

Cupboard

by

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INT. ADAM'S BEDROOM. DUSK. 1973

In a boy's bedroom, we see ELLIE - 11 year old girl, short in stature, long blond hair, wearing a white flower print t-shirt and brown flared trousers - sat on the floor leaning against the foot of the bed, looking downward and facing away from us.

We see that she is holding a photograph of ADAM - 21, tall, slender build dark hair, wearing a blue pointy collar shirt, dark green jumper and bobble hat - her hand shaking as a single teardrop falls and lands on it. Moving up, we see her crying silently.

She looks around the room at the various posters of pop stars and sportsmen adorning the walls, the football scarf that hangs proudly nearby and the record player stood on top of a cluttered bookcase with a small collection of vinyls leaning against it. An old signed white school shirt and tie covers a wooden chair in an empty corner of the room.

Ellie looks back down and at a shoebox which is lying beside her. Pulling out a small handful of photographs she begins flicking through them, taking time to appreciate each one. Most are of family and friends, including some of her. She smiles weakly at a photo of Adam who's pulling a face at the camera. The next photograph contains no people. Just an old, tall, darkly coloured cupboard. She studies it, noting that the bedroom in the photograph is the one she's currently in.

She looks up and is startled to see that the cupboard is now in the room. Looming and foreboding, it stands in the previously empty part of the room.

Ellie gets to her feet and carefully approaches the cupboard. She studies it curiously before taking hold of the door handle and giving it a pull. It's locked. She gives it a shake, more forcefully this time.

The cupboard groans.

INT. ADAM'S BEDROOM. LATER

We move along the floor which is now scattered with various old keys of all shapes and sizes as, one by one, more clatter into the pile from above. Ellie pulls one final key from the biscuit tin under her arm and huffs upon the realisation that it's visibly far too big for the cupboard's lock. She dumps it with some force into the others.

The sun goes down casting long shadows across the room.

INT. ADAM'S BEDROOM. NIGHT.

Ellie's asleep in Adam's bed.

The cupboard door creaks open. It stops slightly ajar with a faint white light shining through the opening. Curious, she gets out of bed and moves cautiously towards it and opens the door wider, peering inside.

INT. CUPBOARD

The inside of the cupboard seems to stretch back like a dark narrow tunnel or corridor, a light shining through at the far end. She steps inside and walks towards the light.

EXT. FIELD, FARMLAND. DAY. OVERCAST

Ellie emerges from the cupboard in an open field. It's muddy, lonely and depressing. The place is dead with no audible wildlife.

She studies her new surroundings as the cupboard slams shut making her jump. Stretching out as far as she can see are sets of old clothes, mostly belonging to children, littering the field in varying states of decay.

She walks on, sidestepping any clothing that lie in her path towards a forest that stands at the edge of the field.

EXT. FOREST. SAME.

She walks through the forest where more clothes are scattered. Some dangling from trees, while children's toys lie abandoned below.

She stops dead as something catches her eye.

In a heap on the ground is a dark green jumper, blue shirt and bobble hat.

Recognising them, Ellie falls to her knees, clutches the jumper and begins to sob.

She freezes suddenly. Hearing an eerie, unnatural SOUND approaching from behind.

She swivels around.

High up, we loom over Ellie who's staring up at the THING, too petrified to move. A large shadow forming over her.

Ellie's scream echoes through the forest.

EXT. SAME. LATER.

We see the trees gently blowing in the wind and the ragged clothes that hang from them. The lonely dirty toys strewn around the forest floor.

We move in on a white flower print t-shirt and brown trousers, now intertwined with a green jumper...

[THE END]