

MAD

Written by

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Based on, fears

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Mandy (mid 20s, sweating, unhealthy) is staring at her reflection in the train window. She's forgetting something.

The subway lurches to a stop and she snaps out of it. A few folks enter and sit. Mandy checks her phone. Nothing. We hear a muffled, unintelligible announcement, a chime, then a hand pushes through, squirming, turning red as it's squeezed between the closing doors.

MAN

Open up!!

Chime. The doors re open and a MAN (30s, carrying a speaker) enters. Mandy watches him through the reflection of the window. He's staring wide at the ground.

Mandy decides to send another text to Mary. We see a list of blue messages - "Whats up?" "Where are you???" "Why aren't you answering."

A strange recording begins to play from the Man's speaker. We hear Ronald Reagan's voice from his "Evil Empire" speech, 1983.

REAGAN RECORDING

"But it is conceived and ordered;
moved, seconded, carried and
minuted in clear, carpeted, warmed,
and well-lighted offices, by quiet
men with white collars and cut
fingernails and smooth-shaven
cheeks who do not need to raise
their voice."

Other passengers look at each other, on edge, as the recording goes on. This doesn't feel right

REAGAN RECORDING (CONT'D)

"Well, because these 'quiet men' do
not 'raise their voices,' because
they sometimes speak in soothing
tones of brotherhood and peace,
because, like other dictators,
before them, they're always making
'their final territorial demand,'
some would have us accept them at
their word and accommodate
ourselves to their aggressive
impulses."

The Man catches the eyes of someone sitting by the door. He comes to stand in front of them.

Mandy watches through the window reflection.

The Man swiftly pulls out a gun from his pocket and shoots the passenger in the head. He quickly shoots to the side, killing someone else. The train is in terror.

Mandy is frozen still. Everything is muffled. The Man turns and catches her eyes in the reflection. He moves towards her, smiles, lifts his hand -

SMASH CUT TO:

Snap -- Mandy sees her reflection in the train window. She looks pained. Her eyes bounce back and forth.

Chime. The car has stopped. The doors open but no one gets on. She looks around - no Man.

2

INT. MARY'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

2

Banging, from behind the door. MARY (30s, tatted, weathered) slowly goes to answer it in the dark. Mandy barges in.

MANDY

Phone die or something?

MARY

What's up Mandy.

MANDY

I texted you. Thought you were dead or something.

MARY

But why would you think that.

Mandy is scanning the apartment, searching for something, someone.

MARY (CONT'D)

Are you serious right now?

MANDY

You with Olivia? And that's why you're not answering me?

MARY

I told you not to come by anymore. I'm not giving you anything.

MANDY

ANSWER ME when I ask you a question.

Mandy starts down the hallway, banging on the walls and doors

MARY

How much have you had?

MANDY

Olivia, you here? Come on out,
Olivia don't be shy!

MARY

You're gonna wake my roommates and
they already hate you.

Mandy opens the kitchen drawers

MARY (CONT'D)

Nothing's in the drawer Mandy.

MANDY

Or Jess? You fucking Jess again?

MARY

You know she actually respected me
maybe I should fuck Jess again.

OLIVIA (21, groggy) comes out of the bedroom

OLIVIA

What's going on?

MANDY

You're just a dumb ass whore
bartender praying on younger girls
to feel good about yourself.

OLIVIA

I'm sorry, who are you?

Mandy busts out laughing. She pushes Mary against the fridge.

MANDY

You think she's worth your time!?
Cause you only got so much left
Mary and you better not fucking wa-

Mary shoves her hand into Mandy's screaming mouth. Mandy
swiftly shoves her hand up Mary's big t-shirt, between her
legs. Mary is trying to get out of it.

MARY

Stop it. You've lost your fucking
mind. Stop -

Mandy puts her free hand in Mary's mouth too. They sound like walruses.

MANDY
(muffled)
Show her what you think of me, just
show he-

Olivia realizes she needs to intervene...

OLIVIA
Get the fuck out of her!

Mandy leaves.

