

Kukudhi

By

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Be Good or the Lugat will Get You

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WGA registered

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A Friday night in late may. The tavern is filled with returning college students and town regulars. Sarah, Brien, and Angie are sitting in the Bistro area of the bar finishing their drinks.

SARAH

(Sarcastically), "Hey Brien, since you're in your senior year, have you finally settled in on that major yet?"

Angie laughs and nearly spits out her drink

BRIEN

"OK, so I've been a little slow in the what do I want to do with my life question but after giving it some long and sometimes liquor influenced thought I've decided on an English degree. I'm thinking about going into teaching, besides, majors in "wise ass" were taken up.

ANGIE

"A teacher, I'm impressed" (checks messages on her cell)

SARAH

"So when did this epiphany happen?"

BRIEN

"I've thought about teaching since getting into college but kept going back and forth on a decision because of more lucrative choices. You know, your not successful unless your a financial analyst."

ANGIE

"Hey guys, It's time for me to go. I've had enough and I have work tomorrow."

Angie steps off the stool, teeters and giggles.

SARAH

"Yea' me too. You guys need a ride?"

BRIEN

"No, I think I'll walk. I'm only a couple of blocks away and it's a really nice night."

Brien pulls out his wallet and looks at the girls.

BRIEN

"In honor of our senior year, I'll pay tonight."

SARAH

"Thanks, considering what teachers make I'll take it now." (laughing)

The three of them rise from they're chairs and make their way out of the bistro area, into the foyer and out into the warm, humid, late spring air.

2

EXT.OUTSIDE OF THE STANDISH TAVERN- 12AM

2

Brien , Sarah, and Angie walk down the stone steps of the tavern, cross the sidewalk, and head towards the street where Sarah's car is parked. The night is warm and a few people are walking up and down the street, some coming out of or going into the Red Onion bar. The street is lined with trees. Across the street apartments and a small pizza shop resides.

SARAH

OK guys, my car's right here. Are you sure you don't need a ride?

ANGIE

"No thanks, I need the walk, it's bathing suit season."

SARAH

"Hey Brien, maybe you should run home." (laughing)

BRIEN

(shaking his head)

"That's what I love about you Sarah, your charm."

Brien, Sarah, and Angie give each other hugs. Brien looking up at the night sky notices a large shape in an old tree across the street.

SARAH

(Seeing the perplexed look in Brien's face)

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

SARAH (cont'd)

"Whats up Brien, you about to pass out?"

BRIEN

(straining his eyes)

"No, look up in that tree across the street by the Webb House, do you see it?"

ANGIE

(looking up through tired eyes)

"See what?"

BRIEN

(eyes straining to see)

"That big shadow up in the branches".

Sarah and Angie focus their eyes in the direction Brien's looking. Sarah catches a glimpse of something. Angie looks confused.

SARAH

"Yea, I see something. It looks like a big bird, kind of like an owl."

Angie looking frustrated shrugs her shoulders.

ANGIE

"I don't see anything, I have to go. Brien, you coming?"

BRIEN

"Yea, see you later Sarah".

Sarah turns, walks over to her car and gets in. She starts the car, backs out into the street and gives a wave to Brien and Angie as they cross and walk down a darkened Main st. Brien and Angie walk past The Old Town cafe where the few remaining patrons are finishing they're drinks.

Brien and Angie walk casually, almost shoulder to shoulder, wanting to but not quite touching.

ANGIE

"Any plans for the summer?"

BRIEN

"Not really, work and then a week at the beach with the family. How about you?"

ANGIE

"Same for the most part. I'm going to the Cape with my parents in July".

They walk another block to the corner of Center st. and Main where both go separate ways. Brien stops, smiles and looks at her.

ANGIE

"What"? (looking up at Brien)

BRIEN

"Nothing, you going to be ok walking home?"

ANGIE

"Yea, I'm just a block down."

BRIEN

"OK", "I'll see you over the weekend."

Angie begins her walk down Center street towards her home. She looks back stealing a glance at Brien allowing herself a slight smile. It's a little past 12am, most of the house lights are turned off. Angie sees the porch light of her small cape about a block away.

She begins to quicken her pace as the porch light grows closer. As she comes up on a very large oak tree, it hits her, the smell. The stench is sobering and nauseating. Angie's eyes begin to water. She wants to vomit.

She holds back and starts to run towards her house when she comes to an abrupt stop, both arms going numb. Confused, she looks down. She sees a hand or what looks like a hand gripping her upper arm.

The fingers abnormally long and claw like. the length between each knuckle seem longer by inches than a normal hand. the skin is dry and cracked with veins pushing through its paper thin epidermis.

Fear envelopes her body. She looks up at something much taller than any one or anything she's ever known. It's face is elongated, it's nose almost beak like. The skin is sallow and emaciated. It's cheek bones protrude and create craters

(CONTINUED)

of it's eyes. Its mouth stretches in an endless grin revealing two thin pointed teeth. It's eyes were happy, joyous, enlightened. Large and black they sparkle with n evil enthusiasm. It's eyes are the last thing Angie see's before the creature sinks its teeth into her throat.

3

EXT. OLD MAIN ST-EARLY AM

3

A police car drives down Main st making a turn onto another st. and eventually turns into the DMV parking lot. The officer parks the car in the lot facing the green that borders the facility. Inside his car Officer Mike Corbett sees something moving erratically, stumbling in the darkness.

OFFICER MIKE CORBETT

(gets out of car and begins to move cautiously towards the girl)

"Hey, are you OK?" "I'm a police officer."

Officer Corbett runs her way, catches up and see's shes in shock. She looks as if she's trying to get away from something. Her hair is matted with dirt and her mouth open as if screaming.

MIKE CORBETT

(As he goes to calm her down)

"Hold on miss, take it easy.

He tries to take her arms but she begins to flail frantically as her head jerks side to side. He grabs her tightly by the shoulders and brings her to the ground as he takes out his flashlight to check her eyes.

"Ok, Ok miss, it's alright, try and look at the light.(shines the light at her eyes.)"Have you taken anything tonight?"

Her breathing begins to slow and she starts to calm a bit but still remains frightened.

(removing a radio from his belt)

"Dispatch this is Officer Mike Corbett. Get an ambulance to the DMV. I have a young girl who looks to be having a bad reaction to something"

4

INT. COSMINA DIMIRS BEDROOM. EARLY MORNING.

4

Cosmina, 24, rises out of bed, dressed in a baggy t shirt and sweats, stretches and waits a minute before getting her 5.4 frame up. Walking over to her dresser she combs her long brown hair and sprays some perfume on. She walks down the hallway and down the stairs into the kitchen where her grandmother sits at the table. Cosmina smells coffee.

GRANDMOTHER

"Good morning Cosmina, how are you feeling this morning?"

COSMINA

(kissing her grandmother on the cheek)

"Good Nona. Where is everyone?"

GRANDMOTHER

"Your parents are at work and your sister is at school. It's 9:30. You slept later than usual."

COSMINA

"I slept well Nona. I needed it."

GRANDMOTHER

"What can I make you for breakfast?"

(Gets up from the table and walks to the kitchen counter)

COSMINA

"Nothing now, I'll just have coffee".

5

EXT. OUTSIDE COSMINAS HOUSE-EARLY MORNING

5

Cosmina receives a text message on her phone from Sarah stating "emergency, call me." Cosmina walks out her back door to her deck and calls Sarah.

COSMINA

"Hey Sarah, whats the emergency?"
(sits in one of the deck chairs)

SARAH

(frantic)"Cosmina, Angie's in the hospital and the doctors aren't sure whats wrong with her."

(CONTINUED)

COSMINA

"What are you talking about Sarah?"
"Why is she in the hospital?"

SARAH

"Brien, Ange, and I were at the Tavern last night for a few and left around 12. We walked outside, Oh, Brien paid, go figure, anyways, we walked outside and I offered them both a ride. Angie said she wanted to walk and Brien decided to go with her. We talked for a few more minutes, I got in my car and they walked up Main."

COSMINA

"That's it? Did Angie seem OK? Did she have to much to drink?"

SARAH

"No more than usual. She acts ditsie anyways so its kind of hard to tell. Besides, Brien was with her and when I drove passed she looked fine. I feel terrible. I should have insisted they ride with me."

COSMINA

"Did Brien walk her to the house?"

SARAH

"No and he feels awful."

COSMINA

"All right Sarah. I'll pick you up and we'll go to the hospital."

6 INT. COSMINAS HOUSE, DINNER TIME.

6

Cosmina, her sister Donjeta, mother Marita, father Stavri, and grandmother are having dinner discussing the days events.

DONJETA

"Was it drugs?"

COSMINA

"No Donja, it wasn't drugs. Why is everything always drugs with you?"

Donjeta laughs to herself trying not to let her sister see. Her mother glances her way giving a disapproving look.

(CONTINUED)

COSMINA

"The doctors aren't sure whats wrong with her. They're really confused. One doctor said she's showing symptoms of the plague."

Cosmina's grandmother stops for a second and then continues with her meal unnoticed.

MARITA

"The plague? Are you sure you heard right? I know you want to think otherwise Cosmina but could she have had a bad reaction to whatever she was drinking?"

DONJETA

(under her breath) "drugs, drugs, drugs".

COSMINA

(angry)

"Donja I swear I'm going to smack you."

Donjeta looks at her sister as if she has no clue what she's talking about.

MARITA

"Please, the two of you stop". What kind of symptoms did she have?"

COSMINA

"The doctors said she had developed blisters on her body and spiked a very high fever. She was also delusional."

STAVRI

"How was she when you left the hospital?"

COSMINA

"Stable but still really out of it. we're going back tomorrow to see her."

Cosmina's grandmother quietly gets up and begins clearing the table.

MARITA

"Donja, help Nona please."

(CONTINUED)

DONJETA
(looking annoyed)
"What about Cosmina?"

Marita gets up and looks at her daughter.

MARITA
"What about her? I asked you. Maybe
next time you won't push your
sisters buttons so much."

DONJETA
(under her breath)
"shit!"

She pushes away from the table angry.

STAVRI
"What did I hear?"

DONJETA
"Crap, you heard crap."

7

EXT. WETHERSFIELD H.S. BASEBALL FIELD-LATER EVE.

7

3 boys. all around 15 are walking across the baseball field
around 10pm.

JASON
"Finals next week and then done for
two months".

ANDY
(gives Jim a push)
"Shit, Jim was done a week ago, he
doesn't need to go another week to
know he failed.

JIM
"Screw you asshole, I'm pulling a
solid C. Jason, you playing summer
ball this year?"

JASON
"Yeah, I gotta keep up if I want to
make varsity next year". Besides,
I'm too young to get a job and it
beats watching TV all day". "What
about you guys, your not going to
spend the summer playing "Madden"
are you?"

(CONTINUED)

ANDY

"Not the whole summer. My parents rented a cottage down the beach this year. My dad says you guys can come for a few days."

JASON

(high fives Jim) "Cool, that's if Jimmy here can keep out of summer school."

ANDY

"and jail."

JIM

(laughing) "Summer school is jail."

The boys make their way to the gate at the end of the field.

JASON

"Ok guys, I'm heading home. My parents are gonna get pissy if I don't get back and I'm already 10 minutes late."

JIM

"Yeah same here, I'll see you tomorrow. Andy you walking home by the bike path?"

ANDY

"Yeah, later Jase."
(looks over at Jim)
"you coming my way?"

JIM

"Yeah, "

The boys part ways. Jason heads up towards the main road. Jim and Andy walk along the fence bordering the baseball field towards the bike path behind the field. As Jason walks down the road he hears a loud whooshing sound overhead like large wings. He looks up but sees nothing.

Jim and Andy walk down the dark bike trail towards their homes. The trail is lined with bushes and trees.

ANDY

(sounding annoyed) "Man I'm glad the summer's here but my dad's already starting to put "college pressure" on me".

(CONTINUED)

JIM

(laughing)"My dad knows better. Besides, it's too early as far as my parents are concerned now."

ANDY

"Your lucky. I want to go but I don't know where or what for. He acts as if I don't start looking tomorrow I'll get rejected by everyone. Oh, not to mention the extracurricular he wants me to get involved in."

JIM

(slaps Andy on the back)"No problem, I'll tutor you and bring you down to my level. Hell, you won't have to worry about rejection. You can't get rejected when your GPA won't even allow you to apply."

ANDY

(laughing)"Hey, that's not a bad idea..UGH

Andy finds himself lying against a tree on his right shoulder, his head foggy from the hit. His right arm is numb and he's unable to lift it. He looks into the darkness and sees Jim being lifted up by something tall and thin. He can't make out Jim's face but whatever is picking him up looks as if it's biting into him. It looks at Andy, smiles and winks. The smell is unbearable. Andy passes out.

