

THE AFGHANI

by

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MINA
(whispers)
*We are too loud. You never know who
is listening.*

Omar looks around him listening, scared.

FADE TO:

INT. FAMILY HOUSE - OMAR'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

It is dark. Omar sleeps quietly in his childhood bed.

INT. FAMILY HOUSE - PARENTS' BEDROOM - NIGHT

Mina and Khaleed sleep, Khaleed snores loudly.

INT. FAMILY HOUSE - GIRLS' ROOM - NIGHT

Both girls are sleeping in their beds on opposite sides of the room.

A LOUD BANG!

Freshta sits up in her bed.

INT. FAMILY HOUSE - OMAR'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Omar slowly opens his eyes to the sound.

INT. FAMILY HOUSE - PARENTS' BEDROOM - NIGHT

Mina and Khaleed sit upright in shock. Mina shrieks a bit. Khaleed is straight out of bed and runs to a closet.

He swings the closet open and takes out a revolver. Another loud BANG. The bang is accompanied with the SPLINTERING OF WOOD. They are trying to break open the door.

MINA
Khaleed!

Khaleed tries to put the bullets in the chambers of the gun.

Freshta and Sandara rush into the room and run toward their mother.

FRESHTA & SANDARA
Mommy!

Omar walks in, disoriented and with sleep in his eyes. Khaleed goes into protective mode and stands in front of his family.

KHALEED

Quiet. Stay down.

The last LARGE CRACK rattles through the house. Loud screaming voices come from downstairs. The two girls cry as their mother holds them tight to her chest.

Khaleed turns around to face his son.

KHALEED (CONT'D)

Hide them. Now. They are coming--

Before Omar can respond, he is out of the room and shuts the door.

Omar rushes to his mother and sisters and shushes the girls' crying.

OMAR

Shh-shhh... Quietly.

MINA

(whispers)

The crawl space above the hallway...

Omar nods. They take the other door towards the girls bedroom...

INT. FAMILY HOUSE - GIRLS' ROOM - CONTINUOUS

... and tip-toe around the corner. Silence fills the house. A creak under Omar's feet makes him cringe and he softly pushes the girls out in front of him.

INT. FAMILY HOUSE - HALLWAY - NIGHT

They arrive at the crawl space and Omar stands guard listening while Mina lets her children get into the hole.

She then follows them in.

MINA

(urgently whispering)

Omar!

Omar is about to follow them when a GUNSHOT is heard. Men cheer and the house is quiet no more. Omar looks at his mother and then pushes her inside and places the loose planks in front of the space.

OMAR

*It's alright, mama. Stay hidden.
I'll be back.*

He strays through the hallway and stops before every corner.

MINA
(whispers)
Omar! Come back...

INT. FAMILY HOUSE - STAIRS - CONTINUOUS

Omar arrives at the stairs and slowly descends down.

He sees a COVERED MAN walk past and he ducks away just in time. He then moves down two more steps and sees what he feared he would see - -

His father's DEAD BODY is lying on the carpet around the dining table.

The BLOOD seeps into the fabric, leaving a big red stain. Omar covers a shocked gasp.

Another COVERED MAN walks into the living room area and points his fingers up to his partner. Omar slips upstairs again.

When Omar is in front of his own door he hears footsteps coming up the stairs.

INT. FAMILY HOUSE - OMAR'S BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

He hurries into his own room and quietly closes the door. He looks around for somewhere to hide. He chooses his bed and slides underneath. He covers up the space by pulling on the sheets.

INT. FAMILY HOUSE - HALLWAY - NIGHT

THREE MEN pass the corner coming from the stairwell. They are dressed in the same fashion as the guard at the supermarket.

Their guns are similar as well. These men come from the same organization. They open Omar's door.

INT. FAMILY HOUSE - OMAR'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Omar is still under the bed. He hears the door open and cringes.

INT. FAMILY HOUSE - HALLWAY - NIGHT

The Covered Man looks inside but moves on and leaves the door open.

INT. FAMILY HOUSE - HALLWAY - FURTHER DOWN - NIGHT

The THIRD COVERED MAN walks exactly past the hiding place of Mina and the girls.

INT. FAMILY HOUSE - CRAWL SPACE - NIGHT

Mina looks up while she tightly holds on to her daughters. Sandara cries shortly and Mina quickly covers her mouth.

INT. FAMILY HOUSE - HALLWAY - FURTHER DOWN - NIGHT

The Third Covered Man looks around to where the crying came from. He motions for his partners to come over and look at the loose plank, exactly where Mina is hiding...

All three now look at the exact hiding space.

INT. FAMILY HOUSE - OMAR'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Omar is intently listening. There is no sound to hear for a moment. Then... a LOUD KNOCK and SCREAMING. He closes his eyes and cries. The screaming gets louder and louder until...

BANG... BANG... BANG...!

Omar moves under the bed, uneasy. He cries silently and then slams the ground, hard.

He then is quiet again, voices are coming from the hallway through the still open door. He sneaks a peak from under the veil between him and certain death.

Feet come around the corner and Omar quickly covers up again.

COVERED MAN

Is the young man you spoke about here? You sure?

COVERED MAN 2

Yeah sure, that was his bitch mother in there-- I saw it.

Omar closes his eyes. The sound of FOOTSTEPS comes closer...

THEN...

Shooting, from outside of the house. Loud noises all around. Men, women and children screaming. A bomb goes off in the distance.

The Covered Men in the room move around the room. They wonder what is going on.

VOICE (O.S.)
(outside)
*Here! The door is broken into-- Go
look!*

COVERED MAN 2
Who is that? What is going on?

COVERED MAN
Nothing good. Let's go.

COVERED MAN 3
The window!

One of the men jumps out of the window, the two others are in line to do the same when --

ARMAGHAN KUSHAN (24) dressed in dark colors comes barging in and SHOTS the two men.

As they lay dead, he checks if there is someone in the room.

ARMAGHAN
*Is anyone here? It's OK to come out
now. I won't hurt you...*

Omar lies underneath the bed, unsure.

Armaghan is about to leave the room when Omar climbs from underneath the bed.

Armaghan quickly responds and turns around. He points his gun to Omar, but retracts his gun as soon as he sees the look on Omar's face, who holds his hands up in the air.

Armaghan helps him up and pats him on the back.

ARMAGHAN (CONT'D)
*Are you alright? I see I came just
in time, huh?*

OMAR
My-- My... Family...

Omar shakes his head and runs out of the room.

INT. FAMILY HOUSE - HALLWAY - NIGHT

Omar finds his mother and sisters, dead. He cries over their bodies. Armaghan stands by and rests on his rifle. Omar stumbles toward the stairs.

INT. FAMILY HOUSE - DINNER TABLE - NIGHT

Omar grabs his father's face. He rests his head on his chest and cries.