"Survival of the Unusually Prepared" (SUP!)

Ву

Grace Tompkins

A new type of energy drink has been released, and with it so has a new disease. Now millions crave any form of liquid they can get their claws on, including blood. Those who are surviving might surprise you as they are Unusually Prepared for this apocalypse.

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FADE IN:

INT. SPRINT CO. - LAB OFFICE

A large area filled with science equipment. Experiments bubble and brew.

Two SCIENTISTS are sitting on stools eating their lunch and watching TV.

BANG. A door slams shut and heavy footsteps walk towards the two men.

GARY THIMBLE, 30s, a very large muscular man, wearing a nicely fitted suit, and carrying a briefcase, walks towards them.

Both Scientists stand up.

SCIENTIST 1

I'm sorry sir but you can't be in here this is a restricted area.

GARY

(holding out his employee badge) I need you two to sign off on the release for the new product.

SCIENTIST 2

Sorry sir, but we've only just started our tests.

GARY

It's an Energy drink, what's to test?

SCIENTIST 1

The new trimethyl mutation is unlike anything we have ever seen. We need to-

GARY

What you need to do, is follow orders. And your orders are to sign off.

SCIENTIST 2

Sir, if I could just show you.

The three men walk over to some cages with rats in them. One is raging, slamming its body against the metal bars. Another aggressively drinks water.

GARY

What am I looking at?

SCIENTIST 2

These are test rats we gave a sample of the caffeine substitute to. Many of them are having unprecedented reactions towards the samples.

GARY

What's your name son?

SIMON (SCIENTIST 2)

Dr. Simon Twitchell.

GARY

Okay Simon Twitchell, how do you think it will go when I tell the CEO of this corporation that his special new money maker can't be released because a couple of lab rats and their test subjects say there are "unprecedented reactions" and won't sign a simple release form.

SIMON (SCIENTIST 2)

We aren't responsible for these results. The team that created this should've-

GARY

I didn't ask who was to blame Simon. I'm telling you who WILL be blamed for you losing your job if you don't do as I say.

Gary takes some forms out of his briefcase and hands them to both men.

GARY

Sign it.

Scientist 1 goes to sign the papers but is stopped by Simon. Gary chuckles and sends a text.

SIMON (SCIENTIST 2)

Not until we've done our job.

GARY

And what job would that be?

Simon's phone RINGS in his pocket.

SIMON (SCIENTIST 2)

(into the phone)

Hello? Yes. No I- I understand. Yes sir. But I just- Okay.

Gary walks over, plucks Simon's badge from his lab coat and throws it away.

GARY

You're in a restricted area now Simon. You need to leave before I'm forced to call security.

Simon leaves the room as Gary points at the forms Scientist 1 still holds.

GARY

Let's try this again, shall we?

Scientist 1 eagerly nods his head.

INT. SPRINT CO. - MS. MAJIA'S OFFICE - NIGHT

A large oak desk sits in the center of the office. Reports are stacked high but there is a sense of immaculate order throughout the room. Behind the desk is a large window looking out over the city skyline.

ROWEENA MAJIA, a business woman on the rise, early 40s, dressed in a tight fitting suit jacket and a pencil skirt sits at her desk, typing on her computer.

JODI SIMMONS, early 20s, dressed in a nice blouse and slacks enters Ms. Majia's office holding a large binder and a few stacks of paper. She stands in front of Ms. Majia's desk and clears her throat.

MS. MAJIA

What is it Ms. Simmons?

JODI

I have the guest list for the release party at the Chapman's home.

Jodi hands Ms. Majia a file with papers inside, she places it onto a pile on her desk, never looking up.

MS. MAJIA

Great. What about the caterers and decorators?

JODI

All reserved for tomorrow morning to begin the preparations.

MS. MAJIA

Good work.

Jodi nods her head and goes to leave.

MS. MAJIA

Jodi. Remember it is not a house, it is a mansion. A mansion owned by our biggest financial supporter. If anyone so much as scuffs the wood floor, it'll be my head.

