

Red as Blood

written by

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INT. BEDROOM - MORNING

BEEP - loud noise from an alarm clock chime. A hand tries to reach toward the alarm clock.

JERIKA

UGHHH

Someone's hand slips off. She misses the button, then tries again, misses once more.

JERIKA (CONT'D)

Shut...UP!

BANG - JERIKA "RED" HOOD 19, a rebellious, protective lass. She slams her hand on her alarm clock. She looks like a mess.

She gets up off of her bed and stretches reaching for the ceiling.

INT. BATHROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Red showers. Nothing but a steamy silhouette is shown.

INT. BEDROOM - MOMENTS LATER

She struggles to put on an outfit. Mainly with her punk-like boots. She is hopping on one foot trying to lean on the dresser. But falls flat on the ground.

JERIKA

Dammit!

INT. LIVING ROOM - MORNING

Kelsey Hood, 45, a deadbeat business mom, is lounging around watching The Price is Right with a business suit on. She is currently munching on some IHOP

SCREE- THUD - Someone comes crashing down from a stairway.

KELSEY

UGH. Great.

She walks toward the racket. Red rubs her head and looks around. Her mom crosses her arms.

KELSEY (CONT'D)

Look who decided to wake up.

Red gets up quickly, her fall phasing her.

JERIKA

Hey, don't blame me for being like this. Being tired all the time is a part of the teenage experience.

Red looks at where her mom sits and notices her takeout.

JERIKA (CONT'D)

You didn't get me anything? You know I love IHOP.

KELSEY

Well, you weren't awaked yet, so I didn't even bother.

She walks toward the chair and snatches an uneaten egg and bacon.

KELSEY (CONT'D)

Hey, that's my food, not yours.

JERIKA

It's not for me. It's for Uncle Woodsboro

KELSEY

That deadbeat?! He won't do anything for you.

JERIKA

You're wrong, he is doing something for me. For us.

KELSEY

Ah, that frivolous search. What a waste of our Police's time.

JERIKA

It's for our community. It's a matter of life or death.

With total disregard of her kid, Kelsey walks past her and sits back down on the couch.

Jerika looks toward a picture frame with her entire family on it that is on a nearby tabletop.

CLOSE ON: Red's dad, mom, and her near a Ferris wheel.

Jerika looks toward a hung-up newspaper that highlights her father. The newspaper says, "Man goes missing under mysterious circumstances in nearby forest". The paper is hung up right next to an obituary for him.

JERIKA (CONT'D)

Dad talked to me constantly. Why
can't you for just a second?

KELSEY

How many times do I need to say it?
Your Dad is gone! He has been for
ten months. Hence, the obituary.

JERIKA

He is not gone, just missing.
There's a difference. A difference
you don't recognize.

She puts her hood up and -

- SLAM - she shuts the door as she heads to school.

EXT. POLICE DEPARTMENT - MORNING

A car rolls up onto a driveway. It parks perfectly. DETECTIVE
WOODSBORO, 45, a keen detective with a heart of gold, enters
into his workplace. Not noticing his car's front bumper
falling onto the driveway.

He enters with swagger. A tan tattered up coat sways with his
movements.

INT. POLICE DEPARTMENT - MORNING

AHHHHHH!! -- Woodsboro dashes away from someone who almost
blindsides him as the department is currently calamity
incarnate.

Police officers run into each other, fall to the ground, some
argue, but it's unintelligible.

Woodsboro points his gun into the sky and --

BANG - The department turns silent and looks on detective in
an instant. Roof falls on him. He brushes dust off his coat.

WOODSBORO

Now, can anyone tell me what I
missed?

TOMBOYISH COP

You're not going to like it, chief.

A Cop grabs a TV remote that tunes into morning news.

REPORTER

Good morning, everyone and welcome
to Hollow Springs news: Morning
edition.

The Reporter collects her papers. And straightens her hair.

REPORTER (CONT'D)

[AHM] For those of us just tuning
in. We have official breaking news
that our local killer labeled as
"The Wolf" has killed another
victim last night.

A man slides into frame.

REPORTER (CONT'D)

Tom Selly, our local gentle florist
of our town was found mauled to
death, with his home also in
wreckage.

