

## 1 INT. SUBURBAN HOUSE - EVENING

1

Jack fiddles with a camera on a tripod. The camera faces an open door that leads down into the house's basement. Samantha paces back and forth and bites her nails. Kyle leans against a wall and sips from his drink can. Jack steps away from the camera.

JACK

There. Last camera is good to go.  
Are you all ready for this?

SAMANTHA

Of course not. Why did we agree to  
do this again?

(Pause)

You just saw that right?

KYLE

(Sips his drink.)  
What?

SAMANTHA

I swear I just saw a shadow move in  
the living room.

KYLE

You're just seeing things. I swear,  
this is gonna be the easiest  
hundred bucks any of us ever made.

The sound of footsteps causes the conversation to pause. The footsteps grow louder and louder. The trio crowd around the camera and watch the open door.

JACK

Holy--

The door slams shut.

SAMANTHA

There's nothing holy about this...

The camera and tripod are flung directly upward and hit the ceiling. The trio all step back.

KYLE

Alright things are getting  
interesting.

SAMANTHA

(Tearing up.)  
Are you serious Kyle? I know you  
don't feel--

DEMONIC VOICE  
(Whispering.)  
Hush child.

SAMANTHA  
(Screams.)  
NO! NO! NO! NO! NO! I am NOT doing  
this. I'm out.

Samantha turns to exit and begins walking.

DEMONIC VOICE  
(Whispering.)  
No.

Samantha is violently pulled against a wall and pinned  
there.

SAMANTHA  
(Crying again.)  
Guys! Do something!

KYLE  
(Finishes his drink and  
crumples the can in his  
hand.)  
Oh let's do this.  
(Kyle cracks his  
knuckles.)

Samantha falls to the floor. The unseen force slams Kyle  
against a wall and pins him there. Kyle struggles but he  
can't seem to free himself.

Jack looks around for the camera. He quietly creeps forward  
and crouches down next to it. He begins to turn it on and  
aims it at Kyle. He sees a red humanoid monster with two  
legs and four arms holding Kyle in place against the wall.

JACK  
Lesser red incubus. Sam, you know  
what to do.

SAMANTHA  
(Sighs. Her voice is  
quivering.)  
If you say so.

Samantha closes her eyes. Her body is shaking a little.

SAMANTHA (CONT'D)  
In nomine Patris Tuam mortalis  
formam Alligat.

The demon gradually becomes visible. It turns its head and growls at Sam. It drops Kyle as it turns to face her now.

KYLE  
(Laughing.)  
Now we're talking.  
(Kyle removes a small white bottle with a gold cross on it from his pocket. He unscrews the cap and pours the Holy Water over his hands.)

The demon turns back towards Kyle. Kyle swings his right fist and punches the demon in the face. It screams as it staggers backwards. Kyle steps forward and punches the demon in the chest with his left hand. The demon falls to the ground. Kyle bends down and grabs it by the neck with his right hand. The demon begins to desperately scratch at Kyle's hand but Kyle doesn't flinch. Steam is wafting off the demon as the Holy Water burns its flesh. Kyle smiles. He tightens his grip and the demon combusts in a fiery explosion.

Kyle steps back and leans against the wall.

KYLE  
(Breathing heavily.)  
See Sam, I told you it was gonna be the easiest hundred bucks we'd ever make.

SAMANTHA  
(Quietly grumbling.)  
That thing could've killed us.

JACK  
Eh probably not. Incubi are fairly weak by demonic standards, and that was a lesser red one. Those guys are pretty common and only really dangerous to novices.

KYLE  
Of which we most certainly are not.  
(Kyle looks at Sam.)  
Ok, of which Jack and I are not.

SAMANTHA

So, that was our first real case.  
Will you tell me what happened to  
your last... What was it you called  
my role again?

JACK  
Exorcist. And we can talk about it,  
just not right now.

SAMANTHA  
(Pouting.)  
But you promised!

KYLE  
And we'll keep our promises. It's  
late and we're tired. I will  
personally tell you everything you  
want to hear tomorrow morning. Ok?

SAMANTHA  
(Exasperated.)  
Fine.

Jack and Kyle smile and high five.

**2 INT. URBAN WAREHOUSE - MORNING**

**2**

Samantha sits on a couch eating a bowl of cereal while  
watching TV. Kyle enters the room and yawns loudly.

