

INVINCIBLE NOT INVULNERABLE

Written by

Kevin Albers

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Kvnalbrs@gmail.com

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FADE IN:

EXT. A LOWER-CLASS NEIGHBORHOOD - DAY

It's a beautiful spring day.

PORCH

DAN COOPER (17), slouches in a chair, as he reads a book.

His sad eyes scan the pages, then peers up at a -

BLACK SEDAN

It drives down the street then parks across the street from Dan's house.

A MAN (30s), with sliver hair, casually glances up at the house, from the car --

Dan's eyes dart back to his book... He peers over the pages once more, the Man sits, waits and looks straight ahead.

Then:

Two cars ROAR down the street and SCREECH to a halt in front of Dan's porch.

MIKE (17), and MEGAN (17), hop out of a BMW. LUKE (17), hops out of a rusty 1987 DODGE SHADOW. They look and act as if they come from wealth, which they do.

Dan eyes them as they approach the wood steps.

LUKE
Hey dork.

DAN
Hey.

MEGAN
Hi Danny.

Dan sits up a little.

DAN
Hey Megan.

They walk up the steps and lean against the railing.

MIKE
Watcha reading?

Dan looks to the cover of his book.

DAN
A medical book on cancer.

MIKE
Oh.

MEGAN
How's your mom doing, anyway?

DAN
Not bad, she's resting.

MIKE
We miss you dude. You've gone awol on us.

LUKE
Yeah man, we miss the sick, crazy shit we use to do.

DAN
C'mon guys, its only been a few months.

LUKE
A few months without the rush is a long time dude.

Luke gestures to the Dodge Shadow.

LUKE (CONT'D)
A beautiful day for a joy ride at "Madman's Bluff", huh?

Dan looks at Megan, Megan gives a shy smile, Dan looks back at the guys.

DAN
I can't, my mom, I can't leave her.

MIKE
Sure man, we understand.

Luke throws up his hands.

LUKE
Whoa, wait a minute you fuckers.
(to Dan)
Dude, I stole that piece of shit from Duke's Dodge graveyard.
(MORE)

LUKE (CONT'D)

I spent all last week getting it to run, just for this. We'll be like, an hour at the most...

Luke sees Dan still ain't interested. So he goes for another tactic.

LUKE (CONT'D)

I promised Megan she could ride with us. She wants in on the experience, not just be a spectator this time. It'll be fun. You look like you could use a bit of fun dude.

Dan looks at Megan again, she is put on the spot.

MEGAN

It's ok if you can't, I just thought it would be cool if --

A COUGHING fit erupts from somewhere inside the house.

Dan gets up from his seat.

DAN

I gotta check on my Mom.

Dan goes inside.

Mike and Megan look to Luke.

LUKE

Let's just chill here for bit, he'll be back.

INT. LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

The room is dim and hazy. SANDY COOPER (40s), lies on a pull-out-bed, she COUGHS into a handkerchief.

Dan rushes to her side.

DAN

Mom, you ok?

SANDY

(amidst coughs)

Yes, yes... please, some water.

Dan goes into the kitchen, passing his own make-shift bed.

Sandy pushes herself up into a seating position.

Dan comes back with the glass of water, he hands it to her. Her COUGHING fit ceases.

Sandy drinks it, as Dan watches her with worry.

DAN
Any better?

Sandy puts down the glass and looks at her boy, she smiles, then takes his hand.

SANDY
Much... Thank you.

DAN
I didn't mean to be outside so long, I'm sorry.

SANDY
No, sweetheart, don't be sorry. The fresh air is good for you... I just had something in my throat.

Sandy peers out the window, she sees the teenagers. She pays particular attention to Megan. She turns to her son.

SANDY (CONT'D)
I see your friends have dropped by?

DAN
Yeah.

SANDY
Megan is a very pretty girl.

DAN
Mom...

SANDY
What?... You should ask her out, is all I'm suggesting.

DAN
What, and the three of us have take-in and watch a movie?

SANDY
No, go out, like on a real date.

Dan stands up and paces back and forth.

DAN
I can't. I don't want to. She's not interested in me anyway.

SANDY

Daniel.

Dan stops and looks at his mom.

Sandy moves to the edge of the bed, Dan goes to her aid. She stands up, a little shaky at first but gets her bearings.

SANDY (CONT'D)

You should go out with your friends.

DAN

Mom, I'd rather stay here with you. I don't know what will happen if I leave.

SANDY

You can't stay with me forever sweetheart. I want you to go with your friends. Have a good time... Please, for me.

Dan says nothing, he peers out the window at Megan.

Sandy moves to the foot of the pull-out-couch.

