

Louis Cox -- Bedtime Ritual -- 03.03.15 -- 001c

INT. BEDROOM NIGHT - NIGHT

JACK (late 20s) is lying in his bed, unable to sleep.

He tosses and turns, and then decides to get up and use the bathroom.

He reaches for his clear plastic circular glasses on the bed-stand.

INT. BATHROOM - NIGHT

He enters the bathroom, turns on the light, and is jarred by the painfully bright light -- he hasn't shaved.

He brushes his teeth.

He spits in the sink.

He turns off the light.

INT. HALLWAY - NIGHT

As he leaves the bathroom, he notices the hallway light is still on.

He turns it off.

INT. KITCHEN STAIRCASE - NIGHT

Looking down the stairs, he is surprised to notice that the kitchen light is still on.

He descends the stairs.

INT. KITCHEN - NIGHT

Moving through the kitchen towards the fridge, he takes note of a kitchen knife hanging loosely off the magnetic strip along the brick wall.

As if fixing a crooked painting hanging on the wall: he walks over and places it securely in the middle of the magnetic strip.

Jack continues toward the fridge where he opens it to browse its contents in midnight-snack fashion -- to no avail.

He continues moving through the house turning off lights.

INT. GROUND FLOOR BATHROOM - NIGHT

He peaks his head into the red bathroom and turns off the light.

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

He walks through the red living room and turns off the lights.

He notices the light in the basement stairwell is on.

INT. BASEMENT STAIRWELL - NIGHT

We look up at Jack from the basement as he steps to the top of the stairwell in the living room.

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Jack fiddles with the light switch.

INT. BASEMENT - NIGHT

A hand flicks the switch at the bottom of the stairwell.

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Jack is confused.

He flicks the switch, again.

INT. BASEMENT - NIGHT

A hand flicks the other switch, again.

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Jack is confused.

He looks over his shoulder to the dark bay windows and the abyss of the night air outside.

He feels uncomfortable.

He shrugs it off.

He goes to the circuit breaker in the closet -- all the switches are where they should be.

INT. BASEMENT STAIRWELL - NIGHT

We look up from the basement towards the top of the stairwell as we see Jack re-emerge.

Jack takes a breath.

He walks down the stairs.

INT. BASEMENT - NIGHT

Jack sees the light switch at the bottom of the stairs.

He reaches his hand out to flip it off.

MALE VOICE (O.S.)

I wouldn't do that if I were you.

Jack turns his head --

He sees himself, standing there: staring at him(self).

Jack is startled. He jumps backward. His face contorts.

Standing there, next to the same bed that Jack left upstairs in his bedroom, is JOHN (late 20s): he looks exactly like Jack, but his face is shaven and he's wearing black plastic rectangular glasses.

JACK
Who are you!?!?

JOHN
Who are you!?!?

JACK
This isn't funny.
What the fuck is going on?

JOHN
I don't know.

Jack panics.

JOHN (CONT'D)

I ... I ... I don't understand.

JACK

What do you want from me?

JOHN

What do you want from me?

JACK

Get out of my house.

JOHN

I'm going to call the cops.

JACK

My house?

What are you talking about!?

This is my house.

Both men start backing away from one another.

John trips over a book on the floor.

Jack is startled -- he runs.

INT. BASEMENT STAIRWELL - NIGHT

We see Jack's feet as he runs quickly up the stairs.

INT. KITCHEN - NIGHT

Jack comes flying around the corner into the kitchen.

He sees a large kitchen knife on the magnetic wall strip.

Jack hears a noise --

He turns around to discover John has followed him.

Jack grabs the knife off the wall.

JACK

(brandishing knife)

What do you from me!?

JOHN

Tell me!

JACK

Stop it!

Jack lunges forward with the knife -- stabbing.

John is screaming.

A hand wielding a knife flies across the screen.

RED SCREEN.

John shrieks as blood spurts in all directions.

Jack is bringing the knife down on John.

It's over.

John's corpse lies on the floor, drenched in blood.

Jack holds the blade of the knife by his hip --

a drop of blood falls to the ground.

MALE VOICE (O.S.)

Why'd you do that?

The voice is familiar.

Jack spins around.

It's him.

Standing there, at the end of the hallway, waiting...