OLIVIA (CONT'D)
Who was that?!

3 INT. MANDY'S GRANDMA'S HOUSE, QUEENS - MORNING 3

Mandy's GRANDMA (80's, in a wheelchair) sits in front of the tv watching Good Morning America. Mandy bursts in.

MANDY
How you doing Ma! Hows it going!
You doing good this morning?

Mandy gives her a big kiss on the cheek, forehead, hands.

GRANDMA
Good to see you Amanda.

MANDY
Can you hear it okay? Turn it up.

Mandy grabs the remote and pumps up the volume. She sits and stares at the screen, jiggles her leg.

GRANDMA
How are you doing dear?

Mandy is zoned out.

GRANDMA (CONT'D)
I said how are -

MANDY
Hm? Did you not eat yet? Where's
your soup? Monica!!

Mandy enters the kitchen and interrogates MONICA (40s, exceptional home attendant).

MONICA

She was wondering where you were last night.

MANDY

Why hasn't she eaten yet?

MONICA

We're right on schedule. 7:30 every day.

MANDY

No its been 7.

MONICA

Its always been half-passed. You okay? You look...

Mandy wipes drool from her mouth. She scoops up cash that is laid out on the dining table.

MANDY

How much are you paying this woman, Ma? You're giving Monica all this money to not do her job right?

Mandy gets in front of her Grandma's face.

MANDY (CONT'D)

This is too much Ma. You give her half.

Mandy tosses half on the ground.

MANDY (CONT'D)

I'll hold on to the rest. You have these people ripping you off. You have to pay attention or they'll just take advantage of you.

Mandy pockets the other half and runs down the hall. Monica brings in Ma's breakfast and begins to help her pick up the bills.

MONICA

I can bring your food whenever you want it ma'am.

Grandma is wagging her finger. She pulls out her purse, hanging on the back of her chair, and fishes out the other half Mandy took.

GRANDMA
 (shakily, handing it to
 Monica)
 I'm so sorry. I've never seen her
 like this.

MONICA
 She's just lucky I'm not her
 mother.

GRANDMA
 I think she just misses her own-

Mandy runs back down the hall with her dance bag. Monica
 slips back into the kitchen.

MANDY
 Bye Ma! I love you!! Wish me luck.
 It's a big one today. I promise
 you're gonna see me on the tv soon.

GRANDMA
 Okay Amanda.

Mandy slams the door. Grandma stares at the tv.

4

INT. DANCE STUDIO - DAY

4

A sea of hip-hop/contemporary dancers. Mandy is in the mix,
 reviewing choreography. In her booty shorts, we can see she
 has a big bandaid on the back of her calf.

DANCER
 I noticed there are a lot of single
 turns in the combination, can any
 of them be doubles?

CHOREOGRAPHER
 Sure you can make them doubles if
 you want.

Are we ready to give it a try?

Okay here we go a 5 6 7 8!

Mandy starts the combination. She is killing it. We see her
 transcend. But after doing a turn, she gets super dizzy and
 faints. The room gasps.

CHOREOGRAPHER (CONT'D)
 Hold! Hold! Honey are you okay? Can
 we get some water?

SAM (beautiful dancer) rushes to Mandy

SAM
Mandy get up. Mandy.

Mandy's eyes open up. We see from her POV everything is wavy.
She pops up.

DANCER
(offering water)
You want some.

MANDY
I'm good. I'm good.

Mandy jolts and pushes the water bottle away. She's rushing
towards the door.

5 EXT. OUTSIDE DANCE STUDIO - LATER

5

Mandy smokes a cigarette. Dancers are filing out.

SAM
You're still here!

MANDY
Did you get cut?

SAM
It was kind of epic to see you hit
the ground like that.

MANDY
Did you get cut?

(beat)

SAM
I'm coming back tomorrow. Me and
like 2 other people.

MANDY
Let's go pick up.

SAM
"Congrats Sam. I'm really happy for
you."

MANDY
(counting the money she
took from Ma)
Yeah of course. It's just what I
need right now.

