

CRIMSON

Drama

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FADE IN:

1. EXT. CEMETERY ENTRANCE - DAY

ROSE (47), in her black dress and holding her son's portrait, is walking along the cemetery walls. A few people in black are with her. She has traces of tears on her cheeks like she has been crying for hours. Her eyes are lost in the distance.

As she turns the corner to enter the cemetery she notices her ex-husband.

MARC

Rose?

MARC (50), with a black overcoat and a bouquet of lilies and daisies, waves at Rose. Everyone is now inside the cemetery. Rose and Marc are still outside.

ROSE

What are you doing here?

MARC

I came for Thomas.

ROSE

Thomas and I haven't seen you since you left. And now's the time you decide to visit?

MARC

It's not that easy you know it. Let me make it up to you.

ROSE

I don't have time for this.

MARC

I know you're upset. And I am terribly sorry. I had to deal with my own issues first. Don't you get that?

They are interrupted by an old man passing next to them before entering the cemetery.

MARC

Can we please talk somewhere else after this?

ROSE

No we won't. You had plenty of time to talk to me. I would've understood and we would have found an agreement. But you ran away. You left us and found someone else.

(MORE)

ROSE (CONT'D)

Surprised you didn't bring him here. How could Thomas possibly understand what was happening? He was so young. How did you think it was for him growing up?

MARC

Give me a second chance. Let me at least put flowers on his grave.

ROSE

Those flowers? Really? Do you even know your son?

Rose walks away. Marc quickly grabs her.

MARC

Rose wait!

Rose throws his hand away from her.

ROSE

Don't you dare touch me again.

(sighs)

You know what? Just come in. But I'm not your wife anymore so stay far away from me and don't ever talk to me again.

They both enter.

2. INT. ROSE'S HOUSE - AFTERNOON

The front door opens. Rose enters. Sobbing. Her phone buzzes in her pocket. She ignores it. She lays her back against the door for a moment and stares in the distance.

There stands THOMAS (23), a greyscale ghost, looking confused to be here. He tries to call for her but no sound comes out of his mouth. Thomas is shocked and puts his hand on his throat. He tries to talk but again no sound comes out.

Rose gets away from the door and walks to the couch. Thomas tries to hug her but an invisible force pushes him slightly to the side as his mother passes by him. He seems even more confused.

Rose lays on the couch with her son's portrait. Thomas kneels next to her. He tries to comfort her but his hand stops a few centimeters before he could reach her. Something prevents him from touching her. He's incapable of interacting with the living. Realizing this he stumbles backwards and accidentally hits the mug sitting on the edge of the coffee table. He quickly grabs it by reflex. After staring at the mug in his hand for a moment he puts it back on the table. He sits down next to the couch. His eyes watering up. Rose falls asleep.

Thomas slowly pulls over the couch blanket over her.

3. INT. ROSE'S BEDROOM - MORNING

Thomas is bathing under the sunlight at the opened window. He hears his mother entering the room and dropping a box on the floor spilling its content. Blue pills are scattered all across the floor. He also notices one of the pills rolled next to him. He grabs it and examines it. After further inspection his eyes widen in terror. He sees on the floor a small box of rat poison and his mother holding a glass of water.

He sees his mother getting ready to swallow the few pills she picked up in one hand while holding the glass in the other hand. To distract and scare her, Thomas starts to make a big mess in her room. He opens the closet doors, drawers, throws clothes to the floor and various objects. He moves the bed and shakes the rug. Rose in terror screams and drops everything before running out of the room. Thomas quickly tries to gather all the pills. He has difficulty picking them up. He gets frustrated.

Thomas hears his mother coming back. He kicks all the pills under the rug and throws the box out of the window. Rose enters the room screaming with a broom then stops. She surveys the bare floor, confused. On her hands and knees she searches for the pills, nothing. Rose sits on the bed, head in hands, sobbing. She composes herself and takes a sip of water, her hand trembling. Relieved, Thomas falls to the ground under the window. Tears in his eyes and breathing heavily.

4. INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

The room is messy and filled with dirty clothes, dusty books and papers. Rose opens the cabinet and takes out two plates. As she closes the doors she notices a framed photo souvenir of Thomas and her on a trip. She smiles and rubs the dust from the frame. She sets the table for two. Plain oil pasta in both plates. Rose is sitting on one end of the table while an empty chair is facing her on the other end. She stares at it. She cannot see Thomas sitting on that chair. She tries to bring the fork to her mouth but her emotions takes over. She starts sobbing, dropping the fork. She sniffs and forces herself not to cry even more.

