

SHADOW

Written by

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INT. GOVERNMENT OFFICE - DAY

Five rows of empty desks with computers line the large room. A constant BEEP comes from a speaker.

Two men, AGENT ONE, 45, and AGENT TWO, 45, both wearing black suits, carefully watch a large computer monitor. Agent One covers his head with his hands.

AGENT ONE

She knows. We must keep her quiet.

AGENT TWO

What should we do?

Agent One takes a cell phone out of his front pocket. He hands it to Agent Two.

AGENT TWO (CONT'D)

No way. I'm not gonna be the messenger.

AGENT ONE

Call Shawn. Tell him to send the Shadow.

AGENT TWO

Once I make this call, there's no going back. Are you sure?

AGENT ONE

I said make the damn call.

EXT. STREET - DAY

ON THE SCREEN

Two Weeks Later

ON ASH

ASH, 20, squats next to a dumpster. She's out of breath and covered in dirt. Her clothes are tattered and messy.

The street appears barren. The buildings which line it are worn and desolate. The sky is gray and gloomy.

Ash pushes her hair out of her face and pulls a small tape recorder out of her pocket. She holds it up and speaks into it.

ASH
It's been a few weeks since I've
been here. They...Someone's sent
something after me.

Ash takes a deep breath and quickly glances around. She
speaks into the recorder again.

ASH (CONT'D)
I don't know what it is.

A giant shadow-like hand appears on the side of a building
next to Ash. She shoves the recorder into her pocket.

ASH (CONT'D)
Shit.

The hand crawls along the wall moving closer to Ash. The hand
is connected to a shadow-like arm that seems to go on
endlessly.

Ash jumps back away from the dumpster as the Shadow moves
closer. She sprints down the street, the Shadow following
her.

EXT. BRIDGE - DAY

The sky is a darker, more musty gray. Fog surrounds all sides
of the bridge.

Abandoned cars are scattered along it, some flipped over,
some with doors ajar. Ash appears out of the fog, sprinting.

Rain starts pouring down. Ash reaches the side of the bridge
and stops. She's out of breath and covered in sweat.

Ash yells.

ASH
Is...is that all you got?

She pulls her recorder out once again. Shaky, she holds it up
to her face.

ASH (CONT'D)
It's...I...

Ash wipes sweat from her forehead. She speaks into the
recorder.

ASH (CONT'D)
I've found out something they don't
want me to know.
(MORE)

ASH (CONT'D)

(beat)

Something they don't want anyone to know.

Ash tucks the recorder in her pocket. She bends down, trying to catch her breath.

Out of the fog appears the same giant shadow-like hand from before. The hand reaches out in a claw-like motion and strikes the bridge not far from Ash.

Ash jolts up, startled.

As the hand crawls closer, the rest of the Shadow still hidden in the fog, Ash backs up. Her back hits the railing on the side of the bridge.

ASH (CONT'D)

Figure it out, Ash.

The hand pulls up into the air and swings at Ash. She jumps to the side. The hand strikes the bridge. It rises into the air again.

Ash pulls her recorder out and wraps it in a waterproof bag. She quickly puts it back.

Just as the hand races down towards her she jumps off the bridge into the river below.

EXT. RIVER - DAY

Ash lands in the fast-moving river. She surfaces and looks up to see the Shadow still on the bridge. It's head is only a giant black shadow, no definition can be seen.

The Shadow ROARS. A loud thunder CLAP fills the air. The sky turns darker. The Shadow disappears.

Ash struggles to keep her head above water. She slowly swims towards the river bank.

Under the water, a dark figure moves like a torpedo towards her. She's pulled under. Both the Shadow and Ash disappear under the raging river.

Ash resurfaces and scrambles to get her leg free of the Shadow's grip. She sputters water.

ASH

You...You can destroy me.

Ash coughs.

ASH (CONT'D)
But, you'll never destroy what
you've created.

In a flash, the Shadow releases her and disappears once more. Ash swims to the river bank. She uses an overturned tree branch to pull herself up.

She lays down on her back trying to catch her breath. Another deafening thunder CLAP rings out. Ash stares up at the dark sky.

INT. ABANDONED BUILDING - NIGHT

Inside, most of the windows are broken. It looks as though a tornado tore through because of all the debris.

Ash gathers old linen in a pile in a corner.

ASH
Guess this'll work as a bed.

Ash moves more debris close to her bed. She sets a few pieces of wood under some sheets. She sits a bag up against the wall and puts a ball on top so it looks like a person.

ASH (CONT'D)
Hi, Mom.

Ash takes more wood and places it next to the first, making another human-shaped figure.

ASH (CONT'D)
Hi, Dad.

She moves back and sits down in front of them.

ASH (CONT'D)
I'm sorry I couldn't save you. I'll
make them pay.

Ash lays down on the bed she made and pulls her recorder out. She holds it to her mouth.

ASH (CONT'D)
I'm not sure how much longer I can
run.

She sighs. She rubs her forehead with her hand.

ASH (CONT'D)
I know sooner or later they'll get
me. I just hope I can let the rest
of humanity know.

Ash puts the recorder away. She falls asleep.

INT. ABANDONED BUILDING - DAY

Ash lays in her makeshift bed. Sunlight pours in through the broken windows. She slowly opens her eyes and looks around.

ASH
Oh...Ugh.

She sits up and rubs her head. She takes a moment to understand what's happened. She gets up and walks to the entrance.

Cautiously, she peeks out of the doorway. She walks out.

EXT. ABANDONED BUILDING - CONTINUOUS

Ash crosses her arms, standing just outside the doorway. She pulls her recorder out.

ASH
I've made it through the night.
It's --

A CREAK comes from the building. Ash looks around.

ASH (CONT'D)
The people who sent this...thing
after me--they are to be feared.

Above Ash, the giant shadow hand appears on the side of the building. This time, the whole Shadow appears.

Ash turns and looks up at the building. She screams. She holds her recorder up, frozen.

ASH (CONT'D)
It's huge. Must be atleast twenty
feet long.

The Shadow crawls down the building, closer to Ash.

ASH (CONT'D)
It's completely black, I can't even
see a face.

In an instant, the Shadow swoops down and grabs Ash. She screams.

ASH (CONT'D)
No, no, no, no, no.

Ash tries to wriggle out of the Shadow's grasp. She cries for help.

The Shadow climbs up the building carrying Ash.

ASH (V.O.)
If you've found my recorder, I've
not made it

The Shadow ROARS as it climbs.

ASH (V.O.)
They've got me. You must know that
they have to be stopped.

Ash falls unconscious in the Shadow's grip.

ASH (V.O.)
They're gonna release it and then
you'll know. No one will survive.

The Shadow disappears into thin air. Ash is gone with it.

ASH (V.O.)
Don't let them win.

Out of the air falls Ash's recorder. It lands on the ground and the tape pops out of the case. Everything is quiet. The only trace Ash was there is the fallen recorder.

EXT. ABANDONED BUILDING - DAY

ALI, 17, notices something on the ground. No one else is around. She looks nervous, for seemingly no reason. She picks up the recorder and fiddles with it.

Once the tape goes in, she presses play.

Nothing plays. She taps the recorder and presses play.

ASH (V.O.)
It's been a few weeks since I've
been here. They...Someone's sent
something after me.

Ali gasps.

