

MOON OVER MARIN

© COPYRIGHT 2008

FADE IN:

EXT. GRAVEYARD -- NIGHT

The moon radiates bright light. An eerie mist covets the woods. A figure lurches slowly into them, to a graveyard.

NARRATOR

(old and raspy voice)

I hate these hills. In fact, they scare the piss out of me from what I can remember.

The old man carries a gas can. A coyote bawls far away.

NARRATOR

What am I doing here? Well, a man's gotta do what a man's gotta do... There was only one time I could remember a full moon on Halloween. I've forget a lot these days. That was over 75 years ago, I reckon.

The old man breathes heavily, rubbing a chest pain.

NARRATOR

Rituals and magic and witches and the sort. And if I've got it right, tomorrow night...

The old man comes to a pond so still it could be a black mirror. Weakly, he pours the gas into the pond.

NARRATOR

Marin is in for a helluva Halloween.

ORRAN (80s) grabs his chest. He slips and falls into the pond. The pond has blood in it. He takes his lighter and...

Suddenly, the cackle of laughter shatters the silence.

Orran continues to light his lighter with no luck. He scrambles to hide behind a crypt.

Approaching the pond, GIRL#1, #2 and a TEENAGE BOY.

Bottle in hand, the boy throws his arms around each girl.

TEENAGE BOY

You girls want another drink?  
(no answer)  
More for me then.

He chugs the rest of the bottle. While his head is back, his

eyes widen in terror. GIRL#2 has just sliced his jugular.  
Girl#2 pulls his hair back, Girl#1 pushes his body forward.  
Girl#2 uses the long dagger like a bow playing his throat  
like a cello. Blood sprays twelve feet into the pond.  
The sound of spitting and gurgling comes from his neck.  
They chant Latin. The mist gathers, stirs over the pond.  
Orran watches while clutching his left arm. He sighs aloud.  
The girls turn towards the sound. The teen body falls.

GIRL#2  
Finish the seance. I'll check.  
Probably another coyote.

Girl#2 holds her dagger firmly and goes to the sound.

AT A CRYPT

Girl#2 sees fresh blood smears. She viciously stabs where  
Orran was sitting, striking a back print on the wall.

GIRL#2  
Goyec lend us your eyes to find this  
unwholesome creature.

Girl#2 heads back, witnessing the ritual.

The teen's soul rises into the vortex of ghosts. They come  
together against the moonlight to form a wicked figure.

DARKNESS...

Except for the light on Nosferatu's face.

NEFARESTU  
I am Nosferatu. I am Nosferatu.

INT. JOE'S BEDROOM -- MORNING

JOE is asleep while Nosferatu, his little brother CHRISTOPHER  
(12) wears a mask, stands over him.

CHRIS  
I am Nosferatu for Halloween, Joe.

JOE  
Christopher, get off me! Get out!

CHRIS

Mom said she has to get to work early, so she can leave early for the Halloween party tonight.

Joe rolls over. Chris flickers the light.

CHRIS  
Be ready, for I am Nosferatu!

Joe throws his pillow hitting Chris who falls haplessly.

INT. CAR -- DAY

NANCY, Joe's mom, drives. Joe sits in the back seat.

ON THE RADIO:  
The unidentified man, was found on HWY 6. Witnesses claim the senior was frantic, saying, I quote "Leave Marin! Save yourselves. The wicked will take your lives this Halloween night. Run, run for your lives."

Joe sits up paying attention to the radio.

NANCY  
Is there any one you'd like to invite to the party?  
(beat)  
What's going on, Joe?

JOE  
I feel like... I don't belong.

NANCY  
It's puberty, Joe.

JOE  
Mom, this is not puberty. I'm just not social.

NANCY  
You like a girl though, right? How many time have you wanted to talk...

ON THE RADIO:  
Breaking news: The man has been identified as Orran Schaumburg...

Nancy and Joe gasp.

