

THE WALKING DEAD

Written by

The Benoit Brothers

Based on

Robert Kirkman/AMC's

"The Walking Dead"

EXT. - CLEARING - DAY

GABRIEL enters a massive clearing. He walks slowly into the open field. As he walks, we see a massive watchtower standing in the middle of the field.

The camera climbs the watchtower as GABRIEL moves slowly toward it, looking up at its incredible height.

He pauses once he makes it to the bottom of the watchtower. He stares up the ladder with fear.

Then GABRIEL squats down and opens his bag. He pulls out his bible. He opens the front of the bible and sees the quote inside again.

GABRIEL (TO HIMSELF)
Hold closely to the word of the
lord. Ascend his ladder and find
salvation.

He places the book down on the grass. And places his hands together in prayer.

GABRIEL (CONT'D)
Dear lord. I pray to you every day
and here I am again before you,
asking for a sign.

CUT TO:

GABRIEL'S foot lands on the first ring of the ladder. The second follows.

GABRIEL (V.O.)
This journey has been one of
lessons and nightmares.

GABRIEL looks up as he continues his slow ascend up the ladder, the camera looking down at him.

GABRIEL (V.O.)
I have so much left to do. To live
and act in your name.

Pan out to see a far view of the tower, GABRIEL now a third of the way up.

GABRIEL (V.O.)
I'm going to help Rick Grimes. I'm
going to help these people save as
many others as I can and stop evil
from taking more lives.

GABRIEL reaches the top of the tower and scurries up to the platform. He stands and overlooks the horizon in every direction.

GABRIEL (V.O.)
I've grown and ascended the ladder
of my greatest sin. I have repented
for what I have done.

GABRIEL sits down in the lookout chair and raises his binoculars to look out on the horizon.

GABRIEL (V.O.)
Now I can begin this next step. To
be this new man for you to command.
And to help as many people as
possible.

GABRIEL sees ALEXANDRIA. He then turns to stare in the opposite direction.

GABRIEL (V.O.)
Just give me a sign. Please lord.
Please.

GABRIEL lowers the binoculars in shock. Then he quickly raises them back up.

We see a massive herd of walkers heading down the highway. But they don't appear to be stumbling, but walking confidently.

GABRIEL drops the binoculars as he stands up.

GABRIEL turns and quickly begins to descend the ladder. He no longer fears anything, but rather appears determined for the first time.

His feet tap each step faster and faster.

GABRIEL'S hands grab the steps as he goes down further.

We see GABRIEL is now in the last third of the watchtower ladder.

GABRIEL is close to the bottom when he suddenly loses his footing and slips backwards, starting to fall. His right leg however gets caught and rips open his calf on a rusty edge of the ladder.

GABRIEL is now hanging upside down, a mere two steps from the ground.

GABRIEL screams loudly in pain. He tries to move his leg, ripping the flesh down to the bone.

GABRIEL screams louder.

He struggles to move, but his leg won't come free.

Suddenly GABRIEL hears a gunshot. He stops struggling and looks out at the clearing. There is complete silence.

Walkers begin to come out from the woods. They walk normally, as if human.

GABRIEL stares intensely and realizes they are human. The Whisperers have arrived. They wear the skin of the dead over their faces.

GABRIEL screams as he tries harder to get his leg untangled. Trying to fight through the pain. He looks to see them getting much closer.

He stops fighting and hangs there, unable to free himself.

The Whisperers surround the watchtower. They stare hazily at GABRIEL. He stares at them in fear. A group of them move aside to reveal BETA, who walks through them with a height above all the others. BETA'S face is covered by the skin of the dead, emphasizing his piercingly dark eyes. BETA seems filled with anger and rage.

GABRIEL looks with horror.

The Whisperers put the circle back together and BETA stops in front of GABRIEL.

GABRIEL groans, his head now in pain from being upside down.

BETA

You seem to be in a bit of trouble here.

GABRIEL says nothing.

BETA (CONT'D)

Do you know who we are?

GABRIEL

Yes.

BETA

Then you know where we are going.

GABRIEL writhes in pain.

BETA (CONT'D)
I will help you. If you wish to
come help us kill your people.

GABRIEL again says nothing.

BETA (CONT'D)
A man of faith. Look where it's
gotten you.
(BEAT)
Nowhere.

BETA approaches GABRIEL.

BETA (CONT'D)
Fear not. I will release you.

BETA swiftly pulls out a serrated blade and stabs GABRIEL in the stomach.

BETA pauses for a moment and then pulls the blade along his torso and out, pouring GABRIEL'S intestines out in front of him. Some of them fall on the ground below him and on top of his bible.

GABRIEL moans, trying to speak but unable to. All he can do is make noises of blood from his throat.

BETA crouches and looks into GABRIEL'S eyes.

BETA (CONT'D)
You should have whispered.

BETA stands up and turns, walking away.

From a far view, the WHIPSERERS all file out and away from the watchtower.

From GABRIEL'S perspective, we see the whisperers walking away in an upside down view. The screen begins to turn fuzzy and black. Until everything fades completely.

In a close-up of GABRIEL we see the life fading from his eyes as he hangs from the ladder. He passes on, dying from his injuries.

Stay long on GABRIEL'S body. Moans of walkers are audible, growing louder and louder. Then the walkers stumble into the frame and approach GABRIEL'S corpse. They surround his body and begin to feed on him. The eating sounds grow more ferocious as we...

FADE OUT TO BLACK.