

Perpetual

By

David Shute

// vedus@butterflybullseye.com //

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INT. LUNCHROOM - NIGHT

GORDON (30s) sits at a table in a dimly lit lunchroom. It's a very warm and uniquely decorated room. Something akin to what you might find in a small design or tech firm. Sofas and pinball machines mixed in the with the standard tables and chairs.

Gordon has his feet up on the chair on the other side of the table from himself. He sits with a coffee and a laptop. He clicks away with the mouse while chatting on the BlueTooth headset in his ear. His conversation is one sided.

GORDON

It's late. I sent everyone home about an hour ago.

(beat)

I need to get this done. I feel like I've been chasing my own tail for months.

(beat)

I'm almost there. You know I can't get anything done when I'm at home.

A darkened FIGURE lurks at the doorway in the background.

GORDON

I promise I will be as quick as I can.

(beat)

I love you too.

Gordon ends the call and takes the headset out of his ear. As he's setting it on the table the figure at the door turns and walks away. The motion catches Gordon's eye.

GORDON

Hello?

Gordon gets up from the table and heads toward the doorway.

GORDON

Is that you Chloe?

INT. HALLWAY

He steps in to the darkened hallway as the Figure slips through a door. A green light beside the door switches to red as the door closes.

Gordon walks toward the door while fishing his security badge out of his pocket. He swipes his card. The light goes green and the magnetic lock releases with a loud buzz.

INT. CUBICLE HELL

He steps through the door. The wide open floor is just as dark as the hallway. Cubicles line a main walkway right down the center of the room. The Figure is no where to be found.

GORDON

Hello?

Gordon walks down the aisle between the cubicles.

GORDON

Whoever's there, let's end this,  
alright?

Gordon scans the empty floor.

GORDON

If this is supposed to be a joke it  
isn't funny.

The Figure emerges from no where and pushes Gordon out of the way. Gordon is sent sprawling to the floor. He pulls himself up quickly.

GORDON

Stop!

Gordon starts back after the figure. His head is down as he runs as hard as he can.

The Figure hits another security door. A quick swipe and a green light. He tears through the door.

Gordon reaches the door just as it closes and the light goes back to red.

He reaches in to his pocket.

Then his other pocket.

He begins frantically searching his pockets and scanning the ground at his feet.

GORDON

Damn it!

His security badge is sitting on the floor of the walkway fifteen feet behind him. Light glinting off the plastic catches his eye.

He quickly snatches it off the floor, swipes and is through the door.

## INT. HALLWAY

This hallway is darker than the previous room. It's nearly impossible to make out details.

As Gordon comes to a corner there is some light spilling in to the hallway from a dimly light room quite a distance down. There is a very indistinct, barely audible voice talking.

Gordon pulls out his cell phone and heads toward the door. As he walks the voice becomes louder while remaining unintelligible.

Gordon flips open his cell phone, dials 911 and puts it to his ear. Gordon steps up to the door way and glances around the corner. An EMERGENCY DISPATCHER answers the line as he does.

EMERGENCY DISPATCHER (O.S.)  
911 emergency.

Gordon pulls the phone away from his ear and closes it. He steps fully in to the door way of the room.

## INT. LUNCHROOM

Gordon stands in the doorway looking at the source of the voice. PAST GORDON, his earlier self, sits at the table click his mouse and chatting on the phone.

PAST GORDON  
I promise I will be as quick as I can.

Gordon slips his phone in to his pocket.

PAST GORDON  
I love you too.

Gordon looks confused and distraught. He turns and walks away as Past Gordon is taking the BlueTooth headset off his ear and sets it aside. The motion catches Past Gordon's attention.

PAST GORDON  
Hello?

Past Gordon gets up from the table and heads toward the doorway.

PAST GORDON  
Is that you Chloe?

Past Gordon steps out in to the hallway.

THE END.