TV shuts off.

WOODSBORO

How many has this Wolf killer guy
got?

TOMBOYISH COP

About 6 officially named and found
now, sir. With more reported as
missing. This was just reported
after some patrol cars saw wreckage
at his home.

WOODSBORO

Start sending out as many cops as
you can. Find as much evidence that
is out there. We can't let Hollow
Springs die.

DING DONG -- a door alarm goes off.

JERIKA

Hey, Unc Woodsboro! I saw your car
here and wanted to give you some of
my morning snacks.

Detective looks back at his colleges, then looks back at Red.
He pulls Red outside, grabbing by her hood.

JERIKA (CONT'D)

AWWWWWW COME ON!!!!

EXT. POLICE DEPARTMENT - MORNING

WOODSBORO

Look, I really appreciate you showing up, kid, but I'm in a middle of a very serious investigation. Something that might find my brother, YOUR dad. This is important, you should be in school!

Red goes to him with a hug, confused by sudden love, he hugs back.

WOODSBORO (CONT'D)

But it was nice to see you at least.

JERIKA

I know how hard you are trying on this investigation, and I appreciate it. It's nice to have someone who treats my dad as not gone.

She pulls out her bag with bacon and eggs.

JERIKA (CONT'D)

Here's some morning munchies I nabbed out of Kelsey's takeout. I know how much you struggle with money right now.

He looks at his car, front bumper on road. Visibly upset, He looks back to Red who has a smile on her. His expression changes from a frown to a quaint smile.

He grabs an egg and dangles it in the air like a whoopee cushion.

Jerika smiles innocently like an angel from heaven. He starts munching.

WOODSBORO

(Mouthful)

I appreciate this, kid. Now, get to class.

JERIKA

Ugh, but I don't want to! It sucks there. Everyone there are dicks.

WOODSBORO

Not all of them are dicks.

JERIKA
You don't know that.

Woodsboro swallows his food.

WOODSBORO
I most certainly do, I can't argue
with you. Get to school, learn your
shit or I'll call your mom about
you playing hooky.

JERIKA
Ugh, fine. I'd rather go to school
than deal with my mom.

Jerika hugs Woodsboro a second time

JERIKA (CONT'D)
Just promise to find my dad for me.
Ok?

WOODSBORO
I'll try kid.

He puts Jerika into a headlock and noogies her. Both of them
laughing. Jerika wiggles her way out of the lock and quickly
darts away.

WOODSBORO (CONT'D)
[Chuckles] This gal. What am I
going to do with her?

He looks back at the department and walks back into the
building.

EXT. HOLLOW SPRINGS HIGH - MORNING

Red approaches her school. Kids talk with one another. Some
students lip lock.

JERIKA
Sheesh... Why don't you guys' just
raw dog each other already?

The couple looks at Jerika with annoyance, then, look back at
each other, continuing to suck face.

Red eye rolls and walks right past them. As she reaches
toward an entrance. She opens its door and enters her living
hell.

JERIKA (CONT'D)
Another shit day at school. let's
get this over with.

The doors swing open and quickly transitions into --

EXT. HOLLOW SPRINGS HIGH - AFTERNOON

Red exits out in a same way she came in. She rustles through
her pockets.

JERIKA
Phone: Check. Wallet: Check. Drugs:
Check. And my lucky pencil: Check.

RING - Jerika's Nokia goes off in her pocket. She reaches
into it. The screen reads "absentee bitch" She finds a
private place to answer her phone.

BEEP

JERIKA (CONT'D)
What?

KELSEY (O.S.)
School called, said you got into
some sort of confrontation.

JERIKA
Wasn't a big deal, some creep was
on top of me, we got into an
argument, that's all.

KELSEY (O.S.)
Principal Lynn said you "swung
first".

JERIKA
Self-defense, dude was on my ass.

KELSEY (O.S.)
You need to get help.

JERIKA
What makes you think that? I'm as
fit as a fiddle.

KELSEY (O.S.)
Well, you're obviously acting out
and miss your father.

JERIKA

Wow, gee, Kelsey. You cracked the code.

KELSEY (O.S.)

Don't be like this right now.

JERIKA

You got to start being present.