JODI

Of course Ms. Majia.

MS. MAJIA

Because of this I need you to take the lead on controlling the workers.

JODI

(excited)

Really?

Ms. Majia looks up at Jodi and smiles. She gets up from from behind her desk to walk over to Jodi.

MS. MAJIA

You've been my intern for over a year now. You deserve this chance. But Jodi, remember. Not. A. Scuff.

JODI

Of course Ms. Majia. I'll have everything under control. I won't let anything go wrong.

Jodi rushes out, Ms. Majia drops her smile.

MONTAGE - JODI SETS UP FOR THE RELEASE PARTY

-- INT. JODI'S APARTMENT - DAY -- Jodi leaves her bed, brushes her teeth and hair, then gets dressed into a nice business attire dress.

- -- EXT. CHAPMAN MANSION DRIVEWAY DAY -- Jodi walks up to the Mansion admiring it. She points for the GARDENERS to fix a shrub.
- -- INT. CHAPMAN MANSION BALLROOM DAY -- Jodi admires the Ballroom and does a dramatic spin.
- -- INT. CHAPMAN MANSION KITCHEN DAY -- Jodi speaks to the KITCHEN STAFF and CATERERS about the menu.
- -- INT. CHAPMAN MANSION KITCHEN DAY -- Jodi signs for a delivery of the the new drink "The Energizer" and directs SERVERS to pour the bottles into the champagne glasses. One of the servers knocks over a glass and it shatters. Jodi quickly cleans it up.
- -- INT. CHAPMAN MANSION DRIVEWAY DAY -- Jodi welcomes the MUSICIANS and helps them bring in their equipment.
- -- INT. CHAPMAN MANSION BALLROOM DAY -- Jodi directs MOVING GUYS bringing furniture, such as tables and chairs, into the Ballroom. They track mud in and she rushes to clean up the mess.

END OF MONTAGE.

INT. CHAPMAN MANSION - BALLROOM - DAY

A flurry of activity as MAIDs dust and reorganize large expensive pieces of art. The Musicians huddle in a corner, tuning their instruments.

Jodi has an earpiece in one ear and a Bluetooth in another. Her and a maid are moving a heavy statue across the room.

One of the musicians stumbles back and knocks over a vase. Jodi flinches but JEREMIAH BOOTH, 30s, dressed in a polo shirt and khaki shorts, catches it.

JODI

(rushing over)

Oh my god, thank you.

Jodi grabs the vase and hands it off to another Maid walking by.

JEREMIAH

Yeah, no problem. I'm here about a flower delivery.

JODI

You're the florist?

JEREMIAH

Yep.

JODI

I expected you here hours ago! I've called your shop-

JEREMIAH

I know how many times you called. Your arrival time said 5pm, not am. Just be grateful I could get here with the order when I could once you realized your mistake.

JODI

What? No it didn't-

JEREMIAH

I don't care anymore. Where do you want them?

JODI

Around the Ballroom.

JEREMIAH

Okay, but I need help unloading.

EXT. CHAPMAN MANSION - DRIVEWAY - DAY

Vans from all the workers there that day; caterers, musician, furniture movers, are all parked along the driveway. One giant U-Haul is backed up to the front door.

Jeremiah walks up to the U-Haul.

JODI

A U-Haul?

JEREMIAH

It's a lot of flowers. We've never had an order this big.

Jeremiah opens up the back door to reveal it completely full of flowers in vases, potted plants, flower vines, etc.

JODI

Damn.

INT. CHAPMAN MANSION - KITCHEN - DAY

A few PASTRY CHEFS are decorating the cupcakes, while other treats and champagne glasses full of The Energizer's multiple flavors sit along the counter tops.

Jodi walks in, covered in dirt and sweating. She goes to take a cupcake but is interrupted.

ROSE

The snacks aren't for the workers.

Jodi turns around and spots ROSE, early 20s, dressed in a puffy pink dress looking into her phone attached to a selfie stick.

Jodi sighs and throws the cupcake away.