INT. HOSPITAL, NURSE STATION

Nancy runs ahead of Joe to reach an officer and a doctor. Joe

sneaks into Orran's room while the other converse.

ORRAN'S ROOM

Orran's heart rate beats steadily. A NURSE sponges the blood from his hair. Joe enters. Off her look...

JOE  
He's my uncle.

NURSE  
He the guy that build the Square?

Joe nods yes and quietly goes bedside. The nurse takes her bucket to the sink and pours out the bloodied water.

NURSE  
I eat my lunches there. It's nice.

Joe looks over Orran.

NURSE  
He can hear you.

The nurse leaves. Joe delicately touches Orran's hand.

JOE  
Hey, old timer.

Orran quickly grabs Joe's wrist. The heart rate on the monitor increases rapidly.

JOE  
It's me. It's Joe.

ORRAN  
Joe? Listen to me, carefully.  
Remember the stories of the Square?  
It's all true. It's time.

Two nurses rush in pushing Joe aside to tend to Orran.

ORRAN  
Take me to the Square! Take me!

The nurses sedate him with an injection.

INT. CAR -- DAY

This time Joe sits in the front. Nancy drives.

NANCY  
Should I cancel the party? How could  
I be thinking of this! So terrible.

JOE  
You gotta do what you gotta do.

NANCY  
"Stick to duty." Uncle Orran says.

The car stops in front of the school. Joe gets out.

NANCY  
Hey, Joe. Invite somebody.

INT. SCHOOL ADMIN COUNTER

Joe approaches the counter where CHARLOTTE attends. Joe turns the other direction to avoid contact.

CHARLOTTE  
Uhm, Joe? Do you need a hall pass.

Joe doesn't quite know what to say.

CHARLOTTE  
Shy?

JOE  
(protecting his ego)  
Me? No. No, no, no.

Charlotte knows he's full of it as he stammers.

JOE  
No, I just, uh... whew...crazy.

CHARLOTTE  
Yeah, it's usually pretty crazy if you're this late.

JOE  
Hospital. Uncle. Problems.

CHARLOTTE  
Oh, I'm...

JOE  
It's okay. He's like 80 something.  
It's cool because he'll be okay.

CHARLOTTE  
Hey, why don't you come to my party tonight. Get your mind off things.

JOE  
I...I'll think about it.

EXT. CHARLOTTE'S -- NIGHT

The ominous mist rises to the full moon.

Joe stands by a tree watching the party through a window. He wears a name badge reading: JOE. He talks to himself...

JOE

Idiot! What's wrong with me?

Nosferatu and his buddies race up the side walk to the door. Joe takes cover behind the tree.

Charlotte answers dressed as a sexy devil with a trident and a candy cauldron. She passes out candy playfully.

As the children leave, Charlotte spots Joe behind the tree.

CHARLOTTE

Joe? Is that you?

Nosferatu takes off his mask.

CHRIS

That's my brother, Peeping Tom!

JOE

Chris, get home before I tell your friends you already masturbate.

Charlotte comes out to meet Joe under the tree. Christopher and his friends chant Peeping Tom skipping down the street.

CHARLOTTE

Are you coming in?

JOE

I thought about it. Uhm,...  
I'm...nervous.

CHARLOTTE

We could stay out here. You can help with the candy.

More kids come. Charlotte hands Joe her cauldron of candy. They give candy to the trick-or-treaters.

CHARLOTTE

I heard about your uncle on the news. He's an architect.

JOE

Yeah. You probably heard he's been warning people about the "Apocalypse"

of Marin."

CHARLOTTE  
Strokes can alter the mind...

JOE  
No. He's been telling me that story  
for years.

Joe points to the full moon. The mist continues to rise steadily and eerily across the sky. They watch.

JOE  
When he was a kid, the same thing  
happened on a full moon during  
Halloween. The near end of Marin.

EXT. GRAVEYARD -- CONTINUOUS

A coven of warlocks and witches adorned in red cloaks stand around the blood pond and chant with arms stretched upward.