KELSEY (O.S.)

My point is you need to fix your shit. I refuse to have someone like you around my house if this is how you're going to be. You aren't going to get far without help from others.

JERIKA

I already got friends: knuckles and sucker.

She clenches her hands into fists. She then looks toward a nearby unmarked path that leads into a forest.

JERIKA (CONT'D)

I'm getting really tired of hearing your voice. I'm going to hop off and walk to Grandma's. She might help.

KELSEY

Fine. I don't care, just fix yourself.

BEEP - Jerika hangs up on her abruptly. She looks closer at the path ahead of her.

- HOO - HOO - CREEK - The path Red sees is filled with dark, unknown sounds.

JERIKA

Hm, Dark, Unknown, and Spooky?
Might just text Unc Detect just in case.

She scrolls to a Direct Message with Detective Woodsboro

JERIKA (CONT'D)

(on text)

Hey, detect, I am on my way to see Granny, Could I see the crime before I go. Be a Robin to Batman.

WOODSBORO

(on text)

Sorry, Kid :/ this crime scene is GRIZZLY! Get to your grandma's to be safe. Maybe afterwards I can pick ya up at your grandma's and get ice cream at that 24-hour ice cream shop!

JERIKA

(on text)

I can do that!

WOODSBORO

(on text)

Do be careful though, there are things going on that worry me.

JERIKA

(On text)

I'll be fine, I found some wooded area that might have animals too busy to find me unlike society.

WOODSBORO

(on text)

Well still, do be careful not to trip on something. I'll pick you up soon. Love ya kid, <3

JERIKA

(on text)

Love ya too, Uncle <3.

Jerika pockets her phone in her pocket and walks off into the unknown dark forest. Bright yellow eyes open in a nearby bush in the forest and scampers off.

EXT. CRIME SCENE - AFTERNOON

Woodsboro looks at his blackberry reading Jerika's texts. He looks at a crime scene he inhabits.

TOMBOYISH COP

Sir?

He looks toward this cop and frantically puts it back in his pocket.

WOODSBORO

Sorry about that. Did you find anything?

TOMBOYISH COP

We did.

Woodsboro gets up off of a scratched sofa with claw marks on it and rubs his brow.

WOODSBORO

Show me

INT. CRIME SCENE - AFTERNOON

TOM SELLY, this local florist that was mentioned on the news, has been splayed on the floor with forensics specialists' prodding at his body.

A blood spatter is snapping photos of the blood on the couch.

Woodsboro brushes everyone aside with the cop following close behind him.

TOMBOYISH COP

Jesus, it doesn't get better after seeing it.

Woodsboro gets down on one knee and looks closer at his body. He notices fresh blood on Tom's carpeted floor. He looks back at that body.

WOODSBORO

This killer looked to take a lung, appendix, both kidneys, and liver. Poor bastard.

He observes the fresh blood that leads to a completely destroyed wall.

EXT. CRIME SCENE - CONTINUOUS

He goes toward the outside trail and feels it. The trail leads to a nearby forest.

WOODSBORO

Blood's fresh, even though it's been a few hours since reported.

TOMBOYISH COP

Maybe this killer put his stuff in Tom's freezer before he left.

WOODSBORO

Perhaps.

He looks at a nearby cop.

WOODSBORO (CONT'D)
You, go check the freezer.

The cop nods and speed walks toward the kitchen.

He gets up from this trail and looks back at that house. Cops wearing hazmat suits examines chemicals laced on the walls.

WOODSBORO (CONT'D)
(To: Himself)
A sign of a struggle, maybe?
(To: Tomboyish Cop)
Which trail do we think this trail
leads to?

TOMBOYISH COP
It connects to our local high
school to a nearby suburbia.

WOODSBORO
And we're sure this monster lives
here...

TOMBOYISH COP
These trails in all these scenes
lead into that particular forest.
All suspects missing key body
parts.

WOODSBORO
Shit, this is bad.
(To: all unhazmat cops)
GET INTO YOUR CARS NOW!

All cops run off toward where they parked as Woodsboro leads the pack.

EXT. DARK FOREST TRAIL - AFTERNOON

Red strides within the forest.

JERIKA
Stupid mom. Think's I'm a problem.
She's the problem.

