ALL ABOUT THE GIRL

Written by

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EXT. CONVENIENT STORE PARKING LOT - SUMMER - MORNING

A CROWN VICTORIA sits in the store's empty parking lot. Justice Keeper REX PRICE rides shotgun with partner HARLAN LEEDS behind the wheel. They listen to a police scanner. Their call sign, CAR THIRTEEN.

REX PRICE (V.O.)

I used to be Rex Price. I'm the one on the left, your left. The one on your right. The doe eyed python. That's my partner Harlan.

Not exactly the life I pictured for myself, nor afterlife for that matter.

INT. CROWN VICTORIA - DAY

REX drinks COFFEE as HARLAN sloppily eats a microwave breakfast burrito. Harlan applies salsa from a singles pack directly onto his tongue.

REX PRICE(V.O.)

You wake up one morning thinking life is on track. Your own boss, girl of your dreams. Great start, but a lot can happen between now and then.

The interior of the vehicle becomes increasingly claustrophobic as they receive a call from dispatch over the radio.

DISPATCH

Car Thirteen. Car Thirteen. Come in, over.

Harlan gingerly slaps Rex on the shoulder with the back of his hand spilling egg and tortilla crumbs over the lapel of his black blazer.

DISPATCH (CONT'D)

Car Thirteen? Car Thirteen, respond, over.

The two men lock eyes.

HARLAN LEEDS (CHEWING FOOD)
You going to get that?

DISPATCH (CONTD)

Car Thirteen? I know you're out there. Respond. Over!

REX PRICE

I got it last time.

Harlan swallows the last bite of his burrito and smirks.

HARLAN LEEDS

Go for Car Thirteen, over.

DISPATCH

Car Thirteen we have a report of a 415 in progress at the corner of West Trinity and Commerce Dr., over.

HARLAN LEEDS

Roger that Dispatch. This is Car Thirteen in route, over and out.

Harlan puts the car in gear as Rex finishes off the last of his coffee. He tosses the empty cup out of his open window.

REX PRICE (V.O.)

I used to be Rex Price. Now I'm a Justice Keeper and this is my story.

EXT. MOTEL PARKING LOT - SUMMER - EVENING - ONE YEAR PRIOR

A coffee cup flies through the air. The cup hits the ground spilling inches away from REX's feet. Rex sets down his surveillance equipment and inspects his pant leg. A small garden snail crawls across the parking lot curb.

REX PRICE

Philistines.

Rex picks up his equipment and loads it into his car's trunk. He takes his phone from his blazer pocket, the display reads: "One missed call", from his long-term girlfriend JEANNIE FRANKLIN. Rex gets into his car as he checks his voice mail.

INT. 1990S OLDSMOBILE COUPE - EVENING

REX puts on his seat belt and starts the car.

JEANNIE FRANKLIN (V.O.)

Rex Price, I swear if you're not here by six then don't bother coming at all. Five years Rex. Five years.

Rex looks at his watch its 5:50 PM. The flowers he purchased earlier that day lay wilted on the passenger's seat.

JEANNIE COOPER (V.O.)
I'm tired. Tired of being the
bitchy girlfriend, tired of being
number two. This is your last
chance Rex I mean it on time or not
at all.

He puts the car in gear while heavily throttling the gas. He peals out of the empty lot.

REX PRICE (V.O.) Forty minute drive. Ten minutes on the clock. I can make it.

EXT. ROADWAY / 1990S OLDSMOBILE COUPE / MOVING - EVENING

A SERIES OF SHOTS - REX DRIVES TO JEANNIES'S APARTMENT

A) Six city blocks with three traffic light intersections.

REX PRICE (V.O.) There's not that much traffic. I can make the lights.

B) Four suburban blocks: two turns, two four way stops.

REX PRICE (V.O.)
Not that much further. You're going to get there on time.

C) The exterior of a BAR. A mysterious woman enters. She wears a red scarf around her head with sunglasses that hide her face from view.

REX PRICE (V.O.)
Got to stay focused. Only a few
more miles. But a lot can happen
between now and then.

D) Rex pulls up to the curb in front of a Jeannie's condo.

EXT. JEANNIE FRANKLIN & MARLY MALONES CONDO - EVENING

REX approaches the apartment door wilted flowers in hand. Before he can knock MARLY MALONE, Jeannie's roommate, and best friend since childhood, opens the door.

MARLY MALONE

Nice mulch.

REX PRICE

Mulch? Right, they got a little wilted on the ride over.

MARLY MALONE

They got a little dead. And speaking of over why are you even here? Was Jeannie not clear?

REX PRICE

I'm late I know, but if...

MARLY MALONE

But if? Late would have been five, ten minutes ago. You are well beyond past due!

REX PRICE

Okay! You're right Marly, but I'm working a case, paying the bills. Can you just get Jeannie, please?

MARLY MALONE

No I can't get her. She's not here but even if she were here the answer would still be no.

REX PRICE

So that's how it's going to be?

MARLY MALONE

That's how it is.

Rex takes his phone out of his pocket and calls Jeannie. He can hear her phone ring from the inside of their condo.