5. INT. KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

Rose throws away the pasta. As she washes the dishes she stares through the window. After one plate done she places it on a dish tray and notices a sharp knife sitting there. Her hand shakes as she slowly hover it above the knife. Thomas in the background notices it and frantically looks around him trying to find something to stop her.

Rose suddenly cuts her left wrist above the sink. Thomas in horror screams "NO!". But no sound is coming out of his mouth. Blood starts to flow down in the drain. She drops the knife in the sink. Blood dripping in her right palm. However, it starts to hurt badly. She closes her eyes in pain and lets out a groan. She grabs a nearby towel and wraps it around her wrist. She stares at her bloody hands. She turns her head and notices a dead rose in a vase. She sighs. Once again relieved, Thomas falls to the ground in tears.

6. INT. SAM'S SHOP - DAY

SAM (52), with his gardening apron and gloves, is taking care of some plants. His shop is filled with all kinds of plants and flowers. Standing predominantly in the middle of the shop and near the edge of the table is a vase filled with orchids.

Rose enters the store ringing the bell. She notices the orchids. She continues to look at it while walking towards the counter. Thomas is following behind looking around the shop.

SAM

Good morning Mrs. Vernier. How are you today?

ROSE

As good as it could be. How's today's flowers.

SAM

Well... I... I wanted to call earlier but I do not have your new phone number. I unfortunately do not have roses for you today. We had such high demands. I couldn't...

ROSE

I'm sorry. You don't have roses anymore? The only flowers I ask for every week for my son's grave and you don't have.

SAM

I know and I am truly sorry. I could offer other flowers...

ROSE

The only flowers I order are roses. They were my mother's flowers and they were my son's too. I don't want other flowers.

Rose turns around and leaves the store shutting the door. The vase of orchids falls down on the ground and shatters. Sam rushes to save them.

Thomas disoriented by her fury forgets to follow her. Stunned by the scene. He notices a pen and a notebook on the counter. He writes down his mother's phone number and address.

As Sam is picking up the shattered pieces and his orchids Thomas gives one last look at him and smiles before leaving the store but Rose suddenly reappears and enters. She notices Sam on the floor. Sam looks up at her, surprised. She takes out some cash from her purse.

ROSE
(sighs deeply)
I'm sorry. Could they be ready for
tomorrow morning?

SAM
Yes absolutely.

ROSE
Ok then. Here. And keep the change.
(Looking at the pieces)
For the damage.

As she gives him the cash Sam notices the scar on her wrist. Rose stomps out of the store. This time Thomas follows her. Sam stays there silent.

7. EXT. ROSE'S HOUSE - MORNING

Rose opens the door and is about to step outside when she notices a bouquet of roses at her doorstep. A little envelope sits on top of it. She opens the letter and finds all the cash she gave to Sam. Her phone buzzes. It's a text from him. It says: *Let me know if you got the bouquet. Again, I am very sorry.*

8. INT. SAM'S SHOP - DAY

The door bell rings as Rose enters the shop. The store is filled with flowers but Sam is nowhere to be seen.

ROSE
Is anyone there? Sam?

Sam suddenly pops his head from behind a big vase of orchids. He is hiding something behind his back.

SAM
Mrs. Vernier. I didn't expect to
see you back.

ROSE
Listen Sam, I want to apologize for
what I did last week about...

SAM

Oh it's ok. Don't worry I understand.

Sam walks to her. He has one hand on her shoulder. The other hand still holding something in his back.

SAM

I got you something.

Sam brings out from his back a magnificent bouquet of crimson red roses with one yellow orchid.

ROSE

Sam... What...

SAM

It's a gift. From the house. The best roses I could find and a yellow orchid to represent the warmth of love. Just a little touch. Do you think Thomas would like it?

ROSE

He would definitely. Yes.

Thomas behind her can't stop staring at the bouquet. It's beauty makes his eyes water up. Sam takes it to the counter to wrap it up. One rose nearly falls to the ground. Sam swiftly catches it.

SAM

Oups sorry. Would be a shame to lose such a beautiful rose.

They both laughs. Thomas smiles at them.

ROSE

I apologize for your vase. If it's any consolation I could repay you now.

SAM

Oh no it's fine. Really. I repaired it.

Sam points his head towards the orchid vase. The cracks are painted in gold. Once the bouquet is ready Sam hands it over to Rose.

ROSE

Thank you very much.

SAM

Always my pleasure to see you around.

(MORE)

SAM (CONT'D)

And if you ever need anything, even
if it's not flower related, you
know how to reach me.