CRUNCH - A branch crushes distantly which disturbs Red.

JERIKA (CONT'D)
Um, Hello? Who's out there?

WHOOSH -SNICKT- Something breezes past her. She looks behind her and notices claw tracks on the dusty, unkept trail.

JERIKA (CONT'D)

Whoever is out there, I am a yellow belt in karate! SHOW YOURSELF

Someone comes out of a bush. It's THE WOLF.

JERIKA (CONT'D)

You lost or something? You know, the furry convention is downtown. Just right down from where I came from.

The Wolf remains silent. He steps closer to her until he is close to Red.

JERIKA (CONT'D)

Trying to intimidate me huh? Nice try. I've had ex's scarier than you.

The Wolf tosses something on the ground. Jerika kneels down and inspects it. She locks eyes with the coat and back to The Wolf.

JERIKA (CONT'D)

This is his, isn't it?

The Wolf tilts his head and pulls out a Polaroid that features Jerika's dad rugged and mangled.

Jerika starts to hyperventilate tears running down her face while she glares at him with a sharp, defiant glance that pierces into The Wolf

The Wolf grabs her throat with lightning speed. He bares wolf claw gloves up to Red's face and --

SHIIIIINNNNGGG -- extends the claw mechanisms like Wolverine.

He starts to slash her hood; he tilts his head again.

With one finger, he scratches her shoulder, teasingly.

JERIKA (CONT'D)

ACK! OK! Whatever you're about to do. Know that I'm hard to chew.

Unfazed, he then plunges his other clawed paw into her chest suddenly.

JERIKA (CONT'D)
GAHH! THAT HURT, YOU BITCH!

She reaches into her pocket with her lucky pencil and-

-STAB- She pierces her stalker with her pencil in his shoulder and quickly darts away, with tears lacing the trail and fury in her brow.

The Wolf jumps in front of her and out of nowhere. He quickly removes the pencil in front of her.

She slides under him, punching him in his balls. As she slides under him, he makes a try to stab her with the pencil to no avail.

She rushes off to a nearby big Burch tree, using her hand quickly to cover her breathing and wound.

The Wolf stops for a moment, looks toward where Red hides. She covers her mouth more. He slowly walks away.

JERIKA (CONT'D)
[Relived Sigh]

She runs toward the final stretch towards her grandma's.

SNAP - She trips on a branch and as the wolf walks slowly to her she tries to wake her right leg up. But it's twisted, limp.

JERIKA (CONT'D)
Dammit!

She looks around the forest frantically to find something to help her. As The Wolf comes closer to her

JERIKA (CONT'D)
Uh, DUST; I CHOOSE YOU!

She grips on the dirt ground as hard as possible and throws some at the wolf's face which stops him for a second but doesn't faze him.

Red frantically looks at anything else that could help her. And sees the nearby branch she tripped on, and she holds it up like a spear.

JERIKA (CONT'D)
Come over here, fucker.

He paces slowly towards Red.

JERIKA (CONT'D)
FACE ME YOU BITCH!

He lunges toward her but --

SLASH - The Wolf is speared by Red's branch. He looks down and tries to reach her but -

BANG - A bullet pierces into The Wolf's chest and as he falls to the ground. We see the detective panting.

JERIKA (CONT'D)
Detective?

The detective looks at Jerika and notices her wounds.

JERIKA (CONT'D)
I'm ok. But this is starting to hurt like a motherfucker.

He looks at his patrol and signals one of the cops to get medical.

As he runs off, he goes toward red.

JERIKA (CONT'D)
(weak)
He's gone, Dad's gone. It killed him.

WOODSBORO
Holy shit. I-I'm so sorry, Jerika. I wish there was something more I could do.

He hugs on her, and she hugs on him.

JERIKA
I may need a new home. Just for a bit, see what it's like to live with a boy scout uncle instead of well, Kelsey. Who knows, maybe it'll be what I need to turn clean.

She laughs a bit and coughs a few times blood getting on Detective's coat. Detective starts tearing up.

WOODSBORO
You can stay with me, kid. I'm always here, no matter what.

They both lightly smile just as EMT pulls up and help tend to Jerika's wounds.

THE END.