8

INT. HOSPITAL, ANGIE'S RM. FOLLOWING DAY

8

Cosmina and Sarah enter Angie's room. Brian is already there. Angie is sitting up in good spirits looking a little pale but in fair condition. Her mother and father are out in the lobby speaking to the doctor.

ANGIE

(upon seeing Cosmina and Sarah her face lights up)"Hi guys, I'd give you a hug but I don't want you to get what I might have."

(CONTINUED)

SARAH

(looking concerned)"Hey Ange,how are you feeling? I knew I should have insisted on giving you a ride. I feel awful."

ANGIE

(smiling)"Its not your fault. I walked with Brian to my street, Hey Cosmina did you know Brian paid for the drinks the other night?"

BRIEN

(rolling his eyes)Jesus Christ, It's not like I've never paid before?"

COSMINA

"Not that anyone can remember. Angie, what did the doctors say? You look a little better. Do you remember anything?"

ANGIE

"I don't remember much except for (begins to get upset)a really bad smell. Then I woke up here".

BRIEN

"I watched you walk down your street, hell I could even make out the porch light of your house. I just don't get what happened."

Angie's mother and father walk into her room

MOTHER

(acknowledges the others,looks at her daughter)"Are you feeling better? Can I get you anything?"

ANGIE

"No mom, I'm OK. just a little tired"

FATHER

"We were just talking to the doctor. Apparently a 15 year old boy was brought in early this morning with the same

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

FATHER (cont'd)
symptoms. They're concerned that a virus might be starting up but haven't seen signs of it anywhere else."

COSMINA
"What kind of symptoms again?"

FATHER
"Blisters, high fever, delusional, as the doctor said yesterday, plague like. Another kid was brought in at the same time but he was banged up. Had a broken arm and concussion."

Cosmina looks at Angie and walks over to her bedside looking at a large bandage on Angies neck.

COSMINA
"What happened to your neck Ange?"

BRIEN
"Yeah, whats with the bandage?"

ANGIE
(touches her bandage) "I don't know. I must have fallen somewhere and scraped it up. Hope it doesn't leave a scar or anything."

SARAH
"Did the doctors say when you might get out?"

FATHER
"Not for a couple more days. Considering the symptoms they want to make sure she's ok and not contagious."

ANGIE
"I'm really tired guys. I hope you don't mind".

COSMINA
"No Angie. I'll text you later to see how your doing."

SARAH

"Next time I drive you home. I'll see you later."

Sarah and Cosmina walk into the hall with Angies parents. Brien stays behind shuffling around and looking at Angie.

BRIEN

"Hey,um,when you get out would you want to go and get a drink or something?"

ANGIE

"Sure,we'll all get together soon."

BRIEN

"I didn't mean all of us. I meant just you and I, if you want."

ANGIE

(tries to hide a smile)"Yeah, I would like that."

9

INT. WETHERSFIELD POLICE STATION-LATE AFTERNOON

9

Officer Mike Corbett and Officer Marcus Grimes are in a conference office talking about the past nights events.It's 9am. Mike pours a cup of coffee for himself.

MIKE CORBETT

(gestures to Marcus)"Want one?"

MARCUS

"Yeah, thanks.'

Mike pours the coffee and hands it to Marcus

MIKE CORBETT

"I don't have a clue as to whats been going on the last few nights.I find the girl down by the DMV, out of it and delirious and the boy was found in the high school baseball field trying to chew through the fence as if he was damn rabid."

MARCUS

"What about the other kid?"

MIKE CORBETT

"That jogger found him up against the tree pretty banged up. He had a

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

MIKE CORBETT (cont'd)
broken arm, a concussion, and a
cracked rib. After talking to him
at the hospital he said that he got
hit hard and the next thing he knew
he couldn't move or see straight."

The door opens up to the room and Officer Karen Dalt walks
in.

KAREN
"Hi Marcus, Mike. You wanted to
talk to me Marcus?"

MARCUS
"Yes. Karen, when you spoke to the
kid with the broken arm, what did
he tell you?"

KAREN
(takes a minute, looks
bewildered)"You know he was
hurt pretty bad so some of
what he said doesn't make much
sense. He said that he was
walking with his friend down
the bike path when he had the
wind knocked out of him and
found himself up against the
tree. Here's where it gets
weird, He says that he looks
over and sees his friend being
picked up by someone and
(pauses), well, looks like he's
being bit."

MIKE CORBETT
"Or choked?"

KAREN
"That's what I'm thinking but the
other kid didn't have any
strangulation marks around his
throat."

MARCUS
"Whats his name' Jimmy?"

MIKE CORBETT
"Yeah, Jim Adamson. Lives over on
Wells st."

KAREN

"Right, so this kid, his name is Andy McClure, also says that there was a horrible smell, so strong that he wanted to throw up. He passed out instead."

MIKE CORBETT

(looks up very interested)"That's interesting. The girl we found also mentioned a bad smell when I talked to her but she didn't say anything about an assailant."

MARCUS

"So what do we have, someone who smells bad assaulting our town youth?"

KAREN

"Its possible. Both incidents happened at night although we're not sure about the girl. An attacker was never mentioned."

MARCUS

"I'll hold a meeting with the other officers and let them know whats going on. We should also get a message out to the community to be aware."

MIKE CORBETT

"What are we looking for? Hell half the customers coming out of the Old Town have a bad smell."

Karen starts laughing. Marcus shakes his head.

MARCUS

"Be kind. Your talking about the patrons of our fair little community."

10

EXT.COSMINA HOME-OUT BACK ON THE DECK-LATE AFTERNOON

10

Cosmina's grandmother sits out on the back deck in the early afternoon. She's reading a magazine when Cosmina comes out from inside and sits next to her.

(kissing her grandmother on the cheek) "Hello Nona, God

(CONTINUED)

what a nice afternoon. What are you reading?"

Cosmina shuffles her chair over to look at her grandmothers magazine.

GRANDMOTHER

"Oh, just a magazine about back home."

COSMINA

"Do you miss Albania Nona?"

GRANDMOTHER

(she smiles and looks out)
"It's where I grew up and as I get older I would like to see Albania and my home again."

She looks over at her grand daughter and holds her hand

"But I'm very happy here with you and your sister."

COSMINA

"I'm glad. When I graduate college we'll all go back to Albania and visit your home. It can be my graduation gift."

GRANDMOTHER

"I would like that but for now you make sure you study hard. Tell me, how is Angie? Is she feeling better. Has her fever gone down?"

COSMINA

"Yes Nona, she seems to be doing much better. Her father says she might come home as soon as tomorrow."

GRANDMOTHER

"I'm happy to hear that. I always liked her. Tell me again Cosmina, how was her sickness?"

COSMINA

"Weird Nona, she had a very high fever, blisters on her skin and delusions. The doctors said it was like bubonic plague. While I was visiting Angie, I overheard a doctor saying a boy was brought in last night with the same symptoms."

(CONTINUED)

Cosminas grandmother gets a strange look on her face, it goes away quickly. Cosmina notices.

"Is something wrong Nona?"

GRANDMOTHER

'No dear, just old ghosts visiting an old woman."

COSMINA

"What do you mean?"

GRANDMOTHER

"It's nothing. A virus that I heard of when I was young in Albania sounds like some of the symptoms Angie and this boy have. I'm sure its not that though."

COSMINA

" I don't know Nona. So many Albanians, Bosnian's, and others from different countries are coming here, maybe someone brought something with them. You know, may have been sick on the way over and it's now spreading." Have you heard of any new people moving in the neighborhood lately?"

GRANDMOTHER

"No dear, and from what I remember, this kind of virus is very rare, almost an old superstition. I only mentioned it because of the way Angie and the boy were sick. Don't think of it."

COSMINA

"OK, but if anyone else gets sick I may ask you again."

GRANDMOTHER

(laughs)"That's fine. I see college has made you very inquisitive. But again, it's nothing to worry over."

Cosmina's phone rings. She picks it up and answers. Sarah is on the other end.

COSMINA

"Hey Sarah, whats up?"

(CONTINUED)

SARAH

"Nothing much, a few of us are going out around 9, just to the Tavern for awhile, wanna go?"

COSMINA

"Sure, who else is going?"

SARAH

"Brian, Sean, Tiffany, a few others. After what's been going on we could all use a few drinks. Besides, the police are saying we should all go out in groups until they get a handle as to whats going on."

COSMINA

"Why, whats going on?"

SARAH

"You haven't heard? The rumor is that there might be some guy walking around harassing people so they want us to be cautious. I guess the boy who ended up in the hospital was supposedly being choked by someone. Oh, and he smells bad."

COSMINA

"That's what Angie mentioned. Sounds creepy."

SARAH

"It's probably some guy swimming in a lot of Axe."

Both girls start laughing

COSMINA

"Ok Sarah, what time should we meet?"

SARAH

"I'll pick you up around 8:30."

COSMINA

"Thanks, I'll see you then."

11 EXT.STANDISH TAVERN PATIO-10PM

11

The Standish Tavern patio is full of patrons sitting, drinking, and eating. Cosmina, Sarah, Brien, two other friends, Sean and Tiffany are also with them.

SEAN

(does a shot and looks over at
Cosmina)

"So whats new in biological
research?"

BRIEN

(gives Sarah a look)

"Shut up Sarah"

SARAH

(starts laughing)

"What, I wasn't going to refer to
you."

COSMINA

"There's always something new. I
love it.How about you Sean, how's
criminal justice going?"

TIFFANY

"Yeah, maybe you could figure out
whats going on in town with the bad
smelling bad guy."

BRIEN

"Maybe it's a women. Hey Sarah,
where were you two nights ago."

Sean starts laughing. Sarah kicks Brien under the table.

BRIEN

"OW, shit."

SEAN

"I'm sure it was a guy. Have you
ever seen so many police driving
around? I didn't think this town
owned so many cop cars."

SARAH

"Angie's coming home tomorrow. Her
mom says she's fine, as if nothing
happened."

(CONTINUED)

COSMINA

"That's great, and strange. I mean to have bubonic plague symptoms and then they disappear in a few days?"

BRIEN

"Why, how long does the plague last?"

COSMINA

" I don't know for sure. We did some research on it in school but it doesn't go away so quickly."

SARAH

"Maybe it wasn't what the doctors thought?"

Cosmina gets a call on her cell.

COSMINA

"Hello?"

MARITA

(sounding nervous)

"Cosmina, have you heard from your sister? she was supposed to be home by 10. It's now 10:15."

COSMINA

"No mom. I'm sure she's just a few minutes late. You know how she is. Who was she with tonight?"

MARITA

She went to Michelle's house with Amy. I told her to call me on they're way back so I could meet her at the end of the street but I haven't heard from her. With whats going on in town I'm getting worried. You know where Michelle lives. Could you take a walk that way and look for her?"

COSMINA

(hesitates)

"Sure mom. I'm sure she's fine. I'll keep texting her also".

Cosmina puts her phone away and gets up from the table. Her friends are looking at her.

(CONTINUED)

BRIEN

"Whats going on?"

COSMINA

"Donja isn't home yet and my mother wants me to look for her".

BRIEN

"Where did she go?"

COSMINA

"Over a friends house not to far from here. I have to go. I'm worried to but didn't want to upset my mom anymore."

BRIEN

"I'll go with you".

SARAH

"Me to".

COSMINA

(addresses Sean and Tiffany)

"Sorry guys."

SEAN

"No, go. When you find her come back. We'll be here".

TIFFANY

"I'm sure she's fine."

Brien, Sarah, and Cosmina throw some money on the table to pay for the drinks and quickly walk through the maze of tables, out of the gate and onto the sidewalk. The three begin walking towards the street that Donjeta would most likely take on her way home.

BRIEN

"Why don't I walk down one end of the route and you two head to the other end."

COSMINA

"That sounds good. Text me if you find her."

Cosmina and Sarah begin walking down the street and Brien down the other end. Cosmina see's people walking around but no sign of her sister. She calls her mother from her cell.

(CONTINUED)

COSMINA

"Mom, did she come in? No? OK,
we're looking now. I'll call as soon
as we find her."

(looks over at Sarah)

"Now I'm getting worried."

The girls walk frantically calling out Donjeta's name. They walk through side streets going in the direction of Cosminas home. They begin down one side street when a strong overpowering smell grips them. Sarah thinks she sees movement by a cluster of trees in the yard of a foreclosed home. Cosmina looks over and through watery eyes sees something tall lifting what looks like a small person. The person is trying to fight but succumbs to what's grabbing her. Cosmina realizes it's Donjeta.

COSMINA

(screaming)

"Donjeta"

Cosmina runs towards whatever is grabbing her sister. Sarah is trying to keep up but chokes on the smell. Cosmina runs into the thing knocking it and her sister down. All three sprawl violently to the ground. Cosmina rolls and gets up quickly only to be confused and horrified as to what faces her. Standing not 10 ft away, a creature, one side of its body feathered like a grotesque bird, the other side, thin, emaciated and human like. One side of its face almost with a beak, the other half skulled and fanged. It screams at Cosmina, shakes itself into an owl form and fly's up into the sky. Cosmina's mind can't fathom what it saw. She freezes, then remembers her sister and runs over to her. Donjeta is lying on the ground, eyes open in fear staring, she begins to convulse.