ROSE

I will. Thank you. Have a nice day.

SAM

Bbye.

Rose exits. Thomas follows and before leaving he takes a quick look at Sam one last time.

9. INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

Rose is ironing her son's clothes. Thomas examines his old clothes and the ones from when he was a baby. The doorbell rings. Rose leaves the iron on the t-shirt. Thomas puts the iron away and unplugs as Rose opens the door. To her surprise she sees Sam with a little bouquet.

SAM

Hi there.

ROSE

Sam? Hi.

SAM

I wanted to give you this.

It's a bouquet of colorful orchids. He hands it over and takes a step back. She takes it and smiles at the beautiful scent. Thomas is in awe.

SAM

I thought you'd like some flowers
for yourself. And you seemed to
like my orchids so...

Rose hides herself from blushing behind the bouquet.

SAM

May I come in?

She hesitates. Takes a quick glance inside her messy house then back at the bouquet.

ROSE

Uh yes please come in. Let me make
you some tea.

Sam enters. Rose guides him towards the dining table then she heads to the kitchen to prepare some tea. Sam and Thomas both sits. Sam looks around the living room. It's dull with lifeless wallpaper. Curtains are closed but some light shines through it.

There are some old dead plants and dust accumulating on furnitures. He notices the iron board and the clothes tray. Rose comes back with two cups of tea.

SAM

Thanks. This is a lovely house.

ROSE

Oh you don't have to lie. I haven't been able to clean anything. It's a mess.

SAM

Why don't I give you a hand? Let me clean.

ROSE

What are you talking about? No, no you're my guest.

SAM

I'm serious. Take care of yourself and let me take care of the house. Where's the broom?

ROSE

Sam really I...

SAM

Where's the broom?

He smiles at her. Rose hesitates for a moment and finally gives up.

ROSE

In the kitchen. First cupboard on your left.

Sam winks at her. He takes a sip of his tea and rushes to the kitchen. Thomas has his elbow on the table and chin on his hands. Like a little kid he has a big smile on his face. Sam comes back with the broom, a shovel, some swabs, a broom brush, a bucket and a few cleaning products. With all of this in his hands it makes him very clumsy. He drops a few things on the floor.

SAM

I saw you had all of this too so I thought why not use everything.

They both laugh. Sam starts to clean. Rose joins him.

SAM

Here let's put some music.

Sam picks *Just The Way You Like It* by Talkbox. Sam slowly starts dancing while cleaning the floor. He winks at her. Rose rolls her eyes smiling and joins him.

Thomas pulls up his sleeves. Rose opens the curtains. She is blinded by the light. Her body slowly starts to move to the rhythm of the music. Sam looks at her while getting rid of the dead plants. She turns around and notices him smiling at her. Sam quickly turns his head away. Rose smiles too.

10. INT. ROSE'S HOUSE - DAY

Sam is bringing in new flowers. She helps him by grabbing some but accidentally touches his hand. For a moment they stare at each other before carrying on their tasks. Rose puts them in different places all over the house with all kinds of containers from big cups and glasses to plastic bottles. Her hips sway to the music. Thomas sprays water on the plants.

Sam and Rose are cleaning the bathroom. Sam proceeds to direct the shower head towards Rose and spray her. She lets out a little scream before laughing. They both play in the bathroom laughing. Thomas standing there watching the scene.

They dance along with the music in their aprons. They both have a towel wrapped around their heads like maids. Sam is holding both Rose's hands. He makes her spin around herself. Thomas near them dances too.

They are all three in the garden. Sam shows how to make a flower crown to Rose. Rose picks a flower and tucks it on Sam's ear. Thomas tries to follow along but it falls apart. He looks disappointed. Sam takes Rose's hands and guides her through the steps. She is distracted by his eyes. They both slowly lean towards each other ready to kiss but stops. Embarrassed. Thomas in the background smirks.

Sam and Rose enter the house. Laughing. They both sit on the couch. Rose lays her head on him, arms in arms. Thomas is following behind. Their eyes lost in the distance. It is now filled with hundreds of flowers, the room is brighter and more colorful. Light shines through the window.

Thomas is standing behind them. He takes a rose and an orchid out of a vase. Sam is wearing a white polo and a beige jacket while Rose is in a burgundy red jumper. They are the orchid and the rose. The front door opens. Soft smoke spills into the room on the floor. A bright light shines through. He gives one last glance at the couple. He has finally fulfilled his promise. His mother will not be alone anymore. He can finally rest in peace. Thomas disappears through the door.

11. THE END.

FADE TO BLACK