

The Watchers

by  
Kris Krainock

Hole in America Studios  
10139 Velvet Dusk Ln.  
(702) 581-6395

















GAZ

And this vicious scoundrel. He mercilessly beats and tortures a horse that's too old to race.

INT. BARN - NIGHT

Gaz and Eli watch as the Middle-Aged Man laughs maniacally while whipping the a HORSE again and again.

ELI

(overwhelmed with sadness)  
Why does he do this?

GAZ

Boredom.

ELI

Boredom? That's impossible. No one would do this because they were bored.

GAZ

(condescendingly)  
Oh, sweet Angel of Innocence  
Elijah. Your task has shielded you  
from what the world truly is.  
(pause) This city is the sum of all  
the tyranny this existence has to  
offer. You see now, it must be  
destroyed.

A thick droplet of blood slowly drips down the horse's leg.

INT. BUS - DAY

The Middle-Aged Man sits slouched in his bus seat.

Gaz and Eli sit on the bus beside one another. Eli looks defeated, sad.

GAZ

(to Eli)  
So you understand why I call your  
quest silly. Your journey to find  
one innocent soul in this place was  
over before it began.

Long pause.

ELI

But we must try.

GAZ

Try all you like. The ending will  
be the same.

INT. BUS - DAY

The bus pulls up and noisily decompresses. Everyone gets off the bus, Eli and Gaz lastly.

The city is busy, crowded with loud, strange and disheveled people.

There is a small crowd formed off to the side. Eli and Gaz walk toward it.

At the center of the crowd is a STREET PERFORMER with a giant net.

In the crowd are various couples, some men with men, some women with women and some men with woman.

In the front, closest to the Street Performer is a FAT MAN in a pinstripe suit and hat. Large gold rings are prominent on his fingers, and he's holding the hands of a BLONDE MAN on one side and a BRUNETTE WOMAN on the other side. His large, sweaty hands cling to the man and woman's hands uncomfortably. The Fat Man towers over them in height.

The Street Performer dips the net into a bubble solution, which is poured into a tarp on the ground. He lifts the net up swiftly, creating many bubbles, which the children in the crowd begin to play under, running and making sounds of joy.

The children are shown mystified by the bubbles. The bubbles slowly fall to the earth, popping on impact.

Eli and Gaz watch on. Eli has a hint of optimism and mystification in his eyes.

ELI

(to Gaz)

How about those ones, Gaz? They're just children. Everyone you showed me was already crippled by age and bitterness. Of course bitter people will do terrible things. They've felt they've been cheated. But a child, they have no reason to purposefully do wrong.

GAZ

Perhaps that was true at one time.  
But in this place even the children  
are guilty. Look.

Gaz points toward the crowd.

While everyone is distracted by the Street Performer a LITTLE BOY and LITTLE GIRL are stealing their wallets undetected.

The Little Boy see's the Fat Man's golden rings. He looks up at the Fat Man with nervous eyes. The Fat Man's hands are still locked with his companions, making it impossible for the Little Boy to steal the gold rings.

Eli watches as the Little Boy and Little Girl run away from the crowd and approach a SEEDY MAN standing near an alley way, who is their father.

Eli walks closer to the Seedy Man and listens to their conversation.

SEEDY MAN

(to Little Boy)

Did you get their wallets.

LITTLE BOY

Yes, dad.

The Little Boy and the Little Girl unload their loot into a trash bag their father is holding open.

SEEDY MAN

How about the rings? Did you get  
the gold rings.

LITTLE BOY

I couldn't. His hands were--

The Seedy Man interrupts the boy by smacking him across the face.

SEEDY MAN

(angrily)

You little shit! I told you to get  
the rings!

Gaz gets Eli's attention.

GAZ

(to Eli)

Eli!

Eli's spell from watching the boy is broken and he looks at Gaz wide-eyed.

GAZ (CONT'D)  
Shall we?

ELI  
(still collecting himself)  
Yes, yes.

Gaz breaths deeply and closes his eyes.

Time freezes. Everyone stands completely still and a deadly silence begins.

Gaz opens his eyes.

GAZ  
That's better.

Various people are shown frozen in movement.

The Street Performer's bubbles are frozen in mid air.

Eli begins to move through the frozen people. He passes two women locked in a passionate kiss.

GAZ (CONT'D)  
Now get to it.

Gaz takes a POCKET WATCH from his jacket and looks at the time.

ELI  
Well, first thing's first.

Eli walks over to the Seedy Man and proceeds to undo his belt and unbutton his trousers.

Eli smiles and walks back in the street.

He begins slowly walking through the frozen people, looking intently at their faces.

GAZ  
(sarcastically)  
Well, haven't you found one yet?

ELI  
It's not that simple.

GAZ  
Just look into their eyes and see their inner innocence.

ELI

It doesn't work like that. I can only sense a vague reading of who they are and what they've done, but it's not perfect.

Eli continues to pass various faces.

He suddenly spots a face through a crowd of people.

The face belongs to a handsome, BLONDE YOUNG MAN, between the ages of 18 and 20 years old. His face is frozen in a smile.

Eli is taken aback by the sight of the blonde young man. He stops dead in his tracks and stares at him. Tears fill his eyes.

GAZ

We haven't much longer, Eli.

Eli continues to stare.

GAZ (CONT'D)

Eli!

Eli looks at Gaz, wipes the tears from his eyes casually.

GAZ (CONT'D)

Found something?

Eli hesitates.

ELI

No.

GAZ

That's okay. We're try again tomorrow.

Gaz glances at his pocket watch again.

The second hand passes the twelve.

Everyone becomes unfrozen and normal movement resumes.

The handsome blond man becomes lost in the crowd.

Eli beings feverishly looking for him.

ELI

(to Gaz, frantic)

I'm going to look around some more.  
I'll meet you back here tonight?

GAZ  
(suspecting)  
Fine.

Eli takes off quickly into the crowd.

GAZ (CONT'D)  
(calling after Eli)  
Don't touch anything!