COSMINA

(runs and slides on both knees
next to her sister)

"Donja, Donja, oh my God."

Donjeta convulses, her stomach heaving, her head jerking side to side. Cosmina grabs her by the shoulders and tries to calm her. Sarah runs over.

SARAH

"What the fuck was that? Jesus
Cosmina, what the fuck was that?
(looks at Donjeta) Oh God, why is
her neck bleeding?"

Cosmina looks at her sister's neck and sees the blood for the first time.

(CONTINUED)

COSMINA

"I don't know, call the police."

Sarah calls the police, sits on the ground and starts to cry.

12

INT.LATE NIGHT-HOSPITAL WAITING ROOM

12

Cosmina, Sarah, Brian, Cosminas parents and grandmother are all in the waiting room while Donjeta gets checked out by doctors. Cosmina and Sarah are being questioned by Officer Mike and Officer Karen.

COSMINA

(frustrated)"I don't know what I saw".

MIKE CORBETT

You said he was tall, thin, and looked like a man when you knocked him down but when you got up, he looked like someone, well, undecribable. A sort of bird thing?

COSMINA

"I don't know. It must of been, had to have been a guy in a costume."

SARAH

"The most realistic fucking costume I've ever seen."

KAREN

"Sarah, what did it look like to you?"

SARAH

"A monster, something from a horror movie. It had a sort of beak, and a messed up mouth with sharp teeth. One side of its body had a wing and the other side was it's arm and fingers that looked way to long for normal. Oh, and on top of that, it or he or whatever the hell it was shook itself into a full ugly bird thing and flew into the sky. What do you think, wires?"

COSMINA

(angry)"Sarah!"

(CONTINUED)

MIKE CORBETT

"It did what? You didn't mention anything about the assailant flying away."

SARAH

"No, tell them Cosmina, the thing turned into a monster owl and flew away, oh, and that's after it screamed or screeched or hell, I don't know what the fuck is going on".

KAREN

"Cosmina what is she talking about?"

Cosmina closes her eyes and takes a deep breath. Her parents are in the hallway talking to a doctor. Cosminas grandmother is in the waiting room listening intently, fear in her eyes.

COSMINA

"Yes, the guy flew or jumped, maybe there was a low hanging tree limb and he grabbed it. I don't know. I was to freaked out and worried about my sister to understand exactly what went on."

SARAH

"Oh bull shit, it flew, and why do you keep saying "he"? It was an it."

COSMINA

"Look, it has to be some guy assaulting people in a really creative way. Nothing else".

At this point Cosminas parents walk back into the waiting room.

STAVRI

"She's going to be fine. The doctor wants to keep her overnight for observation but she'll leave in the morning. Donja seems to be getting back to her sweet self again."

MIKE CORBETT

"Good, can I speak to her?"

(CONTINUED)

STAVRI

"I think so. She's awake and seems fairly alert. Come on, I'll take you to her room."

Stavri and Officer Mike walk out of the waiting area towards Donjetas room.

MIKE CORBETT

"How's your wife doing Mr. Dimir?"

STAVRI

"She's fine. Donja is doing well and isn't exhibiting any of the symptoms that the last two kids had. Whats going on? Do the cops have anything on this guy?"

MIKE CORBETT

(looking frustrated)"Nothing really but it's only been a few days since the first attack."

STAVRI

"Exactly. No disrespect officer but 3 assaults in 4 days? shouldn't the police have been a little more diligent especially after the second attack?"

MIKE CORBETT

"I understand your frustration but we don't have much to go on other than a bad smell and the plague. Oh, and apparently he's in costume."

STAVRI

"Maybe a few block watch groups would be a good idea."

MIKE CORBETT

"That's not a bad idea Mr. Dimir. I think my concern is a vigilante block watch. We don't want to see anyone whom the block watch thinks is suspicious to get hurt."

Officer Corbett and Stavri take a right into one of the rooms. Donjeta is sitting up in her bed talking to her mother.

13

INT-DONJETA'S HOSPITAL ROOM

13

Marita Dimir looks up upon seeing them come in. Stavri walks over to Donja and hugs her.

STAVRI

"How are you sweetie, feeling better?"

DONJETA

"I am dad."

STAVRI

"Donja, this is Officer Mike Corbett. He's investigating these attacks and wants to ask you some questions about tonight. Is that OK? You don't have to if your not up to it."

DONJETA

"Its fine dad, I don't mind."

Officer Corbett walks over to Donjeta, shakes her hand and introduces himself.

MIKE CORBETT

"Hi Donjeta, I'm Officer Mike. I'm just going to ask a few questions about tonight. If you get nervous or tired let me know and we'll stop. Is that alright with you?"

DONJETA

"I'm not nervous or tired. I wasn't even scared, well not really."

MIKE CORBETT

(turning to Stavri and Marita)

"Do you mind if I speak to your daughter alone?"

MARITA

"No, not at all."

Stavri and Marita turn and walk out into the hallway. Officer Mike sits in a chair next to Donja and pulls out a pad and pen.

MIKE CORBETT

"Ok Donjeta, where were you tonight?"

(CONTINUED)

DONJETA

"I was at a friends house. My parents wanted me home by 10 so I left around ten minutes to 10."

MIKE CORBETT

"Did you walk by yourself or was someone with you?"

DONJETA

"Well, I guess that's where I kinda messed up. I was supposed to call my mom and she would have met me half way but I thought, I know, I'm old enough to walk a couple of blocks by myself. Maybe I should have listened."

MIKE CORBETT

"Maybe. So you started to walk home, then what?"

DONJETA

"I walked up Church and took a left onto Center and then I smelled something really bad, so bad I thought I was going to puke."

MIKE CORBETT

"At the time, did you notice anything around you, trees, bushes, any cars parked on the street?"

DONJETA

"There are a lot of trees on that street, but I really couldn't think of much. The smell was really gross and that's all that was on my mind."

MIKE CORBETT

"What else happened?"

DONJETA

"Then something grabbed me. I looked up and saw this horrible face looking at me. It had teeth and its eyes were black. It freaked me out but I got mad and so I kicked it."

(CONTINUED)

MIKE CORBETT

"You kicked it?"

DONJETA

"Yes. Maybe it was some guy but I didn't care so I gave him a kick as hard as I could but nothing happened. He just kind of laughed, at least I think it was a laugh. Then I got scared...a little. He just shook me hard and I felt him try to bite my throat.

MIKE CORBETT

"He tried to bite your throat?"

DONJETA

"Yeah, like some fucking vampire...oh, shit, sorry."

MIKE CORBETT

(shaking his head and laughing)It's ok. Considering your situation your wording is not uncalled for. What else do you remember?"

DONJETA

"Not much. I heard someone scream my name, Cosmina I think, and then I woke up here. I know this happened to some other kids, Cosmina's friend Angie and one of the high school kids. They got really sick though. I didn't."

MIKE CORBETT

"No you didn't. Your lucky. Is there anything else you remember?"

DONJETA

"No, I don't think so."

MIKE CORBETT

"So you didn't see this guy fly up into the air or anything strange like that?"

DONJETA

"Fly in the air? I was out of it and woke up here. Wait it flew? Maybe it was a vampire. I thought they were supposed to sparkle."

(CONTINUED)

MIKE CORBETT

"I don't think it was a vampire or that it flew. Just a good trick mixed with a good scare tactic. Alright Donjeta, if anything else comes to mind you let me know. I hope you feel better."

14 INT-COSMINAS ROOM-LATE MORNING

14

Cosmina sits on the edge of her bed putting on her shoes. There's a knock at her bedroom door.

COSMINA

"Come in."

The door opens and her grandmother walks in. She's rubbing a small cross. She looks pale but manages a smile and sits on the bed next to Cosmina.

GRANDMOTHER

"Cosmina, are you alright?"

COSMINA

"I'm fine Nona. Just tired. we're going to pick up Donja soon."

GRANDMOTHER

"I know. Cosmina, I have to ask. I know last night was terrible for you, terrible for all of us. But I have to ask, and it's important you tell me the truth no matter how strange. What did the person look like, the one who hurt your sister?"

COSMINA

"I don't know Nona, it was dark and I was angry, and scared. I'm not really sure what I saw."

GRANDMOTHER

"Please Cosmina, try to remember as much as you can."

COSMINA

"Why Nona, Whats wrong?"

GRANDMOTHER

(becoming impatient) "Please Cosmina, it's important."

(CONTINUED)

COSMINA

"Ok Nona,ok. At first, when I saw him holding up Donja, he looked very tall and skinny, but seemed very strong. I didn't get a good look at his face at that moment. After I knocked him down and got up, I...(looking confused) saw, I think, what looked like half owl, and half... I don't know, half of a person, sort of. I mean, I'm not sure."

GRANDMOTHER

"What did it do then?"

COSMINA

(shaking her head,frustration)Ahhh Nona, I...it, he seemed to shake himself and then, Jesus I can't believe this, shake himself and turn into a giant owl and then fly into the sky, but Nona it was just a guy in a suit, it had to be.

Cosminas' grandmother gets up and begins pacing the room nervously reciting a short prayer. She stands and turns to her grand daughter.

GRANDMOTHER

"Cosmina, I want you to listen to me and to keep an open mind. I know your in college but some things even an education can't explain. (takes a deep breath and hesitates for a moment)Do you remember the other day when we spoke and I said something about old ghosts?"

COSMINA

"Yes Nona, we spoke of Albania."

GRANDMOTHER

"Yes, and in Albania as in all of Europe their are many superstitions, all with a finger in truth."

COSMINA

"What are you saying Nona, that one of Albania's superstitions have come to Wethersfield?"

(CONTINUED)

GRANDMOTHER

(looking pensive)

"The things that have happened the last few days, the attacks, the symptoms of your friend Angie, the convulsions all remind me of something that happened in our town when I was a little girl."

COSMINA

"I'm listening Nona."

GRANDMOTHER

"When I was young, a man died in our village very mysteriously. Now, Cosmina, this was not a nice or pleasant person. He often caused trouble and was always getting into fights with others. He seemed to be born mean and angry. The night before he was found he was in the town bar drinking heavily. As usual he began an argument with some of the other men and it came to fists. Your grandfather was there and tried to put a stop to it but this person only became more angry and continued to fight. Eventually, a large group including your grandfather was able to hold him down and threw him outside. He managed to get up and leave just before the police came. The next morning he was found behind one of the buildings, eyes open in fear, dead."

COSMINA

"So what happened? He could have died from too much alcohol or someone may have hit him hard during the fight and he passed from an internal injury. It does happen."

GRANDMOTHER

"Yes dear, that's possible but no one was sure. After he was buried people began to suffer some of the symptoms the people here are suffering but the one thing that all of the victims mentioned was a very strong smell."

(CONTINUED)

COSMINA

"Well what was it?"

GRANDMOTHER

"And this is where you need to keep an open mind. Do you know what a Lugat is?"

COSMINA

"No Nona, what is it?"

GRANDMOTHER

"A Lugat is someone who dies, someone bad and comes back after his death to feed on those who live."

COSMINA

"Nona, no, there are no such things as vampires. There are symptoms that tie to peoples superstitions before they were fully understood. We know that when people die they're cuticles pull back making it look like the finger nails are longer or the body bloats making it look fuller but that's it. The town is being victimized by a sick person who knows how to make things seem very scary. Science has proven otherwise."

GRANDMOTHER

"And isn't that the trick Cosmina? Old superstitions love science, Old superstitions embrace science because science gives up once it feels comfortable in its findings. Science is wonderful but incomplete. I agree that the idea of a vampire, a Lugat, or werewolf is easily pushed aside by a learned mind but these things hide in the stress of the world. These superstitions take a backseat to our jobs, to wars, and to the violence of our civilized society. The attack of a Lugat is easily put off as a deranged man. To believe otherwise would be to admit to something that shouldn't exist. How convenient for the Lugat."

(CONTINUED)

Cosmina gets up from the bed and walks over to the window. she looks annoyed but considers what her grandmother tells her.

COSMINA

" I still don't believe it but suppose it's what you say, a Lugat. What does that mean? Where did it come from and why is it the way it is. I mean the idea of vampires Nona is that they're handsome or beautiful, charming and smart. This thing is none of those. Smart maybe. And what makes it a Lugat as opposed to just a vampire? Oh my God I can't believe I'm even asking."

GRANDMOTHER

"I know its very hard for you to understand but try. I could be very wrong and it is as you say, a very creative crazy person. But keep in mind that the police know how to deal with a crazy person, not a Lugat. It's better to know how to protect yourself from both even if you don't believe."

