



SHORT TELEVISION SCREEN

WRITER & COMEDIAN FOR HIRE

Screen comes to life with a dated VHS style video of a family eating a boring dinner. Everyone looks sad.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

Mom make another shambled mess that isn't fit to feed to the dog?

A dog puppet whines and puts it's paws over it's food dish.

Suddenly CHEF BURGERFACE kicks open the door with sacks of Sam & Lillith's Burger Chef fast food. The family jumps back at the site of a man with a Burger for a head and big googly eyes.

CHEF BURGERFACE

Luckily Dad is cool and gave me a call to save the day.

The wife looks at the husband like "Oh you."

HUSBAND

Well, it's no secret I didn't marry you for your cooking abilities.

The family laughs. Chef hands out the food.

CHEF BURGERFACE

Why would you ever cook again when at Sam & Lillith's Burger Chef you can get mouth watering burgers, perfectly salted chips, and ice cold drinks at CRAAAZY prices.

WIFE

Well, we want the kids to eat healthy.

KIDS

Awww mom!

CHEF BURGERFACE

Don't worry your little lady brain about it , mom. We have that too! For the kids the burgers come with not one but TWO lettuce leaves!

WIFE

It's green, so you know it's healthy!



CHEF BURGERFACE

So come on down to Sam & Lillith's Burger Chef because you are what you eat, and you don't want that to be mom's garbage.

WIFE

We want it to be prime food from Sam & Lillith's Burger Chef.

The Sam & Lillith's Burger Chef's jingle plays as the ad fades out while focusing on the creepy Chef Burgerface.

CUT TO:

EXT. SUBURBIA - DAY

A idyllic looking suburb that could be anywhere. An upper-middle class neighborhood with nice houses, nice cars, and happy children playing in front yards.

Standing out like a sore thumb is a basic car with the words "County Child Services" on the side. It pulls up next to a light post. On the light post is a number of missing pet signs. All different types of cats, dogs, and even guinea pigs.

INT. CAR - CONTINUOUS

Inspector BRETT TENNANT, last 30s pencil pusher type, is in the car talking on his bluetooth to his five year old daughter.

BRETT

Are you sure that's the color that you want to go with, honey?

DAUGHTER

Yeah, daddy. It's my favorite.

BRETT

Well, if you're happy, than I'm happy, baby. Can you put mommy on the phone?

DAUGHTER

YAAA! Daddy said yes to orange!

A muffling sound as the phone is being passed.

WIFE

Really? Orange.



BRETT  
Is she happy?

WIFE  
What about me?

BRETT  
You can have orange too, if you want.

WIFE  
Ha. Ha. Very funny. I guess I can live with it.

BRETT  
She'll want it changed before too long.

WIFE  
Are you going to be late tonight?

BRETT  
No. Just have this last stop and then back to the office to file my report and I'll be home after that.

WIFE  
Great. Love you.

BRETT  
Love you too.

Wife hangs up. Brett turns off the car and sighs. He picks up a file off his passenger seat and has another flick through.

BRETT (CONT'D)  
(To himself)  
The Friss family. Friss? More like Priss in this neighborhood.

Brett looks at all the kids playing and one day washing his expensive car. Brett gets out of the car.

EXT. FRISS HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Brett starts to walk up the footpath when everything becomes very quiet. Brett turns and sees that all the kids and even the man washing his car are looking at him. The silence is broken by a dog barking from inside the Friss house. Brett waves at the onlookers but no one moves.



BRETT  
 (To himself)  
 Ok, who said suburbanites aren't  
 weird as hell.

Brett turns and continues to the door. He knocks and the dog barks again. Brett turns to see if the people are still looking at him and they have all gone inside. The hose from the car washing dad is still on but he's gone.

BRETT (CONT'D)  
 Suburb of the damned.

Brett chuckles to himself but is startled as the door opens a crack, the lock chain the only thing holding the door closed. GAYLE FISS (Mid 40s, beautiful but tired looking) stares at Brett.

GAYLE  
 We don't want anything that your  
 selling and please don't bother us  
 again.

She shuts the door before Brett can say anything. He sighs and knocks again. Gayle opens the door again.

GAYLE (CONT'D)  
 Look, I already told you..

BRETT  
 (Interrupts)  
 I'm sorry, Mrs. Fiss. I'm not here  
 to sell you anything. I'm from the  
 County's Child Protection  
 department and I need to speak to  
 you and your husband about your son  
 Wallace.

GAYLE  
 (Nervous)  
 What? What about him?

BRETT  
 Can I come inside, please? I prefer  
 to do this in private.

GAYLE  
 Just a minute.

