

The Cursed Gift

By

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INT. SCHOOL CORRIDOR - MORNING

Tyler, a 15 year old teenager, walks through a hallway, slouching. He walks through the corridors, as all audio is mute as Dark Music plays. He passes students, as they ignore him, and he takes glances at them and continues walking.

TYLER (V.O)

My name is Tyler Reynoso.

He continues walking ignoring his fellow students. Tyler looks up and around at the students. They stare at him, some scared, and some disgusted. Tyler looks back down. Tyler bumps into an 17 year old athletic high school student named Josh and the music stops right away and the audio fades in.

JOSH

Hey!

Tyler ignores him and keeps walking. Josh starts walking towards him as people start to form a crowd.

JOSH

Bro, what was that?!

Josh catches up to him, and turns him around.

JOSH

The hell you bump into me for?

TYLER

Im just walking.

Once Josh flinches, ready to hit Tyler, Tyler socks Josh across the face. Josh is knocked down to the floor, as Tyler stares at Josh, then at the crowd then walks away. Josh stares at him with intense anger.

INT. BATHROOM - MORNING

Tyler barges into the bathroom, rushes to the stall, slams it, and locks it.

TYLER (V.O)

For a long time, I had what most would call a gift.

Tyler sits there on the toilet for awhile. He takes out a knife and slowly starts cutting himself. The wound slowly starts repairing itself.

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TYLER (V.O)
But I consider it to be a curse.

Tyler puts the knife away and walks out of the bathroom, slamming the door.

EXT. CAFETERIA - EVENING

Josh is cuddling with his girlfriend, Jenny. As Jenny talks with a friend, Josh stares at Tyler with hatred who is a couple of benches away. Jenny looks up at Josh, confused, then looks at Tyler.

JENNY
Who is that, baby?

Josh, ignores her.

JENNY
Josh.

Josh looks at Jenny. He shakes his head, takes his hand off her.

JOSH
Don't worry about it.

Josh walks away.

JENNY
Josh!

Josh looks angry.

JOSH
I need to take a piss.

Jenny stares at Tyler.

INT. BATHROOM - EVENING

Josh is snorting drugs. He looks up at himself in the mirror and looks almost psychotic. Suddenly, Josh flinches in anger.

INT. TYLER'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Tyler walks into his house; he looks angry. His father, James, is sitting on Tyler's couch, talking into his blue tooth about movie franchises. Tyler looks surprised, and happy.

TYLER

Dad, what are you doing here?

James continues talking, and raises a finger to Tyler. Tyler looks annoyed. After a few seconds, James looks at Tyler.

JAMES

Alright, alright Frank hold on for a second, gotta talk to the kid.

James clicks a button on his blue tooth.

JAMES

Hey, son, we need to talk about your living arrangements here.

TYLER

Yeah, I know you want me to live here alone for some reason, but-

JAMES

"For some reason"? This place is beautiful! Look at it! It has couches and windows and everything!

TYLER

Yeah, but dad, the thing is, I'm sort of not ready to live alone. I mean, like, if-

JAMES

Look kiddo, I don't have time to do a back and forth here. I'm having a very important business conversation with Frank about the new production, so all I gotta tell you is, come up with your rent soon. I can't keep backing you up here.

TYLER

But dad, I-

James clicks a button on his blue tooth and talks into it. Tyler, visibly frustrated, walks to his room.

INT. CLASSROOM - MORNING

Tyler has head down on his desk. A couple of seats away, is Jenny and her friend SARAH talking quietly.

JENNY

He socked Josh out? Him? Seriously?

She shakes her head in disbelief as she looks at Tyler. Sarah nods.

SARAH

Yup, that scrawny little wimp totally beat up your boyfriend.

JENNY

Oh shut up Sarah, he didn't beat him up. He just, you know, made him bleed...A lot.

SARAH

Yeah alright, you know he's a freshman, right?

Jenny looks at Sarah.

JENNY

What! He is, no way!

Sarah nods.

SARAH

I hope you know that you're officially dating a wuss.

Sarah giggles. Jenny looks away and thinks for a couple of seconds.

EXT. CAFETERIA - EVENING

Josh and Jenny are cuddling in a group as Josh stares at Tyler with anger. Jenny looks at him, irritated.

JENNY

You let him beat you up, Josh. You took crap from a little kid.

Josh looks at Jenny.

JOSH

What do you want me to do, baby? I can't just walk over there and sock

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

JOSH (cont'd)
out a bastard child for no reason.
I could get expelled.

JENNY
Wait, you mean Tyler doesn't have a
father?!

Josh looks at her confused.