COSMINA

(scratching her forehead)"Fine Nona, go ahead."

GRANDMOTHER

"You ask what makes a Lugat? What he was in his human life. What his soul was. There are bad people in this world Cosmina but they're are those who are deceitful, calculating and retain a horror inside. Some people are bad because of their situation throughout one's life and may have done things they regret but the person who does evil and enjoys it's flavor is one who may become a Lugat."

COSMINA

"Their are many people who enjoy hurting others Nona but they all don't become vampires."

(CONTINUED)

GRANDMOTHER

"No because it takes a Kukudhi to make a lugat."

COSMINA

"A what?"

GRANDMOTHER

(Her grandmother starts an understanding laugh)"I'll explain. A lugat is a young demon. This is why it's so ugly and carries a strong odor. How it looks and smells is a manifestation of it's evil. If the lugat can stay alive for 30 years it becomes a Kukudhi, the creature you are more familiar with. It is the Kukudhi who picks someone whom he thinks keeps a dark heart and will make a strong lugat."

COSMINA

"So Nona what your saying is that not only is there a lugat causing trouble in town but a ...kuku..whatever." I'm sorry but this is to hard to even consider."

GRANDMOTHER

'A kukudhi and no Mbese, one is probably not here. Once a lugat is created the kukudhi moves on."

COSMINA

"Lets say this is all true. Why isn't Angie a vampire, or the boy. Is Donja going to become a vampire?"

GRANDMOTHER

"No. The lugat does not kill. It takes only a little blood and leaves the victim sick for a few days. It only wants to live its 30 years and then become what it is meant to be. What may happen is The lugat might have a small influence over it's victims mind but this soon goes away."

(CONTINUED)

COSMINA

"Then where does the kukudhi go?"

GRANDMOTHER

"Once a kukudhi, its power is very strong. It can walk during the day but weaker than at night. He is no longer the ugly thing you see now but handsome or beautiful. Above all it is very smart and only thinks of its survival through the drinking of blood. It can kill, It can hurt, or make another kukudhi. It is charming and influential to its victim but understand Cosmina, it doesn't want to be known."

COSMINA

(sarcastically)

"No world domination then?"

GRANDMOTHER

(worried)

"Cosmina, the reason I tell you this, and I know you don't believe, is because you've done something that could bring great danger to your life and family. You've angered it. When you protected your sister by knocking down the lugat you became a threat to it's existence. Because of this it will try to find you and hurt you.

Cosmina gets up and begins pacing the room shaking her head.

COSMINA

"No, no, no, Nona.

GRANDMOTHER

"If it is what I say then yes and you have to protect yourself. If any of your friends try and help it will hurt them."

Cosmina sits on the bed again defeated.

COSMINA

"This goes against everything I've learned. So what do I do then? Crosses? A stake through the heart? Oh, I almost forgot, sunlight. Or Nona, is it all I mentioned at once?"

(CONTINUED)

GRANDMOTHER

"No Cosmina, It doesn't go against everything you've learned. You just haven't learned everything. None of us do. The Lugat does sleep during the day. It must be found and yes, the old ways are true, a wooden stake through the heart or sunlight. If a stake is used the head needs to be separated from the body and burned. Once it becomes a Kukudhi it becomes much harder to kill. In Albania it's said only a wolf can kill a Kukudhi."

COSMINA

"Great I'll stop by "Pets are Us" this weekend. So where do these things sleep? Graves? The Marriott?"

GRANDMOTHER

(looking stern)

"This is nothing to make jokes about. It is very serious. During the day they like dark places. sometimes a grave, old abandoned houses."

COSMINA

"Maybe I should just wait for him to find me. Nona, why from Albania? Why not from England or Italy or Transylvania where it's a tradition? Albania?"

GRANDMOTHER

Albanians, Bosnians, these are the new immigrants and with every new culture comes new traditions most good. But sometimes a new culture brings an old horror. Cosmina, I don't know for sure if this is a Lugat. Maybe its as you say and the police will catch this person. But I do want you to be careful and aware. Besides, Italy is where the werewolves came from.'

COSMINA

"What?"

15

EXT.-EARLY EVENING-OUTSIDE OF WETHERSFIELD PIZZA

15

Cosmina and Sarah are sitting at an outside table. The street is empty of younger kids and the pizza restaurant is fairly empty. Brien and Angie walk up together.

ANGIE

"Hi guys, I'm back."

Cosmina gets out of her chair and gives Angie a long hug.

COSMINA

"How are you Ang? I didn't think you'd be coming out so soon."

SARAH

"Yeah, are you a vampire now?"

ANGIE

"I don't think so. I'm pretty good, just a little dizzy at times."

SARAH

"So then normal."

ANGIE

(starts laughing)

"Yeah, I guess. Brien came over to take me out for awhile and I needed the air. I'm not staying out to long."

SARAH

"Aww, isn't that sweet Brien."

BRIEN

"Yes it is. Hey Sarah, did you get a good cry out the other night?"

SARAH

"Screw you. That was pretty traumatic. Cosmina hit that thing like she was some kind of superhero."

COSMINA

"I was protecting my sister. I would have cried to if I wasn't so pissed. Angie I'm glad your doing better but don't push it."

(CONTINUED)

ANGIE

I won't. How is Donja doing?"

COSMINA

"My little shit sister is pretty tough. When the guy or whatever it was tried to pick her up she tried to kick him in his groin. She said it didn't do a thing."

ANGIE

"Did she have the symptoms I had?"

COSMINA

"No, I got there before the guy could do her any harm."

SARAH

"It wasn't a "guy" Cos."

ANGIE

"What do you mean?"

COSMINA

"I don't know. I think or thought anyway that it was someone in a costume terrorizing people."

SARAH

"Angie this "guy" turned into an ugly owl and flew off after Cosmina knocked it down. Are you having second thoughts Cos?"

COSMINA

"No, yes, a little. Look, early today my grandmother comes into my room and starts to feed me a story about this superstition they believed in Albania."

BRIEN

"An Albanian superstition. Cool, I was getting bored of the other ethnic superstitions."

COSMINA

"Yeah, well you'll love this one. Where my grandmother grew up they had this belief in something called a lugat. Basically it's a vampire."

(CONTINUED)

SARAH

"I fucking new it."

COSMINA

"Anyways, this thing feeds off of people for 30 years and then becomes a full vampire, the kind we normally think of. What my grandmother called a Kukudhi. The thing is that a lugat doesn't kill anyone. It just makes them sick for a few days."

BRIEN

"You believe this?"

SARAH

"I do. Brien if you saw it you would to. The thing was ugly and scary."

COSMINA

"Right now I'm not sure what I believe. I'm telling you this because my grandmother said I made it mad and it might come after me or my friends. It considers me a threat."

ANGIE

(visibly shaken)

"It might come after me again? I want to go home."

BRIEN

"Nice Cosmina."

COSMINA

"No, no Ang. I can't believe this is true. It doesn't make sense. I'm just telling you what my grandmother told me. But I agree, Brien you should walk her home while it's still light."

BRIEN

"I'll walk her home because you freaked her out. Not because of the vampire story."

COSMINA

"Just be careful. My logical mind tells me its all superstition but sometimes logic has it's limits."

(CONTINUED)

Brien and Angie get up and start to walk down the st.

SARAH

"So, how do we kill the vampire?
Hey, do you think it's living in
the old cemetery?"

COSMINA

"We're not killing anything and as
far as it living in the cemetery,
my grandmother says that this lugat
thing just needs a dark space."

A police car pulls into a parking spot in front of the pizza restaurant where Cosmina and Sarah are sitting. Officer Mike Corbett gets out of the car and walks over to the girls.

COSMINA

"Now what? I'm so tired of talking
about this."

SARAH

"Maybe the cops found something."

MIKE CORBETT

"Hello Cosmina, and I'm sorry,
your..."

COSMINA

"Sarah."

MIKE CORBETT

"That's right, Sarah. Sorry Sarah,
I should be better with names
considering I'm a cop."

SARAH

"That's ok. I was questioned by the
woman officer anyways. So Officer
Mike, did you find the guy?"

MIKE CORBETT

"A few ideas but nothing concrete.
I do suggest that people stay
together when out until we solve
this thing and maybe keep they're
alcohol consumption down to a
reasonable level. (looks over at
Cosmina)Hows your sister?"

COSMINA

"Pretty much back to herself."

(CONTINUED)

MIKE CORBETT

"I'm glad to hear it. She's got a spark to her."

COSMINA

"If you want to call a wildfire a spark, then yes."

MIKE CORBETT

"Her fighting back was a good thing."

SARAH

"So Officer Mike, Cosminas grandmother thinks it's a vampire.....from Abania. An Albanian vampire. I thought they all came from Transylvania."

COSMINA

"Jesus Sarah."

SARAH

"I'm just trying to help in the investigation." (looks over at Officer Mike)Did I help?"

MIKE CORBETT

(shaking his head and laughing)

"Uh, no, not really but I can understand why people might think of vampires. So Cosmina, your grandmother came from Albania?"

COSMINA

"Yes, and so did I but I was about 5 when my family moved here. There's a lot of superstition there and the things going on here remind her of something that happened in her town. Back then many Europeans believed in things like vampires but we know better now don't we Sarah."

SARAH

"Yes we do. Cos and I were just talking about how to kill the vampire. Any suggestions Officer Mike?"

(CONTINUED)

COSMINA

"Ugh"

MIKE CORBETT

"Um, the usual I guess, stake, fire, cross..."

COSMINA

"Annoying girlfriend."

SARAH

"That reminds me, Officer Mike, are you married, girlfriend?"

COSMINA

(Looks at Sarah in disbelief)

"I cannot believe you."

MIKE CORBETT

"OK ladies, I think its time I start my rounds."

SARAH

"So then no one?"

MIKE CORBETT

(looks over at Cosmina)

"Good luck with this one. All kidding aside, be careful and go home at a reasonable hour."

COSMINA

"Luck hasn't helped so far and thanks, we will."

SARAH

"By Officer Mike."

Mike Corbett walks away from the table and goes to his car. He stops for a moment, turns and walks back to the girls. He goes over to Cosmina and takes a pad of paper and pen out.

MIKE CORBETT

"If you see anything at all tonight, or any other night, call my cell. It would take to long to call 911 if something is happening at the moment."

COSMINA

"Thanks, I will."

Officer Mike walks back to his car, gets in and takes off.

(CONTINUED)

SARAH

"Did you notice his eyes?"

COSMINA

"No, did you know you were being a jerk?"

SARAH

"Everyday. Seriously, did you look at his eyes?"

COSMINA

No, what about his eyes?"

SARAH

"One was green and the other a light blue."

COSMINA

"Lots of people have two different colored eyes. Its rare but not that uncommon."

SARAH

"I guess, and he just gave you his phone number."

COSMINA

"Yes in case we see something."

SARAH

"I think Officer Mike wants to see something."

COSMINA

"I think your an ass."

16

INT.-COSMINA'S BEDROOM-2AM

16

Cosmina wakes suddenly, startled, sweating. She sits up. Her eyes adjust and she begins to calm down. She puts her feet on the floor and regains her composure. Her eyes look up and she stares out the window. She gets up, walks over and peers out into the darkness. She looks hard towards some trees and thinks she makes out some sort of form. She considers it nothing and begins to turn around back towards her bed. Her bedroom door bursts open and Donjeta flies in. Her eyes are wild, mouth open, teeth bared. She's making strange heaving noises. She leaps over the bed at Cosmina scratching, biting, kicking. Donjeta slams into Cosmina and they both go down.

(CONTINUED)

COSMINA
(screaming)
"Donja! Stop"

Cosmina is holding her sisters arms. Donja wrestles to get loose, manages and strikes Cosmina hard in the face. Cosmina falls back, gains her wits and as Donja comes for her Cosmina lands a punch to her sisters face. Donjeta is hardly affected. She jumps for her sister again as Marita and Stavri run into the room.

MARITA
"Oh my God, Donja."

Stavri runs past his wife and tries to pull Donjeta off her sister. Donjeta flails her arm backwards hitting her father and knocking him back. The Grandmother runs in sees whats happening. Stavri is back trying to pull the girls apart. The grandmother recites a cryptic prayer in Albanian. A screeching is heard outside and Donjeta collapses. Cosmina pushes her sister off and crawls backwards towards a wall. Her face is bruised, lip bloodied and face scratched. Stavri and Marita stand frozen. The grandmother holds a cross in her hand, looks at Cosmina and recites another prayer.

17

INT-NEXT MORNING-KITCHEN TABLE

17

Cosmina is sitting at the kitchen table lightly touching the scratches on her face and staring. She looks worried and tired. Her Grandmother walks in, gets a cup of coffee and sits next to her granddaughter. She puts her arm around her and hugs her for a while.

GRANDMOTHER
"I know mbese, I know. It's ok.
those scratches are not to bad."

