

The Howl

Written by

R.V. Romero

FADE IN:

EXT. HOUSE - NIGHT

DAVID (18) and NAT (18) stand outside of Nat's front porch. Nat is holding David's hand, stopping him from leaving.

NAT
Come in, just for a little.

David looks impatient, even slightly worried.

DAVID
I can't, babe. I really gotta go.

NAT
It's just for a bit.

DAVID
I can't, I'm already late.

Nat lets go of David's hand and her expression instantly changes, she's upset. David takes notice.

DAVID (cont'd)
I'm sorry.

Nat doesn't respond. There is a moment of awkward tension.

DAVID (cont'd)
I love you.

David tries to kiss Nat but she turns away and opens the door.

NAT
It's okay. I'll see you when you're back.

Nat enters and closes the door behind her, leaving David outside. David stands there for a moment, debating whether to go after her. He looks at his watch, worry consumes him once again, and leaves.

INT. HOUSE - FOYER - CONTINUOUS

Nat leans against the house's front door. Her eyes begin to well with tears.

EXT. ROAD - NIGHT

David drives through an isolated road, trees on either side of him.

NAT (V.O.)

He does this every month though.

David looks at the time and then at the night sky, becoming more alarmed.

INT. NAT'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Nat is on the phone as she paces around her room, her eyes red and swollen from crying.

NAT

He just leaves for a few days and I don't hear anything from him.

EXT. WOODS - NIGHT

David's car is parked in front of a sea of trees. The driver's door is wide open and the lights are still on.

NAT (V.O.)

He always has this guilty look when he comes back.

David stumbles through the woods, grunting and moaning in pain. His shirt lies on the ground.

NAT (V.O.) (cont'd)

I don't know, some family trip or therapy. It's always something different.

David's hand slams onto a tree trunk, his skin bubbling up. He drags his hand off the tree, leaving claw marks behind. We continue to hear his grunts as he makes his way through the dark woods.

INT. NAT'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Nat takes a seat in front of her laptop, the phone still on her ear.

NAT

I know he's hiding something.

She looks at her computer screen, there's an old picture of David with another GIRL on social media. A tear runs down Nat's cheek.

EXT. WOODS - NIGHT

David yells in pain.

CLOSE UP: DAVID'S BACK BEGINS TO SPROUT HAIR.

CLOSE UP: WE SEE DAVID'S PROFILE. THE SIDE OF HIS FACE BEGINS TO STRETCH INTO A SNOOT AND FANGS APPEAR.

INT. NAT'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Nat stares blankly at the picture.

NAT
I think he's cheating on me.

EXT. WOODS - NIGHT

We see a WIDE SHOT of the edge of the woods beside a body of water. The night is calm and a FULL MOON reflects off the still water.

Suddenly, a long, thin silhouette emerges from the woods. It has long, bent legs; arms that almost reach the ground; a thin covering of hair allowing for dark skin to be visible; and a snout-like face. It's a WEREWOLF. It's DAVID.

The werewolf stops at the edge of the water, looks up at the sky, and lets out a long, haunting HOWL.

We PAN up into the sky and slowly zoom into the full moon.

FADE TO BLACK.