REX PRICE

I can hear her phone. Just let me talk to her. Please?

MARLY MALONE

You can hear that, but you can't hear me? How about Jeannie? On time or not at all? Bye Rex.

REX PRICE

Just tell her I'm sorry and I'll make it up to her. I promise.

MARLY MALONE

Goodbye Rex.

Marly walks back into the condo.

REX PRICE

Can you at least give her the flowers?

MARLY MALONE

No one wants your dead flowers Rex, but you take care of yourself. Okay?

INT. 1990S OLDSMOBILE COUPE - EVENING

Rex gets in the car and stares at his phone. His mind drifts back to the bar and the mysterious woman. Something doesn't sit well, his detective senses kick in.

REX PRICE (V.O.)

Arguments that seem trivial rarely are. Not the right time to drown my sorrows. Wrong move followed by more wrong moves. Still, you need a distraction.

INT. SNAKES WHISPER LOUNGE - NIGHT

Rex Price enters the lounge lobby, pays the door attendant, and approaches the bar.

BARTENDER TOMMY

What are we having?

REX PRICE

Whiskey and soda, neat. Shot of whiskey on the side.

BARTENDER TOMMY

Serious drinking?

REX PRICE

Serious kind of night.

Price slides the bartender a twenty.

REX PRICE (CONT'D)

Keep the change.

Price surveys the room and takes his shot chasing it with the whiskey and soda. He spots the woman in the scarf at the end of the bar. She drinks alone. He catches her eye. Price orders another shot as she approaches.

BILOXI CAIN

Put that on my tab Tommy.

BARTENDER TOMMY

Sure thing Ms. Cain.

As Tommy makes the shot Biloxi signals him to make it two.

REX PRICE

Thank you very much. Ms. Cain?

BILOXI CAIN

Its Biloxi handsome, and you are?

REX PRICE

Rex. Rex Price.

BILOXI CAIN

To new friends. Cheers!

The two raise their glasses and take their shots. Price finishes off his whiskey soda chaser. Tommy refreshes his glass. Biloxi signals Tommy for two more shots.

BILOXI CAIN (CONT'D)

So. Rex, what brings you to my lovely hole in the wall? Girl problems?

REX PRICE

Just thirsty and this place seemed as good as any.

BILOXI CAIN

If you're looking for a place to quench your thirst my place has drinks and more. Much, much more.

Biloxi is a SUCCUBUS. Price immune to her powers is oblivious as she emits fermions intended to entice his primal desires.

REX PRICE (V.O.)

One too many, wrong place in the company of the wrong girl.

(MORE)

REX PRICE (V.O.) (CONT'D)

Pretty girl. Desperate girl. A gut feeling that equals one big waste of time.

Sensing the lack of attention, a confused Biloxi becomes overly aggressive. Price creates distance between them.

REX PRICE

Listen, thanks for the drinks but that really is all I'm looking for and now I've had it.

Price finishes his whiskey and soda and walks away.

BILOXI CAIN

Rex don't make me drink alone. To friends?

REX PRICE

Thanks again, but I shouldn't. Driving, but you have a nice night and watch yourself. We're not all nice guys.

Biloxi drinks the shots of whiskey.

EXT. SNAKES WHISPER LOUNGE / PARKING LOT - NIGHT.

Rex walks toward his car, he clumsily removes his keys from his pants pocket.

REX PRICE (V.O.)

You do the right thing. Leave, you'll go home, sleep it off. Only you come up short. Don't quite make it to the door.

Unsteady, he reaches his car but drops his keys. Three garden snails crawl across the pavement beneath the car.

REX PRICE (V.O.)

Probably a sign. Can't call Jeannie. Better a cab instead.

Price notices the reflections of three men in the door's window. The men grab him by the arms and pin him against the car. The third man, Tommy, shoots him with a small revolver three times in the chest.

The men let him go. He slumps against the car down onto the ground. Biloxi approaches through the mist and shadows, kneels down beside him and pinches his cheek.

BILOXI CAIN

So sad it had to end this way, the hard way, such a waste. We could have had some fun first. Yet if I can't have you no one can have you.

As Biloxi walks away Tommy and the two men begin to follow.

BILOXI CAIN (CONTD) (CONT'D) You boys wait here. Tell the authorities about the bad thing you've done. See you around Price.

Price watches helplessly till his dying breath.

REX PRICE (V.O.)

You do the right thing, only you're always coming up short. Now you're lying on the ground dying, but a lot can happen between now and then.

INT. CROWN VICTORIA - SUMMER - DAY

Harlan gingerly slaps Rex on the shoulder with the back of his hand.

HARLAN LEEDS

Is your head in the game? I need your head in the game! Do you have your head in the game?

Rex removes his NINE MILLIMETER BIRETTA and chambers it.

HARLAN LEEDS (CONTD) (CONT'D) All right then. Let's do this!

Harlan grabs a loud horn from the back seat. Rex takes two hexing bags out of the glove compartment and hands one to Harlan. The two men get out of the car.

REX PRICE (V.O.)

I'm a Justice Keeper. Immortal, the last line of defense between the natural and the supernatural. I used to be Rex Price. This is my story.