

3 : 46 PM

Feed Me

A nurse becomes increasingly frightened with an elderly woman's disturbing behaviour as she demands food beyond her capacity.

Written by Dave Krunal and Abhishek Gurjar

Email – davekrunalfilmmaker@gmail.com

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INT. HOUSE LIVING ROOM - DUSK

An elderly woman MAGGIE (70s) shuffles through a living room in her nightgown. She is skinny, pale and carries herself with an unusual pace. The patter of rain hits the house windows. Maggie's nightgown pockets are stuffed with apples and slices of bread. She arrives at the landing of a flight of stairs and launches up them as if possessed by a young athletic child, causing some apples to fall from her pocket and roll down the stairs.

INT. HOUSE FIRST FLOOR - DUSK

Now on the first floor Maggie turns right and pushes open her bedroom door.

CUT TO:

INT. HOUSE MAGGIE'S BEDROOM - DUSK

Maggie steps in the bedroom and slams the door shut with her foot. The room is ordinary. A typical old person's room, it is scattered with black and white photos of family, some precious family heirlooms, some dolls and a dusty old bed. To the right stands a large antique wooden clothing wardrobe. Maggie empties her pockets placing the apples and bread on a carpet in front of the wardrobe. Maggie takes a step back and sits on the bed with her back to the wardrobe. She breathes heavily as she picks up some Rosary beads from her bedside table.

CUT TO:

INT. HOUSE LIVING ROOM - DUSK

A large grandfather clock with large pendulum. The sound of rain ceases as the minute hand turns to 3:46pm.

CUT TO:

INT. HOUSE BEDROOM - DUSK

Maggie sits on the bed facing the window looking at her own reflection. It is dark and overcast outside. For a second it is quiet as the rain stops. The cupboard behind her begins to shake. Maggie shuts her eyes, tightly grasps the Rosary and starts to mutter under her breath.

MAGGIE

Hail Mary, full of grace. The Lord
is with thee. Blessed art thou
among women -

The closet door bursts open. Maggie lets out a small whimper.

MAGGIE (CONT'D)

(rushing)

- and blessed is the fruit of thy
womb. Holy Mary, Mother of God -
Holy Mary, Mother of God.

A large shadow steps out from the cupboard, its wheezing
breaths growing louder and louder.

MAGGIE (CONT'D)

(sobs)

Holy Mary, Mother of God. Pray for
us sinners -

The wheezing fades out as the figure disappears into the
closet. The door slams shut. Maggie turns her head still
clutching on her Rosary.

CUT TO:

INT. HOUSE LIVING ROOM - DUSK

Grandfather clock swings.

Title reads: "Episode 3 - Feed Me"

The grandfather clock speeds up as the rainy overcast
darkened room turns to a light filled room. It slows down and
stops at 3:00pm.

MRS CHANG (Asian, 30s), walks across the living room towards
the front door. Following her is Grace (Caucasian, 26) in her
nurse scrubs.

MRS CHANG

Remember. No TV, No phone. No going
outdoors. She's already had her
afternoon tea and she's got tonnes
of those crossword puzzles to keep
herself busy. Plenty of food in the
fridge and pantry so help yourself.

Mrs Chang grabs her overcoat and handbag from the coat rack.

GRACE

Ok. I should be fine Mrs C.

Mrs Chang pulls out an envelope from the handbag and passes it to Mrs Chang.

MRS CHANG

Call me if you need anything.

Grace smiles. Mrs Chang rubs Grace on the shoulder and leaves through the front door.

GRACE

Bye-bye now. Try not to party too hard.

Grace chuckles as she waves goodbye. She closes the door and pulls open a curtain to watch Mrs Chang enter her car and drive away. The house is quiet. A floorboard creaks behind her. Grace turns around. Maggie stands right behind her, still in her nightgown.

GRACE (CONT'D)

Woah. You scared me there.

Maggie stares at Grace.

MAGGIE

I want some cheese.

GRACE

Uh - sure!

CUT TO:

INT. HOUSE KITCHEN - AFTERNOON

Grace opens the fridge. She takes out a wedge of cheese and passes it to Maggie.

MAGGIE

One more -

Grace is unsure.

MAGGIE (CONT'D)

Please.

Maggie smiles. She has no teeth.

GRACE

Um - What about you finish that one first?

Maggie is unimpressed and shuffles away. Grace, puzzled, turns to wash her hands in the kitchen sink.

CUT TO:

INT. HOUSE LIVING ROOM - SOON AFTER

Grace folds and arranges freshly dried clothes. A floorboard creaks behind her. She turns around. Maggie stands behind her.

MAGGIE

I would like more cheese.

Grace continues to fold the clothes.

GRACE

You just had your afternoon tea and a wedge of cheese. You must be full.

MAGGIE

Still hungry Mrs Grace.

Grace rolls her eyes as she throws a shirt on the pile of folded clothes.

CUT TO:

INT. HOUSE KITCHEN - SOON AFTER

Grace opens the fridge. She takes out another cheese wedge and passes it to Maggie. Maggie stashes it in her pocket and shuffles away. Grace reaches in the fridge for another cheese wedge and turns around.

