

THE RESIDENT

Written by

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FADE IN:

INT. CHASTAIN HOSPITAL - DAY

Conrad and AJ stroll through the hospital and relish in the slow day at the ER.

CONRAD

Couple more hours and I am done for the day.

AJ

What's a guy like you got going on on a Friday night?

CONRAD

Well if you must know, Gigi and I have a weekend long daddy daughter date.

(beat)

I'm talking sitting on the couch, watching tv and eating ice cream out of the tub kind of weekend.

AJ lets out a chuckle.

AJ

You've really got a grip on this dad thing Hawkins.

CONRAD

Of course I do. I care about my kid.

(beat)

I can't really spend much time with her while I'm here, now can I?

Nurse Hundley spots the men and approaches them.

HUNDLEY

Sorry to interrupt boys but could you come with me?

(beat)

I just need a second eye on something.

Hundley enters a patient's room as the men look at each other and follow.

CUT TO:

INT. PATIENT'S ROOM: CHASTAIN HOSPITAL - CONTINUOUS

The men see a young boy (8) asleep and struggles to breathe. His mother is right by his side.

HUNDLEY

This is little Jimmy. Mom here brought him in because he was complaining of pain.

CONRAD

And how long has this been going on for?

MOM

Just uhh... a few days. H-he had a football game and he got hit pretty hard.

The mom is clearly nervous.

AJ

Has he had any sicknesses that you know of?

MOM

He uhh... had strep throat but we were able to cure him in a couple of days.

The doctors look at each other.

CONRAD

Well mom, we are going to do a few tests. Why don't you go get some coffee?

MOM

B-but Jimmy-

HUNDLEY

Your son is in the best care possible ma'am, don't you worry.

The mom hesitates but leaves for the cafeteria.

AJ

(to Hundley)

You don't believe her story.

HUNDLEY

It's as rotten as an egg.

CONRAD
What did you find?

Hundley grabs her notes.

HUNDLEY
Well before mom came, Jimmy gave me
his side.
(beat)
Said he's had strep throat for
almost three weeks.

CONRAD
Lot different than what mom told
us.

HUNDLEY
Then he said that his chest started
hurting.

Hundley flips to another page of her notes.

HUNDLEY (CONT'D)
Knees, elbows, ankles and wrists
also became painful to move. And
then his heart...

Hundley hands AJ a stethoscope.

AJ takes it and places it on Jimmy's chest. After a few
seconds, AJ removes the stethoscope from his ears.

AJ
(to Conrad)
He has a heart murmur.

HUNDLEY
That's not even the worst of it.

Hundley lifts Jimmy's shirt and reveals bruises.

AJ
Now I see why you needed a second
pair of eyes.

Conrad paces the room.

CONRAD
Untreated streptococcus can cause
tonsillitis...

HUNDLEY
But his tonsils are fine. I
checked.

CONRAD

A never ending fever and joint
paints...plus the heart murmur.

AJ

Kid's got Rheumatic fever.

MOM

What's that?

Mom startles the doctors. The team didn't realize she was
behind them.

CONRAD

If strep throat goes untreated, it
can progress to an inflammatory
disease.

AJ

It's a rare disease that only
affects kids through the ages of 5
and 15.

MOM

So what does that mean for my
Jimmy?

AJ

It means if we don't do act now,
your son could have permanent
damage to his heart.

The mom gasps and leaves the room.

CONRAD

You stay here. I'm gonna go
question our mom of the year.

Conrad leaves the room to and follows mom to the hallway.

CONRAD (CONT'D)

Ma'am, it's gonna be okay.

MOM

No no. It's all my fault.
(to herself)
If only I had done something
sooner.

CONRAD

I need you to tell me the truth. Do
it for Jimmy.

Mom takes a deep breath.

MOM

My husband didn't want to take Jimmy to the doctor. Told Jimmy to take some medicine and get some rest. He had a big game

(beat)

A couple weeks passed and Jimmy's fever didn't let up. Then the chest pains started.

Mom takes another deep breath and silently sobs.

MOM (CONT'D)

Jimmy came to me crying, saying he was in pain and that he didn't feel good. My husband told him to tough it out.

(beat)

Jimmy got hit really bad and couldn't move. So I decided to bring him here.

CONRAD

He got hit during the game?

Mom shakes her head.

MOM

No. He-

There is a ruckus in the ER. A man appears to look around.

MAN

Where is he?! Where's my son?

The mom flinches at the man's raised voice. The man sees his wife with Conrad and charges towards her.

CONRAD

Sir, I need you to calm down.

MAN

(to the mom)

What did you tell them?

The man goes to hit the mom but there are other doctors there to drag him away

MAN (CONT'D)

THAT I HIT OUR SON?!

The mom terrified and Conrad stunned at what just happened.

FADE OUT.