

Whispering Walls

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INT. ART STUDIO - DAYTIME

ALANA, the main character, has long silk-like hair and a vintage clothing style, a clear presentation of her .

She is introduced to the screen, with her sketching the outskirts of a page in a sketchbook, with a focused face.

ALANA (VOICEOVER)

Art - some people just see it as paint on a canvas, a photograph in a frame or even a CD loaded with some cheesy pop music your 11 year old niece would dance to at a family wedding.

ALANA (VOICEOVER)

Me?... Art is like a mirror. It shows reality. Self awareness. The real beauty around us all, no matter the place, person or object.

INT. COLLEGE LUNCHHALL - DAYTIME

ALANA is sitting at a table, reading a book about famous artists and drinking a coffee.

ALANA (VOICEOVER)

I first got into art during my GCSE's. My teacher gave us an essay task to write about the painter Vincent Van Gogh. I found it so dull at the time.

ALANA (VOICEOVER)

But the more I read, the more interested I became. His use of colour, the realism he focused on, the escape from his damaged mind.

INT. COLLEGE HALLWAY - DAYTIME

ALANA walks down the corridor, stopping to stare at each art piece on the walls.

ALANA (VOICEOVER)

Picasso. Da Vinci. Michelangelo. Even Vermeer! Their work always tells a truthful story. Their work is endless in memory.

ALANA (VOICEOVER)

But for me? My mind is more blank than

a fresh sheet of paper, begging to be splattered with ink, watercolours and acrylic paints.

INT. ART STUDIO - DAYTIME

ALANA DROPS A PENCIL ON THE GROUND

ALANA sighs in frustration, holding her head in her hands.

ALANA (VOICEOVER)

One week until my final project is due in. ONE WEEK AND YOU'VE GUESSED IT, ALANA COROWALL HASN'T EVEN GOTTEN CLOSE TO THE WORD 'FINISHED'!

ALANA draws multiple pieces, but dislikes them strongly and throws them into the bin

ALANA (VOICEOVER)

Tried drawing the college? Got told that was me being too much of a 'kiss arse'. Thanks Dad!

ALANA (VOICEOVER)

Tried drawing the family gardens? Mum said that wasn't a real or truthful piece of art. You know, I can't help it if the grass is overgrown and our pond is the colour of utter slop.

ALANA (VOICEOVER)

The town centre, the local church... even the posh hotel which is hoarded with pensioners who 'despise the youngsters now days'. None of them had any truth. They weren't me.

EXT. SIDEWALK - MID-AFTERNOON

ALANA is walking on a path, with her headphones on.

ALANA (VOICEOVER)

How hard can it be? Everyone else in my class has nearly finished, most of them are just adding final touches. But then again, my tutor Miss Fauna claims she got into the Glasgow School Of Art by drawing a rabbit fishing, which apparently really showed her personality. So I figure the chances of

my personality coming through my work
is slim to none...

ALANA trips over a damaged curb. She looks to her right to find an overgrown, slim path.

ALANA (VOICEOVER)
Or maybe I am seconding guessing it all. I always take this way home from college, but this has never crossed my radar.

EXT. SLIM ROAD - MID-AFTERNOON

ALANA walks down the slim path, passing rusted gates and overgrown bushes.

ALANA (VOICEOVER)
This should be known to me. I walk this way all the time. How this hasn't crossed my head I do not know, but then again...who's gonna go down a sketchy road with near to no end.

ALANA reaches the end of the path and reaches an abandoned building. No warmth or light to it, the walls are shimmered with no pulse and no sign of anything living or loved.

ALANA (VOICEOVER)
A building that looks like it's been dragged through a holly bush and left with no pulse and a blank status

ALANA looks for a doorway into the building. She eventually finds a way in and realises it's very dark. She reaches for a her mobile phone, turning on the torch.

ALANA
Jeez, it's flipping dark in here...

INT. ABANDONED BUILDING - AFTERNOON

ALANA walks around cautiously, shivering from the lack of heat. The only things in Alana's eyesight, aided by her torchlight is dust-riddled, aged furniture and cobwebs.

ALANA
My god...

ALANA (VOICEOVER)
Saying that, this place gave off more

chills than a shallow grave, waiting
to be occupied.

ALANA continues her slow search until she finds a large, open
hall. She walks around neatly arranged chairs,

ALANA
Woah...

ALANA (VOICEOVER)
Odd was one word for it - the
arrangement for these chairs was like
an audience of ghosts..

ALANA smells a timeworn scent and, full in the face with
disgust, covers her mouth and nose with her jacket sleeve.