Gayle shuts the door and we can hear muffled talking behind the door. The talking stops and the door opens. Gayle fixes her hair and straightens out her clothes.



GAYLE (CONT'D)  
Please, come in.

Brett enters the house. The dog continues to bark. The door shuts behind him.

INT. FISS HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Gayle locks the chain on the door again as Brett looks around. The house looks like a normal suburban home. There is some subtle Sam & Lillith's Burger Chef materials around the place. A teenage girl is doing homework at the dinner table with headphones on and her back to them. Gayle notices him looking at her.

GAYLE  
That's our daughter, Tammy. She's always plugging into those headphones.

BRETT  
Doing her homework on a Friday?  
She's quite the student.

GAYLE  
Yeah, she wants to finish her book report.

BRETT  
Oh, what book.

GAYLE  
(Thinking for a moment)  
"Hensel and Gretle".

BRETT  
A classic. Is your husband around?

GAYLE  
He'll join us in the living room, he was just getting the kids a snack.

BRETT  
Great.

GAYLE  
Would you like anything?

BRETT  
No, thank you.



GAYLE

This way.

Brett follows Gayle into the living room. She gestures to a chair and he takes a seat. He opens his file and notebook.

BRETT

I just have a few questions.

HARRISON FISS, late 40s, strong build, enters the room. He's wiping his hands on a dirty dish towel. He's wearing a Sam & Lillith's Burger Chef "MOO-ployee of the month" shirt. Brett stands up and extends his hand.

BRETT (CONT'D)

You must be, Mr. Fiss. I'm  
Inspector Brett Tennant from the  
county child service department.

HARRISON

(Trying to look cool)  
Oh? What's this about?

GAYLE

It's about Wallace.

HARRISON

Ok.

BRETT

Have a seat. I just have a few  
questions about little Wallace.

Harrison sits next to his wife. She takes his hand.

BRETT (CONT'D)

Now, Wallace hasn't been to school  
in sometime. Can you explain why  
that is?

GAYLE

He hasn't been well.

BRETT

I'm sorry to hear that. Is it a  
chronic illness?

HARRISON

Potentially life threatening.

BRETT

That's terrible. And he's been to  
the doctors?



The dog continues to bark. Harrison looks around.

HARRISON

Wallace has seen many people, but it always ends the same. They say there is nothing they can do and we never hear from them again.

BRETT

Can I get some of the names of the doctors?

HARRISON

Look, Inspector, we are dealing with Wallace's illness. This is no concern for the school.

BRETT

The school didn't call me. We had a concerned tip off that Wallace was being held against his will.

HARRISON

That's absurd. Wallace is upstairs.

BRETT

Can I see him?

GAYLE

NO!

BRETT

(Suspicious)

Why not?

GAYLE

His illness.

HARRISON

Yes, he's in bed, resting. His illness makes it hard to get out of bed.

BRETT

I will need to confirm this for my report. I'm not trying to make this hard on anyone. When we had the tip off I made some inquiries to the school and found out that Wallace had some issues about eight months ago and that he hasn't been back.

HARRISON

He was being bullied.



GAYLE

Wallace is a bigger child and some of the other kids picked on him.

BRETT

I understand there was an incident.

HARRISON

(Getting upset)

My son was standing up for himself.

BRETT

I understand, Mr. Fiss. I'm not here to take sides, but the school told me he bit a fellow student in the face?

HARRISON

The kid was a bully.

BRETT

The school confirmed that it was the offending kid, but he bit the child hard enough to require stitches.

GAYLE

He got off lucky.

BRETT

I need to speak to Wallace. I need to see that he's ok, and I need information about his medical issues. I need to file a report with the school and child services because there is concern about the treatment of Wallace.

GAYLE

What?

HARRISON

We do EVERYTHING for our son!

BRETT

I didn't mean to upset you.

HARRISON

You bastards have NO idea what we have to deal with. What we've been through? And you waltz in here and judge me? How fucking dare you!



BRETT  
Mr. Fiss, please calm down.

HARRISON  
You want to see, Wallace? You want to see our son? Fine.

GAYLE  
Harrison. No.

BRETT  
(Getting worked up)  
Yes. Mr. Fiss. I would like to see Wallace. I would like some answers to what the hell is going on and why you are playing games with me.

Harrison stands up and walks off.

HARRISON  
I'll see if Wallace is ready for you.

Silence. It's the first time we don't hear the dog barking. Another beat.

BRETT  
Well, at least the dog stopped barking.

Gayle starts to sob. Brett reaches over and puts his hand on her knee.

BRETT (CONT'D)  
I'm not here to cause trouble, Mrs. Fiss. I'm here to help.

GAYLE  
Do you have children, Inspector?

BRETT  
I do. A five year old daughter. Ava.