SANDY (CONT'D)

Now go, have fun... I'll be here when you get back, I promise.

DAN

Mom, are you sure?

SANDY

Yes I'm sure, I feel better today than I have in months... First, help me push this back in.

Dan helps his mother push the bed back into the couch.

SANDY (CONT'D)

Now give me a hug.

Dan wraps his arms tightly around his mother, they hug.

DAN

I'm afraid to leave...

SANDY

Don't be. I'll be fine. I'll be here.

Dan holds onto his mother for a moment... then pulls away.

His mother gives him a bright smile.

SANDY (CONT'D)
Now go. Have some fun.

Dan heads to the front door, then stops, he looks at his mom.

DAN
I love you Mom.

SANDY
I love you more than the world.

Dan smiles, then leaves.

Sandy watches her son disappear, then looks at her handkerchief, it has a fresh blood stain.

EXT. PORCH - CONTINUOUS

Dan greets the group with a nod.

MEGAN
Is your mom okay?

DAN
Yeah, she's fine. She said she'll be fine for a couple of hours.

LUKE
Does that mean we can go jumping?

Dan looks at Megan.

DAN
Yeah, lets go jumping.

Megan smiles.

LUKE
What the fuck are we waiting for.

They climb into the cars.

CAR

As they pull out, Dan gets a closer look at the Man sitting, waiting in his black car, only for a passing moment, do their eyes meet, the Man's eye's a bright grey color.

EXT. MADMAN'S BLUFFS - DAY

The BMW and Dodge Shadow, pull up a few feet from the edge of the 80 foot drop.

They get out and huddle by the edge, peering down.

LUKE
Fucking right, this will do.

MIKE
This is insane.

LUKE
That's the point, dickneck.

Luke turns back to the BMW.

MIKE
So how do we get up, after?

Luke points in one direction.

LUKE
There's a path over there.

Luke takes out his phone and sunglasses and puts them into the back seat of the BMW.

LUKE (CONT'D)
Alright death fuckers, leave all
your valuables and breakables
behind.

The group pull out their cell phones and sunglasses and place them in the back seat of the BMW.

They all climb into the old Dodge Shadow. Luke in the driver seat, Mike next to him, and Megan and Dan in the back.

CAR

Luke starts the engine and lines up with the cliff.

MEGAN
Ahh, I don't have a seat belt.

LUKE
(with a smirk)
You don't need one.

MEGAN
Oh.

Megan takes Dan's hand. Dan looks at his hand being held by Megan, then at Megan, she's nervous.

MEGAN (CONT'D)
Has it ever stopped working?

DAN
What?

MEGAN
Your gift, has it ever failed?

Dan smiles.

DAN
Oh, no...
(teasing)
Not yet.

He laughs, Megan punches him in the arm, but laughs too.

MEGAN
Asshole.

Luke REVS the engine.

LUKE
You bitches ready?

EVERYONE
Yeah!

Luke slams his foot against the gas peddle.

EXT. MADMAN'S BLUFFS

The car jerks into motion, kicking up dust and dirt as it peels out, towards the cliff.

CAR

LUKE
(yells)
Life's a slut, then you die! Motha'
fuckers...

THE BLUFFS

The car flies off the cliff and for a moment, SOARS....

The gang SCREAMS with the thrill of it, then --

It drops, this time they SCREAM in terror, the car free falls, then smashes into the ground below, it's totalled.

A cloud of dust mushrooms and engulfs the car.

EXT. VALLEY - MOMENTS LATER

Dust settles, a car door opens, Mike stumbles out a little dazed, then Luke, then Dan and Megan make their exit.

They get their bearings and check themselves for injuries; there are none.

LUKE
Holy fuck, jizzicles! That was
fucking awesome!

Mike bursts into laughter, Luke joins in.

Megan finishes examining herself, she's in shock.

DAN
(to Megan)
You alright?

Megan looks to Dan, then flings her arms around him.

MEGAN
(ecstatic)
That was fucking crazy, my life
flashed before my eyes.

Dan smiles.

EXT. DIRT PATH - LATER

The four of them walk up the path. Dan walks next to Megan, the guys follow behind.

MEGAN
So when did you first know that you
could do... what you could do?

DAN
I dunno... I fell into a pool when
I was five. I didn't know how to
swim so I sank like a stone. When
they pulled me out five minutes
later, I was fine... But I guess I
really knew when Luke and me stole
your mom's car and we got hit by a
semi truck, head on.

MEGAN

Yeah I remember that. That was my thirteenth birthday.

DAN

"There was no way anyone should have lived", they kept saying.

MEGAN

Well, my Dad gave Luke a real good beating that night, I think he wished he hadn't.