ALANA (VOICEOVER)
Ugh, and that stench! Someone's
definitely died in here.

ALANA looks around and comes across a mostly burnt book. She
picks it up and chooses to go through a few pages.

ALANA.
A journal...?

ALANA (VOICEOVER)
Pictures older than me, entries about
Christmases, birthdays and parties ...

ALANA stops and gazes at a picture of a young couple dancing
and smiling. She takes it out of the book and looks at the
picture, chinning in awe.

The picture is signed "November 1947, Julia and Simon".
Classical down to the last detail of fragile photo paper,
ALANA holds the image up to compare it to her surroundings,
finding an identical match!

ALANA begins reading the entry she finds the image with.

ALANA (VOICEOVER)
"November 17th 1947...another sunrise
to awake me and my love, another
sunset to fall asleep to..."

FLASHBACK/FADE - 1947

INT. LARGE HALL - EVENING

JULIA and SIMON gracefully take to the floor, their dancing synchronised, yet nostalgic to the stereotypical image of an enraptured couple.

FLASHBACK/FADE - CURRENT

INT. ABANDONED BUILDING - AFTERNOON

ALANA continuous to explore around the building, finding more similarities to the diary and the hollow building.

ALANA (VOICEOVER)/FADE INTO JULIA
 "Romeo to Juliet, Hamlet to Ophelia
my heart, blood and tears, I owe
 to thee"

FLASHBACK/FADE - 1947

INT. LARGE HALL - EVENING

JULIA and SIMON move more poetically, captivated by each others starry-eyed passion for one another

FLASHBACK/FADE - CURRENT

INT. ABANDONED BUILDING - AFTERNOON

JULIA(VOICEOVER)
 "My love, you grow more and more
 impassioned... Resentful..."

While exploring, ALANA falls to the floor, finding her gaze meeting the under part of drawers, laced with a thick coating of dust and a small delicately gold-coated chain with an emerald pendant on the end. She slowly gets up, placing the pendant chain into her pocket.

FLASHBACK/FADE - 1947

INT. LARGE HALL - EVENING

SIMON'S movements become more dominant and selfish towards JULIA, while they dance. Signs of physical abuse and violence are portrayed.

FLASHBACK/FADE - CURRENT

INT. ABANDONED BUILDING - LATE AFTERNOON

JULIA(VOICEOVER)

"...trust and lust...are thrown
away....like a dog to the bone..."

ALANA continues to read through the diary, alongside walking around the building. She connects more pictures from the diary to her surroundings. While she explores, a shadow figure follows her - making little detection of their presence on her adventure.

JULIA(VOICEOVER)

"I have no choice... but to take all
your pain...bruise after bruise..."

FLASHBACK/FADE - 1947

INT. LARGE HALL - EVENING

SIMON is seen 'grabbing' and 'dragging' JULIA, in her attempt to escape.

JULIA(VOICEOVER)

"...why this hurts...for you... I
won't ever know ..."

FLASHBACK/FADE - CURRENT

INT. ABANDONED BUILDING - LATE AFTERNOON

ALANA finds a box, wrapped up and hidden away from the sun's beaming silhouette for what seems decades. She blows off and wipes away the dust from the box, gently unties it and opens it.

ALANA gently looks through and finds a feminine scarf faintly washed in red blood, initialed 'J' and cut-outs of a newspaper sections titled 'LOCAL GIRL DISAPPEARED FROM TOWN HALL'.

JULIA(VOICEOVER)

"For the only way to accomplish your
satisfactory...is the spill of my wine
...for the theory of partial share"

FLASHBACK/IMAGINATION - 1947

INT. EVENING

JULIA'S hand is seen shaking and dripping in blood downwards.

The sharp, womanly crying startles ALANA, as she imagines JULIA'S lessened life.

FLASHBACK/FADE - CURRENT

INT. ABANDONED BUILDING - LATE AFTERNOON

ALANA shakes her head swiftly, out of panic and disbelief.

Sounds of wooden creeks, wind breaking and whispers criss-cross around her - just as the shadow figures presence becomes more visual.

JULIA/FADE INTO ALANA (VOICEOVER)

"...I thought you loved me ..."

ALANA rapidly turns around to check her surroundings, sensing a weighing tension. She glances at her phone, realising how late it is getting. She gathers her things together in a calm manner - including some of the pictures from JULIA'S diary and double-checking the pendant-chain.

SHADOW

Love me...

ALANA walks steadily and slowly forward, jump-scared by the voice and thinking she sees a dark movement near a door frame.

ALANA

Hello?...

The wind whistles and the abandoned structure echoes ALANA'S footsteps, making her believe her temporary adventure is solo.