COSMINA
(choking back a tear)
"How's Donja? Is she alright?"

GRANDMOTHER
"She's sleeping. Your mother is
sitting with her."

COSMINA
"What kind of dream could have been
so bad that she would try and hurt
me like that? She's never tried to
as much as push me. I don't get
it."

(CONTINUED)

GRANDMOTHER

(looking down, and taking a
deep breath)

"Why did you wake up last night?"

COSMINA

"I don't know, a bad dream?
something made me jump, my heart
racing."

GRANDMOTHER

"What did you do then?"

COSMINA

"I calmed down and walked over to
the window. I remember looking
outside and thought I saw a shape
or something down by the bushes.
The next thing I knew the door came
open and Donja came flying
through."

GRANDMOTHER

"What did this shape look like?"

COSMINA

"I'm not sure, tall, thin.."

GRANDMOTHER

"Like what you saw when you saved
Donja?"

COSMINA

(realization coming to her)

"Yes, maybe, oh my God."

GRANDMOTHER

"Remember what I said mbese. How
the lugat can manipulate those it
attacks, have an influence."

COSMINA

"But Nona, Donja didn't suffer what
the others did. Only some
scratches."

GRANDMOTHER

"Yes the attack was weaker on your
sister but the influence comes from
its will when attacking."

(CONTINUED)

COSMINA

"Does this mean Donja will try again? What about that boy, and...Angie?"

GRANDMOTHER

"The old stories say that once the lugat uses its influence it can no longer keep the hold. Your sister won't try again. The boy and Angie have had stronger attacks and with them the lugat has more power. Donja came after you at night because the lugat needed to be close, but because of the stronger attack on the others, its power can make the them dangerous during the day even as the lugat sleeps."

COSMINA

"Suppose Donja had a bad dream because of what happened to her? Is it possible she was scared and thought I was what came after her?"

GRANDMOTHER

"She found her way into your room from down the hall."

The door opens and Marita comes in the room.

MARITA

"Donja's up. She wants to see you Cosmina."

COSMINA

"How is she?"

MARITA

"She seems fine. She says she dreamt that she tried to hurt you. When I told her what happened she got upset and asked for you."

COSMINA

"Ok mom, tell her I'll be right in."

Marita leaves the room and shuts the door

COSMINA

"Nona, what do I do? What do we do? I can't call the police and say a

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

COSMINA (cont'd)
 vampire is attacking Wethersfield.
 Mom and Dad will think I'm nuts.
 Even my friends won't go with this
 except for maybe Sarah. Besides I'm
 still not sure I believe it and even
 if I give it a possibility, how
 would I fight it?"

GRANDMOTHER
 "I know how strange this is. For
 now, see your sister. You and I
 will speak later."

18

INT-DONJAS BEDROOM-MORNING

18

Donja is sitting in her bed looking out her window. The door opens up and Cosmina walks in. Donja looks up and sees her sisters face. She starts to cry.

DONJETA
 "Is that from me Cosmina? I'm so,
 sorry, I didn't know."

Cosmina goes to her sisters bed, sits next to her and hugs her.

COSMINA
 "It's ok Donja, it's ok. I know you
 didn't mean it. You must have had a
 bad dream and got scared."

DONJETA
 "I thought it was a dream. The
 thing is that I saw myself trying
 to hurt you but it was like I was
 watching it from across the room. I
 kept screaming to stop but I
 couldn't. Something kept making me
 do it."

COSMINA
 "Did this thing have a voice? did
 it tell you to hurt me?"

DONJETA
 "No. It was more of a feeling. A
 feeling of hate, but also a feeling
 like it felt good to hate. When I
 was coming after you I wanted to
 stop but part of me really liked
 it. Not hurting you in particular
 but the wanting to hurt anything. I

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

DONJETA (cont'd)
never want to feel like that
again."

COSMINA
"You won't Donja.'

DONJETA
"Are you sure?"

COSMINA
"Yes. very sure."

Cosmina gives her sister a hug and walks out of the room down the hall to her grandmothers room. She knocks on the door.

GRANDMOTHER
"Come in."

COSMINA
"What do I do? How do I kill it?
Where do I look for it?"

GRANDMOTHER
"You understand then?"

COSMINA
"No Nona, I don't understand. I don't understand anything. I wanted to come home for the summer, see my friends, go to the beach, argue with my little sister and then go back to school to finish my degree. A degree by the way that doesn't allow for any of this to have a basis. But if I'm wrong, if for some incredible reason this lugat thing exists, then I guess I have to do something. But, Nona, you have to tell me what to do."

GRANDMOTHER
"You must first find it. Where it hides. It would be safest during the day but it will find you during the night."

COSMINA
"Are you saying I should lend myself as bait?"

(CONTINUED)

GRANDMOTHER

"I'm saying that either way you and it will see each other."

COSMINA

"Where should I even begin to look? A grave? A cemetery? God I'm Buffy the Vampire Slayer."

GRANDMOTHER

"Who? No mbese, not always a cemetery. Remember what I said before. The lugat needs a place to rest. Are there any abandoned homes in the area?"

COSMINA

"I suppose. Forclosures maybe? But even if I went to every one how would I know the thing was in there, not to mention breaking and entering is a crime."

GRANDMOTHER

"Remember the smell Cosmina. How strong it was. While the lugat rests the smell is still with it but weak. If you get close enough to were it's hiding you should be able to notice it again."

COSMINA

"I'm still breaking into a home foreclosed or not. If I'm caught I'm in trouble."

GRANDMOTHER

"Don't get caught."

COSMINA

"Great nona, I'm supposed to go on a vampire scavenger hunt and your making jokes."

GRANDMOTHER

"I am not joking mbese. If the lugat cannot be found or killed, others are going to get hurt and the lugat may eventually become the Kukudhi, a more dangerous and permanent creature. Much harder to kill."

(CONTINUED)

COSMINA

(puts her hand to her head and
massages it)

"I can't believe I'm entertaining
this. Ok, lets say I find it and
its sleeping in its raised ranch, 3
bedroom with a deck foreclosed
house. How do I kill it?"

GRANDMOTHER

"The Kukudhi, as far as the legend
goes can only be killed by
decapitation or a wolf."

COSMINA

(stares at her grandmother for
a minute)

"OH, OK, a wolf, got it. That it
nona?"

GRANDMOTHER

"For the Kukudhi, yes. For the
lugat, no. The lugat can be
destroyed by fire or a stake in its
heart and head removed."

COSMINA

"Well nona I'm glad the lugat is
more of a traditionalist."

GRANDMOTHER

"This is why it cannot get to its
next stage."

COSMINA

"What do I cut it's head off with?
(disbelief) Am I really talking
about this?"

Cosminas grandmother gets up and walks over to her closet.
She opens the door and pushes some boxes out of the way on a
back shelf. She finds what she's looking for, turns around
and is holding a large curved knife.

COSMINA

"My grandmother is Lara Croft. What
is that? Where did you get it, and
is it legal?"

Her grandmother walks over holding the knife out with both
hands.

(CONTINUED)

GRANDMOTHER

"This is called a sich. It is a weapon that was common in Greece, Albania, and an old country called Thrace."

She hands the knife to Cosmina

"This is what you can take the lugats head with."

COSMINA

"Where did you get this? How long have you had it? Do my parents know about it?"

GRANDMOTHER

"This sich belongs in our family. Your great grandfather says it goes back to an old Greek war. I don't know for sure but it has been handed down to your grandfather. When he died I took it with me. No, your parents don't know about it."

Cosmina takes the blade and handles it carefully. Shes uncomfortable with it and awkward in the way she handles it.

COSMINA

"I don't know. I can barely cut a cake and I'm supposed to cut off some screaming things head? I'm not sure how to use this thing."

GRANDMOTHER

"Cosmina, there is no more time for doubt. You have to decide and make your mind strong to that decision. If your lucky, you will find the thing sleeping. If not it will find you and there will be no choice but to fight it. To the lugat you attacked and threatened it's existence and it's only desire is to become the Kukudhi. If it transforms it will become a thousand times harder to kill. It can think, reason ,and outwit. In the transformed stage the creature will kill and not think twice."

COSMINA

"And what if it's some crazy guy Nona? What then? Who will protect

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

COSMINA (cont'd)
 me if I accidently kill a human
 being? You? Will you explain to
 evryone about the Albanian vampire?
 Maybe the court will say, "Ohhh, we
 get it. Sorry Miss Dimir, just a
 big misunderstanding." Do you know
 how scared I am? I just want to go
 to the beach and drink Margaritas."

GRANDMOTHER
 "Maybe you should talk to your
 sister again."

COSMINA
 (closes her eyes and takes a
 deep breath)
 "I'll do it.'

19 INT. GRANDMOTHERS ROOM-EVENING 19

Cosminas grandmother sits at the edge of her bed staring at
 the wall. A tear rolls down her cheek.

FLASHBACK 40 YEARS

20 EXT.- BERAT, ALBANIA-EARLY MORNING 20

A group of men and women are standing at the opening of a
 small ally looking at the body of a dead man.

WOMAN
 "Who is it? OH!"

FIRST MAN
 "It's Korab. Is he dead?"

SECOND MAN
 (moves closer)
 "It looks that way. Look at his
 face. He looks horrified."

FIRST MAN
 (shaking his head and spits)
 "Well the bastard finally got what
 he deserved. He was causing trouble
 in the bar last night, starting
 fights. Maybe he started one with
 the wrong person."

WOMAN
 "Korab lived for trouble but it is
 wrong to be happy in a mans death."

(CONTINUED)

SECOND MAN

"Your right but I can't say I'm sad. Is the constable on his way?"

Another woman pushes through the small group and gets closer to the body. She bends down and looks at the side of his neck.

FIRST MAN

(Grabs her wrist)

"Edona, what are you doing?"

EDONA

"Look at his neck"

The first man leans over the body and looks. Then pulls back.

FIRST MAN

"What does it look like to you Edona?"

EDONA

"I'm not sure. A bite?"

The woman looks and lets out a slight scream, cupping her mouth with her hand. The crowd begins to talk restlessly among themselves.

SECOND MAN

"This means nothing. It's something that could have happened during his struggle with who ever did this. Those marks could have been done with a needle. An effective way of killing."

WOMAN

"Or a kukudhi."

SECOND MAN

"Don't be stupid. It's people like you who keep us living in the past. The kukudhi is a silly superstition used to keep kids home at night."

FIRST MAN

"I agree, still, for the sake of any possibilities, maybe we should cut off his head and burn the body."

The crowd begins to murmur in agreement. They begin to move out of the way as the town constable pushes through.

(CONTINUED)

AGRON

(looks at Edona, then at the body and shakes his head)
"Well Korab, it looks as if you finally got what you were looking for."

SECOND MAN

"What he deserved."

EDONA

"No man should be murdered."

AGRON

"No, no man should be but some get closer than they should."

Agron begins to move the body and examine it. He sees the two marks on the neck.

"This is interesting. It doesn't look as if he's been beaten. No bruises or blood. Very strange."

WOMAN

"You see the marks? His face? A kukudhi did this. Burn the body. Take its head."

The crowd agrees and begins to get restless.

AGRON

(stands up and faces the crowd)

"A kukudhi? I would think the people of Berat were more intelligent. This is not the work of an imaginary monster from a past where anything unknown was explained by an archaic superstition. I think its time everyone went about the days business and allow us to do what needs to be done with Korabs body."

The crowd begins to move away and split up. Edona stays behind

EDONA

(walks over to Agron and kisses him on the cheek.)
"So Agron, What do you think? Was Korab the victim of a dangerous kukudhi? Are the superstitious of Berat on to something?"

(CONTINUED)

AGRON

(Pulls her close looking at her and smiles)

"The only thing this little crowd is onto is a weeks worth of gossip."

(He kisses her back and then walks over to the body)

"Still, the woman might be right about one thing. Korab had no family and very little money. Not enough to bury him. He may have to be cremated."

EDONA

"I know Korab was a threat to our town, still, how sad that in the end he has no one. I'm going to take care of what I need to do today. I'll see you at home."

Edona walks to her husband, kisses him and leaves. Agron begins to prepare the body for removal.

21

INT-EDONA AND AGRONS HOME-EARLY EVENING

21

Edona, Agron, and they're daughter Marita are having dinner when a loud and anxious knocking is heard at the front door. Agron looks at his wife, gets up and answers it. The local coroner Fitim is standing there upset.

FITIM

"He's gone, he's not there."

AGRON

"Fitim, what are you talking about? Who's gone?"

FITIM

"Korab, he's gone. He's not on the mortuary slab where I left him for autopsy."

AGRON

"Are you sure? What about the Cold Room? How could a body go missing? It's only been in your care since this morning."

FITIM

"I checked the whole building. I thought maybe one of my assistants may have moved him but none admit to it."

(CONTINUED)

Edona hears the commotion and walks over

EDONA

"Whats going on?"