GAYLE  
You'd do anything for her?

BRETT  
Of course.

GAYLE  
Then, I pray you understand.

Brett is a bit confused.



HARRISON (O.S.)  
Inspector. You can come up and meet  
Wallace.

Brett stands up. Gayle grabs on to him. Brett looks at her.

BRETT  
It'll be ok, Mrs. Fiss.

She lets go of him. Brett walks up the stairs. Harrison is waiting at the top of the steps near a door that's cracked open slightly.

HARRISON  
He's in here.

Brett walks up to the door.

INT. WALLACE'S ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Brett opens the door and a wave of horrid smells hits him. It almost knocks him back. Brett notices the locks on the outside of the door and searches for a lightswitch.

BRETT  
Wallace? I'm Inspector Brett  
Tennant from...

Brett turns on the lights and jumps in horror at what he sees. A giant blob of a boy on a bed. His fat stretched skin is discolored and hanging over the edges of the single bed. Wallace's face distorted like a human-snake hybrid as he devours a dog whole.

BRETT (CONT'D)  
What the fuck!?!

Brett turns and Gayle is there and hits him in the face with a hammer.

CUT TO:

INT. WALLACE'S ROOM - LATER

Brett starts to come to. He has blood trickling from his forehead. He shakes his head to try to clear his double vision.

GAYLE  
I'm trying, baby! Stop snapping at  
me!



WALLACE  
HUNGRY! NOW!!!

Brett sits up and see's Gayle trying to feed something to Wallace. His bloated arms trying to grab her or whatever she's offering. Brett shakes his head again and looks at what she's trying to give him. He realises it's his own leg. Brett looks down and where his leg used to be is a crudely tied off stump.

Brett screams. He looks up and Gayle looks at him, taking her eyes off Wallace. Wallace grabs the leg and pulls brining Gayle with it. He grabs them both. He swallows the leg and then starts to eat Gayle.

GAYLE  
NO! WALLACE! NOT MOMMA!

WALLACE  
HUNGRY!

Harrison runs into the room and sees what's happening. He tries to grab Gayle but Wallace has already bitten into her head. Harrison sees that she's dead. He turns to Brett.

HARRISON  
YOU!

Harrison rushes at Brett. Thinking quick, Brett grabs Harrison's leg and trips him. Harrison hits his head on the edge of Wallace's bed and is knocked out. Brett crawls towards the door. The disgusting sounds of Wallace eating his mother can be heard. The sound of blood splashing on the walls.

Brett crawls out of Wallace's room and towards the stairs. He falls down the stairs as crashes at the bottom. His phone flies out of his jacket and lands near the girl sitting at the dinner table.

BRETT  
Tammy! Tammy! You need to help me!

Tammy still has her headphones on.

BRETT (CONT'D)  
TAMMY! Please! Hand me my phone.

Tammy lifts her head and takes her headphones off.

BRETT (CONT'D)  
Please.



TAMMY  
It's my fault.

BRETT  
What?

TAMMY  
It's my fault.

BRETT  
How could it be your fault?

TAMMY  
It's my fault you're here.

BRETT  
Why?

TAMMY  
(sobbing)  
I called in the complaint.

BRETT  
Why?

TAMMY  
Because...

Tammy turns and you can see that her face has been bitten, her nose is gone and so is one eye. She holds up her hand and she is missing fingers.

TAMMY (CONT'D)  
I wanted him to stop eating me.

BRETT  
JESUS!

Tammy kicks his phone over to him.

TAMMY  
I'm sorry. I just wanted him to stop. I'm sorry.

Brett grabs his phone and goes to dial. He turns just to see Harrison with the hammer.

HARRISON  
NOOO!!

Blackness.

CUT TO:



INT. HARRISS HOUSE - LATER

Brett's phone's screen has three messages and ten missed calls. The time on the screen is 7PM. A bloody hand picks up the phone and goes to the text message screen. A text is being sent to "wife" it reads:

"Sorry, got caught up. Met the most amazing family. They've invited us for dinner. Bring Ava."

The thumb presses send. We finally see it's Harrison. Covered in what we can guess is Brett's blood. He stares at the phone. He starts to sob.

WALLACE (O.S.)  
HUNGRY! MORE!! HUNGRY!

Harrison sniffs and "man's up."

HARRISON  
Coming, sweetie.

Harrison stands up and walks over to a stereo. He presses play and the "Sam & Lillith's Burger Chef" jingle starts to play. Harrison starts to walk towards Tammy who has her headphones back on. He stops and grabs a baseball bat. She has no idea she's next.

CUT TO:

BLACK

WALLACE (O.S.)  
HUNGRY!!!!

CREDITS