6

INT. SAM'S BEDROOM - EVENING

6

Mandy is struggling to do her makeup in the mirror. Sam does a line behind her.

SAM

Fiona wants to meet at Cello's again. You cool with that?

MANDY

Can't go back there.

SAM

You don't even remember last time what difference does it make.

MANDY

I remember being on the ground.

SAM

What the fuck Mandy you look like a clown.

They burst out laughing

MANDY

I need help.

Sam starts fixing Mandy's makeup

SAM

You were laying on the ground next to the guy who likes being wrapped up in that rug.

MANDY

No.

SAM

People were stepping on you. I think at one point you were petting a rat or something.

Mandy shifts, she see's herself in the mirror.

MANDY

... Why would you let me do that?

SAM

You were kicked out on the street cause you hopped the bar and made out with Mary-

MANDY
I saw her last night actually

SAM
Stop drooling on me.

Sam wipes Mandy's foamy mouth, furiously beats her sweaty face.

MANDY
She's fucking spectacular. I can't mess up tonight.

SAM
Mary's old as shit, why do you even-

MANDY
She's so good for me. Never wastes my time. Always keeps it moving.

SAM
You mean she has a life.

Mandy does a line.

SAM (CONT'D)
She has other friends.

MANDY
I have other friends.

SAM
I've never met them.

MANDY
I just hope one day I can be better than this.

SAM
That's cute.

Mandy is scratching her back furiously.

MANDY
If you find me on the ground again just end me right then and there okay? Put us both out of our misery.

SAM
Lol I wish it was that easy.

Sam holds out two pills.

MANDY

I'm feeling kind of nauseous.

SAM

It's adderall.

MANDY

Oh.

They make the pills disappear. Sam chases it down with water, hands some to Mandy -

SA

I don't know how you do it without.

Mandy finally takes a sip and chokes violently. Sam laughs.

~ The girls jump all over the room, coked outty.~

7

EXT. BUSHWICK STREET - NIGHT

7

Sam is holding Mandy as they walk.

SAM

People literally keep saying it's justified cause like i'm a girl right? But that literally means nothing you know. Like no one will ever believe me when I say i'm violent.

MANDY

Yeah-

SAM

like sure this guy tries to touch me the other night so I spat in his face.

MANDY

Good.

SAM

You're always having a meltdown.

MANDY

I don't want to be--

SAM

Remember that time when I caught you in a lie but you like blamed me for it.

Mandy can't make out the silhouette of a larger animal trotting towards them on the sidewalk. A cat?

SAM (CONT'D)

You had me kicked out of our dorm room hahaha that was so funny. Did you forget that? You were shrieking like - She hurt me!!!She hurt me--!

MANDY

I wasn't shrieking I wa-

Sam's voice muffles. The animal passes inches away from Mandy, it's a raccoon. It's trotting and panting.

SAM

And you're so good at cutting me off its honestly impressive. I dunno, maybe i've been around too long but i can pretty much expect you're only ever gonna be thinking about yourself.

MANDY

How many millyygrms was that pill?

SAM

20. Just to start.

Mandy looks back again. The raccoon is gone.

MANDY

I keep p ssseeing shit.

SAM

That's impossible.

Mandy is winded, she looks confused. Her speech slurs.

MANDY

Having thesethoughts where this guy get on the train. He's carrying a a ss speaker and itss playing this freakyssound recording but no one knowswha to to think and zhen he pulls out-

SAM

What's he look like?

MANDY

I m mmean, he's an incel.

SAM
Yeah but is he hot?

MANDY
He'sz sad.

SAM
You're sad.

MANDY
I'm just sad Mary doesn't wanna
marryme.

SAM
You just met her.

MANDY
That's how I know.

8 INT. CELLO'S - NIGHT

8

Mandy and Sam enter Cello's bar. FIONA (20's, party girl)
runs up to them.

FIONA
SaaaammmmmMMM!!!

SAM
Fiona!!!

FIONA
(not excited)
Hi Mandy.