SAMANTHA  
Morning. You look like you slept  
well.

Kyle yawns again and smooths his disheveled hair down.

KYLE  
Did you sleep well?

SAMANTHA  
Well enough. You?

KYLE  
(Grinning.)  
Oh I always sleep like a baby after  
a job. You'll get used to it.

Samantha clears her throat.

KYLE (CONT'D)

Her name was Abigail. She worked with Jack and I for, crap I dunno, five years maybe? We all met in college and bonded when we had to work together to take down a lesser demon prince that wanted to use the college as a sacrifice to materialize. It was a rough first job, but it put us on this path.

SAMANTHA

Can you tell me more about that first job?

KYLE

Maybe another time. I know there's still so much about the Other Side that you want to know, and I promise that you will. It just takes some time, ok?

SAMANTHA

(Somewhat dejected.)

Ok.

KYLE

Now where was I.

(Kyle strokes his chin for a moment.)

The three of us went on a lot of jobs together. You've only been here a month and you've already gone out on half a dozen with us. Imagine how many we did over five years. Sure some were bigger, but most of them were like the ones you've seen already.

SAMANTHA

So what happened to her? It sounds like she had experience in spades.

KYLE

She did.

Kyle smiles sadly at Samantha. Tears well up in his eyes.

KYLE (CONT'D)

Abby really was the best of us. It makes sense too, given her heritage and all that.

Samantha cocks her head to the side and raises an eyebrow.

KYLE (CONT'D)

Exorcists are special. You know that. Not anyone can do what they do. Without them, people like Jack and me can't fight 'em. As for Abby, well, it's only fitting that she could trace her ancestry back to one of the most famous witches in American history: Abigail Williams.

SAMANTHA

Wait a minute. Wasn't Abigail Williams a victim of witchcraft? Wasn't it the slave Tituba who actually practiced witchcraft?

KYLE

(Smiling.)

Yeah that's the normal, accepted narrative. And it's not wholly wrong. Tituba definitely practiced witchcraft, but she also taught it to Abigail and some of the other inhabitants of Salem. But as you know, practitioners of the Dark Arts and those interested in the Other Side are prone to infighting. It's always jealousy and arms races with them. So Abigail Williams turned on the others and got them all killed. Or at least most of them. The point is, she was a witch, and Abby was descended from her. This personal history made Abby incredibly strong. Heck she was sometimes a better fighter than I was.

(Kyle's smile turns into a frown.)

Then Abigail Williams tried to incarnate from the Other Side.

SAMANTHA

Oh... I think I get the picture.

KYLE

I won't go into specifics, but yeah. It was a long ordeal, and we lost. Abigail Williams succeeded in incarnating so Abby made the ultimate sacrifice. Jack and I are pretty sure that Abigail Williams is gone for good, but it's always hard to know with powerful inhabitants of the Other Side.

SAMANTHA

Are you sure you guys killed her? What if she went off somewhere to lick her wounds?

KYLE

It's a possibility, but Jack doubts it. He says she should've made a move by now if she was still around. She's had months to recover and Walpurgis Night has already passed. If she wanted to make a move and attack us, she would've when the Other Side had a significant power boost. We're pretty sure she's--

A loud banging at the door interrupts Kyle. Jack enters the room and waves to Samantha and Kyle.

JACK

Morning.

Kyle starts to stand up. Jack waves his hand dismissively.

JACK (CONT'D)

Don't worry. I got it.

Jack walks over to the door and opens it.

JACK (CONT'D)

Hi how can I--

An eight foot tall faceless man wearing a suit stands on the other side of the door. The faceless thing cocks its head to the side.

JACK (CONT'D)

Son of a--

One of the faceless man's black tendrils shoots forward and sends Jack flying backwards. Kyle whips his head around towards the door. The faceless man ducks and passes through the doorway. Samantha screams.

SAMANTHA

What IS that!?

JACK

(Out of breath.)

Tulpa... Boogeyman...

SAMANTHA

Meaning?

KYLE

It's a created monster. Humanity's collective belief can sometimes create new denizens on the Other Side. We call those Tulpas. This one in particular looks like a Boogeyman archetype.

The faceless man's tentacles begin to lash out about the room as it turns to face Kyle and Samantha.

SAMANTHA

So what do we do?

Kyle smiles as he cracks his knuckles.

KYLE

Simple. We kill it.