## Him

## By T.W Francis

Julie sat in the corner of the crowded high school cafeteria alone on the verge of crying as she always did. School was almost over and she would have to go back to Him. He would be there waiting for her. Ever since her mother died, when she was seven, she had feared Him.

Even before she had died Julie had always caught Him looking at her with lust. Her entire childhood was filled with memories of Him looking at her with those eyes. Her mother knew He was looking at her like that. Julie had heard them fighting over those looks every night. At first they just argued but then one night He had hit her a few times. Julie remembered hearing the hard thump every time His fist hit her face. Julie would always see her mother the next day with a battered lip and black eye trying to cover it up with makeup. Before her mother had died Julie cried herself to sleep every night. The only time she remembered being happy was when her mother would sing her to sleep with a lullaby her grandmother used to sing to her. Those nights He was usually off drinking with His friends and when He came back home she would wake from her mother's screams. He would beat her for no reason and being drunk He never knew when to stop. One night Julie had enough and tried to stop Him but being to small she wasn't able to do much. She was rewarded with a broken arm and locked in her bedroom to only hear her mother's screams get louder.

The night after her Mother's funeral, He came to her room and sat on the edge of the bed next to her. He just sat there and stared at her. After a few minutes He touched her chest and moved His lifted His hand off then rushed out of the room. She had cried herself to sleep that night. For a week He would stare and touch her, rubbing a little longer each time. One night He came in like normal and began to rub her chest but then reach down and lifted up her nightgown, pulling it off. He just stared a moment at her chest then at her panties. He touched her vagina over her panties and smiled as He rubbed. Julie wanted to push His hand away but she couldn't move. When she looked at Him He was rubbing His Penis through the front of His jeans. After a bit He stood up and pulled His pants and underwear off. Julie remembered thinking she had heard what people did when they were naked together and she wanted to scream but it was stuck in her throat. She let out a barely audible whimper.

He sat down on the bed and began rubbing her again as He masturbated. He tried to stop Him but He slapped her until she stopped. After a moment He stood up and ejaculated all over her stomach. He grunted and grabbed His pants then walked out of the room. She sat there staring at the underwear He left behind wanting to run. He came in every night for several weeks rubbing her over her panties and masturbating all over her. After several weeks He came in like normal but instead of just pulling her nightgown off He also pulled her panties off to her horror. She tried to fight Him off but He just hit her until she stopped. After He was naked a well He began to rub her vagina and masturbated. He then ejaculated all over her and went as far to rub it all over her head. She cried and ran to the bathroom to wash it all over. He laughed as she ran down the hall.

From the age of seven to thirteen that was her night. He came in almost every night touching her and masturbating only to laugh at her as she ran to the bathroom. She had wanted to kill herself every time but never worked up the nerve to do it. Sometimes He even forced her to give Him Oral sex. She hated the taste of His semen and would have to brush her teeth a dozen or more times to clean the taste away. She started her period at age 11 and for the week she would be safe from Him. She started to wish she could always have her period so He would stay away.

At age thirteen it got even worse. He came in as usually and got them both undressed; she learned a long time ago to not stop Him. He rubbed her a few times even inserted a finger inside of her pulling it in and out. He had done this several times before but instead of masturbating her got up and kneeled on the bed over her. When He tried to insert His Penis inside of her she tried to stop Him yelling, "No, Please, NO!" But He slugged her a few times and inserted it inside. She felt a sharp pain as if she was being torn in two as He roughly moved in and out. There was no relief as He continued to thrust harder and harder as the pain built. When He grunted she felt His Semen shoot inside and He took it out as she winced again. She looked at His penis limp covered in her blood. She cried more as He got off the bed, grabbed His clothes and left the room. She heard the TV turn on in the living room and stood up wincing even more. She saw the sheet covered in blooded and felt her vagina making her wince more. Her hand came away covered in her blood. She gathered her sheets and left her room heading for the laundry room. She put her sheets on top of His clothes and looked down the hallway. He was naked sitting in front of the TV with a satisfied smirk on His face with her blood still covering His penis. She ran to the bathroom and slid to the floor in a fit of sobs.

From that time she had been forced to endure Him every night. Sometimes even He came home after she had fallen asleep she would wake to Him pulling her clothes off and every time it seems to get rougher and rougher; just the night before He had given her a black eye. Makeup could only cover so much. One time He had even broken several bones. He would hit her when she protested and would hit her more when she didn't. He would pull her hair and get even rougher when she screamed.

Now she sat in the crowded high school cafeteria crying and trying to ignore the looks she was getting. Her only friend Diane came back from grabbing their food and saw her crying. Diane almost started to cry herself. They had become best friends the year before when she had moved in to the area. Julie was grateful for the friendship. She had even told her what happened at home.