JOE(V.O.)  
He said the rituals take place in  
the hill's graveyard.

The mist stirs ravenously. Souls weave like cloth.

JOE(V.O.)  
And Goyec's souls have a chance to  
become human again by taking the  
bodies of the innocent--us  
essentially.

CHARLOTTE(V.O.)  
How's that possible?

As the chant becomes stronger, the souls brighten to create a strong visual version of...

CHARLOTTE'S -- CONTINUOUS

JOE  
Goyec. The uhm, old warlock.

CHARLOTTE  
That sounds familiar.

JOE  
It's written on the...

CHARLOTTE  
The fountain in the square. That  
your uncle designed.

The heavy mist has moved in such a way as to stretch it's arm across the sky and downward towards Marin.

CHARLOTTE

Joe, I'm getting freaked.

Goyec's hand reaches over Charlotte's house to city center. Terrifying souls can be seen forming Goyec's arm.

Charlotte screams. Joe covers her mouth. They hide.

Two souls break free from Goyec to investigate the shriek. They hover around the tree top.

A guest of Charlotte's, RANDY, comes out of the house.

RANDY

Hey, keep it down out here! We're partying inside.

Both spirits race for Randy. Randy stands in disbelief.

JOE/CHARLOTTE

Randy, run! Run!

Randy heads back inside but trips on the steps. One ghost holds the other back in a fight for his body.

Joe takes the candy cauldron and storms the souls that are now on Randy's back biting their way inside him, racing.

Randy screams. Joe slams the cauldron through one of the ghosts. The specter is disrupted as its altered. The ghost stares angrily at Joe. He tightens his grip on cauldron and backs up defensively.

JOE

Oh, shit.

The ghost lunges at Joe. Charlotte takes her trident to the specter causing it to disperse. Randy screams loudly.

Party guests look from the window fearfully.

Charlotte continues to keep the ghost from reaching whole form by swatting and stabbing it. The ghost's hand holds the trident still.

The ghost smiles evilly at her and attempts to bite her face. Joe smashes the ghost's face with the cauldron.

The ghost backs out of reach, and after a quick assessment, retreats back the the swarming masses above.

JOE  
It'll be back with reinforcements.

Christopher arrives dumbfounded as to what he's witnessed.  
Randy lays on his side sluggishly moving. They go to him.

JOE/CHARLOTTE  
Randy. You okay?

Randy moves slowly, eyes glowing like the souls.  
From the streets, screams can be heard. Sirens grow louder.

CHARLOTTE  
What do we do?

Joe contemplates as if to remember what Uncle Orran stated.  
Charlotte's house guests cautiously come out.

JOE  
Go to the Square. Spread the word.  
It's safe there.

Charlotte nods yes but the guests are confused.  
Randy attempts to get up. This freaks the house guests. Joe keeps Randy pinned.

JOE  
Get to the fucking Square or Randy  
will eat you.

The guests break for the streets like rioting looters.

JOE  
Christopher, tell mom and her guests  
to get to the Square.

Chris runs scared. Charlotte and Joe share a look.

JOE  
We need to be careful.

CHARLOTTE  
Wait.

She gives him a peck on the lips. Though managing Randy between them, Joe touches his lip in disbelief.

CHARLOTTE  
For luck.

JOE  
(almost a blush)  
We'll need it.

EXT. THE SQUARE -- LATER

The Square fills with townsmen who find refuge inside. A ghost attempts to enter but falters into flash of light.

People in the Square reach their hands out to pull in others who are being dragged away.

Above, Goyec sifts through the buildings sniffing around.

Joe and Charlotte make it in. The city lights flicker off.

CHARLOTTE  
Were here, now what?

Latin words are carved in the stone around the fountain.

JOE  
These are words we need to say.  
There's an order. Uncle Orran knows.

An immense growl comes from the hospital where Goyec is.

JOE  
Uncle Orran. Shit. I gotta save him.

Joe breaks away but Charlotte pulls him back. A deep kiss.

