroline.

EXT. WOODS - MORNING

Trees and brush slap Caroline as she runs through the woods. Caroline falls to the ground. She grabs her ankle.

Desiree stumbles out of the brush. Caroline pulls at a thin wire around her ankle. Desiree free's Caroline's ankle.

Caroline jumps up. She turns to Desiree.

CAROLINE
What the hell are you doing? I told
you to stay!

Caroline takes off. Desiree follows. She comes to a sudden stop. Caroline pushes Desiree into the brush.

Walter stands in front of a run-down cabin and holds Jasmine. Caroline looks back at Desiree.

CAROLINE (CONT'D)
Stay there! Do not Move!

Caroline inches forward through the ferns and bushes.

EXT. CABIN - MORNING

Walter backs up to an old cabin covered in moss. He pulls, Jasmine with him.

CAROLINE
Walter. I know how you feel. I'm
afraid too.

WALTER
You're a liar!

Walter digs the knife into Jasmine's neck. He looks around.

JASMINE
Momma!

CAROLINE
Walter. Walter, listen to me. I
don't want to hurt you.

Walter slides sideways with Jasmine in tow. Caroline inches closer and glances back. Desiree is gone.

Jasmine squirms and Walter looks away. Caroline rushes forward. Walter tightens his grip. Caroline stops.

CAROLINE (CONT'D)
Jasmine, stay still. Walter does
not want to hurt you.

Walter stares at Caroline.

CAROLINE (CONT'D)
Walter, why don't you tell me what
happened. Maybe I can help you.

Walter cocks his head. He loosens the pressure of his knife. Walter stares off into the distance.

WALTER
I was just trying to do what was
right. I had to keep her safe.

CAROLINE
Who Walter? Who did you have to
keep safe?

WALTER
My, Emily--I couldn't protect her--
especially from me.

Walter sheds a tear.

WALTER (CONT'D)
My brain just quit working one day.

CAROLINE
Walter what happened to Emily?

Walter snaps a glance at Caroline.

WALTER
Nothing! Nothing happened to Emily.
I freaking told you I left her!

Walter presses harder on the knife.

CAROLINE
No!

WALTER
I knew you were lying. You think
I'm crazy.

CAROLINE
No. No, I promise. I'm just scared
for my little girl.

Walter looks down at Jasmine and back at Caroline.

CAROLINE (CONT'D)
Yes, thats my little girl, Walter.
Just tell me what happened.

WALTER
What happened is my brother,
tripped and fell and they blamed me
for it.

Walter drifts off of the cabin.

WALTER (CONT'D)
I told him everything.

Walter loosens his grip and begins sobbing.

WALTER (CONT'D)
And what did he do? He told the
whole bar I was a nut job.

Walter waves the knife at Caroline.

WALTER (CONT'D)
He followed me. He said Emily would
be better without me! He slipped. I
never touched him!

Jasmine wiggles free and falls to the ground.

A GUNSHOT echos through the air. Walter falls to the ground. Jasmine runs into her mom's arms. Jasmine and Caroline turn to Desiree.

Desiree stands frozen with gun aimed at Walter. Desiree's hands tremble. Caroline walks to Desiree. She slides the gun out of Desiree's hands.

DESIREE

I'm so sorry mommy. You were just trying to protect us.

Jasmine rushes to them. They all hug. She walks to Walter. She bends down and checks his pulse.

CAROLINE

No, honey, I'm sorry. I should have never drug you out here.

Desiree turns back to Walter.

DESIREE

Do you believe him?

Caroline takes hold of Desiree's hand.

CAROLINE

I don't know. Walter let fear control his actions.

JASMINE

Like you?

CAROLINE

Yes, like me.

Caroline wraps her arms around both girls shoulders. They walk away.

CAROLINE (CONT'D)

No more girls. I'm done living in fear.