

The Edge

By

Scott Leonardi

Scott Leonardi 2017

ScottLeonardi@yahoo.com
330-212-2566

INT. APARTMENT - DAY

A woman walks up to her bathroom mirror. DARCY, 20's, with straight brown hair and fair complexion, stands in a old t-shirt and shorts. She stares at herself expressionless.

She takes a breath and begins to apply makeup, curl her hair, and change into a lightly colored sun dress. She looks beautiful although her face remains stiff.

EXT. CITY BUS - DAY

Darcy looks out of the bus window, staring at pedestrians with a vacant look in her eyes.

EXT. BRIDGE - DAY

Darcy walks along the sidewalk of a bridge. She slows towards the middle and looks up and down the street. Looking over the edge of the bridge, the sky is overcast and her surroundings quiet aside from the sounds of bugs and birds.

Darcy's hands slightly shake as she sets down a small purse she carried with her, turns around and hops up on the edge backwards. She turns herself around and climbs down onto the support beams underneath the bridge.

Standing on one beam with an arm holding another, Darcy takes a long look at the sky and water before her. She closes her eyes and begins to step forward when a voice nearby startles her.

WOMAN IN BLACK

Are you really being this dramatic?

Darcy shrieks and grabs onto the beam she was holding onto to keep from falling.

DARCY

What the fuck!

Darcy looks side to side and sees no one. She shakes her head in disbelief and tries to catch her breath.

WOMAN IN BLACK

Are you done with the theatrics?

DARCY

Oh my god!

(CONTINUED)

Darcy turns around to see a WOMAN IN BLACK standing behind her in the middle of another support beam. She's wearing a perfectly tailored black jacket and skirt that looks almost Victorian in style and very expensive.

A large black hat dips in front of her face covering her features as she stands with one arm tucked under the other which is smoking a cigarette from a long cigarette holder.

DARCY (CONT'D)

Who the fuck are you?

WOMAN IN BLACK

Finally. I was starting to think you were ignoring me on purpose.

Darcy stares at the woman wide-eyed still clinging to her beam.

DARCY

What? What are you talking about?
Who are you? How did you get here?

WOMAN IN BLACK

I've been here the entire time, honey. You were just too distracted doing whatever it is you were doing to notice.

DARCY

I don't understand what's happening. What are you doing hanging out under a bridge? And why do you look like that?

WOMAN IN BLACK

I look exactly like I want to look, dear. And as for the bridge, well, I could ask you the same thing.

DARCY

I just told you.

WOMAN IN BLACK

Actually, you asked me what it looked like you were doing, and what it looked like seemed very dramatic, so I felt I should say something.

Darcy looks extremely confused, barely processing what's going on. She closes her eyes and tries to hold back tears.

(CONTINUED)

DARCY

Please, just go away. What are you even doing?

WOMAN IN BLACK

Well, in your own words, what's it look like? I'm enjoying the fresh air and having a cigarette under a bridge waiting for you. Isn't that obvious?

DARCY

What? What do you mean waiting for me? Have you been following me? Who are you?

WOMAN IN BLACK

My god, you ask a lot of questions. No wonder you worry everyone thinks you're annoying. You really can be quite exhausting. I need another cigarette.

The Woman tosses her cigarette butt to the side, pulls out a metal cigarette container, puts a new one into her long holder, and lights it. Her face is still concealed by her hat.

DARCY

Fuck you! Who are you?!

WOMAN IN BLACK

And how exactly could I have been waiting for you here if I was following you? You should really think before you speak, dear. Then again, you've never been one for thinking things through.

DARCY

Excuse me?

WOMAN IN BLACK

Does it really matter who I am? You were a step away from your little swan song a moment ago. Why should you care?

DARCY

Because...just because! Who told you to follow me? My parents? Are you a private investigator or something?

(CONTINUED)

WOMAN IN BLACK

You're really missing the point, darling. Instead of worrying about who I am, shouldn't you be asking yourself that same question?

DARCY

What question?

WOMAN IN BLACK

Well, who are you?

