



PAUL BENNETT SELF TAPE SCENES

Synopsis:

Paul kidnaps 8 innocent victims to play a game of chess, where he gives them the following rules.

Rule 1: Play a move every 5 minutes

Rule 2: Miss a move, an innocent dies.

Rule 3: Each piece taken dies.

He then introduces the captives to the pieces they will all be playing, and his final play, why the captives will do what he wants... he shows them videos of their innocents, people they love and care about and would fight for. He holds one of them personally captive in his lair, Evie's sister, Danielle. And since Evie is the only one who can play chess, and she's the King piece, this pushes the game forward.

He enjoys his work, likes making good money that he does on the dark web through gambling and streaming the games, and takes pleasure in goading Danielle, who he admires for her fight and sharp brain. But this game is going differently, and having made a loss on the previous game when it went wrong, he needs this one to work.

Character:

In the simplest terms, Paul is a psychopath. But very importantly, he doesn't get any sexual thrill from what he is doing, he enjoys making money out of the games, to the point that he is very cold about it. He takes intellectual pleasure from watching everyone battle, and especially his main opponents, Evie and Danielle.

Deadline for Self Tapes:

Mid February

Callback Dates:

Early March

Shoot Dates:

Mid / Late July in Sydney



SELF TAPE SCENE 1

Paul watches the captives as they play the game, and lose people, he's also tracking how much money he's making as the bets and streams mount. But Danielle is not giving up.

INT. KILLER'S LAIR - NIGHT

Danielle tries to work her hands free of the ropes, she's found a knot to pick at. She has her back to Paul.

DANIELLE

You're killing innocent people.

PAUL

No one is innocent, but truth be told,
I get well paid to do this.

DANIELLE

What?

PAUL

The Dark Web - it's all being streamed
live, people bet on who will die next,
pay subscription fees to just watch.
Your sister is odds on to win the game.
I should be insulted, but I'm not.

Danielle shakes her head in disgust.

PAUL (CONT'D)

Do I offend your delicate
sensibilities?

He crouches down and hooks his finger over the cannula, and starts to pull them slowly out of her nose.

DANIELLE

You won't kill me...

PAUL

Really? This is not a negotiation.

DANIELLE

Everything is a negotiation, and I
know something about you... you won't
break you're own rules.



PAUL

That's quite the gamble isn't it.

He pulls down harder, Danielle doesn't break eye contact.

DANIELLE

Not really. With so much money involved, you won't risk it.

She stares defiantly at him. Time ticks past. She refuses to break eye contact, defiant, until Paul can't be bothered and lets go of the cannula.

DANIELLE

Money can't buy you happiness.

Paul looks at the numbers coming in on the dark web.

PAUL

Maybe not, but it can buy a better grade of misery.

He glances at her.

PAUL (CONT'D)

It could buy you a new lung or two. You don't have a lot of time left, even if you did survive this.

DANIELLE

At least I lived the life I had as a good person.

PAUL

You really don't give up do you.

DANIELLE

I've fought against death my entire life, I don't plan to lose to you.



SELF TAPE SCENE 2

The game is over, and Danielle has run out of time...

INT. KILLER'S LAIR - NIGHT

Paul holds a terrified Danielle close to the screens, so she can see her sister hiding from Sarah.

PAUL

Say goodbye.

Danielle looks frantically around, from screen to screen, and suddenly she sees a way out.

DANIELLE

No, you can't.

He presses the blade against her neck.

PAUL

No negotiation.

DANIELLE

Stop... you don't want to do this -

PAUL

Why don't I?

A little blood drips from a small cut under the blade.

DANIELLE

The bets, the viewers, look at the numbers.

He pauses. On the middle screen is the gambling portal to the dark web site, and the numbers are shooting up.

DANIELLE (CONT'D)

It's new, exciting, different, they love it. If you kill me and end the game, you lose a whole lot of money like last game.

Still he doesn't kill her, and she knows she's not going to die yet as Paul watches the numbers go up.