LIMA (EXCERPT)

Written by

Christian Bastian

4804 Oakwood Drive Saint Cloud, FL 34772 801-473-5312 christian.bastian@gmail.com FADE IN:

EXT. DRILL YARD - NIGHT

Low fog creeps in from the forest as Cassandra skirts the edge of the field and heads toward the woods.

She reaches the fence and startled. Edward steps out of the fog toward Cassandra.

EDWARD

Where do you think you are going?

Cassandra retreats a step.

CASSANDRA

As far away as I can get.

EDWARD

It's fifty miles of bears and wolves to the nearest town.

CASSANDRA

It's safer in the woods than here.

EDWARD

You probably could make it to Glendale or Oweekeno, but then what? Call your parents?

Cassandra looks down at her feet and shakes her head.

CASSANDRA

If I stick around here I'm going to end up dead. Ryoko said next time I see her she'll kill me.

Cassandra heads for the fence.

EDWARD

You need to stand up to Ryoko.

Cassandra halts.

Eight female cadets emerge from the fog.

GEMMA

Going somewhere, Cadet Dolor?

CASSANDRA

It's none of your business, Gemma.

The other cadets surround Cassandra and Edward.

GEMMA

Feeling confident tonight? Why don't we put you to the test? (to the gang)
What do you say girls? Should we see what she's made of?

The group cackles approvingly.

CASSANDRA

I don't want trouble, Gemma. I just want to get out of here.

GEMMA

What's the matter, Princess? Too chicken to fight?

Edward steps between them.

EDWARD

Why don't you take your pack of hyenas back to the barracks where they belong?

GEMMA

Going to let your boyfriend take a beating for you, Cassandra?

CASSANDRA

Like hell!

Cassandra lunges at Gemma and the pair go down in a flurry of punches. Cassandra makes short work of Gemma.

Cassandra stands over a stunned Gemma.

CASSANDRA (CONT'D)

I told you, I just want to leave. Tell Ryoko that--

Two cadets jump Cassandra, and the others join in a furious barrage of punches, kicks.

EDWARD

Stop it! Stop!

Edward yanks girls off Cassandra. They jump back in. He gets rougher.

EDWARD (CONT'D)

You're going to kill her!

Gemma stands and walks toward the ravenous pack.

GEMMA

That's the idea.

Shocked, Edward turns toward Gemma.

EDWARD

Cass was right. Ryoko really does want her dead.

GEMMA

Stay out of this unless you want to end up like her.

EDWARD

Give me your best shot.

Gemma lunges toward Edward. He throws her roughly to the ground. He turns and pulls the last assailant off Cassandra.

Cassandra lies still.

EDWARD (CONT'D)

Cass? Cass? Cass, get up.

Edward shakes her body.

EDWARD (CONT'D)

Cass? Get up! You've got to get up.
 (to the pack)
You killed her!

GEMMA

Nobody will to miss her, or you.

Edward screams and leaps on Gemma, hitting her with everything he has. She crumples but Edward keeps on her.

EDWARD

You killed her, you crazy bitch!

The others girls stand gaping as Edward unleashes all his rage on Gemma. Cadet A snaps out of her reverie and jumps onto Edward.

CADET A

Get off her you bastard!
 (to the other girls)
Help me out here!

The rest of the girls rush in and pull Edward off Gemma.

Gemma wipes her mouth and stands.

GEMMA

Hold him.

Gemma walks slowly toward Edward wearing a menacing grin. Edward stares, face still wracked with anger. Gemma punches him solidly in the face.

GEMMA (CONT'D)

Lights out, Edward.

Gemma pounds Edward mercilessly into unconsciousness.

FADE TO BLACK.

EXT. DRILL YARD

Cassandra wakes with a start. Alone, save for Edward's body. She drags herself to him.

CASSANDRA

Edward? You okay? Edward?

She feels for a pulse.

CASSANDRA (CONT'D)

Edward? Edward! No! NO!

She sobs on his chest.

CASSANDRA (CONT'D)

Oh Edward. What do I do now?

She rocks his limp body.

FADE OUT.