DARCY

What do you mean?

WOMAN IN BLACK

Well, are you really just the girl that jumped off a bridge? Or, should I say, almost jumped?

DARCY

Fuck off. You don't know anything about me.

WOMAN IN BLACK

You'd be surprised, honey. Now, tell me, who are you? And what is it about being you that's so terrible you want to throw yourself overboard?

DARCY

What is this? Fucking bridge therapy? You just wait down here for any pathetic asshole that wants to kill themselves and just stand there and pretend to give a shit?

WOMAN IN BLACK

Why do you think you're pathetic?

DARCY

Obviously I'm pathetic if I'm trying to kill myself!

WOMAN IN BLACK

Sounds like someone that has potential to me.

DARCY

What the hell is wrong with you? I don't have potential for shit.

(CONTINUED)

WOMAN IN BLACK

Now, why's that? Because you hate your job? Or because your relationship didn't work out? The meaninglessness of existence maybe?

The Woman takes a long drag of her cigarette.

WOMAN IN BLACK (CONT'D)

Or maybe because you lay awake at night crying because you know you have to wake up and live another day when all you want is to live inside your recurring dream of being a child and holding your mother's hand as you walk by a lake watching the ducks? Feeling more secure and loved than you ever have since then and waking up convinced you'll never feel that way again?

Darcy looks upset, almost scared.

DARCY

What? How...how do you-

WOMAN IN BLACK

You know, some people would kill to have your life.

DARCY

I don't...I don't understand...

WOMAN IN BLACK

Wake up, Darcy!

Darcy has tears in her eyes and is gripping the support beam in her hands hard.

WOMAN IN BLACK (CONT'D)

You've been playing the victim your entire life! Never owning up to your mistakes! Never taking charge of your own life! Always doing and saying what you think everyone wants you to!

DARCY

Stop... Please stop it.

(CONTINUED)

WOMAN IN BLACK

Oh, I'm sorry, sweetie. Is this not what you want to hear? Do you need to cry some more? Maybe now's a good time to take that final step you were so eager to take before.

Darcy's eyes are closed as she tries to ignore the Woman in Black.

DARCY

Go away. Please go away. Please go away.

WOMAN IN BLACK

Go away? How can I do that?

The Woman in Black starts to walk towards Darcy across a connecting support beam. She isn't holding onto anything to balance and you can hear her heels hitting the metal of the beam.

WOMAN IN BLACK (CONT'D)

I've been with you you're entire life, princess. Watching you, waiting for any kind of acknowledgment. Anything to prove that you had what it took to be the person you always knew you could be but were too scared. Now look at you, shaking under a dirty bridge like a dead leaf crying for the comfort of the frozen dirt.

DARCY

Please. What do you want from me?

The Woman in Black is now standing directly in front of Darcy, although Darcy's eyes are still closed and she's still clutching the beam.

WOMAN IN BLACK

I want you to finally realize, to truly understand, that you can do anything, Darcy. You have the power within you to manifest any kind of life you want, darling. To live free of judgment, free of worry, free of your past.

DARCY

I know...I just...I can't...

(CONTINUED)

WOMAN IN BLACK

You can do anything, Darcy. You just need to hear the words from the right person.

DARCY

What person?

WOMAN IN BLACK

Darcy...

The Woman in Black lifts Darcy's chin and Darcy opens her eyes to finally see the face of the woman. Darcy sees her own face staring back at her.

WOMAN IN BLACK (CONT'D)

Who do you think?

Darcy gasps and is instinctively startled backwards. She falls over the edge of the support beam. There's a loud CLANK.

Darcy lays on her back on a metal grate connected to the edge of the bridge scaffolding. She shaking and looks up to where she stood before. The woman is gone and traffic goes by slowly on the bridge above. Darcy gasps for air.

On the bridge, Darcy climbs back over the railing. The sun is coming out. Darcy grabs her purse and notices her hands aren't shaking anymore. She looks out over the water with a determined look in her eyes, takes a deep breath, and walks away.