A slight *scream* has a minimal-volume echo, catching ALANA off-guard behind her. While trying to find and exit, the sounds of wood-creeks, nearly-muted orchestra and screams trail behind her.

Not concentrating, she walks into a large mirror. Shaking off her confusion, she momentarily checks her appearance in the mirror, looking down to see the pendant-chain hanging out of her pocket. As she pulls it out, her hand is covered with vibrant red blood. ALANA begins to shake, unable to steady her breathing.

CONTINUED:

As she looks up, a dark shadow figure appears behind her!

SHADOW

My love...

ALANA screams and instantly looks behind her - yet finds nothing but darkness, with a wave of the orchestra music and footsteps growing.

ALANA

What the heck?! ...

ALANA looks at her phone as it reads "LOW BATTERY"

ALANA

Oh...fuck this!

As her phone dies, ALANA'S breathing becomes more brisk with anxiety. She tries to navigate her way to any possible exit, but the more she hears increasing footsteps and screams, the more confusing and intimidating it becomes.

Eventually, she spots the way she came in and sprints to the exit, however her perpetual clumsiness catches her off-guard at this critical moment.

As she falls, she faces the sinisterly-shadowed screaming shadow, with a high-pitched squeal!

SHADOW

SCREAMS

Like a panicking prey to a tiger, ALANA gasps with a sharpness, leaps up from the floor, peaking behind her for a few mili-seconds, but the door doesn't open. She shakes the doorknob, but it doesn't loosen.

ALANA

Come on...! Please?!?...

Looking back and forth at the door and behind her, ALANA tries her best to escape, as the shadow approaches steadily with an unearthly glide.

The shadow figure reaches an unnaturally long, sharp arm towards ALANA'S neck, while she frantically pushes to open the door, with no success. She glances behind her for a final time.

ALANA

SCREAMS

INT. BEDROOM - EARLY MORNING

ALANA wakes up suddenly in her bedroom, realising she's been asleep this entire time.

ALANA
The hell?...

She glances around the room, trying to calm her adrenaline-fuelled self.

ALANA (VOICEOVER)
Of all things to dream about, how did
that come across?

While trying to understand how this imaginative dream came to her, ALANA composes herself and continues about her usual morning routine.

INT. BATHROOM - EARLY MORNING

ALANA (VOICEOVER)
A disappearance, a blood-stained
necklace and an unsolved case from the
40's? This doesn't make any sense at
all...

EXT. SIDEWALK - MORNING

ALANA (VOICEOVER)
I don't even remember seeing that huge
hall around town at all, so how could
I imagine it? ...Especially those
people...and that poor girl..

ALANA (VOICEOVER)
Maybe none of it was real. It could
have been from a movie I have
forgotten or a book ...

INT. ART STUDIO - MID-MORNING

ALANA (VOICEOVER)
Although, I have to admit...that gold
chain and pendant had given me an
idea.

ALANA settles down into the studio for the day. She starts sketching, outlining and painting a vintage desk, with an open jewellery box starring the pendant from her dream.

As she completes her final piece, smiling with pride, she looks at her hands to find them covered in paint. She reacts frustrated and heads for the bathroom.

INT. COLLEGE BATHROOM - MIDDAY

ALANA

Trust me to get bloody paint all over me!

ALANA washes her hands gently, concentrating on making sure all the paint on her fingers rinses off. She eventually turns the taps off, dries her hands and wipes the last few drop of water onto her trousers. As she does this, she feels a strange object in her front pocket.

She reaches into her pocket, and finds the gold-chain pendant from her "dream". She looks confused and dazed, as to why its in her pocket and why is it real...

ALANA

Huh?

She looks behind and around her to see if anyone else is in the bathroom, thinking maybe it's a joke or a misplacement.

When she looks back down to the necklace in her hand, she finds her entire hand coated in blood...

ALANA

What?!...

In a frantic panic, still clutching onto the necklace, ALANA heads for the bathroom door. As she faces it, she sees the newspaper sections titled 'LOCAL GIRL DISAPPEARED FROM TOWN HALL' - just like from her "dream".

She steps backwards with high caution and drops the chain to floor, unaware of the loosened grip on her hand.

A few steps backwards and she is stopped - someone or something is behind her... She feels a harsh breath brushing against her neck. Fear and mercy begin to dominate her mind.

SHADOW

My love...

The dark figure swiftly wraps a bloody, distraught scarf around ALANA'S neck. ALANA grabs it instantly hoping to loosen the grip, with her last breath

11.

SCREEN GOES BLACK

THE END