

Killer Queen

written by

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FADE IN:

INT. ATLANTIC CITY HOTEL AND RESORT - NIGHT

CINDY, 23, runs for her life in an empty hallway. Chasing after her is a dark figure with an axe.

CINDY

Get away from me! Why won't you leave me alone?!

Cindy checks every door she passes, but they are all locked.

CINDY (CONT'D)

Come on, come on.

At the end of the hallway is a room with the door slightly open. Cindy enters and closes the door.

CINDY (CONT'D)

Thank you, God.

She puts a chair against the door. CRACK! The axe shreds through the door. Cindy grabs her cell phone.

CINDY (CONT'D)

Please answer, Katie. Please.

She calls "Katie." The phone rings and rings as the axe splits through the door repeatedly.

CINDY (CONT'D)

Damn it, she's probably still on stage.

Cindy gets on Instagram and records a story. Cindy puts her back against the wall.

CINDY (CONT'D)

Please, someone help me! I'm being chased by a mad woman at the Miss Cheerful Beauty Pageant. I'm locked in a room on the top floor. Help me!

Just as she's about to post the story, the axe crashes through the wall and splits her skull open.

As the axe is raised, so is Cindy's body and it drops dead to the floor.

INT. MISS CHEERFUL BEAUTY PAGEANT - NIGHT

Three beauty queen contestants watch the pageant from backstage. They are all dressed in gowns and look stunning. These three women are REBECCA, 25, tan, dirty-blonde hair with dimples.

REBECCA

If Mary wins again, I'm gonna kill someone.

LISA, 21, dark hair, red lipstick, and has noticeable tattoos on her arms and legs.

LISA

Come on, Katie. I so want to see the look on Mary's face when she finally loses.

And BEVERLY, 22, a southern belle with curly blonde hair.

BEVERLY

If anyone deserves to beat that God damn ginger, it's Katie.

On the stage, KATIE, 25, kind eyes, tall, brunette, stands with MARY, 18, has long red hair with symmetrical freckles.

A HOST opens an envelope with them.

HOST

And the winner of the 27th annual Miss Cheerful Beauty Pageant is....

Backstage, the three women brace themselves.

HOST (CONT'D)

Mary Hansen!

REBECCA

Not again. That's it, I'm murdering someone.

LISA

Seriously?! How does this keep happening?

BEVERLY

Mary is a redheaded gremlin. This is B.S.

Suddenly, the backstage host with a cameraman walks over.

BACKSTAGE HOST

Girls, you came so close. How do you feel about Mary's win?

REBECCA

Oh, I am so happy for her. If anyone deserves this title, it's Mary.

LISA

Yes, congratulations, Mary. We love you from the bottom of our hearts.

BEVERLY

I am just so proud of Mary. She's like a sister to me.

The camera person and host walk away and interview others.

BEVERLY (CONT'D)

If my sister was a fucking whore.

On stage, Katie and Mary hug. Then Mary waves to the cameras and crowd.

MARY

Thank you so much. This means everything to me. I will be the best Miss Cheerful I can be!

Katie walks backstage. Her girlfriend, MADDIE, 23, tall, cheerful, and strong, waits for her with roses.

MADDIE

You did amazing out there, sweetheart. You should have won.

KATIE

You say that every time.

MADDIE

And I mean it. You know how bias the judges can be.

KATIE

I know I promised you this would be my last pageant but I thought for sure that I was going to win this one.

MADDIE

We all did.

KATIE

This is the 20th time I've been first runner-up. 20! That's how I'll be known. Never a queen, always a runner-up.

Rebecca, Lisa, and Beverly walk up to Katie.

REBECCA

How does that redheaded wench keep stealing every title from you?

LISA

I'm so sorry, Katie. We were all rooting for you.

KATIE

Thanks for the sympathy. Hey, where's Cindy?

LISA

We haven't seen her since she lost. I'm sure she's around here somewhere.

Mary walks backstage with her new crown and holds flowers. She hugs her only friend backstage, VICTORIA, 23, blonde hair, a tad shorter than the others.

VICTORIA

Nice job, Mary. I'm so jealous.

Mary sees the other contestants.

MARY

Can you guys believe that I won again?!

BEVERLY

Does she ever shut up?

MARY

I knew being a beauty queen would be easy, but I didn't think it would be this easy my first year.

Mary keeps on walking.

BEVERLY

Rebecca, if you still want to kill someone. You know who we would nominate.

INT. RADIO STATION - DAY

Rebecca is in a radio studio with RONNY RAMBUNCTIOUS, 45, talk show host with long hair. There's a glass wall separating them.

RONNY

Holla! It's "Ronny Rambunctious in the morning!" And we have a guest in the studio. It's Miss Idaho, Rebecca Kendall.

REBECCA

Hello, Ronny.

RONNY

So let's talk dirt. I saw Mary Hansen win again at the Miss Cheerful pageant.

REBECCA

Yes, but I thought we were here to talk about me.

RONNY

Oh, we will. I see Mary holds a new record of six straight titles in her first year of competing.

REBECCA

Yep.