AGRON

"It looks as if Korab isn't dead
after all."

They're daughter Marita goes over to Edona and tugs her skirt.

MARITA

"Mama?"

EDONA

"It's nothing Marita. How do you
mean he's not dead?"

AGRON

"It seems that Fitim has missplaced
him or Korab got up and walked out.
(looks stearnly at Fitim)
"Tell me Fitim, do you think he'll
show up at the bar later this
evening?"

FITIM

"I need your help in finding him.
He had no friends and a few of the
towns people were thinking about
burning his body for fear of him
becoming a kukudhi. He may have
been taken."

AGRON

"Well the jokes on them if your
idea is true. He was to be
creamated anyway. You get back to
your morgue and I'll send a few of
my people to look around."

FITIM

"Thank you Agron."

Fitim turns and rushes out of the house. Agron takes his coat and heads towards the door.

EDONA

"Do you think it's some of the
towns people?"

(CONTINUED)

AGRON

"I don't know. It's a strong possibility. Some can be very superstitious and convincing to others. These silly stories of kukudhi."

EDONA

"All right but be careful. Belief is stronger than fact and if you find evidence of our neighbors involvement they may try and stop you from interfering."

AGRON

(smiles and gives her a hug.)

"I will. Who knows, maybe Korab is a kukudhi, well in 30 years."

(He leans over and give his daughter a kiss)

"You be good and don't give your mother a hard time.'

MARITA

'I won't Papa. Be careful, bye."

Agron turns and goes outside.

22

EXT-THE TOWN BAR-LATE NIGHT.

22

A few people are milling around, some drunker than others. Two men are talking and starting to head down the road home. Each is drunk and full of opinion.

FATON

(laughing and slaps his friend on the back)

"Nice try in there tonight Leka. Our new waitress seemed very impressed by your charming one liners."

LEKA

(stumbling from the slap)

"I know something else that would charm her."

FATON

"Your wealth?"

LEKA

(goes into his pocket and comes out with a few coins)

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

LEKA (cont'd)
 "Every last coin."

The two men continue walking and laughing. They walk down a path past an old ruin where one of the men thinks he sees something in a darkened archway.

LEKA
 (looks at Fatons straining eyes)
 "Faton, what are you looking at?"

FATON
 "In the archway. What is it?"

LEKA
 (looks at the opening and sees the thing.)
 "I don't know. Looks like a man."

FATON
 (calls out)
 "Hey, you alright in there?"

LEKA
 "I think he moved. We should just keep goi..."

The object in the archway explodes out and knocks Leka to the ground then grabs Faton by the top of his head, pushing it back and biting into his throat. Faton tries to yell but can't. Leka gets up sees who the thing is and runs screaming.

23 INT-AGRON'S HOME-LATE NIGHT

23

There's a frantic banging at the front door coupled with someone screaming...

LEKA
 "Constable Agron, Constable. He's been attacked. Oh my God.
 (Becoming incoherent)
 Open, please, Lugat...lugat.."

The door flies open. Agron is there, Edona behind him.

AGRON
 (bewildered)
 "What is wrong with you man? What are you talking about?
 (Grabs Leka by the shoulders trying to calm him)
 (MORE)

(CONTINUED)

AGRON (cont'd)
Slow down and explain yourself."

LEKA
(starts to control himself)
"We were at the tavern tonight, you know, having a few drinks. My friend and I left and started to walk home. And then it came at us and got Faton and was biting him and Faton couldn't move and I didn't know what to do so I ran. A lugat did it. It was Korab, It looked like Korab. You have to go and help Faton."

AGRON
"Ok. Again, whats your name?"

LEKA
"Leka, my name is Leka, but we have to go. Faton might be dead, (begging) please."

EDONA
"Agron, you'd better go with him."

AGRON
(nod's in agreement)
"Ok, Leka, show me where this happened. And Leka, no talk of a lugat."

24 EXT. AREA WHERE ATTACK OCCURED-LATE NIGHT

24

The two men leave the house and go towards the spot where the attack occured. They walk through stone roads and small ally's until they come to the spot where the archway is. There is no sign of Faton.

LEKA
(looking around confused)
"It happened right here. He was attacked right here. I don't see him. Where did he go?"

AGRON
"Home Leka? Could he have gone home? How much did the two of you drink?"

(CONTINUED)

LEKA

"NO, No, NO.. you didn't see. It was...he was grabbed..
 (he begins to search in frantic and desperate movements and sees something by the entrance of the darkened archway)
 "Look."

Agron looks at the arch and sees what appears to be a foot. He runs over and looks inside finding Faton on the ground unconscious. He kneels down and begins to examine him.

AGRON

"He's alive. Go and get a doctor and some men to help us get your friend to the hospital."

LEKA

"what if the lugat returns?"

AGRON

"Listen to me Leka. This is not the work of a lugat. That is a superstition. For all we know he could have passed out drunk and you imagined an attack. Now go."

Leka runs off while Agron continues to investigate the body. As he moves him around he notices two small puncture wounds on the neck.

25

INT. NEXT DAY-MORNING-CONSTABLES STATION

25

Agron and his second are discussing the previous nights occurrence.

GENTI

"You look tired Agron. A long night."

AGRON

'A very long night. The doctors say that the man taken in last night is experiencing shaking fits, high fever, and blistering."

GENTI

"I don't think you get that from over drinking."

(CONTINUED)

AGRON

"No, I don't think so. I questioned his friend repeatedly and his story stays the same."

GENTI

"They were both drunk. Could they have gotten into an argument and fought?"

AGRON

"It's possible but his friend showed no sign of bruising. Something you would see if they had come to fists. The back of his head showed no wound from what appeared to be his falling back. It looks as if he were placed in that position. There was one thing peculiar."

GENTI

"And whats that?"

AGRON

(He hesitates and takes a breath)

"Like Korab, there were two small puncture wounds on the side of his neck."

GENTI

"Your smarter than that Agron. Your not implying what our towns people are believing? And speaking of Korab, has he been found?"

AGRON

"No, not yet. Another issue. Of course I'm not implying a lugat but if someone in the town were out to hurt people they might try to make it look that way."

GENTI

"But why? And what are the marks on the neck?"

AGRON

"To scare people. Watch the towns reaction. To kill and blame it on a superstition. The marks could have been made with sharp sewing needles. I don't know. I think we

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

AGRON (cont'd)
 should patrol in the town tonight.
 See if anyone or anything looks out
 of line."

GENTI
 "I agree. What time should we
 meet?"

AGRON
 "Later. Around 11:00. At that time
 many of the patrons begin going
 home and not in the best condition.
 Maybe someone is assaulting drunken
 people on they're way home."

26

EXT-LATE EVENING-A SMALL ALLY

26

Genti is standing by himself in an ally facing a well
 traveled street. Agron walks over to him and pulls out a
 cigarette.

AGRON
 'How's everything going tonight?"

GENTI
 "The usual. People are in and out
 of the taverns. It looks as if the
 street is beginning to quiet down."

A loud commotion is heard down the road. People are yelling.
 Some women can be heard screaming. Agron and Genti both hear
 the word "Korab." They both begin running towards the crowd.
 As they get closer they notice a large group around
 something tall, thin, and grotesque screeching.

AGRON
 (pushing into the crowd.)
 "Whats going on? Back off."

The crowd continues to move towards the thing, keeping the
 two policemen from getting closer. Genti takes his baton and
 "persuades" the group.

"I said move back and I
 mean....Jesus."

Agron and Genti stop dead and look at the thing in front of
 them. It's backed against a wall, teeth bared, threatening
 the crowd, looking to get away.

(CONTINUED)

GENTI

"Agron?"

AGRON

"Yes?"

GENTI

"I think we found Korab."

AGRON

"Um Hm."

The thing explodes forward and grabs the nearest man in front of it, twists his neck and breaks it. The crowd breaks apart running in different directions giving the creature a chance to escape. Genti and Agron try to take it down as it moves past. Genti is knocked down but Agron manages a hard strike with his baton to the things head bringing it to the ground. Agron jumps on its back.

(frantic)

"Genti grab his legs, I've got his..."

Agron is thrown off by the screaming thing but he holds on as Genti try's to get both legs. The thing goes down again. A group of men run back to help. Two grab its arms, while Agron and Genti push it face down into the ground. Agron sees something and yells.

"No!"

One of the men comes down full force on the things back plunging a sharpened iron rod through the creatures back into its heart. The thing stops moving. From a very dark ally, black eyes watch and a low hissing emits.

GENTI

(Genti grabs the man and pulls him off)

"Jesus man, What did you do?"

MAN

(pushing Genti away)

"I did what you two did not. I killed the lugat. I put Korab to rest."

Agron gets up and grabs the man. Genti runs over to the body.

AGRON

"You killed a man. You will go to jail for this."

(CONTINUED)

The crowds returns, some yelling to burn the body. Genti calls Agron over.

GENTI

"Look at him. It looks somewhat like Korab but all wrong. Maybe we should burn the body."

AGRON

(takes a long look, a subtle doubt crossing his face)

"Maybe your right. Lets get him out of here and to the furnace now. God he smells bad."

FLASH FORWARD 1 YEAR

27

INT-EDONA AND AGRONS HOME-EARLY AFTERNOON

27

Genti is sitting at a table while Edona pours him a cup of coffee. Marita is following her mother around the kitchen.

EDONA

"Marita, sweetheart, go and play out back for a little. I want to speak with Genti."

MARITA

"Why?"

EDONA

"Because we have some things to talk about and you will be bored with what we need to say."

MARITA

"Is it about papa? Is he coming home? Uncle Genti, Is papa coming home?"

GENTI

(gives a sad smile)

"I hope soon Marita. Listen to your mother now."

MARITA

"I miss him."

Marita grabs a doll sitting on a chair and walks out back

GENTI

"Edona, I don't know what else to tell you. We looked and searched by

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

GENTI (cont'd)
the cliffs, the ally's, all Berat
and found nothing. It's been 6
months."

EDONA
(takes a breath and sits down
at the table)
"I know. I know Genti. I know you
and the others have done everything
they could. I know that every rock
and crevasse was searched. I know
the whole town has been wonderful
in support. I just (chokes)don't
understand how someone can just
vanish."

GENTI
"I know how much he loved you
Edona."

EDONA
"Tell me once more about that
night."

GENTI
"We went over it a hundred times
Edona. We..."

EDONA
(interrupting)
"I know, and theres nothing new to
tell, but for me, once more."

GENTI
"Me and Agron were doing our normal
patrol walks on that night. Nothing
different than usual."

EDONA
"Where again did you patrol?"

GENTI
"Edona, we went over this. Fine, we
kept our walks mostly by the
heavier populated area. The
taverns, shops, and then late, the
outskirts."

EDONA
"What happened again when you were
in that area?"

(CONTINUED)

GENTI

"We walked by some of the ruins and Agron thought he saw someone standing at the opening of an old archway. He called out to him but the figure just stood motionless. Agron and I began to walk his way and as we came closer he slipped into the arch.

EDONA

"Did you see what he looked like at all? What was he wearing? Did he resemble anyone in town? Think hard Genti. Maybe you missed something."

GENTI

(sighing)

"It was a year ago Edona. Memory slips over time. I remember he was tall and wore what looked like a long coat. I couldn't see his face. Whoever he was, he wasn't intimidated by either of us. I almost had the sense that he was wrapped in anger."

EDONA

"Did Agron feel the same way?"

GENTI

"We didn't speak of it at that moment. Agron and I walked to the archway. Agron told me to take the ally that went to the other side of the arch. He went through the archway. I went around and waited but he nor the other ever appeared."

EDONA

"How Genti? The arches of Berat are old. It's in through one way, out the other. Could this person have back tracked and you missed him?"

GENTI

"Edona, even if that happened, don't you think I would have heard some kind of a scuffle or fight? A cry for help? I heard nothing. Not even the sound of pebbles under one's feet." You know how much we

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

GENTI (cont'd)
 searched.(defeated)I don't know
 what else to say. He was your
 husband and my friend.'

EDONA
 (angry)
 "Don't say "was" Genti. Dont! He
 could be alive somewhere. Just
 don't. (begins to cry),I miss him.
 Marita misses him. There is no
 body, no sign, nothing..."

Genti gets up and hugs her tight. Edona weeps.

FLASH FORWARD 40 YEARS

28

EXT-EARLY EVENING-OUTSIDE OF WETHERSFIELD PIZZA

28

Cosmina and Brien are sitting at an outside table. Sarah
 drives up, parks, walks over to them and sits down. The
 street is busy with people.

SARAH
 'Hi Cos, Brien. How's Donja?'

COSMINA
 "Much better. She's upset about
 what happened."

BRIEN
 "Thats pretty freaky. She scratched
 your face up in a few places pretty
 good."

SARAH
 (gives a dissaproving look to
 Brian)
 "Your an idiot."