Mandy waves but then her arm spasms. It is stuck. Paralyzed.
She struggles to put it down and can't.

She looks down and sees that her feet are fish. Her belly
grows pregnant.

She looks back to Sam. Sam and Fiona are acting fucking weird
-- people slide down the walls behind them. Mandy spots Mary
behind the bar. Bingo. Mandy runs up to the bar, arm still
stuck. She grins sharply at Mary

MANDY
Hey mama mama mama

MARY
jesus christ.

MANDY

Ppplease mm m mMary I wanted totell
you we're pregnant.

Mary wipes Mandy's spit spray off her face.

MARY

I'm really worried about you. Look
at me. Look me in the eyes.

Mary grabs Mandy's chin. Mandy's eyes are manic, sweat pours
down her face. Mary tries to feed Mandy water.

MARY (CONT'D)

Hold on, drink.

Mandy convulses and spasms. She panics. She spits up all over
the bar.

MARY (CONT'D)

Oh my fucking god.

Mandy is on the ground, convulsing and gagging.

MANDY

(like a walrus)
Sam. Sam.

People in the bar are disturbed.

MARY

What the fuck Mandy get up.

Sam turns around, take a lolly pop out of her mouth.

MARY (CONT'D)

(to Sam)
Get her out of here now before I
lose my job.

SAM

I don't know her.

MARY

Now Sam! Now!

Sam rushes over but has a hard time picking up Mandy.

SAM

Yeah okay Mary we knew you weren't
any fun.

Someone takes a photo of Mandy on the ground

SAM (CONT'D)

Fuck off!

The bouncer comes over and tosses Mandy out the door.

SAM (CONT'D)

Yes thank you sir we needed that we love that.

9

EXT. OUTSIDE CELLO'S BAR - NIGHT

9

Mandy trips off the front step and falls to the ground. Sam and Fiona are kicked out after her, yelling to Mary.

SAM

She just ate something bad! We weren't even going like that!

MARY

Do not come back. I swear to god.

FIONA

(ordering an uber)
We're leaving we're leaving.

SAM

Why would we ever come back here you all fucking suck dick.

Mandy throws up. Fiona goes to help her.

BOUNCER

Is this your friend?

MARY

Get her fucking help! She needs help!

SAM

You don't even care about her! You never did!

BOUNCER

I'm going to call the cops if you don't move now.

Fiona notices Mandy's calf. The large band-aid from the dance audition is now falling off. It was covering an infected bite wound.

FIONA

Mandy what happened to your leg?

Mandy is having trouble speaking. Fiona helps her off the ground.

FIONA (CONT'D)

Your calf. It looks-

MARY

(to bouncer)

Call EMS.

MANDY

(growling at Mary)

Ohfuck you bitsh!

Sam grabs Mandy, pulling her away. Mary and the Bouncer go back into the bar.

FIONA

Sam stop.

SAM

What the fuck is wrong with you
can't handle your pills anymore.
Cant go anywhere without me you'd
litrally be dead.

An uber pulls up. Fiona gets in.

FIONA

Y'all get in the car now.

SAM

Nothing but a waste of my time and
life.

Mandy growls and charges at Sam, pushing her up onto the hood of the car. Sam and Fiona scream. The driver lays on the horn.

SAM (CONT'D)

WHAT THE FUCK!!!

FIONA

Sam leave her!

Mandy is shaken by the horn. Sam slides off the hood, jumps in and the car speeds off.

Mandy runs after the Uber. She falls to the ground. She's convulsing, foaming. She tries to crawl to the sidewalk but can't make it. She curls into a fetal position.

She sees something across the street -- when her vision finally focuses, she sees that it's a raccoon. It is lying down as well. Their stomachs both heave.

Mandy finally realizes something.

She inhales at the pain of the memory. She notices someone standing on the corner, watching her.

She calls out to this person.

MANDY
Help. Help me

They almost look like the same Man from her subway daydream. They walk away.

The raccoon approaches Mandy, it wants to cuddle with her.

She pets it.

CUT TO BLACK.

TITLE CARD: MAD