RONNY

Didn't you used to hold that record with five?

REBECCA

You know how beginner's luck is.

RONNY

I'm sure it helps that she's only 18 and you're what? 25? A quarter of a century. Is that right?

REBECCA

Yes, but I don't mind. It just pushes me to win harder.

RONNY

Speaking of pushing, my staff found this video of yours.

REBECCA

Video? What video?

Ronny pulls out his phone and presses play. He makes sure he holds it so Rebecca can't see.

RONNY

This video is before your pageant days.
I wanted to wait to watch this until you
were here.

REBECCA

What's that, Ronny?

RONNY

Ladies and gentlemen listening, you
should watch this video of Rebecca
Kendall.

REBECCA

What video?

RONNY

I'll make sure our intern posts it on
all our social media. You're 18 in this
right?

REBECCA

May I please see it?

RONNY

Oh, this video turns me on. Oh, yes. It
makes me "Ram-ram-rambunctious!"

REBECCA

What the hell is that? Show me the
video, Ronny!

She pounds on the glass wall.

RONNY

It teaches me things. I always wondered
how to do.

REBECCA

Show it to me!

RONNY

I wonder how your parents are going to
feel.

Rebecca has lost her cool.

REBECCA

Show me the damn video!

Ronny turns the phone.

RONNY

Let's show the internet audience, shall we.

REBECCA

Oh, no.

VIDEO FOOTAGE:

A younger version of Rebecca is in a tank top and briefs teaching her viewing audience how to roll a joint.

YOUNG REBECCA

I call this The Magical Roll.

She rolls the joint to magical perfection.

YOUNG REBECCA (CONT'D)

Because after you roll it, you do something magical...

She puts the joint to her lips.

YOUNG REBECCA (CONT'D)

You smoke it.

INT. RADIO STATION - BACK TO SCENE

Rebecca is in awe.

REBECCA

I deleted that video seven years ago.

RONNY

I know the public's opinion about weed has changed a lot lately, but I think beauty pageant committees still frown upon marijuana.

REBECCA

How did you get that?

RONNY

You don't think this is going to damage your beauty pageant career? Do you?

REBECCA

You'll pay for this, Ronny.

RONNY

Oh, did you hear that folks?

Rebecca takes off her headphones and walks away.

RONNY (CONT'D)

And there she goes. Leaving the studio
like a real champion.

INT. KATIE'S BEDROOM - DAY

Katie cleans her house. She grabs several awards and packs them in a box. They're for Little Miss Jelly Bean 1st runner-up, Miss Kindness 1st runner-up, Miss Sweetness 1st runner-up, etc.

Maddie enters from the hallway.

MADDIE

Hey, sweetie.

KATIE

Hey.

MADDIE

You okay?

KATIE

Not really.

MADDIE

I know how much that pageant meant to
you, but I have something that might
cheer you up.

KATIE

I doubt it.

MADDIE

I was gonna do this next month when we
go to Spain, but I don't think I can
wait that long.

KATIE

Do what?

Maddie gets down on one knee.

MADDIE

Katie, I've loved you longer than anyone
else and I always will.

KATIE

Maddie, is this...?

MADDIE

And I know you're always there for me when I need someone. And I'll always be there for you. I can't imagine my life without you.

KATIE

Oh...

MADDIE

Will you marry me?

KATIE

Maddie...

MADDIE

Please, say yes.

KATIE

Maddie...

MADDIE

Please.

KATIE

Of course, I'll say yes. Yes, a million, billion, trillion times.

They kiss.

MADDIE

Oh, thank God.

Maddie puts the ring on Katie's finger.

MADDIE (CONT'D)

Feel better?

KATIE

Yeah.

MADDIE

Good. I'm gonna take a shower and change clothes, and then we'll go out to dinner and celebrate.

KATIE

Sounds like a plan.

MADDIE

Hey, by the way, did you order something online?

KATIE
Not lately. Why?

Maddie picks up a shiny red box behind her.

MADDIE
This box was at our front door.

EXT. SAVANNAH SPORTS GOODS - DAY

Beverly leads a ribbon cutting ceremony. It's the grand opening of Savannah Sports Goods. She wears a sash that reads Miss Georgia.

BEVERLY
I'm so honored to be cutting the ribbon for Savannah Sports Goods, but before I do, I just want to say, congratulations to my friend, Lisa Gray. We just got the news that she will rightfully be crowned the new Miss Idaho!

The crowd cheers as Lisa waves to them.

LISA
Thank you, thank you.

BEVERLY
Now without further ado, let me proudly welcome you to Savannah Sports Goods!

She cuts the ribbon and the crowd enters the store. As Lisa claps, she gets tapped on her shoulder.

She turns around, but nobody is there.

She looks down and sees two shiny red boxes.

One box is labeled "Lisa" and one box is labeled "Beverly."

LISA
Presents for us? That's nice.

INT. GARAGE - DAY

Ronny is tied up to a chair sleeping. He wakes up drowsy.

RONNY
How did I get here?

His arms are strapped down to the arms of the chair. Rebecca walks from behind him.