

Unwanted Visitor

By Kavita Mistry

FADE IN

INT. Standard Office Cubicle

Camera zooms slowly in toward SEYMOUR, a man in his late thirties, with his head on his desk. He is fast asleep and snoring. His cubicle is quite plain; there are no pictures and a lack of color.

SEYMOUR (V.O.)

Why can't the sky be yellow? Why do cows have spots?

MR. COOPER, his boss, drops a fat stack of papers down in front of Seymour, waking him up. Seymour sits up wide-eyed and sleepy.

SEYMOUR (V.O. CONT.)

Why can't I just have two sweet minutes of sleep.

Mr. COOPER

Rise and shine, buttercup. No one's gonna pay you to lollygag. You've got a whole 'nother caboodle 'a data to feed the system (taps computer) before you sneak outta here like a weasel again. Now get to work.

SEYMOUR (monotoned)

Of course, sir. Right away.

Mr. Cooper walks away. Seymour looks at his watch and sighs. He begins to type. A crumpled wad of paper thrown by JOE, his co-worker, mid twenties with multiple body piercings, hits his head and he turns around.

SEYMOUR (annoyed)

What is it *this* time, Joe?

JOE (cheerful)

Hey dude! Check out this new picture of ma little girl.

Joe points with his thumb to a picture on the wall behind him. It's covered with photos and colorful children's drawings.

JOE (CONT.)

Can you *believe* she's actually crawlin around the house now? It's the cutest goddamn thing ever, I swear.

SEYMOUR

(SIGH) That's phenomenal, Joe.

Seymour turns back around to his desk and continues to type.

JOE

Hey man- have you ever thought about you know- meeting someone, starting a family and all?

SEYMOUR

No. I hate people. Especially kids.

Joe looks at Seymour with an awkward and uncomfortable expression.

JOE

Uh. Alrighty then.

Joe turns around and returns to his work.

FADE OUT

FADE IN

INT. BREAK ROOM

JOE and TWO EMPLOYEES are chatting, laughing and drinking. SEYMOUR walks in. The three others become silent and look at each other.

JOE

SEYMOUR, what's going on dude.

SEYMOUR

Coffee refill.

JOE

`Kay

Seymour walks to the coffee pot and begins to pour himself a cup. His back is facing the others. The three look at each other. Joe shrugs his shoulders at the other two while the are rapidly shaking their heads and looking at him with expressions of horror and pleading. Joe frowns at them and turns to Seymour.

JOE

Listen- Seymour. Join us for a couple of drinks later.

SEYMOUR

Er, I'm, well, I'm pretty busy.. Another time though.

Seymour walks out of the break room, takes a few steps, and stops. He begins to turn around and walk back, but stops when he overhears the other employees.

Employee # 1 (V.O.)

Sometime I wonder if he's mental.

JOE (V.O.)

Come on now, he's not that bad.

Employee # 2 (V.O.)

Oh be real Joe, you know he'll always be a loner.

They chuckle softly. Seymour walks away looking depressed.

SEYMOUR (V.O.)

(Scoffs) Who need's them anyways.

FADE OUT

FADE IN

Hours quickly fly by on a wall clock and stops at 4:59. Camera on SEYMOUR. He gets up from his chair, grabs his brown leather briefcase and tan overcoat, and walks away, off screen.

FADE OUT

FADE IN

EXT SEYMOUR'S CAR (OLD)

SEYMOUR fumbles with his keys for a moment. He drops them, swears, picks them up again and unlocks/ gets in his car.

INT. SEYMOUR'S CAR

SEYMOUR is driving down a road. Car radio is playing a political talk show. Passes a 40mph speed limit sign. Dashboard shows he is going about 30. Driver behind him honks but he doesn't seem to notice or care. Other driver aggressively drives around his car. Seymour changes into the right lane and indicates to turn right. A young girl on her scooter in the bike lane delays him from turning. He gets irritated and grips the wheel tighter and leans forward glaring at the child.

EXT. SEYMOUR'S CAR

Seymour pulls into a parking spot in front of an apartment complex. He turns off the car and opens the car door. He gets out and closes the door but a small part of his coat gets caught. Frustrated, he opens the car door to release the jacket and then slams it shut. He begins to walk away but turns around to lock the car. Then he walks off toward the apartment building.

He waits for the elevator. Checks watch. His hands are in his jacket pocket and he looks to either side of him, but there is nothing around to look at. Elevator doors open and he walks forward.

He stands outside his apartment door fumbling with his keys. The hallway is dull and drab. The door is missing a number.

A girl, about 15 and carrying a sports bag, walks up to him as he tries to find the right key.

GIRL

Um. Hey.

Seymour doesn't turn around and remains facing his door looking for the right key.

SEYMOUR

No.

GIRL

No what?

SEYMOUR

No, I don't have candy, no, I don't have canned food to donate to the lazy homeless or NO, I won't buy your stupid cookies.

GIRL (annoyed)

That's not why I'm here.

SEYMOUR

Well I don't care *what* you're here for, but I care if you don't **go away**.

GIRL

Well *maybe* you'd care if you *turned around* and noticed that you're talking to your only niece.

At that moment Seymour unlocks the door and begins to open it but immediately turns around in disbelief. The girl brushes past him, opens the door, and walks in the apartment, He walks in after and shuts the door.

SEYMOUR

Wait- you're- uh- too tall to be Allison.

She throws her bag on the floor and falls onto the couch in exhaustion.

