## MYOPIC

Written by Paul J. Marano

## INT. ABANDONED STORE - DAY

A lone survivor, JOHN (30s), cautiously enters the mostly cleaned out department store. His vision is blurred, making the surroundings appear hazy. He holds a broken pair of glasses to his face, the shattered glass distorting his view, but giving him at least some idea of what's around him.

John stumbles forward, his senses heightened. Every sound amplifies, echoing through the empty aisles. He jumps at every bump, every creak of the old building. He uses the glasses to see what they are, but can never be too sure.

He jumps at a figure, but when he puts on his glasses, he sees it's just a mannequin.

He continues on, squinting through the broken glasses, using them to navigate. Finally, he finds the aisle for eye care products. With careful steps, he makes his way down the aisle, his heart pounding.

He picks up a few items, feeling the packages with his fingertips. His hands tremble as he sifts through the products. Suddenly, a noise startles him, and he freezes, his breath caught in his throat.

After a moment, he continues his search. He finds a few boxes of contacts and pulls them out, examining them closely. He finds one in his prescription.

JOHN Yes, oh my god.

He catches himself on his excitement. He only finds ones contact, but it's at least something.

With shaky hands, he inserts a pair into his eyes, blinking rapidly to adjust.

The world comes into focus, albeit slightly clearer. John breathes a sigh of relief, a glimmer of hope in his eyes.

He closes one eye so he can see clearly. As he spins around we see the blurriness fade as the store comes into clarity wherever he's looking. Then he looks at what we think is another mannequin... it's not.

John jumps back as a zombie starts rapidly running at him with a foaming mouth. Their infected visage only becoming clear at the last second.

John shoots the zombie just in time. Blood from the zombie gets in his eyes and the gunshot causes his ears to ring.

He panics and rips the infected contact out and wipes his face down with a nearby towel.

He's back to being near sighted again and can't hear a thing. He looks around and sees another figure and reflexively shoots at it. It falls over and when John gets closer to investigate it, he sees it was mannequin.

He lets out a sign of relief, but when something big falls behind him, he spins around to see a figure come into view. It's too far for him to see, but he fires to it anyways. He gets closer to confirm the kill and sees it's a WOMAN(20s-30s)...a non-infected woman lying on the ground dying.

John looks on in horror. Then, he sees another shape. It's a MAN WITH GLASSES(30s-40s) husband? boyfriend? brother? Does it matter. He's mad and he aims his gun at John. John flees at gun shots buzz by him.

A tense gun fight ensues. John can't see far and thus must inch closer and closer to the Man. John is eventually pinned down and can't tell where exactly the Man is shooting at him from. He takes his broken glasses out to see if they can at least give him a clue.

He uses them to peer around the corner only for a bullet to almost hit him in the head. John ducks back and notices a decapitated mannequin head at his feet. He counts the bullet casing around him and then grabs the head to use it to draw the Man's fire out. It works! He hits the head and the head and John takes his chance. He steps out with the broken glasses on and struggles to use them to make out the Man, but his movement gives him away and John fires. The Man falls over dead.

John goes over and confirms the kill. He got a head shot and shattered the glasses on the man's head. John takes them off the man's head and peers through them, they're his prescription. He puts his old pair on to compare. It's like an eye test. Number 1. Number 2. Number 1. Number 2.

He keeps switching between the glasses as he's not quite sure which one is easier to see out of. As he does, he thinks he sees the WOMAN from earlier standing in front of him. He switches glasses to get another look and she's now in his face, foaming at the mouth. He takes the glasses off and it's too late, she's got him. We get one last look of her infected visage as John lets out a panicked scream.

CUT TO BLACK.