ROSE

Those things are horrible for your health anyway, I just saved you.

JODI

Thanks for the advice.

ROSE

If you want further advice, don't drink the new energy drink coming out. Stuff is disgusting.

JODI

You've had it?

ROSE

No, but I doubt it's as healthy as everyone is saying. This supposed new version of caffeine? Ew.

JODI

I'm sure it's great.

ROSE

Want some more advice?

JODI

Probably not.

ROSE

You need to change. Unless you plan to be part of the decorations on the lawn tonight.

Rose leaves the kitchen, as Jodi stares down at her clothes.

EXT. CHAPMAN MANSION - DRIVEWAY - DUSK

Limousines pull through the driveway dropping off GUESTS, dressed in nice suits and elegant dresses.

CHRIS, late 20s, stands out from the crowd as he has a beat up old hoodie and joggers on, carrying a grocery bag.

Jodi runs out to Chris, standing near the front door.

JODI

What are you doing, I said to meet me in the back.

CHRIS

I couldn't find it.

JODI

Do you have the dress?

Chris hands her the grocery bag. Jodi looks in the bag and pulls out a silver sequined dress.

JODI

What the hell is this?

CHRIS

A dress.

JODI

I said to grab my silver one.

CHRIS

That is silver.

JODI

No this is sequins, there's a difference.

CHRIS

It's fine, you'll look better than you do now. Are you a fancy gardener now?

JODI

(angry)

Thanks. Did you bring my insulin?

Chris' eyes go wide.

JODI

You know I need that.

CHRIS

Than maybe don't forget it when you leave.

Jodi groans and turns around. Chris grabs her arms and pulls her back.

CHRIS

That's it?

JODI

(Pulling away)

What do you want Chris? I have to get back to work.

CHRIS

So you just call me up whenever you need something now?

JODI

Yeah. Ever since you decided to get your needs elsewhere.

Jodi starts walking away.

JODI

Remember, end of the week you better be out of my place!

A COUPLE walks by Chris and give him a judgmental look.

CHRIS

What the fuck are you looking at?

INT. CHAPMAN MANSION - SITTING ROOM - DAY

A desk sits in a far corner, with a couch in the center facing a row of book cases.

Jodi holds out the sequined dress, shaking her head. She starts to undress as NATE CHAPMAN, Rose's dad, 40s or 50s, tall with an athletic build and Ms. Majia enter the room, making out.

Jodi gasps and the two break apart. Ms. Majia fixes herself while Nate Chapman simmers angrily.

NATE CHAPMAN

What do you think you're doing in MY sitting room? Who let you into this party?

JODI

I'm, uhh, I-

MS. MAJIA

She's my intern Nate- Mr. Chapman. She's been helping me with the preparations for the party.

NATE CHAPMAN

(laughing)

Oh yes. You must be the one my daughter mentioned. She says you've got a great eye for flowers.

MS. MAJIA

You've got a change of clothes I'm assuming?

NATE CHAPMAN

(smiling)

I hope that's why she's in the middle of undressing herself.

Ms. Majia eyes going wide, and reaches for the door.

MS. MAJIA

We'll be going now.

Ms. Majia grabs Nate Chapman's hand and reaches for the door.

MS. MAJIA

Keep up the good work Jodi.

The door shuts behind Ms. Majia and Nate Chapman as they leave.

Jodi takes a deep breath and sits down on the couch.

NATE CHAPMAN (OS)

And stay off the furniture!

Jodi jumps off the couch.

INT. CHAPMAN MANSION - BALLROOM - NIGHT

Now decorated with gorgeous flowers and tables with chairs, the party is in full swing as Guests mingle among one another.

Servers carry trays of champagne glasses filled with different flavors of The Energizer energy drink, while others offer up finger foods.

Jodi, now wearing the sequined dress, stands near the back, looking over the crowd.

A few SECURITY GUARDS in simple uniforms stand throughout the mansion.

Nate Chapman walks onto the stage where the Musicians are playing soft instrumentals.

