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Short Story: The Unsub
7th Grade

The Unsub

"That's a wrap", said Jennifer, as she slams a folder down on her desk. At that very moment, she sees Matthew, Harry, Daniel and Rosa walk in.

"Morgan, Jen we got a new case," Rosa announced.

"And we just finished!" Morgan responded, annoyed.

"Three women went missing, all three weeks apart. Amelia Stewart, Erika Wilde and Tara Solde. In Rochester, NY" Rosa said sternly.

"Three", Matthew said, ignoring Morgan's attitude.

"What was that Matt?" asked Morgan.

"3 women in 3 months. How old were they?" Matt says thoughtfully.

"Funny you should ask, they were all 30" Rosa said.

"What does it mean?" Harry inquired.

"Angels for guidance" Matthew whispered loudly, to no one in particular. "Remember that case of that religious psycho, a few years ago? Seems very familiar." Matt said a bit louder and directly.

"What, so he's asking for guidance? How is him kidnapping 3 people going to give a person guidance?" Daniel asked.

"That's what we need to find out, wheels up in 30." Rosa said.

The team boarded the plane with heavy thoughts and a zeal to solve the case. Matthew jumpstarts the conversation. "This unknown subject or unsub isn't very organized, other than the dates and ages he's all over the pla-." Rosa cuts him off abruptly, "Hold that thought. What do you have Daniel?" Rosa asks, peering intently at

Daniel's furrowed brow.

Clutching his laptop to avoid it hitting the ground due to some spontaneous turbulence, Daniel states, "Not good news, the first girl that was abducted, yeah well, she was found dead this morning."

Everyone sighs heavily.

"Sending the pictures now." Daniel states somberly.

"Alright thanks Daniel." Rosa says, clearly disturbed.

"He's getting bold already." Morgan says.

"Yeah but I think I know when he will strike again" Harry piped up, just a little too excitedly, especially considering the circumstances. Harry continued on, despite the side eyes the team was giving him.

"Three days, in 3 days he will try to find the angel that will give him the guidance he is seeking" Harry states, emphasizing angel.

Jennifer jumped right on the bandwagon with her comment. "So we have three days to find him before he strikes again!"

As soon as the plane touched down, the team wasted no time driving to the respective areas to investigate further. Matthew and Morgan set out to find if there were any additional witnesses, while Harry scoured the crime scene looking for additional evidence and clues. Rosa headed to the Coroner's Office.

"Hello, I am Rosa Williams." Rosa introduced herself to the police chief who had met her at the office

"Nice to meet you. I'm Leah Apple and I'm the chief of police. I'll take you to her." They walked down a long, dark, sterile hallway, making a left, right, then left before they arrived at the big open room, with blinding white lights.

"Still can't figure out why he cut her arms off?" the police chief asks, perplexed.

"Sign of purchase." Rosa replies, matter-of-factly. "Most male killers do it to show a source of power." She pauses, then adds, "You can see here there's a raised ink mark." Rosa lifted the woman's limp

leg and examined the raised mark on her ankle.

"Do you have a black light?" Rosa asks the technician on duty. "Thank you, and can you dim the lights." Rosa adds as she receives the black light.

Stealthily, Harry appears. He is examining the body, over Rosa's shoulder. Rosa is concentrating so hard, she doesn't notice his arrival. Harry gives a knowing nod and points, then says, "You can barely see but there are angel wings under the X he cut in her skin." "Yeah and you can see he was angry when he did it." Rosa responds, disgusted.

Suddenly, Rosa's cell phone rings, it's Jennifer.

"There's another girl, Erika Wilde." Jennifer exclaims. "He struck again but why this early though?"

Rosa could hear Matthew's commentary in the background, he sounded confused as he said "He must be getting tired of the same people."

"Well if that's the case, it won't be long before another girl goes missing."

Morgan adds, "What if we are tracking him for the wrong reason? Think about it, we all know he's killing women because they are not his guiding angel, but what if he's killing them because they represent someone from his past?"

Matthew agrees, "I think you're onto something."

"Sounds like we are ready to give our profile! Let's meet up and discuss this further team", Rosa replies.

All the agents, Rosa, Morgan, Matthew, Harry and Daniel meet with the police officers, at the police station.

"The unsub we're looking for is in his mid-twenties with a history of mental health issues and some sort of trauma from his youth.

Possibly, a relative or parent committed suicide, possibly due to abuse." Rosa reports.

"In a small city like this it will be easier to catch him if we have

something like school records." Jennifer suggests.

Matthew continued, "We can go to different schools to see if they had any suspicions of children with childhood trauma or a sudden obsession with angels."

After they gave the profile, they left to go interview some teachers at schools. After several disappointing leads and fruitless tips, Matthew struck gold! According to the principal at Holy Rosary Catholic School in a western suburb of Rochester, there was a student who always lingered in their minds as "different".

Matthew asked a series of questions to which the principal responded, "Yes, surprisingly there was a student named James Roiled and he always drew drawings of angels and crosses. He was very interested in those things. And when he was 12 years old, his mother committed suicide." After she exhausted all the information she knew, Matthew thanked her for her time and went to meet back up with the team.

"I have some leads. I interviewed the principal from this suburban Catholic school and she said she had a student named James Roiled, who was always interested in angels. And when he was 12 years old his mother committed suicide." Matthew advised everyone. "

Before Matthew could even provide all the information from his findings, Jennifer was on the phone calling Daniel. Being the efficient, information tech genius he was, Daniel had a full report in no time! Daniel proudly reported that James Roiled was 23 years old now and he owns two properties. One is a home and one is an old church building. He also has a website promoting his church. According to Daniel's research, the church practices finding guardian angels! The best part was the phone number:(333)-333-3333.

Everyone looked around nervously at one another, but the excitement was still palpable. Rosa broke the silence and asked Daniel for the address.

"Oh yes I have it right here, it's 426 Hill Grove Road". Daniel quipped.

"All right that's our unsub, thanks Daniel." Rosa responds. They wasted no time driving to the address. When they arrived and hopped out the smell coming from the front door was unbearable. Cautiously, they entered the church, swiftly looking around. They happen upon a large closet that's locked from the inside.

"Hello. I am Jennifer, I'm with the FBI. My team is with me and we only want to help!" Jennifer sparks a conversation. "James Roiled we know you're in there please come out of the closet!" Rosa cuts in, demanding with forceful authority.

"No this is my angel, I won't let you take her away from me again!" James whimpers in a fearful voice.

"What you're doing is wrong and she is not your angel, we know what your mother did when you were a kid but she is still your angel if you believe!" Rosa said convincingly.

"Please just let Tara go and you can leave safely!" Morgan adds calmly.

After a long pause, James finally responds and stutters

"Pr..pr..promise me you won't shoot me!"

"We Promise..." Morgan replies, looking around signaling to the rest of the team to get in position.

James slowly pushes the door open, and in a flash Tara Solde runs out alone.

Matthew and Morgan move in.

"You are under arrest for the kidnaping and murder of Amelia Stewart and Erika Wilde" Matthew says while arresting James. James Roiled was sentenced to prison for the rest of his life, and many real life angels were saved.