GRACE

How bout you join me Maj -

Maggie has disappeared. Grace looks around the living room. We hear the stairs creaking. Grace runs towards the bottom of the stairs. She catches a glimpse of a nightgown entering Mrs Chang's bedroom.

GRACE (CONT'D)

(shouts)

What about I help you out with one your crosswords?

No answer. Grace scratches her head.

CUT TO:

INT. HOUSE MRS CHANG'S BEDROOM - SOON AFTER

Grace knocks on Mrs Chang's bedroom door which is opposite Maggie's. The door is slightly ajar. She knocks again.

CUT TO:

INT. HOUSE LIVING ROOM - SAME TIME

Grandfather clock continues ticking. It is 3:40pm. Grace continues to knock upstairs.

GRACE (O.S.)

Hello?

CUT TO:

INT. HOUSE LIVING ROOM - SAME TIME

Grace pushes the door open and steps inside. The bedroom is tidy and clean. She approaches a dressing table with tall mirror. The table is full of make up, jewellery, perfumes, potions and lotions. She reaches for a perfume and sprays in the air, taking a whiff. Maggie's door in the mirror is slightly open. Grace puts some lipstick on her lips and pouts in front of the mirror and smiles. She opens a drawer and takes out a bra. She holds it up over her chest. Grace shrieks as she spots Maggie behind her in the mirror.

MAGGIE

What are you doing?

Grace turns red and smiles.

GRACE

Nothing - I was just -

MAGGIE

I am still hungry. I want some biscuits.

Grace hold her hand up to her forehead.

GRACE

What happened to the cheese?

MAGGIE

I ate it.

GRACE

Maggie. Please don't lie to me. I know you're up to something.

Maggie is about to shuffle away to her bedroom when Grace slides past her and reaches for Maggie's bedroom doorknob. As she is about to walk in Maggie pulls on the door slamming it shut.

MAGGIE
I cannot let you in.

GRACE
What are you doing with all the
food Maggie?

MAGGIE
I cannot let you in.

GRACE
What happened to the cheese Maggie?

Maggie keeps her hand on the doorknob preventing Grace in.

GRACE (CONT'D)
Maggie. If you don't tell me I'm
gonna have tell Mrs C what you've
been up to.

MAGGIE
It is hungry.

Grace is not buying it.

GRACE
You are not eating any of the food
are you Maggie?

MAGGIE
Don't go in.

GRACE
If you keep food in your bedroom it
may attract rats and all sorts of
critters. You don't want that now
do you?

Maggie puts her head down apologetically.

MAGGIE
(softly)
There's a monster in my cupboard.

Grace chuckles.

GRACE
I'm not buying that Maggie.

Maggie begins to sob.

GRACE (CONT'D)
 (gurgles)
 It's hungry today.

Grace gently holds Maggie. Maggie lets go of the doorknob. It's the first time she's been touched.

GRACE (CONT'D)
 (gently shushes)
 Ssh. Ssh. It's all ok Maggie. How
 bout you let me in, I'll deal with
 the monster and then I promise not
 to tell Mrs C about your antics.

GRACE (CONT'D)
 (whispers)
 It'll be our little secret.

Grace opens the bedroom door and steps inside. She turns back to Maggie as she is about to close the door. Maggie looks worried.

GRACE (CONT'D)
 Why don't you wait for me here?

Maggie hands Grace her Rosary as she sobs uncontrollably. Grace looks at it and smiles back at Maggie trying to keep a cool and calm face. She shuts the door on Maggie.

CUT TO:

INT. HOUSE LIVING ROOM - SAME TIME

Grandfather clock ticks at 3:46pm.

CUT TO:

INT. HOUSE MAGGIE'S BEDROOM - SAME TIME

Grace looks around the dark room and sighs. She notices a cheese bar on the floor just in front of the cupboard and reaches for it. As she does a wooden floorboard behind her creaks. She snaps around looking at the bed behind her. The wardrobe door slowly opens behind her. Nothing in the cupboard. Just a black empty space. A low drone sound is heard. Meanwhile Grace holds her breath with fear. She knows something is not right as her hair is brushed by some air behind her. The cupboard door slams shut. Grace jumps and turns around. The cheese from the floor is gone.

GRACE

Hello?

No response. Grace takes a step to the cupboard.

GRACE (CONT'D)

Better not be another one of your
practical jokes Maggie!

Grace takes a hold of the cupboard handle. She takes a deep breath as sweat trickles down her forehead and swings the door open. Grace sighs with satisfaction. Nothing. Grace takes a deep breath. Suddenly the sound of disgusting gnashing of teeth and munching comes from behind Grace. Her body turns stiff. She turns around slowly. It is a MONSTER. Face is pale and full of sharp teeth. No eyes. No nose. No ears. Just teeth. Grace whimpers as the monster launches forward at her with face wide open.

CUT TO:

INT. HOUSE BEDROOM - SAME TIME

Maggie stands behind the closed bedroom door. The Rosary slides under the door to Maggie's feet. A trail of blood runs behind it.

CUT TO:

INT. HOUSE LIVING ROOM - SAME TIME

Grandfather clock at 3:47pm ticks.

MAGGIE (O.S.)
(high pitch scream)
Aaaaah!

CUT TO BLACK.

THE END.