NATE CHAPMAN

If I could get everyone's attention please. I'd like to officially anounce that our drink has been shipped country wide! By the end of the week millions of bottles of The Energizer will be in just as many homes.

A chorus of cheers and applause ring out.

NATE CHAPMAN

Of course it couldn't have been done without our team of scientists, who created our secret ingredient, along with the doctors that helped with the tests to make sure everything is Kosher.

(winks)

Our marketing team who made it possible that we...

Nate Chapman's speech fades to the background as PATRICK FOLEY, late 20s, dressed in a revealing suit, stands next to Jodi.

PATRICK

Well hello gorgeous. Are you here as an escort as well?

Jodi rolls her eyes, focusing on Nate Chapman.

NATE CHAPMAN

Our supporters over in Canada Power and Speedy in China gave us the publicity we needed to go global by the end of the month!

More cheers ring out.

PATRICK

Mr. winning personality up there just loves attention hmm?

JODI

He's appreciating his team.

PATRICK

(sarcastic)

Oh, I'm sorry. With that dress I should've known you work for him. Are you going to be mentioned?

JODI

Shh.

NATE CHAPMAN

Of course we can't forget the woman that made this incredible party happen. I mean, I don't even recognize my own house, Roweena Majia.

A soft round of applause goes around. Jodi's face falls, and Patrick stifles a snort.

PATRICK

I'm going to assume you have been overlooked by those with more power than you. Classic saddening tale. Whelp! I'm off to snoop through some belongings you and I will never own. Ta-ta.

NATE CHAPMAN

(holding up his glass)
Let us all drink, to our victory.

Everyone holding a champagne glass drinks.

SECURITY #2 (V.O)

Reporting in, we've got a server in the backyard.

JODI

All servers should be working the ballroom right now.

SECURITY #2 (V.O)

He's uhm, He's in the fountain.

JODI

What?

SECURITY #1 (V.O)

Probably snuck something in to party with.

JODI

(into her earpiece)

I'll inform Ms. Majia.

Jodi works her way through the crowd.

SECURITY #2 (V.O)

(to the server)

Hey, you good? Buddy you can't be-

A blood curdling SCREAM goes over the radio, anyone with a radio flinches.

SECURITY #1 (V.O)

I need people in the backyard now!

The few security guards in the Ballroom rush out, as Jodi approaches Ms. Majia, who is in a heated argument with a few other guests.

MS. MAJIA

I don't care what you say, the summer blue was the better choice for the bottle!

JODI

Ms. Majia. Excuse me.

MS. MAJIA

A man with no proper taste in color shouldn't be head of marketing. You disgust me!

JODI

Ma'am we have an issue with a server in the fountain.

MS. MAJIA

(turning towards Jodi, with Red
eyes)

Can't you see I'm busy right now you useless maggot!

Jodi is stunned as Ms. Majia shoves her finger into another guests chest. They shove Ms. Majia backward, sending her to the floor. Jodi steps in to stop the fight.

A CRASH catches Jodi's attention from across the Ballroom. Ms. Majia yanks Jodi's arm, scratching her, and sending her to the floor. Ms. Majia lunges at the other Guests, and the group attacks one another.

All around the Ballroom there is havoc and bloodshed and Guests either run away or attack one another viciously.

KIM MARKS, 60s, holding a cane, grabs a terrified Jodi's arm and helps her up.

KIM

Not a good time to be laying down young lady.

The pair weave through the bloodshed, attempting to escape.

A Waiter carrying a tray of drinks enters the room and immediately gets tackled by a group of ZOMBIES.

All around the room, Zombies cry out.

ZOMBIES

(a string of different individuals)
I'm thirsty. So thirsty!

A few feet away, Rose is laying on the floor crying as Nate Chapman stands above her. One hand intertwined with her hair, holding her up as the other punches her. Jodi grabs Kim's cane and runs over.

NATE CHAPMAN

(eyes blood red)
I'm just so thirsty my darling girl. I
can't help it.

ROSE

(crying)

Daddy please, stop.