JOSH
What? No, well I don't know and
don't really care. I meant it as a
diss, Jen.

Jenny forcefully pulls away from Josh.

JENNY
Wow, that's not like you. The Josh
I fell for would stand up for
himself, to say the least.

JOSH
Jenny, we have a big game against
uni in a few weeks. I'm not gonna
mess that up for myself all cuz of
some loser.

JENNY
Whatever. If you can't defend
yourself, I'll make friends with
somebody who can.

Jenny walks away as a couple of people stare. Josh stares as she walks over to Tyler and sits across him. Jenny sits there and stares at him forcing a smile.

JENNY
Hey, what's your name?

Tyler tries to ignore her but fails, when he looks up. He looks back down.

TYLER
Tyler.

Jenny smiles, forcefully.

JENNY
I'm Jenny.

Tyler nods.

TYLER

Uh, hey.

JENNY

So, I heard you're a freshman.

Tyler sighs, looks up at her.

TYLER

Yeah, what are you doing aren't
your people over there.

He points at Josh then quickly looks away when he notices
Josh. Jenny smiles, forcefully.

JENNY

Maybe, I want to hang with you
today, is that bad thing.

Tyler looks away.

TYLER

No, no of course not.

Jenny smiles. Jenny looks back at Josh, flashing an cruel
smile. Josh looks away shaking his head, angrily.

INT. TYLER'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Tyler is sitting there with the gun to his chin. He thinks
for a second, then pulls the trigger, and he falls to the
bed.

TYLER (V.O)

For me it just came to a point
where suicide became a normal
routine, regardless of
circumstance.

He regenerates.

INT. SCHOOL CORRIDOR - MORNING

Tyler exits the bathroom, and he puts away his knife. He
walks through the corridor. Jenny is putting her books away
until she notices Tyler.

JENNY

Hey Tyler.

Tyler looks up at Jenny

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JENNY
Oh, Jenny, uh hey.

Jenny smiles.

JENNY
Whats up?

TYLER
You know, just here, books.

Jenny smiles as she looks at him. The bell rings.

TYLER
Look at that I gotta go. Bye.

Jenny continues putting her books, as Sarah walks in the scene, staring from Tyler to Jenny.

SARAH
What was that?

JENNY
Nothing, just talking with Tyler.

Sarah nods.

SARAH
Josh must be pretty furious, huh.

Jenny closes her locker, smiling sarcastically.

JENNY
Huh, I didn't know.

Sarah stares at her, nodding.

EXT. CAFETERIA - EVENING

Tyler sits there eating alone. Jenny comes and sits next to him.

JENNY
Hi Tyler.

Jenny smiles. Tyler not looking up but gives out a quick smile.

TYLER
Hey.

Jenny looks at him for awhile.

(CONTINUED)

JENNY

How come you never seen want to
talk to me?

Tyler looks up at her.

TYLER

Who says I don't?

JENNY

Well you don't say anything. When I
come, you just sorta stare at your
food.

Tyler looks back down.

TYLER

Maybe I just don't know what to
say.

Jenny nods.

JENNY

Oh, I see.

Tyler thinks for a second, then looks up at her.

TYLER

Okay, let me try. So uh, Jenny...

Jenny smiles.

JENNY

Yes Tyler.

Tyler is quiet as he thinks of what to say.

TYLER

Okay, I got nothing.

Jenny giggles. Two benches away Josh stares at them,
irritated and angry. After a couple of seconds, he storms
off.

INT. BATHROOM - EVENING

Josh storms in, takes out his drugs, drops it on the floor
by accident. He rushes to the floor and starts picking up,
then more flashes of Josh and Jenny's past. Josh becomes
more angry. He then snorts the drugs.

EXT. ALLEYWAY - EVENING

Josh sits there with a bloody nose, a couple of feet away, are a group of teenagers. Jenny stares at him with anger. Then she storms off.

INT. BATHROOM - EVENING

Josh stares at the ground, then he sits down and leans on the wall, breathing heavily. In a couple of seconds the bell rings.

INT. TYLER'S HOUSE - EVENING

Tyler enters the house.

TYLER (V.O)

This is the first time I ever felt
this way.

Tyler walks upstairs. He walks into his bedroom and sits on his bed. He stares at the gun on the ground next to his bed and thinks. He kicks it under his bed, and lays down, with small smile on his face.

TYLER (V.O)

I wish this could last forever.

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

Tyler is sleeping. He gets a call from his father, waking him up.

TYLER

H-hello? Dad?

JAMES

Hey, kiddo, quick! What's that
franchise all the kids love?
Transboppers? Morphansors? Chris
hansens?

TYLER

Transformers?