They laugh, Luke and Mike move past Megan and Dan.

LUKE

What are you fuckers laughing at?

MEGAN

You, pyscho.

LUKE

Whatever.

Dan and Megan now trail behind.

MEGAN

So, like how does it work? You know, what's the parameters?

DAN

I don't know. All I know is, if we are close, nothing can ever hurt you.

Megan stops, so does Dan. She takes his hand.

MEGAN

That's good, 'cause I think I like being close to you.

Then:

BOOM, the car explodes in the distance.

Everyone stops in their tracks to duck, they look out at the blazing car fire.

LUKE

(laughing)
Shit, we better go.

They continue on with a quicker pace.

Dan and Megan follow hand in hand.

EXT. DAN'S HOUSE - LATER

Dan hops out of the BMW, the others wait in the car.

DAN
Let me just check on my Mom.

Dan runs up the porch steps and swings open the front door.

INT. LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

DAN (O.S.)
(calls out)
Mom?...

Dan walks into the living room.

DAN (CONT'D)
Mom?

Dan sees; Sandy lying face down on the ground. He rushes to her side. Blood comes from her nose and pools on the floor.

DAN (CONT'D)
(in tears)
Oh God, Mom? God please no, Mom,
please wake up. Please, please wake
up!

Megan enters, sees Dan in tears, trying to wake his mother.

She gets her phone out, and dials.

MEGAN
(into phone)
Hello, I need an ambulance now!

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - NIGHT

Sandy is in a coma, she is on life support. Dan is close to her side. He watches her intently, holding her hand. The rhythmic sounds of the machine's BEEPS, HISS and CLICKS with indifference, then a man's voice breaks the bleak silence.

THE MAN (O.S.)
You need to let her go Daniel.

Dan turns to see the Man from the black car, his grey eyes and silver hair stand out, he stands by the door. Dan turns back to his mother.

DAN
Who are you?

THE MAN
I'm here to take your mother, but I need you to allow me to do my job.

DAN
No.

THE MAN
I ask not for my sake, but for hers. A few more moments was all I needed, but then you came home... And now... she's trapped, trapped in her body... Her time has come.

DAN
I can't let her go.

THE MAN
Daniel --

DAN
I said no!

Silence... the Man steps toward the machines and around the other side of the bed.

He looks to the heart monitor, its signs of life BLEEPs onto screen, in slow and steady intervals.

THE MAN
I see death every hour of everyday. Yet, I won't ever be able to understand what it's like to lose a love one, a child, a parent, or both...

He looks at Dan, Dan eyes him back with contempt.

THE MAN (CONT'D)
But I do know it's a part of life, it needs to happen.

Dan jolts up from his chair, The Man backs off.

DAN
I don't want you here!

Tears stream down his cheek from his red, puffy eyes.

The Man steps back to give space. Dan sits again.

THE MAN

You are a very unique person
Daniel, but you have limitations...
You cannot heal her, or bring her
back. All you are doing is
prolonging her suffering, and
yours... You had three more months
with her than you should have,
cherish that time, remember those
moments, don't tarnish them by
holding on to this pain Daniel...
She will always be with you, just
in a different way... She wants you
to let her go.

More tears swell up in Dan's eyes, he doesn't take his gaze
off his mother's motionless body.

DAN

Will she go to Heaven?

THE MAN

I'm sorry I can not say.

DAN

Will I see her again?

THE MAN

I can not say.

DAN

How can I trust what you do say?

THE MAN

With faith I suppose... Faith in
the things you know to be true.

Dan looks to the Man, then to the heart monitor, it BEEPS, a
life line pulses onto screen. Dan turns back to his mother.

Dan squeezes her hand and shuts his eyes tight, he rests his
head against her. The tears stream down his cheeks.

He stays like this for a few moments, then; he rises from his
chair, still holding his mother's hand. He kisses her on the
forehead.

DAN

(softly)

Good-bye Mother. I love you.

Dan lets go of his mother's hand, and turns to the Man.

DAN (CONT'D)
Will I see you again?

The Man gives no reply... Dan moves to the door, as he looks back at his mother.

The Man moves to the foot of the bed, and stands there.

Dan opens the door -

HALL

As Dan steps out and closes the door, the machine SCREAMS a high pitch tone, announcing the flat-line.

Dan walks on autopilot as nurses rush by him, he heads towards the -

WAITING AREA

Luke and Mike stand up from their seats, as Dan approaches.

Megan walks back and fourth, stops, then goes to Dan.

Dan collapses into Megan's arms as they embrace each other. Dan SOBS into her shoulder. Luke and Mike huddle close to Dan and Megan.

FADE OUT.