

SMEAR

Written by

Ethan Marek

INT. PAINTING ROOM - DAY

A painting stands in the soft light of a front office room.

A hand dips into a water bucket, dries off on a sponge, and dips into blue paint.

A GIRL, 20s, gently swishes the brush on the painting as she paints the canvas blue.

MOTHER (O.S.)

Eva! You're going to be late!

Eva finishes the painting. She sets the brush down, rinses her hands in the water and dries them off with a towel.

Her MOTHER, 40s, enters.

MOTHER (CONT'D)

How's your painting coming along?

Her Mother watches her as she stalls, cleaning her hands as if the paint is tough to get off.

MOTHER (CONT'D)

Oh, sweetie, it looks spectacular.

EVA

It doesn't mean anything.

MOTHER

Eva. Art doesn't always need to mean something. People use their imaginations to escape the stresses of reality.

Mother comes from behind Eva and wraps her arms around her. They look at the painting.

MOTHER (CONT'D)

I think this painting is beautiful.

Eva smirks and looks up to her Mother.

EXT. DRIVEWAY - DAY

Rain pours on a vehicle's windshield. Eva opens the car door and starts the car. She pulls out of the driveway.

The car backs up onto the road. As she drives away, the car disappears into the eerie rain.

INT. DENTAL OFFICE - DAY

Eva enters from the rainy weather through the front doors. She walks up to the front desk where a RECEPTIONIST sits.

RECEPTIONIST
Hello!

EVA
Hi.

RECEPTIONIST
How may I assist you?

EVA
Uh, appointment for Eva Aquarell.

RECEPTIONIST
Let's see here.

The Receptionist searches for her appointment.

Eva turns and looks into the doors to the dental rooms.

RECEPTIONIST (CONT'D)
Ah! Here we go. Eva Aquarell.

Eva, nervous as she twiddles her fingers with a pen.

RECEPTIONIST (CONT'D)
Okay! Doctor Wood will come and get you shortly.

EVA
Thank you.

Eva walks to the waiting area.

She takes a seat next to a fish tank. She turns and watches the fish swim around the tank.

The dental room doors swing open.

DOCTOR WOOD, 50, looks around the waiting room.

DOCTOR WOOD
Eva?

Eva looks up, stands, and passes by the fish tank.

INT. DENTAL ROOM - DAY

Doctor Wood walks to the doorway into the bland, white room. He turns and gestures Eva into the room.

DOCTOR WOOD
We will be in here today.

Eva enters. She stares at the bed.

DOCTOR WOOD (CONT'D)
Alright. You can have a seat.

She sits in the dental chair.

DOCTOR WOOD (CONT'D)
I am Doctor Wood and I will be your surgeon today.

Doctor Wood types on his computer from behind Eva as she looks at the medical tools on the tray in front of her.

DOCTOR WOOD (CONT'D)
Eva? It says that the last time you came in, you decided not to do the anesthetic.

He sits in his rolling chair.

EVA
I don't feel comfortable taking it.

Doctor Wood, in a medical mask, rolls over to Eva.

DOCTOR WOOD
I understand that it can be scary, but it will help reduce the pain.

Eva looks down in silence as Doctor Wood waits.

DOCTOR WOOD (CONT'D)
Well, you let me know if you change your mind. I can always call your mother to pick you up.

Eva settles in and looks up towards the ceiling.

Doctor Wood types away at his computer.

NURSE SLAVIK, 35, enters as she puts on her rubber gloves.

NURSE SLAVIK
Hello!

DOCTOR WOOD
Welcome! Eva, this is Ms. Slavik.
She will be your nurse today.

NURSE SLAVIK
How are you?

EVA
Nervous.

NURSE SLAVIK
It's not as bad as you think it is.

Nurse Slavik grabs the blood pressure cuff and walks to Eva.

Eva lifts her arm. Nurse Slavik wraps the cuff around it.

Doctor Wood finishes on the computer and rolls over to Eva.

DOCTOR WOOD
Alright, Eva. I'm going to put a
mask on you for a steady flow of
oxygen--

EVA
I'll do it.

DOCTOR WOOD
Do what, Eva?

EVA
I'll do the IV.

DOCTOR WOOD
Good decision, Eva.

Doctor Wood grabs a mask from the oxygen tank and pulls it
over Eva's head.

Ms. Slavik grabs two more chords from a machine.

NURSE SLAVIK
Can I put this on your chest?

Eva pulls her shirt down. The Nurse places a suction on her.

NURSE SLAVIK (CONT'D)
And your back.

Eva leans forward. The Nurse sticks a suction on her back.

Doctor wood holds an IV in his hand.

DOCTOR WOOD

You're going to feel a little poke.

The needle slides in the soft bend of the arm.

Eva sees the needle in her arm.

The heart monitor beeps faster.

Eva falls asleep as the monitor beeps slower and slower.

INT. EMPTY DENTAL ROOM - DAY

Eva wakes. She catches her breath. Confused, she looks around. Eva throws her legs to the side and stands. She walks to a shaded window. Eva opens the blinds.

Solid white.

Eva turns, walks to the hallway and peers out.

INT. DENTAL ROOM HALLWAY - DAY

Nothing. Eva exits and peers into dental rooms as she drags her hand on the bland, white wall.

Eva stops, in shock. Her jaw opens wide. Her eyes twitch.

Thick blood flows from a dental room into the hallway.

She walks toward the room.

The blood streams down the hallway and passes Eva.

INT. DENTAL ROOM 2 - DAY

A hand wraps around the corner of the doorway. Eva's eye peers around it.

Three DOCTORS work on a patient. One Doctor is obstructed by the chair. The other two Doctors have their backs to Eva.

The MAN in the chair turns and looks over at Eva. His bloody jaw has been ripped open.

EVA

Dad?

The Doctors' ghostly faces jolt at Eva, their eyes white.

Eva steps back and slips. She catches herself, running-in-place on the slippery blood. Her arms wave in the air as she tries to keep balance. She falls backwards.

Eva's head slams onto the bloody white floor.

INT. DENTAL ROOM - DAY

Eva has a mask on her face. The heart monitor beeps faster and faster. Her eyes bolt open.

The heart monitor's alarm goes off.

Nurse Slavik runs in.

NURSE SLAVIK

Oh my God. Doctor Wood! She's awake.

Eva's head sways. Her hands touch the sky. She smiles.

Doctor Wood panics and scavenges for something.

The IV pulls out of Eva's arm as she plays with her hands in the air. Eva insanelly giggles.

INT. DENTAL ROOM HALLWAY - DAY

Eva rolls through the hallway on a wheelchair. She goes through doors and enters the front room. Mother stands there.

INT. DENTIST OFFICE - DAY

Doctor Wood pushes Eva to Mother.

DOCTOR WOOD

Eva did great today. Having your wisdom teeth out can be terrifying. I'm glad she took the IV.

EVA

Mom! Look at my teeth!

Eva smiles incredibly wide while her fingers pull her cheeks.

MOTHER

Good job, sweetie. I'm so proud of you.

DOCTOR WOOD
Her medication should be ready to
be picked up in an hour or so.

EVA
Mom?

MOTHER
Yes, sweetheart?

EVA
Why did you kill Dad?

Eva giggles.

Mother freezes. She locks eyes with Doctor Woods.

MOTHER
I'm sorry.

She goes behind the wheelchair and starts to push.

EVA
Mom! You didn't answer.

She pushes Eva out of the dental office. Doctor Wood follows.

INT. CAR - DAY

Doctor Wood and Mother sit Eva in the back and buckle her up.

EVA
You're my Mom.

The door shuts. Eva smiles and strokes her Mother's hair on
the other side of the window.

INT. PAINTING ROOM - DAY

Mother enters with Eva.

MOTHER
Let's bring you to the living room.

EVA
No! Mom! I want to paint.

MOTHER
Eva. You can't paint like this.

EVA

Let's talk about Dad then. He won't hear us.

MOTHER

Eva! Stop!

Eva laughs hysterically.

Mother grasps her hair and pulls.

MOTHER (CONT'D)

No more talking about Dad, okay?

Mother sets a chair by the painting and helps Eva sit down.

MOTHER (CONT'D)

Let me get you some water.

Mother exits.

Eva grabs her paintbrush. She dips the brush in the red paint. Eva strokes the brush across the canvas.

The water in the paint bucket is swirled by her brush. It becomes bloody red.

Mother enters with a glass of water. She looks up and drops the glass. Her jaw drops. Her hands raise toward her mouth.

EVA

Do you like it, Mom?

Her father's face smears the painting as his head lies against an electrical circuit. Mother, devastated, is behind him. His face is smeared and drooped.

Mother is in shock. Eva throws the bloody water at her.

Eva laughs uncontrollably and cannot stop.

Mother grabs the painting and smashes it.

EVA (CONT'D)

You killed him! You killed him,
Mom!

Mother exits.

INT. FRONT ENTRANCE - DAY

Mother walks behind a wall in the front entrance.

Eva's laughing is still heard.

Mother, now hidden, screams.

The power goes out.

THE END