JAMES

Alright, you're the best!

Tyler begins talking but a dial tone is heard. He frustratedly goes back to sleep.

EXT. CAFETERIA - EVENING

Tyler sits alone, he looks around for Jenny then looks back down. Jenny sits next to him.

JENNY
Hey Tyler.

Tyler looks up at her.

TYLER
Hey Jenny.

INT. BATHROOM - EVENING

Josh stares at himself, then he snorts the drugs on the counter. He continues staring at himself. Then he punches the counter.

JOSH
Damn it, I can't take it anymore.

Josh storms out.

EXT. CAFETERIA - EVENING

Tyler and Jenny continue talking. Tyler looks off and finds Josh walking towards them. Jenny follows. They both stand up. Josh takes Jenny by the hand.

JOSH
We need to talk, Jenny.

Jenny slips her hand out of his grip. Josh looks at her with anger.

JENNY
No Josh.

JOSH
I said lets go! It's been over a week now! We need to talk!

Just before Josh grabs Jenny again, Tyler steps in and shoves him. Jenny stares at them both. Josh, now pissed, stares at Tyler. Jenny steps in between them.

JENNY
Josh, baby, no.

Tyler looks at her, betrayed. Josh shoves him away.

(CONTINUED)

JOSH

What, you thought this was legit?
You thought this was serious?! You
thought this girl would just walk
up to you, and you'd fall in love
with each other or something? How
pathetic!

Tyler and Josh grow angrier and angrier until Josh goes for a punch, and he punches Tyler in the face, knocking him back. Tyler looks darkly at him, and rushes toward him. He lifts his fist in the air, but does nothing. Josh chuckles, socks him in the face again, knocking him to the floor. Tyler looks up at Josh, still on the floor. Jenny stares at Tyler with sadness. Jenny looks at Josh, and Josh stares at her. Jenny tries to hug him but Josh shoves her away.

JENNY

Baby, I'm...

JOSH

You know what Jenny, we're done.

Josh walks away. Jenny stares at him with sadness. Tyler on the ground stares up at her with growing anger.

INT. BATHROOM - EVENING

Tyler, in a stall, after washing the blood off his face, sits there about to cut. Josh is snorting drugs in another stall.

INT. JOSH'S HOUSE - DAY

Josh sees that Jenny is trying to call her. He hangs up the phone, and doesn't seem to care. She calls back, but he hangs up, nodding his head in disapproval. He then looks at his drugs, poking out of his pocket. He gets them, tries throwing them away, but instead stashes them in his closet. He then grabs his snorting...Straw thing, and throws it in the trash, and smiles.

INT. TYLER'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Tyler throws the door open and he finds his dad home.

JAMES

Tyler.

His father sits at the dining table. Tyler stops and looks at him. His father stands up.

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JAMES

We need to talk son, sit down.

Tyler stares at him with anger, he then shakes his head and sits.

TYLER

What do you want?

His father walks closer to him.

JAMES

I've been thinking about this whole living situation, and I think I made a mistake.

Tyler looks up at him, with anger.

TYLER

What? Now you suddenly think this is a mistake?

His father nods.

JAMES

Yeah, just letting you live here is costing me tons of money, my friend needs a place to stay, she'll actually pay rent and...You know, she won't just leech off this beautiful place like you've been doing.

His dialogue fades out as Tyler grows angrier and angrier. He then snaps and rushes at his father. Tackling him, and then continues punching him, screaming names out until he's knocked unconscious. Tyler falls to the floors, with anger, panting, staring at the ground. He then takes a quick look at his dad, then rushes off to his bedroom. He enters his bedroom and starts packing up his stuff. As he packs up, he knocks furniture over. He then takes the gun under his bed and stares at it. He drops his bags, takes the gun puts it under his chin, and pulls the trigger. The gun fails. He grows angry and throws the gun at the wall. Suddenly, he hears an electrical static, he then stares at his hand. A spark occurs. He then looks up and rushes out of the room. He finds his dad on the floor, with the wounds on his face regenerating. Tyler is shocked, he backs away. James regains consciousness, looking around. Tyler runs back into the bedroom, grabs his bag, and rushes out of the house.

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JAMES

Tyler!

Tyler leaves the house, with the door open.

JAMES

Tyler, what happened?

His father rushes outside to find Tyler walking away.

JAMES

Tyler!

Tyler is shocked by what he just saw.

EXT. ALLEYWAY - NIGHT

Tyler sits there, staring at his hand. His bag on the ground next to him. His hand sparks electricity for a couple seconds, then he clenches his hand to stop it. He stares at the ground in deep thought.

THE END