

THE FEAR SPECTRUM

"High"

Written by  
Justin Bamforth

THE FEAR SPECTRUM

"High"

CAST

JESS

LUCY

STEVE

MARCUS

"THE DEMON"

THE FEAR SPECTRUM

"High"

SETS

INTERIORS:

BRISTOL, PA HOUSE

Living Room

BRISTOL, PA HOUSE

Upstairs Hallway

EXTERIORS:

NO PRIMARY

No Secondary

INT. HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - EVENING

LUCY holds a tiny red pill in between her fingers --

LUCY

What is it?

STEVE leans in to her.

STEVE (O.S.)

They call it Lucifer.

MARCUS eyes up JESS, but she is hesitant.

MARCUS

Hell of a name.

JESS

It's a dumb name. Look, I don't know if I should be --

STEVE

Relax, Jess. It's not like it's going to kill you or anything. Just give you a good high.

Lucy reaches for her drink and swallows a red pill.

LUCY

Or a bad low straight into the fiery pits of --

Jess is nervous.

STEVE

(to Jess)

It's just a name.

JESS

Look, I wanted a quick fix, something new. Not to become a victim of a silly play on words.

Marcus reaches for a red pill.

MARCUS

Forget your worries. This is your answer. No backing out now.

Marcus swallows the red pill. Jess fumbles with her red pill and it falls under the table. She looks for it, but cannot find it.

Various pills are scattered on the table. A plastic bag which contains white pills are next to the red ones.

Jess unknowingly reaches for a white pill and swallows it.

STEVE

That's the spirit.

Steve swallows a red pill.

MARCUS

See you in hell...

Marcus' words echo throughout the room as Jess struggles to remain in control -- her vision becomes blurry and convoluted. She looks around the room as it begins to melt before her. The conversation between the others becomes muddy and indecipherable.

In an instant, Jess' vision becomes clear again. There is an eerie quiet.

Lucy, Steve and Marcus sit silently on the couch in a daze -- completely stoned. They are motionless. Frozen in time.

The SOUND of movement from the staircase startles Jess. She spots a DEMON at the top that peers back at her.

Curious, Jess follows the Demon up the stairs. The Demon casually walks out of her sight and down the hallway.

INT. HOUSE - UPSTAIRS HALLWAY - EVENING

Jess rounds the top of the staircase and proceeds down the hallway as she searches for the Demon. At the end of the hallway, she stops and turns around. Nothing.

As she stares out into the empty hallway, the Demon appears behind her -- extremely close. The Demon grabs her wrist and leaves behind a deep scratch as she pulls away.

Jess hurries down the hallway -- and down the stairs.

INT. HOUSE - LIVING ROOM

Jess rejoins Lucy, Steve and Marcus who are all lethargic. She tries to shake Steve out of his stupor.

JESS

I don't like this. It's too weird!

Steve is non-responsive. Jess notices the white pills next to the red pills on the table.

JESS (CONT'D)

Did I take the wrong one? My God,  
what did I take? What was it?!

Steve rolls his eyes up towards Jess -- dazed, yet frightened. He watches the Demon creep up behind her.

JESS (CONT'D)

Stop it! You're freaking me out!

Steve is frozen in fear and non-responsive to her pleas. She takes note of the Demon directly behind her.

JESS (CONT'D)

Tell me you see that!

She continues to shake Steve out of his stupor, but he does not react -- his eyes are fixed upon the Demon.

The Demon reaches out its hand and twists it in the air as if to choke someone from a distance.

Lucy grabs at her throat as she struggles to breathe. Jess panics. The Demon reaches out its other hand in the same manner towards Marcus -- he begins to choke.

The Demon creeps closer towards them. Its mouth snaps open and shut as if to take a bite out of the air.

Steve falls over as he gags and loses consciousness. Jess attempts to resuscitate him with CPR. The Demon grabs Jess from behind -- she struggles as he pulls her away --

JESS (CONT'D)

No!!!

INT. HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - LATER

Jess snaps awake in a sweaty panic on the couch. Steve, Lucy and Marcus stand above her. Steve dabs at her forehead with a wet rag. She instinctively fights him off.

STEVE

Whoah, whoah, it's alright! Chill.  
You had a bad trip...

JESS

Where is it? Where is that thing?  
That monster?

STEVE

There's no monster. You probably  
took the wrong stuff.

JESS

It was in the room with us! I felt  
it. It grabbed my...

She checks her arm -- the scratches are gone.

MARCUS

You didn't take what we took. And  
as soundly as you slept, we thought  
you were dead!

He shares a laugh with Steve and Lucy as Jess sits in  
disbelief. Lucy consoles her --

LUCY

Never done this before, have you?

A beat.

LUCY (CONT'D)

It happens. Consider yourself lucky  
it wasn't worse...

Jess eyes the plastic bag of white pills on the table.

LUCY (CONT'D)

Once, I tripped so bad that I  
completely lost myself. My name, my  
identity, I couldn't even recognize  
my own voice. It's like I had been  
snatched out of my body...

Lucy's voice trails off as she recalls a prior experience.  
Jess holds her head in her hands. She takes a deep breath and  
closes her eyes.

She looks back up --

Lucy, Steve and Marcus have transformed into DEMONS.

FADE OUT.

THE END