

"Fugue"

excerpt from an original screenplay by

Matt Raudsepp and Charlotte Corbeil-Coleman
2014

mattraudsepp@gmail.com
www.mattraudsepp.com

EXT. FUN MAZE PARKING LOT - NIGHT

Sound: CLICK, CLICK, CLICK.

A disheveled MAN (27) walks - one shoe clicks every step, the other is silent. He's wearing track pants, a T-shirt and running shoes. He hasn't shaven in sometime, but is not quite able to grow a full beard.

The Man looks around the deserted "FUN MAZE" parking lot. His eyes are large and wild. There's one car in it. A 1996 Ford Station Wagon. White with fake wood panelling.

He approaches the car and peers through the window.

It's stuffed with objects of different sizes and shapes. Clothes on hangers chaotically piled in the back seat. A frilly purple prom dress dripping with lace. A puffy plastic winter jacket. A sleeping bag. A man's large white dress shirt. An old Polaroid camera and a brand new blender sit on the rear deck.

The Man presses his face against the side window. Draped over the passengers seat there's a vintage orange life jacket. It's long white ties fall loose.

The Man tries to open the doors frantically. It's locked.

Suddenly another sound - jiggling of keys - he stops and looks up to see SALLY (19) locking the gate of the maze. Her back is to him, her long blonde hair catches the dim street lights. She's wearing a bright green T-shirt over a flowery summer dress. The shirt is a few sizes too big for her.

The Man retreats quickly into the shadows.

He watches as Sally closes her eyes for an instant letting the cool night air hit her. She opens them abruptly and looks around suspiciously ensuring she's alone.

The Man watches her intently as she hurries to her car. She's out of uniform now wearing only her flowery summer dress.

She unlocks the door, gets in and puts her keys into the ignition.

The GRIND of the engine waking up.

Sally sits gripping the wheel, staring into space for an uncomfortable amount of time. Maps on the dashboard.

Suddenly, she gets out and rushes back into the Fun Maze building - the car still running.

INT. FUN MAZE CASH - NIGHT

Sally opens the safe and stuffs a bunch of cash into her purse frantically.

EXT. MAZE PARKING LOT - NIGHT

Sally runs out of the maze but before she has time to lock the gate she hears something... the sound of the IGNITION GRINDING on and off again.

She turns around very slowly. The lights of her car are on and the drivers door is wide open. A man's thigh juts out.

Fear takes Sally's face. She stands frozen. She takes a deep breath. She makes a decision. She walks slowly towards the car.

SALLY

Okay.

The Man and her lock eyes.

SALLY (CONT'D)

I have it, okay?

The Man watches her saying nothing. Sally speaks with a forced calmness.

SALLY (CONT'D)

Listen. I was coming to give it to you. I was on my way.

The man stares at the life jacket beside him, his eyes stuck on it.

SALLY (CONT'D)

I was leaving town but I was going to bring it first. I was.

The Man suddenly starts to look panicked. He begins shaking his head. Sally's expression changes. Something's not right.

SALLY (CONT'D)

...Who are you?

The Man stares back at her suddenly very angry.

MAN

Who are you?

Sally narrows her eyes, she takes in his dirty clothes, his unshaven face, his starved eyes.

SALLY

Get the hell out of my car. NOW.

The man grows more confused and panicked. He tries to get the car to start but he's shaking, weak. The engine revs again and again.

Sally runs at the car, the man tries to slam the door but she stops it with her body. They both tug at the door from opposite ends. Sally gets her body between the Man and the car door, pulling at him and ripping his clothes. Finally the man becomes exhausted and gives in, falling out of the car and onto the cement ground.

Sally's out of breath, her face quickly changes from relief back to panic. She gets into her car, slams the door, the urgency of leaving returning to her. About to pull out, she glances over at the Man still on the ground. He catches Sally's eyes. There's a childlike softness to them. He's holding himself looking absolutely defeated and lost. Sally sighs and rolls down her window.

SALLY (CONT'D)

Are you okay?

The man thinks about this for a long moment searching for the answer.

MAN

I don't know.

Sally smiles slightly.

SALLY

When I was little I'd cry anytime my mom said the word 'okay.' Because adults only ever said 'you're okay' to me after I hurt myself or fell down.

The Man half smiles.

SALLY (CONT'D)

...Where are you trying to go?

The Man's face drops. He shakes his head.

MAN

I need to go...

He thinks harder.

MAN (CONT'D)

I'm going.

Sally nods to herself, she gets it. She bites her lip and makes a split second decision to get out of the car. She outstretches her hand helping the man up.

SALLY

I'm Sally.

The Man looks at her confused again.

SALLY (CONT'D)

What's your name?

His body tenses.

MAN

What do you mean?

Sally narrows her eyes.

SALLY

...You don't know your name?

The man starts to panic.

MAN

I do. I...

The man tries to think, then shakes his head and touches his track pants to look for his wallet, he doesn't have one. He shakes his head again growing more and more irritated. He's weak and disoriented and he begins to lose his balance. Sally touches his shoulder gently and speaks softly.

SALLY

Hey.

The Man calms with her touch.

SALLY (CONT'D)

What do you know?

He looks deep into her eyes.

MAN

I know I'm thirsty.

Both their bodies relax with those words. It's basic and intimate. Sally moves and indicates for him to follow her.

Sound of shoe: Click. CLICK. CLICK.

INT. CAR - NIGHT

Sound of GPS: BEEP.BEEP.BEEP.

Sound of MOTOR BOAT ENGINE. We don't see who is driving - a sense of menace.

From the POV of the car - we turn a corner bringing the casino into view.

Sound: WATER ROARING.