BRIEN
 "What!"

COSMINA
 "No, it's ok. He's not lying. it's
 just scratches. They'll go away."

SARAH
 "So whats this secret meeting all
 about Cos?"

(CONTINUED)

COSMINA

"I have to track down a vampire."

SARAH

"I fucking knew it."

BRIEN

"Cosmina you don't believe this do you? Your getting a masters in biological research. You can't feed into Sarahs's delusionns."

SARAH

"Yea Cosmina, I was only...Hey, what do you mean "delusions"?"

COSMINA

"Brian I couldn't agree more. The very idea goes against everything I've ever learned but after whats been going on and talking to my grandmother, well, I don't know, I just don't know."

A waitress comes up to the table and takes some drink orders.

BRIEN

"I'll have a Blue Moon."

COSMINA

"Just a glass of chardonay."

SARAH

"A blue Moon also, thanks."

BRIEN

"Your grandmother? How did she get involved in this?"

COSMINA

"After the first two attacks she started to get suspicious and remembered something that happened in Albania when she was a little girl. Apparently someone in her village was attacked by something called a Kukudhi."

SARAH

"What the hell is a Kublai Khan?"

(CONTINUED)

COSMINA

"A Kukudhi, an Albanian vampire.

BRIEN

"Albania has vampires? Huh. Where is Albania anyways?"

COSMINA

(looking annoyed)

"Anyhow, this person was found dead until a few days later when people started to develop plague like symptoms. Every person who had these symptoms talked about a very bad smell."

SARAH

"So all these people became vampires then?"

COSMINA

"No. Before it becomes a Kukudhi, it starts as a Lugat."

BRIEN

"I'm lost."

COSMINA

"So am I. Basically a Lugat is what a Kukudhi starts out as and if it can stay a Lugat for 30 years it transforms into what we think a vampire is, human like with charm but evil, an Albanian Kukudhi. A lugat feeds on people and makes them sick but doesn't turn anyone. Only a Kukudhi can do that."

SARAH

"Dracula was so much simpler."

COSMINA

"I know this all sounds like bullshit but my grandmother said something to me that kind of made sense. She told me that because of science we've become lazy and accept the first facts without ever looking deeper. Maybe she has a point. I guess once you're satisfied with an answer you stop asking the questions. Maybe there's more than one answer."

(CONTINUED)

BRIEN

"If this thing is real where do we look? The graveyard across the street?"

COSMINA

"Not necessarily. Apparently this thing just needs to hide during the day. It could be in an abandoned house."

SARAH

"Cosmina, the house where we saved your sister is a foreclosure. No one lives there."

COSMINA

"My God your right. Thats where we should start."

BRIEN

"Wait, wait, wait. What do you mean? We can't just break in and roam around the house. We could get arrested. How would we even know its in there?"

COSMINA

"The smell. My grandmother says that during the day when the Lugat sleeps it still has the smell but its weak. She says we should be able to notice it if we're close."

SARAH

"Theres a lot of knowledge in that usually quiet sweet now scary but not to scary little old lady."

COSMINA

"You don't know the half of it. Theres one more thing."

BRIEN

"Really? Just one more?"

COSMINA

"Anyone attacked by the Lugat can be influenced by it. Thats why my sister attacked me. She wasn't sleep walking. Right before she came into my room I saw something outside that looked like a tall thin man."

(CONTINUED)

BRIEN

"Great. How about another few drinks for courage before we go on our little vamp vendetta?"

COSMINA

"Listen I wouldn't be involved in any of this but nona says that because I challenged it when I knocked it down it considers me a threat to its existance and will try and hurt me or anyone in my family."

SARAH

"Thank god I'm not in your family."

COSMINA

"You were with me when I knocked it down."

SARAH

"shit!"

BRIEN

"So when should we start our vampire block watch?"

COSMINA

"Not at night. I don't want to run into that thing face to face while its wide awake. Why don't we meet tomorrow around 10 in front of the Old Town."

SARAH

"I'll be there."

BRIEN

"Cos, what do we do if we actually find something? How would you kill it?"

COSMINA

"A stake through the heart and I have to cut off it's head."

BRIEN

"And what are you going to cut its head off with?"

(CONTINUED)

COSMINA

"I can't begin to describe what my grandmother gave me to do the deed with."

SARAH

"I knew she had something to do with it. Don't ever leave me alone with her."

BRIEN

"Nobody should be left alone with you."

SARAH

"It's better if I show you. Tomorrow then?"

BRIEN

"Yea, sure."

SARAH

"I'll be there."

All three leave money on the table to pay for they're drinks. They get up and walk out towards the street. Brian heads to his car while Cosmina walks with Sarah to her car. Before Brian gets in his he turns to both girls.

BRIEN

"I don't really have a good feeling about this."

COSMINA

"I don't either."

They get into they're cars and drive out.

29

EXT-MID MORNING AROUND 10AM-OLD TOWN TAVERN

29

Brian shows up in front of the Old Town just as Sarah pulls her car along side the curb. She gets out and walks over to Brian.

SARAH

"Morning Brian. I hope your breakfast gives you enough energy for our vampire bash."

BRIEN

"I feel ridiculous. It's 10 in the morning and I'm going to look for something that doesn't exist."

(CONTINUED)

SARAH

"Are we talking about your sex life?"

BRIEN

(Brian sighs and shakes his head)

"Again, it's 10am."

SARAH

"Look, you didn't see that thing. I did and kidding or not, it's not some guy in a suit. I agree the whole idea of a vampire is silly but who really knows? There's a hundred TV shows telling us that ghosts exists with a hundred so called TV journalists going to spooky places chasing some drunks rant of a haunting. Maybe there is something to it and maybe "it" came to our little town."

Cosmina comes walking up holding something wrapped in a blanket.

COSMINA

"Are you two going at it already? Save it for the bar."

BRIEN

"No, We're fine. actually Sarah just gave me a compelling argument for the possible existence of this thing."

SARAH

"I did?"

BRIEN

"Yes you did. Hey Cos, whats in your hand?"

Cosmina looks down at the object and takes a deep breath as she looks around for other people. She begins to slowly unwrap the item being careful to keep as much hidden from the street around her. The blade comes into view of Sarah and Brian.

BRIEN

"Jesus."

(CONTINUED)

SARAH

"Let me guess, your grandmothers, right?"

COSMINA

'Yes, and this is what I'm to take the things head off with."

BRIEN

"Can I hold it?"

COSMINA

"I guess. Lets move away from the street."

The three of them move away from the street, closer to some trees. Cosmina hands the blade to Brien. He takes it carefully making sure not to reveal to much of it to any drivers. He looks it up and down.

BRIEN

"It's light but damn sharp. Your grandmother had this? Where did she get it?"

COSMINA

"She says it's been in the family. Sort of a family heirloom."

SARAH

"Most normal families have pottery for heirlooms, not vampire cleaving swords."

Cosmina takes the sword back from Brien and carefully wraps it back up.

COSMINA

"I agree but I don't thing pottery is going to take this thing out if we find it."

BRIEN

"Did anyone hear of any other attacks last night?"

SARAH

"No."

COSMINA

"Neither did I."

(CONTINUED)

BRIEN

"Maybe all of the police presence scared this guy away and no vampire exists."

COSMINA

" I hope your right Brien but until we know for sure I suppose we should start our excursion."

SARAH

"Where do we go first?"

COSMINA

"To where we found Donja."

SARAH

"I knew you were going to say that."

BRIEN

"Hey sarah, when you see the spot, your not going to start crying again are you?"

SARAH

"Screw you."

The three of them walk down Main street and take a left onto Church st. As they walk up Church they see someone coming towards them. As the person gets closer they notice it's Angie except she doesn't seem to have the same mannerisms as Angie. This Angie is walking slower, more deliberate, as if she has something to do.

BRIEN

"Is that Ang?"

COSMINA

"Yea, but she looks weird."

SARAH

"Somethings not right about her."

Angie walks up to them. There's a cocky smile on her face and her eyes show an anger in them.

ANGIE

"Hey guys, where are you going?"

COSMINA

"Just taking a walk Ang. Are you ok?"

(CONTINUED)

SARAH

"Yea, you don't look right."

ANGIE

"I don't look right? How do I look Sarah? Do I look Like the self centered wise ass bitch that you are?"

BRIEN

"Angie, what the hell?"

ANGIE

"Brien, are you still aching to get into my pants? Are we going to go for that coffee?"

Angie slinks over to Brien and grabs his crotch. Brien pulls away shocked and embarrassed.

BRIEN

"Jesus."

ANGIE

"Whats the matter Bri, didn't I do it right or is there nothing there to begin with?"

COSMINA

"Angie, I know whats happening, this isn't you."

Angie looks down and slowly turns to Cosmina, an evil smile on her face.

ANGIE

"Shut up you whore. I'm so sick of your smarter than everyone attitude. You think knocking me down like that was bright? threatening me? Threatening my existence?"

BRIEN

"Angie, what are you talking about. Who knocked you down?"

COSMINA

"Brien, she's got that thing in her. It's the vampire that was knocked down."

ANGIE

"I'm not going to kill you yet bitch. I'm going to hurt you and drag you by your hair to that grandmother of yours and make you watch as I rip her eye's out. And while shes screaming I'm going to shove each eye ball down your little sisters throat."

COSMINA

"I'll kill you first. You won't get within 100 feet of my family."

ANGIE

(starts laughing)

"Who are you going to kill? Me? But I'm ditsy Angie. You wouldn't hurt innocent Angie would you?"

COSMINA

"I'll find where your hiding. I must be close or else you wouldn't be here now. Thats it isn't it? I'm close."

Brien and Sarah are staring in disbelief. Cosmina looks up the street at a foreclosed home half a block up. She looks back at Angie and starts to smile.

COSMINA

"Your in that house aren't you? Thats where your hiding."

ANGIE

(A slight fear and then anger flashes across Angies face. she screams)

"Your dead."

Angie lunges for Cosmina, Brien runs up behind Angie to grab her. Angies arm swings around and hits Brien across the face knocking him back. Sarah runs and grabs Angies arms as Cosmina runs to try and drag her to the ground. Angie easily shrugs off Sarah and punches Cosmina in the face knocking her to the ground. Brien gets back up and kicks Angies leg out from underneath. Angie begins to go down, Cosmina gets up, runs over to bring her down again. Angie is fighting back but is beginning to weaken. As Brien try's to move to another position, he finds the wind knocked out of him and sprawled into the ground. As Brien recovers he sees a kid on a bike with a baseball bat. The kid swings his bike around, his eyes wild with anger, and begins riding fast straight

(CONTINUED)

towards Brien, bat raised to strike. Before Brien can move out of the way the bat hits him in the ribs knocking the wind out of him. The kid turns towards where Cosmina and Sarah are beginning to weaken Angie. He rides and strikes Sarah in the head knocking her out. Angie takes advantage, knocks Cosmina down and begins chocking her while laughing hysterically. At that moment a police car speeds up the street and onto the curb. Officer Corbett gets out of the car, runs to Cosmina and grabs Angie. Angies hand comes around giving a solid strike to the cops face smashing his lip. Officer Corbett grabs a taser and lets Angie have it. Angie collapses to the ground. Brien gets up. The kid on the bike is nowhere to be found.

MIKE CORBETT

(in disbelief)

"What the hell is going on?"

He runs over to Sarah and calls an ambulance. Cosmina goes to Brien.

COSMINA

"Oh my God, Jesus, Brien, are you ok? That wasn't Angie. It was that thing. It controlled her just like it controlled Donja."

BRIEN

"Did you hear the things coming out of her mouth? I've never heard her talk like that. I don't think I've ever heard her swear. Where the hell did that kid on the bike go?"

COSMINA

"He must have been one of the other victims. I saw him hit you with the bat.

(Stops, has a realization)

"I have to get back to my house."

Cosmina starts to run but is stopped by Officer Corbett.

MIKE CORBETT

"Hold on Cosmina, what happened here? I have one girl knocked out and I had to tazer one who turned out to be a hell of a lot stronger than she looks. Your not going anywhere until I get an answer. Oh and by the way, how are you going to explain this to their parents when they pick them up in the hospital.

(CONTINUED)

COSMINA

(frantic)

"You don't understand, He's going to kill them. He's.."

MIKE CORBETT

(cuts her off)

"Who's going to kill who? You're not making any sense."

COSMINA

" You wouldn't understand or believe it. I don't believe it but I have to go.

(pleading)

"Please."

Sirens are heard and getting closer. Sarah is beginning to stir. Angie stills lies motionless.

SARAH

"Ow, what happened?"

(looks up and sees Brien)

"Ugh"

BRIEN

"Takes more than a bat to the head to keep you down. Well, not much to hurt anyways."

MIKE CORBETT

"Cosmina, I can't just let you go. Look at this. And how do you know I wouldn't believe it unless you explained?"

