

ANGEL KILLER

Written by

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INT. DINER - NIGHT

INSERT - COMPUTER SCREEN

"Man and Woman found dead - Angel Killer's first disturbing and brutal murder of 2023."

BACK TO SCENE

REED ELLIOT, late 20's, inquisitive and experienced despite his age, shakes his head as he writes a note in his JOURNAL. A WAITRESS comes by and gives him his coffee.

His PHONE sits next to the cup.

REED

Thanks.

He smiles at her.

WAITRESS

I forgot to ask this earlier, but what brings you here?

Reed looks up from his journal.

REED

I'm a journalist. I'm waiting for my informant since I got a tip that the Angel Killer is in town.

The waitress nods.

WAITRESS

I've heard of him on the news. Say why do they call him the Angel Killer?

Reed sighs.

REED

It's because of his good looks and his first name is Gabriel.

WAITRESS

He looks like an angel then. Well, for sure have not seen anybody like that here.

Reed nods.

REED

I just hope it stays that way...

The waitress looks over at the kitchen.

WAITRESS  
I'll get your food. It should be  
done in a moment.

REED  
Okay, thanks again.

The waitress gives him a smile and leaves.

Reed flips through the many newspaper clippings and checks his phone for the time.

REED (CONT'D)  
Where is he?

He organizes the newspaper clippings by date that go back several months through all of 2022.

Reed runs his fingers through his hair.

He checks his phone again and sips his coffee.

REED (CONT'D)  
The informant should've been here  
by now...

Reed sets his cup down next to the phone, puts his computer in a bag pack but drops a paper. He reaches under the table for it.

GABRIEL PRINCETON/THE ANGEL KILLER, 30's, ruthless and cunning, sits across from him.

Reed jumps and bumps his head on the table.

REED (CONT'D)  
Shit! You almost gave me a massive  
heart attack!

Reed stretches to grab the paper.

GABRIEL/THE ANGEL KILLER  
I apologize for intruding so  
suddenly.

Reed lets out a nervous laugh.

REED  
No, no, it's fine. You...just snuck  
up on me.

Gabriel smirks.

Reed grabs the paper and comes from under the table. His eyes widen as he looks at Gabriel.

REED (CONT'D)  
You...You're him!

Gabriel laughs.

GABRIEL/THE ANGEL KILLER  
For a journalist, you're not very  
bright. Did you honestly think I  
was your pathetic little informant?

Reed sweats. The hairs on his neck stand up. He gets goosebumps in his arms.

REED  
Why...why are you here?

Gabriel shrugs.

GABRIEL/THE ANGEL KILLER  
Why else? I wanted to meet the  
"predator" who is on my trail.

Reed stares at Gabriel.

REED  
Predator?

Gabriel whispers.

GABRIEL/THE ANGEL KILLER  
Is he a predator or is he the prey?

Reed's hands shake.

REED  
Why...Why are you doing this?

Gabriel smirks.

GABRIEL/THE ANGEL KILLER  
Why not?

Reed tries to grab his phone.

Gabriel takes out a KNIFE and points it at Reed.

REED  
Oh fuck!

He bites his lip.

GABRIEL/THE ANGEL KILLER  
I wouldn't do that if I were  
you...especially if you value the  
lives of those around you.

Reed gulps and takes his hand off the phone.

REED  
I...I don't want anyone else to get  
hurt.

GABRIEL/THE ANGEL KILLER  
Then, don't even think about  
calling the police.

Reed nods.

He holds up his hands.

REED  
Okay, okay...I promise I won't  
touch my phone.

Gabriel smiles.

GABRIEL/THE ANGEL KILLER  
Good.

Reed looks around at the other booths for any witnesses.

REED  
If you were going to kill me, would  
you do it in front of all of these  
civilians?

Gabriel shakes his head.

GABRIEL/THE ANGEL KILLER  
Too many witnesses can be far too  
messy to deal with. However, nobody  
is watching.

Reed gasps.

GABRIEL/THE ANGEL KILLER (CONT'D)  
I had a feeling that someone was  
following me, but I wasn't  
expecting someone like you.

Reed looks at the knife.

REED  
Um, who were you expecting?

Gabriel rolls his eyes.

GABRIEL/THE ANGEL KILLER  
I was expecting law enforcement of  
some sort, not some pathetic  
journalist.

REED  
When did you know about me?

Gabriel plays with the knife.

GABRIEL/THE ANGEL KILLER  
Oh, a few months back.

Reed looks down at his journal.

REED  
The police will catch you soon.

Gabriel laughs.

GABRIEL/THE ANGEL KILLER  
Maybe. But you want to know why I  
do it? Why has been so easy for me?

Reed nods his head.

GABRIEL/THE ANGEL KILLER (CONT'D)  
It's because of my appearance: no  
one expects someone as gorgeous as  
me to carry out these...artistic  
murders.

He turns the knife in his hand.

GABRIEL/THE ANGEL KILLER (CONT'D)  
I don't need a pattern or a reason  
to explain why I kill people. I  
only do it because I truly enjoy  
it.

REED  
You're insane...

GABRIEL/THE ANGEL KILLER  
So I've been told.

Reed keeps his eyes on the knife.

REED  
Your old therapist was right from  
that interview I did with him  
months ago...

Gabriel rolls his eyes.

GABRIEL/THE ANGEL KILLER  
He was a fool to think I could  
possibly be understood by someone  
like him!

He stabs the knife into Reed's journal.

REED  
Holy shit!

Gabriel sighs.

GABRIEL/THE ANGEL KILLER  
However, on a lighter note, I've  
been enjoying our little game. It  
keeps the boredom away between  
victims.

REED  
R-Really?

Gabriel nods and takes the knife out of the journal.

Reed looks at the mark left by the knife. Shivers run down  
his spine.

GABRIEL/THE ANGEL KILLER  
That's why I decided to keep you  
alive, my friend. I would like for  
this game to continue...

Reed looks at Gabriel.

REED  
Yeah...fun...

Gabriel smirks.

GABRIEL/THE ANGEL KILLER  
Do make it challenging though. The  
places you have been staying at are  
not ... secure

Reed gasps. Gabriel stands.

GABRIEL/THE ANGEL KILLER (CONT'D)  
Until we meet again...

He winks and leaves.

Reed grabs his cup of coffee. His hands shake. He sits  
alone in silence.