

PARALYSIS

By

Matter

Man Falls Off Bike

FADE IN:

INT - MUSEUM

Wide shot of a nightmarish surreal painting framed and hanging dead center on a black wall. A bench for sitting in front of it. From the right, LEAD enters frame and sits down dead center.

Pan shot from slightly over LEAD's left shoulder, starting where we can see the painting and the back of LEAD'S head, panning around until we can see LEAD'S face from the counterangle, viewing the painting in awe and a little bit of pain. The camera shot hangs as it starts to get harder for LEAD to stand looking at the painting. A mechanical hum starts to grow louder and louder.

Dead center shot of the painting which is now blurring and distorting as if looked at while on hallucinogenic drugs. The buzzing is joined by swelling dissonant music.

CUT TO:

INT - LEAD'S ROOM

The cacophony comes to an abrupt stop and LEAD sits up abruptly in a cold sweat and panic in bed. Everything is quiet, and we hear crickets outside. LEAD is alone. After a moment to calm down, a shadowy figure pops into frame. Bad 90's special effects green screen style, David Lynch-ian. This figure is THE MAN WITH THE HAT (MWH) a man with a fedora and trenchcoat. He is in shadow, so his face cannot be seen, but he is staring directly at LEAD with a featureless face.

MWH

\*Speaks in an unknown language\*

LEAD

What?

MWH

Go back to the museum.

LEAD

What? Who are you?

MWH

Sleep.

MWH lunges supernaturally quickly and lands sitting on LEAD's chest. Shot from LEAD P.O.V. of this shadow man on her chest. Whispers and a hum getting louder until... POP!

CUT TO:

LEAD wakes up again in the same bed, but now it is also occupied by PARTNER. LEAD is freaking out and it wakes up PARTNER.

PARTNER

Baby! Baby, calm down. Deep breaths. With me.

A more intimate mid shot of them together PARTNER'S hand on LEAD'S chest. Breathing together and calming down.

LEAD

I had the most horrible nightmare.

PARTNER

It's ok. It was just a dream.

CUT TO:

Morning. Same bed, sunlight streaming through the blinds, same spot as with PARTNER, but now PARTNER'S side of the

bed, closer to the camera, is untucked and PARTNER is gone. LEAD gets up out of bed. LEAD goes to the bathroom. She begins brushing her teeth. She hears a noise and turns around to investigate. Nothing is there. She's spooked. Music begins to swell with anticipation. Typical horror movie shot of splashing water on the face and looking in the mirror and there is a monster behind you, only there is no monster. Music comes to a stop to make you think there is a jump scare. LEAD walks back out into the bedroom and MWH is standing directly across from LEAD, silent and still in shadow. He looks at a gold pocket watch on a chain. Then he wags his finger back and forth once ominously as if gesturing in denial . His whole form starts to wobble and he disappears out of existence.

HARD CUT to - LEAD, looking terrified, sitting at a kitchen table, with a spoon in hand, full of cereal, frozen mid bite from the fear and confusion of what they just saw. The camera hangs for a second as LEADs hand begins to wobble.