GIRL

First of all, it's Aly

Aly turns and stretches out on the couch.

And secondly, you haven't visited in over six years. I've grown. And lastly, you left your keys in the lock.

Aly slyly smiles as Seymour begins to check his pockets. He then retrieves his keys from the door.

SEYMOUR

Well your mother called a few days ago
say you'd be coming in two weeks.

Aly moves her arm over her eyes to block out the light but
continues to talk.

ALY

Yeah, that was two weeks ago.

SEYMOUR

And how'd you get here from the
airport?

Aly

Mom said you'd forget to come get me so
she gave me money for a cab.

Seymour rubs the back of his neck.

SEYMOUR

How long are you here for again?

ALY

Don't worry, I'm only imposing for the
night, I'll call another cab to pick me
up tomorrow afternoon to take me to
camp.

SEYMOUR

Oh, okay. Good.

Seymour nods and begins to walk to his bedroom door.

SEYMOUR

I'll be in my room.

ALY

Okay. Oh wait-

Aly sits up and Seymour turns around with a blank and tired
expression.

ALY

Where do I find the grub?

SEYMOUR

Excuse me?

ALY

The foood. Where do you keep food?
Seymour points toward the refrigerator and walks toward his room again.

SEYMOUR

Fridge and cabinet to its left.

ALY

Thanks.

Seymour walks into his room and closes the door behind him. Aly gets up and walks to the refrigerator. She opens it and finds it nearly empty. She opens the freezer and sees that it is packed with frozen dinners. She opens the cabinet and isn't surprised that it only has packets of instant noodles.

Aly walks over to his bedroom door and attempts to open the door but finds it locked. With a brief perplexed look, she knocks on the door.

ALY

Uncle Seymour?

A displeased Seymour opens the door.

SEYMOUR

What now?

ALY

What's for dinner? I'm getting hungry.

SEYMOUR

I just told you where the food was.

Seymour starts to shut the door and Aly stops it with her hand. Seymour gives her an annoyed look.

ALY

Call me spoiled, but I'm not eating that crap.

Seymour

Too bad.

Seymour once again attempts to close the door on her but Aly stops it with her foot this time.

ALY

Would it kill you to order a pizza?

SEYMOUR

Would it kill you to eat that crap just tonight?

Aly shoots him a dirty look and crosses her arms. Seymour lets out a huge sigh.

SEYMOUR

FINE. Order it. Now go.

Aly lets go of the door and he slams it shut. Aly smiles and walks away.

FADE OUT

FADE IN

INT SEYMOUR'S APARTMENT

SEYMOUR and ALY are eating pizza. Aly is sitting on the couch watching MTV.

ALY

Admit it, you like the pizza.

SEYMOUR

Food is food. I eat it for energy.

ALY

Come on, say you like it better than the usual crap.

SEYMOUR

It's all the same to me.

Aly rolls her eyes and turns back to the TV

ALY

So- what do you do?

SEYMOUR (irritated/distant)

What do you mean?

ALY

Like for a job. What do you do?

SEYMOUR

It's data entry stuff.

ALY

That sounds boring.

SEYMOUR

Aren't you busy watching television?

ALY

Ads are on. They're boring.

SEYMOUR

Everything bores you.

ALY

Actually I find flamingoes to be quite fascinating..

SEYMOUR

Do you ever stop talking?

Aly rolls her eyes and turns up the TV volume. Seymour opens his mouth to say something, but sits in silence.

FADE OUT

FADE IN

MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT

SEYMOUR opens his bedroom door. The room is lit only by light from the TV. ALY is fast asleep on the couch. Seymour looks at her rather irritated, but doesn't look angry for long. He turns the TV off, throws a blanket over her and goes to bed.

FADE OUT

FADE IN

SEYMOUR wakes up and walks into the bathroom. Sound of shower faucet turning on. Faucet off. Clothes rustling.

Bathroom door opens and he walks out and smells the air. He's drawn out of his room by a curious smell. He opens his bedroom door to see ALY at the stove.

ALY
Good Morning.

SEYMOUR
What's all this?

ALY
Well Mom always makes breakfast so I went to that grocery store a block away and bought some eggs, bacon and bread.

Seymour looks at her a bit puzzled and tired.

ALY
Mom also gave me emergency grocery money. Plus, I figure since you let me get the pizza, I could cook you breakfast.

Seymour doesn't reply and sits down at the table. Aly brings over two plates of breakfast. The two eat mostly in silence. They finish up and put the plates in the sink

SEYMOUR
Well, um, I'm off.

ALY
Okay.

Seymour walks to the front door and turns the knob.

ALY
And thanks for letting me stay over.

SEYMOUR
Any time.

Seymour turns to look at her and gives her a half smile and walks out.

FADE OUT

FADE IN

SEYMOUR walks into his office building and walks over to his cubicle.

JOE
G'Mornin Bro.

SEYMOUR
I'm not your bro.

JOE
Sure dude.

Seymour puts his briefcase on the desk and sits in his chair. He opens his briefcase and notices an photograph in it that he had never seen before. He sees himself in the picture and a little girl, about 8, standing next to him. On the back, someone had written in black ink "Seymour & Aly, Christmas '99". Underneath in pink ink is written "See ya at X-mas Uncle Seymour"

Seymour opens a drawer of his desk and pulls out four thumbtacks. He pins up the picture in the middle of his plain wall. He admires it for a second and then begins to type on his computer.