"Julie, you want to study with me tonight at my house? We have that test on Thursday and frankly I need to study." Julie looked up, wiped her eyes, and smiled. Diane was always trying to get her to not go home. "No, He is waiting for me. You know what happened last time we did that. I have to go home." Diane's father had been charged with assault when He came looking for Julie. She began to cry harder and Diane closed her eyes trying not to cry. Julie felt many eyes on her and she didn't care. They already thought Diane and Julie were lovers. "Julie, come home with me. My mom said you could stay with us. Get out of the house please." Julie looked at Diane in Horror, "You told her? Why? Now He is going to be mad and I hate it when He does it angry. Oh God." Diane put her hand on Julie's shoulder, "Its fine. After your father came to the house I had to tell her, with them both being cops it's better for them to know. I wanted to tell her after you told me, I worry for you every night you go home. I fear I won't be able to see my best friend the next day."

Julie continued to cry and Diane just held her. Julie always dreaded the end of the day and would cry. "Julie, just come home with me. You don't have to go home to Him. My parents can protect you." Julie shook her head, "No, I have to go home to Him. This has to end one way or another." Diane's horrified thought was that the other way was with Julie dead. Diane escorted Julie for the last few classes before the end of the day and watched saddened as Julie walked home.

Julie walked away with thoughts on how to end it. She was fed up with Him hurting her night after night. She would do it this time, no more hesitation. Last year she had bought a gun from a man in an alleyway after one night He had broken her nose. She wanted to do it every night after He left her room but never worked up the nerve. She settled on shooting Him and practiced every chance she could.

As she got closer and saw her house her determination faltered but images of Him hurting her fueled it. She looked around her house and saw 2 police cars and a brown van parked out front. She ran the rest of the way home and ran inside. She saw Him with two cops arguing with Him.

"I have no idea what you are talking about. I have never harmed my daughter." He said with slurred words. "There she is home ask her. Julie tell them I don't hurt you." He looked at her with the do it or else look and Julie almost said no He didn't, but she was interrupted by Diane's mom Susan who walked inside. "Don't say anything Julie. That's enough; officers handcuff Him and take Him out side." He tried to run at Julie but the cops tackled Him to the ground. Julie tried to catch her breath out of fear. As He was escorted out He looked at her with a face that horrified her. She knew what He was thinking, "I am going to come back and you are going to pay." A hand on her should broke her utter fear, "It's all right Julie, He is never going to hurt you again, and I can promise you that. Please wait here while I make sure He is under control."

She watched Susan walk out and stood there a moment. She feared He would be running back in that door at any moment. She ran to her bedroom and grabbed the pistol from her closet. She ran out of the house and saw they were getting ready to put Him in the car. She yelled at Him "NO! You will never hurt me again." aimed at His head. The last moment she lowered the gun and fired at His crotch. He screamed loudly and she was tackled to the ground, the gun ripped from her hand.

She just smiled as she heard His blood curdling screams. She heard another sound, the officer behind her was chuckling to Himself. Susan and the other officer were trying to stop the blood flow and called for an ambulance.

Susan walked back to Julie, "Officer let her go and take those cuffs off. She has been through enough. I'll take responsibility for her." Julie rubbed her wrists as she stood up. "Julie, you will have to pay for that, but I understand why you did it. I can assure you He will not be getting out anytime soon. Not only do we have enough evidence for Him harming you we uncovered new evidence in your mother's death. He won't be getting out, please trust me in this." Julie started to cry and mouthed Thank you. Susan wrapped her arms around Julie and led her to the brown van.

Susan started to drive away, "I have been investigating your Father for many years now. We suspected He was involved in your mother's death but could never prove it. After all the times you went to the hospital there was evidence being gathered with that. I am sorry it took so long. Your Father had many friends in high places." Susan smiled, "Also after much urging from my daughter we are going to adopt you and you will live with us. You will be safe from Him and others like Him always." As Julie watched the scenery pass by her she realized for the first time in a long time she was truly happy. She knew He would never harm her again.

Several years later as her sister Diane and Mother Susan were helping her get ready for her wedding she began to look back at all the things that had led her to that day. She was happy and had been for a while. She had gained a new family that loved her and even found a patient man she loved. He even helped her come to grips with her past. As she was being led down the aisle by her new father John, she thought back on those days she had first moved in with them. For a few years she had been terrified of him, never letting him near her. He was patient as well and loved her from a distance. Eventually was able to open up to him and even began to trust him. He was a father a daughter deserved. She smiled at him as he handed her off to her soon to be husband, David.

As she held David's hand listening to the minister go through the vows she thought about when she first met him. David was a college classmate and was horrified when he had asked her out. She screamed and ran away. Diane had explained to David about her past and he understood. He agreed to go out on dates with Diane present and when Julie was ready she went on solo dates with him. He even took her to therapy sessions and was there for her every step of the way. She would often cry and he would just sit in silence and hold her hand.

When David asked her to marry him she excitedly agreed. As she was planning the wedding she felt she could ask him something she was terrified to do. She wanted to make love to him to see how wonderful it was supposed to be. She wanted to have children she could pour all the love she rarely had into. He moved as fast as she wanted. For a while it was just laying naked together, then slowly moved into the full thing. When she finally made love to him she thought it was the most wonderful thing she had ever experienced.

When he said, "I do" her heart fluttered and she smiled as she leaned into kiss him as a wife. Turning around seeing all those people cheering them she sighed in relief. She knew she was finally truly happy and safe.