**The Patient**

Written By

**Ryan Redfearn**

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**INT.- Bedroom**

THE PATIENT jolts awake in his bed. He is in a normal looking bedroom but has a hospital gown on. He glances around this unfamiliar scene then notices his nose is running, so he goes to the bathroom to get a tissue.

**INT.- Bathroom**

THE PATIENT touches and stares at his face in the mirror like he doesn’t know if he’s wearing his own skin. He grabs a tissue and starts to blow his nose as he continues to stare into the mirror. While blowing his nose, THE PATIENT notices something written on the tissue.

ON THE TISSUE

**“YOU ARE IN DANGER”**

THE PATIENT’s face drops as he looks over the tissue making sure he is reading it right. He looks at the box of tissues and notices some ink on the next tissue, so he grabs it.

ON THE TISSUE

**“Don’t panic, just follow my instructions”**

THE PATIENT reaches for the next note.

**“You did not agree to this”**

THE PATIENT grabs the next tissue.

**“DON’T answer that, keep reading”**

As he finishes reading this note, loud bangs begin erupting from the door.

DOCTOR WILLEM

Hey, open up in there! C’mon just come get

the door.

The banging continues while THE PATIENT keeps reading the tissues.

**“Don’t shake any hands, that’s how they control the chip in your ear”**

THE PATIENT looks in the mirror and digs his finger into his ear, only to get zapped by the “chip.” He grabs the next tissue.

**“Trust No One”**

THE PATIENT is getting sweaty and shaky as the bangs get louder and louder. He grabs the last note but before he can read it the doctor and two security guards bust down the door, so he shoves it into his gown before they can see.

**INT.- Bedroom**

DOCTOR WILLEM

Ahh Patrick, it’s so nice to see you again. Get

over here and grab a seat.

PATRICK is visually tense but follows DOCTOR WILLEM to a seat in his bedroom. PATRICK mutters his name again with uncertainty on his face.

PATRICK

Who are you? What’re you doing in my house?

DOCTOR WILLEM

Your house? Hahaha, hello I’m DOCTOR WILLEM OGLETHORPE.

I’m the senior vice marketing researcher for *VAST*

*Unlimited*.

PATRICK

Wait, we're not at my house?

DOCTOR WILLEM

No, currently we are in one of the testing facilities

located within the Vast Unlimited Lab.

PATRICK

Why am I here?

DOCTOR WILLEM

Well, here at Vast Unlimited we aim to provide corporations with authentic marketing research through rigorous

experiments that systematically determine human behavior

traits using machine learning. For example, today

we gave you a runny nose so that we could see which brand

of tissue people prefer when they wake up with a runny nose.

Your preference is clearly Kleenex, as you walked past three

other brand name tissues without giving them any attention.

PATRICK looks around the room and sees the other tissues he walked past. DOCTOR WILLEM continues to talk, but all the words slowly fade into mumbles as PATRICK stares off.

A loud scream from the hallway brings PATRICK back to Earth. The doctor leaves to talk to the guards at the door, so PATRICK reads the last tissue he stashed away.

**“When you get the chance RUN”**

PATRICK stuffs the note back into his pocket and DOCTOR WILLEM sends the two guards to go check on the noise, then returns to the conversation.

DOCTOR WILLEM

Where was I? Ah don’t worry about it, I really

appreciate you being a part of this journey with us.

DOCTOR WILLEM sticks out for a handshake but PATRICK remembers the tissues, so he smacks DOCTOR WILLEM’S hand out of the way and hits him to the ground.

**INT.- Hallway**

PATRICK runs out into the hallway, where he is met with long narrow white halls. He looks both ways but it isn’t until DOCTOR WILLEM screams out for help that he runs off.

DOCTOR WILLEM

Guards help! He’s getting away. Call for

backup!

PATRICK runs through the hallways, taking random turns and avoiding guards. He reaches a hall with guards at both ends so he jumps into the closest room.

**INT.- Observation Room**

In the room he discovers two men sitting on a couch watching a video on the TV. The men sit lifeless except their eyes are wide open, making sure to take everything in. PATRICK waves his hand in front of their face, but they don't budge. The TV is playing videos of people at 2x speed. PATRICK hears a guard yell outside of the door, so he heads through the back door into the hall.

**INT.- Hallway**

PATRICK continues to run through the hallway, but this time he is following the signs to the security room. He dodges guards all the way to the door of the security room. Once there he knocks.

PATRICK

Hello, this is Doctor Oglethorpe. It’s an

emergency.

The impression works and the guard opens the door, but when he looks, he doesn’t see anyone so he goes back in. As the door is closing, PATRICK comes out of hiding and stops it right before it closes. From the hallway we hear fighting sounds and see one of the guards get tossed out of the door. The fighting sounds stop and the guard gets pulled back into the room.

**INT.- Security Room**

Both of the guards are shown unconscious on the floor as PATRICK searches around the room. He finds a map and when he lifts it up there is a folder under it with “confidential” written across the top and a picture of PATRICK sticking out. He opens the file and begins to read the pages. The caption of the picture of him states:

**“Johnathan Oriole, W Male, 21yrs”**

JOHNATHAN

I knew it wasn’t PATRICK!

JOHNATHAN continues to read

**“Vast Unlimited uses the information that they gather on human behavior to create a variety of humanoid robots that they implement into society to control the population”**

JOHNATHAN steps back in disbelief. He starts to panic but then he sees security guards on the cameras so he starts to focus. JOHNATHAN looks around, plays music through the security guard’s headphones, then a quick montage as he changes into the security guard fit.

He starts to leave the room but then stops to check out the cameras to see who left the notes in the tissue box. It was himself, so he gives himself a high five and uses the map to head to the exit.

**INT.- The Exit**

JOHNATHAN peeks around a corner and sees the exit door but also sees guards blocking it. He leans back, checks what’s on his belt, and then changes the song before sneaking around the corner.

JOHNATHAN sneaks up to the first guard and latches his hand to the railing with handcuffs and sprays pepper spray in his eyes. The guard screams and gets the attention of the other guards.

Two guards approach JOHNATHAN but he uses the baton in his belt to beat them. He turns and sees too many guards to deal with coming on both sides of him, so he panics and reaches for something out of the belt. It’s a stun grenade that he throws that explodes and fills the screen with white.

As the screen starts to fade down from white, JOHNATHAN is seen coming to his senses before the guards. He sees the door and starts to run towards it. The guards start to wake up and scream at JOHNATHAN to stop and chase him. Cut between black screen and JOHNATHAN running as he gets closer and the guards get closer, then cut to black when he nears the exit.

**INT.- Grocery Store**

The door of a grocery store is opened and we see a man’s legs limp into the store. Bloody hands then pick up alcohol, cotton swabs, rubber gloves, and a metal pick. The legs limp over to the counter.

GROCERY STORE CLERK

Is that going to be it today sir?

JOHNATHAN

Yes please

GROCERY STORE CLERK

Are you sure I can’t interest you in some half-priced

Kleenex? We have a discount going on right now.

JOHNATHAN

I’m sure. Thank you.

GROCERY STORE CLERK

Suit yourself, have a good one.

JOHNATHAN grabs his stuff and heads out of the door.

**EXT.- Park Bench**

JOHNATHAN begins to build something with the things he bought. After it’s made, he pours the alcohol onto the cotton swab and cleans his ear. Then he takes the tool he made up to his ear.

Camera cuts to his feet where you can see him struggling to remove the chip. The chip pops out and lands on the floor and we can see the chip and JOHNATHAN walking away from the scene.

**CUT TO BLACK**