COSMINA

(sarcastically)

"Ok Mike, you seem open minded. The vampire is going to kill my family. The vampire put itself in Angie and that kid on the bike in order to attack me and my friends because we are very close to finding it's daily napping place. Now that you have this info I guess you'll be letting me on my way?"

MIKE CORBETT

"Cosmina, vampires? What I saw was some kind of fist fight between what I thought were friends. Your to intelligent to believe in vampires."

(CONTINUED)

COSMINA

"NO Mike. I'm not intellegent. I don't know everything. I'm beginning to learn that everything is not known. I thought I had a grasp but guess what? I find I'm grasping water. I don't know whats real, I don't know what isn't real, but considering whats been going on, I'm going with the fantastic and doing whatever needs to be done to protect my family."

MIKE CORBETT

(looks at her with concern)

"Ok, there hasn't been an incident in a couple of days. Maybe this guy is taking a break. We are dilligently working on it. I can't just let you go yet, not untill we sort this out."

An ambulance pulls up. Paramedics get out and begin to administer to Sarah and Angie.

SARAH

"I'm ok, I don't need any help."

BRIEN

"Let them check you out to be safe. Besides, I'm sure you need help."

SARAH

"You should have been smacked in the mouth."

BRIEN

"Theres my girl."

The paramedics put Angie into the ambulance, check Sarah and determine she's ok. Officer Corbett walks over to Brien and Sarah.

MIKE CORBETT

"Do you two have an explanation for this?"

BRIEN

"Nothing that makes sense. You?"

SARAH

"I don't know what happened either. Angie walked up to us and started

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

SARAH (cont'd)
talking crazy. Next thing we know she's screaming at us and flailing punches and then, you know, you tasered her."

MIKE CORBETT
"It's not something I wanted to do. Cops don't make those decisions lightly.

(looks at all three)
"I want all of you down to the station in an hour. Can I trust you to be there?"

COSMINA
"Why, we told you pretty much what happened."

MIKE CORBETT
"I'd like to go over it one more time, seperately. Besides, we didn't talk about the kid on the bike."

COSMINA
"Fine, I'll be there."

SARAH
"Yea, so will we."

30

1PM-OUTSIDE OT THE WETHERSFIELD POLICE STATION

30

Cosmina, Brien, and Sarah walk out of the station.

SARAH
"That went well. I was nervous when we were separated"

BRIEN
"Corbett wanted to see if our stories matched. I guess we did ok. Honestly it did happen like we said. Angie came out of nowhere. Jesus, can you believe the things she was saying?"

SARAH
"I think I've heard her swear twice since I've known her and one of the words was Hell."

Cosmina is saying nothing. She looks as if she's thinking hard about something.

(CONTINUED)

BRIEN

"Your awfully quiet Cos. Whats up?"

COSMINA

"It wasn't Angie. It was that thing. That thing got into my sister and made her act the same way. That thing has to go."

Cosmina begins walking back towards the area where the incident happened with Angie a few hours earlier.

SARAH

"Where are you going? Your not going back again are you?"

COSMINA

"I have to get that knife."

BRIEN

"That's right. What happened to that thing? During the fight I forgot about it. Jeez if Corbett saw it we'd all be in jail right now."

COSMINA

"When I saw the car pulling around the corner I kicked it under a bush. I need it back."

BRIEN

"And then what are we going to do? Go back to the house? Did you forget about the kid on the bike?"

COSMINA

"WE", are not going to do anything.
"We", are done with this."

SARAH

"Smartest thing that was said all week. Hey, what if we make an anonymous call to the police and say we saw someone go into that house? They would probably check it out.'

BRIEN

"You know thats actually not a bad idea. I can't believe I just admitted that."

(CONTINUED)

COSMINA

"Do whatever you want."

SARAH

"Whats with the attitude? We're all part of this. Your acting as if it's happening to you only."

Cosmina stops abruptly and turns to both of them.

COSMINA

"Thats just it. It's not happening to me only. It's happening to my family and my friends. Its happening to my summer and to our sanity. It shouldn't be happening at all.

They get over to the bush where the knife is. Cosmina gets down on her knees, puts her hand under the branches and pulls out the cloth wrapped knife. She stands up and looks at her friends.

COSMINA

"I'm taking this home, giving it back to my grandmother, getting into bed and not coming out untill the cops catch whatever or whoever is out there."

BRIEN

"Your giving up?"

COSMINA

"Giving up what Brien? The vampire? Maybe giving up is the right thing to do. Hey, according to my Nona, if this vampire becomes a Kukudhi, it will go on its own. You heard what Corbett said. No attacks for the past two days."

SARAH

"That is true. Maybe we do all need a break."

BRIEN

"What about your sister, or Angie? What about what happened to them?"

COSMINA

"If the superstition has any merit then the hold from that thing is

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

COSMINA (cont'd)
 over. Donja is fine and I'm sure
 Angie will be also."

The three of them come to the corner of the street. Cosmina turns to them, looks down, and sighs.

COSMINA
 "Look, I don't want it to seem like
 I've quit. I just need to clear my
 head you know? We all do. We've
 been through a lot the last few
 days, all of us. I'm heading home.
 I'll text you later."

SARAH
 "Yea, I guess your right. I'll see
 you tonight."
 (looks over at Brien)
 "You walking my way?"

BRIEN
 "Yea. See you later Cos.'

Cosmina watches them walk away with a tired look on her face. She turns towards her home and when she does her look goes to one of determination.

31 EXT-MIDNIGHT-THE WETHERSFIELD COVE.

31

Cosmina stands in Cove Park listening and waiting. She holds the sword in her hands, wrapped in cloth, her hand on the hilt ready.

COSMINA
 (talking softly to herself)
 "Cmon you bastard. find me. You
 spent a night and a day torturing
 me. I'm here now."

She looks around, hearing, waiting for an odor. As she looks around she see's someone moving in her direction. As the person gets closer she notices a man who looks to be in his 40's walking towards her. He stands around 6ft. Decent looking his hair long, tied in the back. He's wearing a polo shirt and jeans that look somewhat to long on a thin frame.

MAN
 "Excuse me miss. Is everything ok?
 Are you alright?"

(CONTINUED)

COSMINA

(looking nervous)

"I'm fine. Just waitng for a friend
to pick me up."

MAN

"Oh, a friend. Well I hope your
"friend" comes soon. Theres been a
few incidents in town and someone
your age would be safer at home
this time of night."

a car come around a corner and begins driving down the
street.

COSMINA

"Your right, this is probably her
now. I should walk over."

MAN

I'll walk with you. It would be
wrong of me to let you go off on
your own even though we're only a
small ways from the road. Huh, it
looks like your ride has kept
going."

Cosmina turns around and stearnly faces the man.He's looking
at her with a slight smile on his face which scares her for
a moment.

COSMINA

"Look, I'm fine. I don't mean to be
disrespectful and I apprecialte
your concern but I don't need
anyones help so please don't let me
hold you from wherever you were
going."

The man steps back looking hurt as the smile dissapates.

MAN

"Miss, I apologize if I've made you
uncomfortable. I can certainly
understand your position in this
situation. I'll be on my way and
please be careful."

COSMINA

(feeling a little
embarrassed.)

"It's ok, thanks."

(CONTINUED)

He turns and begins to walk away. Cosmina walks slowly in the other direction when...

MAN

"You know, you almost had me."

Cosmina turns around and sees the man walking her way again

COSMINA

"What, what are you talking about. I told you I'm fine."

MAN

"Well my dear, that remains to be seen. "I said, you almost had me. You were right you know. I was in that foreclosed house."

Cosmina's eyes widen, her heart beats faster. She almost drops the sword.

"Don't drop that. You might need it."

COSMINA

"What are you talking about? What do you mean about the house? Had you? I was looking for.....Oh shit."

MAN/KUKUDHI

(smiling, eyes black and bright)

"In a way yes. I've spent 30 years in between shit and some kind of blood soaked reality. But shit definitely played a big part."

COSMINA

"You turned."

MAN/KUKUDHI

"Yes I did. Why do you think there were no attacks for two days? I was in my final stage of transformation. I couldn't let anything get in the way now could I?"

(steps back and spreads out his arms)

"My, my Cosmina, what a beautiful young woman you've become. Had I any emotion I'd be proud to call you my grand daughter."

COSMINA

(shock, disbelief)

"What are you talking about? Grand daughter? My Grandfather died years ago. I never knew him. My grandfather..."

MAN/KUKUDHI

(Steps forward and interrupts)

"Your grandfather died years ago but he did not *die*. Your grandfather stands before you. Maybe your grandmother never told you the whole story. How is my Edona? I do plan on paying her a visit when I'm through with you. Actually I'm planning a family reunion of sorts."

COSMINA

"No. Leave her alone. Leave them all alone. My grandfather was on patrol and had an accident near the cliffs. He fell. He..."

MAN/KUKUDHI

"He was taken. Taken and turned. I guess the lesson sweetheart is not to anger a Kukudhi by killing it's creation. It tends to want a substitute. Your grandfather (winks), oh, I mean "me" involuntarily took the position. There's a lot of little secret doorways in the archways of Berat. Only something ancient would know that."

COSMINA

"And you followed us here? How? why?"

MAN/KUKUDHI

(a hurt look in his eyes)

"Cosmina, I missed my family of course. It took awhile but until I decided to come I was fine in Albania. But now we can all be together, well for a few hours anyways."

Cosmina begins to move back slowly, her hand on the handle of the blade.

(CONTINUED)

MAN/KUKUDHI

"Oh please. Yes, pull out that blade and try. When I take it from you I'm going to make little cuts all over your body and each time I do I'm going to have a small taste from the blade. And when I'm through, I'm going to drag you back to your house and kill your whole family while you watch. Oh, and I haven't forgotten about the eye eating I intend on that sister of yours."

Cosminas demeanor goes from fear to determination. Her hand tightens around the handle of the blade.

COSMINA

(anger)

"You will not get near my family."

She pulls the blade out quickly and makes a cut but the kukudhi is quick and moves out of range just enough to avoid the slash all the time laughing. She tries again. The kukudhi moves back and forth barely avoiding each slash. Cosmina is losing strength. she begins to stumble. She makes another lunge. The kukudhi slaps her to the ground.

MAN/KUKUDHI

"You do have a spirit about you. But I'm getting tired watching you try so hard. Besides, if I let you go to long I won't have time to complete my task for the night."

He walks over to where she's lying on the ground. He leans over to grab the knife from her and as he does she comes up and slashes him across the face. The kukudhi screams and falls back.

MAN/KUKUDHI

(raging)

"You little bitch."

Cosmina tries again but the kukudhi grabs her wrist and breaks it causing the blade to fall. Cosmina cries out in pain. He picks up the knife and kicks her.

"That will cost you."

He takes the blade and makes a small cut to her side. She screams. He licks the blood off the blade. Laughing he dances around and makes another cut to her arm.

"Maybe you should have brought your friends. Well, I think it's time we

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

MAN/KUKUDHI (cont'd)
 pay a visit to your home. Don't
 worry though, Nona and your sister
 will be the last."

COSMINA
 (exhausted, crying)
 "No, please."

MAN/KUKUDHI
 (mocking)
 "No, please, no, please."

Laughing, he grabs her by the hair and begins dragging her. The laughing goes on and then a scream. Cosminas head hits the ground. She lies a moment and looks to her side. The kukudhi's head is staring back. She see's the blood on the ground coming out of it. She gets up and looks over. In front of her is a large wolf like dog, blood on its jaws, looking back, one eye green, one eye blue.

32 A FEW DAYS LATER-MORNING-WETHERSFIELD POLICE DEPARTMENT 32

Cosmina Dimir walks into the lobby of the police department. Her wrist is bandaged, cuts healing. She walks into Officer Karen.

KAREN
 "Cosmina, right? what happened?"

COSMINA
 "Oh nothing really, I was riding my
 mountain bike and took a fall. I'm
 ok. Um, is Officer Corbett in? I'd
 like to speak with him."

KAREN
 "Mike? It was weird. Mike suddenly
 resigned a few days back. Said he
 needed to go back home to deal with
 some family matters."

COSMINA
 "Home? Wheres home?"

KAREN
 "Italy"

FLASH FORWARD 5 YEARS

33

EXT-MADRID SPAIN-CAFE-LATE AFTERNOON

33

Cosmina sits with friends at an outside cafe. She's talking, laughing, enjoying her afternoon. She glances affectionately at her boyfriend Amando. Her face changes, goes white as she looks past him.

AMANDO

(notices her change and grows concerned)

"Cosmina, whats wrong? You don't look right.

COSMINA

"I..I'm not sure. I thought I saw someone."

Amando looks over his shoulder into the crowd of people.

AMANDO

"Who?"

COSMINA

(Stares ahead for a moment, then shrugs it off)

"Nothing, No one. Someone I thought disappeared a long time ago.

THE END