

WALKING WITH EYES OPENED

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FADE IN:

EXT. EMERGENCY TERMINAL - DAY

Screeching tires from a truck freeze in front of the Emergency Room. MAXIMUS hops out of his vehicle wearing a pair of dress shoes and makes his way to the entrance. The dress shoes of MAXIMUS frantically dashes through automatic sliding glass doors.

INT. EMERGENCY CHECK IN ROOM - DAY

The black dress shoes of Maximus reaches the check in desk and begins to pace back-and-forth.

MAXIMUS

Where is she? Where is my daughter
Emilia Dove?

Maximus's shoes shuffle frantically from side to side.

RECEPTIONIST

Room 208, just take the elevator to
the second floor...

Maximus starts making his way down the hall.

INT. HALL - DAY

Maximus quickly sprints down the hall and stops as he comes to a crossing. Noise from the surrounding hospital terminals distracts him, and he begins to move his feet in circles, and from side to side until he gets his bearings. Maximus then takes a sharp right, continuing down the hall. Maximus barges into hospital room 208 without pausing.

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - DAY

Maximus's feet worked their way up to the side of the bed and stops.

MAXIMUS

What happened! What did you do,
child?

Clicking high heels approach the foot of the bed from
SOPHIA.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

SOPHIA

(Soft)

I'm sorry, I looked away for one second. She was only playing. I found her necklace in the sand; I thought you would want it.

MAXIMUS

Get out! God damn you! Get out of here.

Sophia walks towards the door and stops in the door way.

SOPHIA

It was an accident.

MAXIMUS

Out! Out!

Sophia exits. MAXIMUS kneels down beside the bed.

MAXIMUS (CONT'D)

Baby girl, what were you thinking. Why? Why do this to me?(Beat) God, not now.

Foot steps from a DOCTOR startle him as a white lab coat makes its way into the room. Maximus drops a cross necklace onto the floor; it falls under the bed.

MAXIMUS (CONT'D)

Tell me, Doctor, what's happening?

DOCTOR

I fear she fell while playing on a jungle gym and knocked her head, resulting in a concussion. I am sorry also to tell you that she has slipped into a state of a deep unconsciousness that lasts for a prolonged or possibly an indefinite period.

MAXIMUS

She is in a fucking coma, just say it Doc.

DOCTOR

(Startled)

Yes, I say if you believe in any thing. Now is the time, the time for prayer.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MAXIMUS

Prayer? Will prayer bring a miracle?

DOCTOR

If one believes we have a chapel down stairs. (Beat) I will be monitoring her every breath; you will be the first to know if anything changes I can promise you that.

MAXIMUS

Leave! Just do your job.

The Doctor withdraws from the room, and Maximus stands up and begins to paces back-and-forth continuously without rest. Day to night to day flash over and over as Maximus walks around the room. Maximus sits in a chair and taps his left foot.

INT. WAITING ROOM - NIGHT

Maximus moves throughout the room never sitting or standing still for a second.

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - NIGHT

Maximus pulls a chair beside the hospital bed and sits. Then Maximus slides his shoes off and then pulls his feet up to sleep.

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - DAY

Clicking heels enter from the door way from Sophia. Maximus slides his shoes back on and stands upwards. Sophia walks to a table, and a sound of a glass vase is heard as she places it on the near by table.

MAXIMUS

I told you you're not welcomed here, I can have you arrested.

SOPHIA

I brought her flowers.

MAXIMUS

Out.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

SOPHIA

She is my daughter too.

MAXIMUS

No longer. (Beat) You do not have custody, for you left us both.

(Beat) Out please don't make this harder than it already is. I can't; I can't go through this again.

Sophia leaves slowly.

INT. CHURCH ROOM - DAY

Maximus is kneeling before an altar in a different pair of shoes.

MAXIMUS

(Soft Spoken)

I don't know if you care, or are listening. But spare my baby girl, if you ask you shall have from thy. Do not let her life be shortened, take the time I have and give it to her, for I have lived and she has not. Listen to me! I demand you to listen to me here and now! I curse you then, for you have cursed me. Repent for your evil doing, for you let the Devil into our lives and do nothing. What monster would take a daughter from a father? Only the Devil himself. That must be you. Who has taught you how to hate? I am a fool; no one lives in the clouds.

Maximus leaves the room. After shutting the door behind himself a cross from the altar falls to the floor.

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - DAY

Maximus is standing next to the bed with another different pair of shoes on. The Doctor walks in.

MAXIMUS

What is the news, its going on a year and nothing has changed. Why?

DOCTOR

(Melancholy)

I am sorry, Mr.Dove.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

DOCTOR (CONT'D)

It is time to make the impossible decision. We have two options. Her insurance, and frankly you can no longer afford life support. I have been by your side, seen you sell your house and car to keep her afloat. I have seen all your sorrows, and I am deeply sorry. Truly. But now we must make a decision, try and move her to a different facility or... (Beat) Pull the plug. I have the paper work ready either way, we understand and respect your decision. (Beat) I will give you time.

The Doctor leaves.

MAXIMUS

(Screams)

Ahhh!

Maximus knocks a vase off of a table next to the bed, dead flowers crash onto the floor. Maximus kneels next to the outlet beside the bed and reaches for the plug, he stops and lets go of the plug and reaches for a shard of glass. Maximus stands up and walks to the restroom within the room.

INT. RESTROOM - DAY

Blood begins to trickle down onto the tile floor. Then the shard of glass falls to the floor. Maximus collapses to the floor in a pool of blood. A wound in his left wrist begins to pour out blood.

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - DAY

An IV still plugged into the wall can be seen. The cross necklace can be seen still under the bed. Two small feet are revealed with white socks poking out of the blue sheets. In the bed a young girl Emilia motionless. Looking at her face with a breathing tube in her nose, dark hair rest still beside her pink cheeks as silence fills the room. A moment of pause takes place, and her eyes open revealing bright blue eyes.

FADE OUT: