

UNDER HIS LIGHT

EP1 - "Run, Rabbit, Run"

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"Run, Rabbit, Run"

TEASER

**EXT. BACKSTREET. DAY**

The sun burns on the edges of the sky as a woman, HOLLY RAFA, late 30s, walks along smoking a cigarette.

*Holly, the epitome of still waters run deep. At surface level she's unflappable, but underneath is a scared child still afraid of the dark.*

She wears unremarkable clothes, large sunglasses, a hat and black curator's gloves. The aim - *to blend in.*

Holly stops outside of a derelict salon called KIKI'S NAIL BAR and checks the street around her.

She holds her cigarette with an ungloved hand, which she then stubs out against the wall.

Oddly, she removes a ziplock bag from her coat pocket. The bag is full of cigarette butts and ashes.

Holly drops the butt inside the bag and puts it back into her pocket before replacing her glove.

She once again checks the coast is clear then enters...

**INT. ABANDONED NAIL SALON. SHOP - CONTINUOUS**

The nail salon looks like it was left in a hurry. Holly almost winces at the strong smell of old monomer.

Chairs are upended and it looks as if much of the stock was stolen on the way out.

Abandoned for weeks a layer of nail dust has settled, Holly's shoes leave hazy, indistinct prints in the dust.

She takes a cuticle stick from a cup and uses it to move some papers around a manager's desk.

She narrows her eyes as she skims the pages before realising there is nothing of interest and moving on.

She climbs a narrow staircase towards the back of the shop and enters...

**ABANDONED NAIL SALON. ATTIC OFFICE - CONTINUOUS**

A gabled attic used as an office and stock room, with many of the boxes ransacked like down in the shop.

Otherwise the room is empty and open, with pipes and ducts snaking along the roof and down the walls.

A desk is at an angle with all of the drawers open, papers have been scattered all over the floor.

A computer monitor remains smashed and on the floor but the computer tower is gone.

It's darker up here and Holly removes her glasses and drops them into her coat pocket.

Holly studies the room with light curiosity as she approaches the ransacked desk.

Holly retrieves a small black digital camera from her pocket and takes several pictures of the scene.

She crouches down to reveal the figure of a man sneaking up behind her. Oblivious, she continues to take pictures.

A floorboard creaks, alerting Holly and she wheels around just as a cricket bat swings down inches from her.

Holly snatches up the fallen computer monitor and smashes it on her attacker's head and her hat flies off.

The man, MARCUS SLACK, 40s, drops the bat, which lands out of his reach.

*Marcus, a wheeling-dealing sociopath wrapped in handsome jack-the-lad packaging. Dangerous and sly.*

He slumps to the floor clutching his bleeding scalp and Holly stands over him ready to spar.

Holly still has the HDMI cable, which she threatens to swing when Marcus attempts to sit up.

MARCUS

Ah, fuck! I'm sorry, back off.  
I'll stay down.

Holly straightens up, but doesn't fully let down her guard, she narrows her eyes at Marcus.

HOLLY

Marcus Slack, I assume?

Marcus grunts bitterly.

MARCUS

Good guess.

Holly's voice and facial expression remain relatively flat despite the heightened situation.

HOLLY

Your employer's not very happy with you.

Holly kneels down to study Marcus, he grimaces at being treated like a sideshow curiosity.

HOLLY (cont'd)

Hmm, you were much fatter in your pictures.

MARCUS

Live rough for a few weeks, best diet in the world.

Holly raises her brow wryly before standing up again.

HOLLY

You've really saved me a lot of hassle showing up here. You'd done a good job disguising your trail up to now.

Marcus smirks.

MARCUS

You'll have to give Mr Ignoti a discount.

Marcus's levity disappears, he winces in pain as he touches his head and studies the blood on his fingers.

MARCUS (cont'd)

You don't have to tell him, you could just let me go. I'll pay you to say you never saw me.

Holly can't help but smirk.

HOLLY

If you had that kind of money, you wouldn't be in this trouble in the first place.

Marcus grimaces, now he's desperate.

MARCUS

You know what he'll do to me.

Holly shakes her head, she's cocky, feeling like she has him on the ropes.

HOLLY

Nothing you haven't done a hundred times yourself.

She gives him a pointed look.

MARCUS

Please, I'm begging you.

Holly walks towards him and looks down at Marcus. He is tearful as he leans on her mercy.

MARCUS (cont'd)

Please.

Holly might be reconsidering, until Marcus's face shifts and he kicks her legs out from under her.

Before Holly can react, he is on top of her, he punches her in the face and tries to strangle her.

Holly is overwhelmed for a moment but is able to wrap the HDMI cable around his wrists and jig herself free.

Marcus is taken by surprise and she is able to kick him off-balance and he rolls off her.

Holly is spry and up quickly, she rushes to grab the cricket bat and cracks Marcus on the head - *knock out!*

Holly takes a moment to gather her breath, she keeps a firm hold on the bat until certain he's unconscious.

Holly drops the bat and picks up the fallen HDMI cable, which she uses to tie Marcus's wrists to a nearby pipe.

Holly crouches beside Marcus, taking a moment to gather herself before she retrieves her burner phone.

She places a call to an unsaved number in her call log.

HOLLY

Hey, it's me. Tell Ignoti if he wants his guy he's waiting for him at Kiki's.

BARRET (V.O.)

What the fuck?

Holly waves this away, too exhausted to explain.

HOLLY

Don't worry. Slack's tied up in the office so they better get their arses down here quick.

Holly kneads her brow, she's feeling that punch.

HOLLY (cont'd)  
I'm going dark for a bit, can  
you get me a new burner?

BARRET (V.O.)  
Sure. Already done. Do you want  
it in the PO Box or--

HOLLY  
No, I'll come by the office  
tomorrow.

BARRET (V.O.)  
Great stuff, I've got a new  
assignment for you.

HOLLY  
Understood.

Holly hangs up before she breaks the phone in half. She  
removes the SIM card and drops the pieces in her pocket.

Holly dusts herself off, collects her fallen hat and then  
walks towards the stairs to leave.

MARCUS (O.S.)  
Wait.

Holly looks back to see he's barely conscious.

MARCUS  
I'll make you pay for this.

Holly almost smiles.

HOLLY  
You'll have to find me first.

END TEASER