JOE  
For luck?

CHARLOTTE  
No. Because the first one was nice.

JOE  
(fighting a smile)  
I...I mean, I, uhm...

CHARLOTTE  
Will you go!

Joe storms the streets with his cauldron, running on top of cars and into the darkens of the city, fighting the souls.

EXT. HOSPITAL -- LATER

Goyec hugs the hospital as souls spew from him entering the windows and flowing through the doors of the building.

INT. HOSPITAL

Joe looks down the hall. Spirits move from room to room, dragging the innocent away. Screams come from the rooms.

A hand grabs JOE on the neck. Joe yells. It's Uncle Orran.

JOE

Uncle, we gotta get to the square.

Uncle Joe selects a piece of candy from the cauldron.

ORRAN

You're telling me. I'm not very fast on my feet like I used to be.

JOE

We can fix that.

EXT. HOPITAL ER -- MOMENTS LATER

The door bust open with Orran yelling on a gurney and Joe pushing at full speed. Ghosts close on their heels.

EXT. MARIN STREETS

The ghost for some reason no longer chase them.

JOE

Did we out run them?

ORRAN

The way you shot out of that ER, like a bat out of hell, I don't see how you couldn't.

Orran lays down on his back, looking up, he seizes.

JOE

Uncle Orran? You okay.

Orran points upward. Joe looks up. It's Goyec hovering above them, thousands of souls strong.

JOE

Oh, this sucks.

ORRAN

Joe, the cipher is every other word clockwise from north. Yell it, son.

JOE

You're coming to the Square.

ORRAN

Too late. I've got an old score to settle.

Orran pushes Joe out of the way as Goyec's fist punches down on the gurney. Goyec lifts Orran into the sky.

ORRAN

Run, Joe!

Joe runs, wielding his cauldron, as he fights through the attacking masses.

Towns people in the Square cheer him on, "Run, Joe!"

He makes it to the edge but is caught but by specters.

In the Square, Nancy, Chris and Charlotte along with others help pull him in. It turns into a tug-of-Joe.

NANCY

Hold on son, Son.

JOE

Charlotte, North...Clockwise...Ahh!

The cauldron handle breaks. Colorful Halloween candy spills on the black pavement.

The specters bite into Joe's leg and body. He slips from the Square and the hands of his beloved, screaming.

ABOVE THE CITY

In Goyec's hand, Orran looks down. Joe is engulfed.

GOYEC

This time I win. You could have been with me, forever.

ORRAN

To live forever is not life, Goyec.

ON THE STREET

Joe looks upward at his uncle. Joe closes his eyes and allows the beasts to have their way with him.

FLASH BACK

The Square is polished, newer. Orran sits on the edge of the fountain while YOUNG JOE (4) skips around the fountain. Reading the words.

ORRAN

Every other one, now. Clockwise,  
from North.

YOUNG JOE

Goyec, intriblo, stellis, mantran.  
Calpis, farcit, unum.

ORRAN

That's a good boy, Joe. Joe? I pray  
you never have to come here and say  
those words again. Now, how 'bout  
some ice cream...

YOUNG JOE

I love you, uncle.

END FLASH BACK

As Joe's eyes are being filled with light, he screams:

JOE

Goyec, intriblo, stellis, mantran.  
Calpis, farcit, unum!

Goyec swallows Orran whole.

THE SQUARE

The city trembles. Light suddenly shoots from the Square to  
the moon. A ray of light shines on Marin, blinding the city.

Goyec's souls flash like fireworks, vaporizing. A thousand  
shrieks cry terror. Orran's body falls burning.

Charlotte races to Joe along with Nancy and Chris.

CHARLOTTE

Joe. Are you okay. Joe?

Charlotte kisses him. Then kisses him again.

Joe smiles. His name tag has curled. Charlotte fixes it.

CHARLOTTE

What is this for?

JOE

My costume. I'm your average Joe.

They kiss again.

FADE OUT: