

You've Got Red on You

written by

Kyle Simms

1 INT/EXT. HALLWAY/DOORSTEP - DAY

1

WIDE on the front door. The knocker raps heavily thrice.

CHARLOTTE CHESTER (40s-50s) enters the hallway, frowns. She approaches the front door, opens it.

DETECTIVE LAKE RUTHERFORD (30s-40s), facing away, turns to face her. He smiles.

LAKE
Mrs Chester?

CHARLOTTE
Yes, Charlotte Chester. Um... who are you? I wasn't expecting --

LAKE
My name's Lake. Lake Rutherford. I'm... a detective.

He tucks a beeping handheld device into his pocket, holds out a hand. Charlotte eases, shakes it.

2 INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

2

LAKE stands by the fireplace, admiring the ornaments.

CHARLOTTE returns with a cup of tea.

The door slams in the hallway.

Charlotte turns, looks into the hallway.

WILL CHESTER (older teenager) stops in the doorway. He is wearing headphones, loudly playing music.

CHARLOTTE
You alright, Will?

3 INT. HALLWAY/LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

3

WILL nods back to CHARLOTTE, melancholic.

LAKE leans into frame.

LAKE
Hi.

WILL
Who's this?

CHARLOTTE
This is Detective Lake Rutherford. Lake, this is my son, Will.

MARK is doing the washing up. They exchange a look, roll their eyes, amused.

Charlotte continues hanging the washing.

6 **INT. KITCHEN - DAY**

6

Back to the present --

LAKE stands next to the kitchen table, looking down at the floor in front of the kitchen sink. He turns to --

CHARLOTTE standing in the doorway, staring past Lake.

CHARLOTTE

And then, my husband was murdered.

7 **EXT. GARDEN - DAY - FLASHBACK**

7

CHARLOTTE continues to hang washing. She turns to the kitchen window, sees --

MARK is washing up. A FIGURE in black stands behind him, holding a knife.

The figure SLASHES Mark's throat --

CHARLOTTE

MARK!

Mark falls out of frame.

The figure remains standing --

Charlotte runs into the house --

The washing basket tips, falls onto the grass.

8 **INT. KITCHEN - DAY - FLASHBACK**

8

CHARLOTTE bursts into the kitchen, looks down at the ground.

She drops to her knees, wails --

MARK's body lies on the floor, his face streaked with blood.

WILL rushes in, halts...

SHOT of MARK's bloody hand.

Close up on Will, horrified.

9 **INT. KITCHEN - DAY**

9

Back to the present --

LAKE swallows, lowers his cup of tea.

CHARLOTTE approaches him.

CHARLOTTE

As I was running inside, my son was coming down the stairs. How did the killer just disappear and-and neither of us saw him?

Lake turns, looks to the floor.

Lake scratches his chin. Approaches the door into the hallway.

LAKE

May I speak to your son?

10 **INT. HALLWAY/STAIRWAY - CONTINUOUS**

10

CHARLOTTE is listening from the bottom of the stairs.

WILL (O.S.)

What do you want?

LAKE (O.S.)

Just to talk.

11 **INT. WILL'S BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS**

11

LAKE is holding his handheld device. It beeps quietly.

WILL sits on his bed, headphones around his neck.

Lake takes a seat at the end of Will's bed. WILL pulls himself away, slightly uncomfortable.

LAKE

You should've seen the killer making their escape, assuming they fled.

Will climbs off the bed, stands in the centre of the room.

WILL

Look --

Lake remains seated.

WILL (CONT'D)

-- I've already told the police --
I was here, in my room, just
listening to music, and then I hear
mum screaming. I rush down and
she's in the kitchen, and dad's...
dead.

LAKE

Do you believe she saw what she
saw?

WILL

(he shrugs)
Why would she lie?

CHARLOTTE enters the room.

CHARLOTTE

Why are you questioning my son,
Lake?

Lake removes the beeping handheld device.

LAKE

I needed to verify the results on
my scanner.

Charlotte glances the device. Lake pockets it.

LAKE (CONT'D)

(a beat)
Your husband's killer did not
vanish into thin air. In fact, they
never left...

Charlotte and Will exchange a look of unease.

Lake smiles.

LAKE (CONT'D)

I'm not really a detective. Not in
the conventional sense anyway.
(to Will)
I worked with your father.

CHARLOTTE

He never mentioned you --

LAKE

And I'm sure he rarely mentioned
anything to do with his job. We're
part of a secret organisation that
hunts alien sleeper agents.

WILL

Aliens?

Lake withdraws a weapon from his jacket, holds it against his shoulder.

LAKE

Aliens, yes, just like... your mother.

Lake aims his weapon at her --

Will steps in front of Charlotte.

WILL

Mum, what's he talking about?
(to Lake)
What are you doing?

LAKE

I'm sorry, Will, but I suspect your mother discovered your father's occupation and activated.

WILL

Activated?

LAKE

She's an alien sleeper agent and she has been for at least ten months -- learning everything about Mark and what he does. Her mission is to integrate, then destroy.

CHARLOTTE

(she scoffs)
What are you talking about?!

LAKE

The real Charlotte Chester is dead. This is just her shell, taken over by a alien lifeform.

Charlotte shakes her head, as if overcome by a headache.

LAKE (CONT'D)

And now we know, the alien is reawakening.

CHARLOTTE

No!

LAKE

Mark was dead long before you realised, Will --

CHARLOTTE's head dips. There's a green glow as she activates.

LAKE

Will, take this.

He hands the weapon to Will, pats him on the shoulder. They descend the stairs --

16

EXT. GARDEN - DAY

16

CHARLOTTE approaches the shed, tapping her watch. She speaks into it --

CHARLOTTE

(in an alien language)

I have been compromised. Send an evacuation ship.

A voice from the watch:

WATCH AI (V.O.)

(in an alien language)

Signal sending. Ten percent.

Charlotte lowers her arm, turns --

WILL and LAKE rush into the garden. Lake is holding his device in his uninjured hand.

LAKE

Shoot her, Will. If she sends that message --

Charlotte coughs up the knife! Points it at Will.

He looks on, horrified!

CHARLOTTE

You wouldn't shoot your mummy, would you?

LAKE

She's not your mother, Will. She might look and sound like your mother, but the real her -- she died months ago.

Will sobs, raises the weapon.

WATCH AI (V.O.)

Signal sending. Thirty per cent.

Charlotte steps forward.

CHARLOTTE

Will... listen to me, baby, I am still your mother.

LAKE

No, she isn't. Shoot her.

CHARLOTTE

Don't listen to him. He's a fraud!

Charlotte takes another step -- raises the knife, ready to slashes down --

LAKE

Will!

Will pulls the trigger! BLAM!!

Blood splatters Will --

Charlotte's body hits the ground --

Will drops to his knees, devastated.

LAKE dashes toward Charlotte, removes her watch.

WATCH AI (V.O.)

Signal sending. Seventy per cent --

He drops it on the ground, crushes it underfoot. He turns, faces Will, pats him on shoulder.

LAKE

Well, I think you did the right thing there.

Will glances up, distraught, offended.

Lake takes a handkerchief out of his coat, hands it to Will.

LAKE (CONT'D)

You've got red on you.

Lake looks back at the body, then Will, devastated.

LAKE (CONT'D)

I'll leave you to, you know, grieve.

Will clenches his fist.

LAKE (CONT'D)

Lovely to meet you!

He darts off, exits out of the gate. Sirens in the distance.

Will stares ahead at the gate, haunted. Police car lights flash across his face...

CUT TO BLACK.

THE END