

BEN

What happened? Are you okay?

She points to the rubber man -- he's actually just a large rubber suit -- known as a RUBBER ASPHYXIATION SUIT hanging from a hook. The suit is black, covers the entire body and has a mask with two small eye holes and two tiny breathing straws that can be pinched to temporarily suffocate the wearer.

BEN (CONT'D)

Guess those guys were into the kinky stuff.

(then)

Should I try it on?

VIVIEN

Stop it. It's not funny.

But they laugh. A beat, then Violet peeks her head in.

VIOLET

What happened?

(seeing the suit)

Holy shit.

VIVIEN

Get it out of here.

EXT. HOUSE -- NIGHT

Ben tosses the suit in the GARBAGE.

INT. BEN'S HOME OFFICE -- DAY

TIGHT on various items as we hear a therapy session. Ben's diploma from Yale; psychiatric books he has written.

BEN'S VOICE

These fantasies started, two years ago, three years ago...?

MALE VOICE

Two years.

We see Ben, very calm and professional in his shrink chair.

BEN

Is there a structure to the thoughts...a pattern...

MALE VOICE

It's always the same, it starts the same way.

BEN

How?

MALE VOICE

I prepare for the noble war.

We REVEAL TATE LANGDON...17, handsome, charismatic as hell...he could be a cult leader or a movie star.

TATE

I get a taste for the
bloodletting...and I pack up my
weapons of mass destruction.

INTERCUT WITH:

INT. VIOLET'S BEDROOM -- SIMULTANEOUS

Violet neatly unpacks razor blades, raises one, examines it.

INT. OFFICE -- SIMULTANEOUS

BEN

Guns?

TATE

Obviously.

BEN

And then?

INT. HIGHSCHOOL HALLWAY -- DAY

Tate walks through a crowded hallway, smiling sweetly, wearing a trenchcoat and holding a duffel bag.

TATE'S VOICE

I'm walking through the halls, I'm
calm, I have the secret, I know
what's coming and I know no one can
stop me, including myself.

BEN'S VOICE

Do you target people who have been
mean to you? Unkind?

TATE'S VOICE

No. I kill people I like.

In the hall, a SWEET INNOCENT 16-YEAR-OLD GIRL smiles at him. He smiles back.

BEN'S VOICE

Do you feel sympathy?

TATE'S VOICE
No. I'm helping them.

INT. CLASSROOM -- DAY

Typical algebra tedium. Until Tate enters.

TEACHER
Can I help you?

TATE
No.

He RAISES HIS GUN, shoots the teacher. She instantly goes down. Tate looks at the shocked students, who are paralyzed. He starts roaming the aisles and just shooting.

INT. OFFICE -- DAY

TATE
Some of them beg for their life,
but I don't feel sad, I don't feel
anything. Its a filthy world we
live in, a filthy goddamned
helpless world, and honestly? I
feel I'm taking them away from all
the shit and piss and vomit that
runs in the streets, you know? I'm
helping to take them somewhere
clean and silent and kind.

INT. CLASSROOM -- DAY

The entire classroom has been massacred, the walls are blood smeared. The sweet girl from the hallway has been badly wounded, but she's not dead. He stops in front of her, aims the gun. She raises her shaking hand, we SEE him through a gaping bullet hole.

INNOCENT GIRL
Please...

He shoots her dead.

INT. OFFICE -- DAY

TATE
There's something about the blood,
man. All that blood. I drown in it.

INT. SCHOOL -- DAY

Tate is bounding down the stairwell, to escape. He hears something, stops turns.

A TORRENT OF BLOOD, A WALL OF IT, races down the stairwell at him. He spreads his arms, to welcome it. It envelopes him, he is obliterated.

INT. OFFICE -- DAY

Ben shows no emotion, writes SOCIOPATH on his tablet.

TATE

The Indians believed that blood holds all the bad spirits, they would cut themselves once a month in ceremonies, let the spirits go free. There's something smart about that. Very smart. I like that.

INT. VIOLET'S BEDROOM -- SIMULTANEOUS

Violet cuts herself with the razor blade. She stares at the crimson gash on her arm with no emotion.

INT. OFFICE -- DAY

TATE

You think I'm crazy?

BEN

No. I think you're creative, and I think you have a lot of pain you're not dealing with.

TATE

My mother's worried about me.

BEN

Yes.

TATE

She's a cocksucker. I mean, literally, she's a cocksucker. She sucked the guy off next door all the time, my dad found out, he left. He left me alone with a cocksucker, can you imagine? How sick is that?

Tate for the first time shows vulnerability.

TATE (CONT'D)

I'm not crazy, dude. Don't you think it's interesting? The idea of letting the bad blood out? The worlds a filthy place. A goddamned horror show. So much pain. So much.