

The Devil's Lullaby

By

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**FADE IN:**

**EXT. WOODED AREA - SPELL SITE - NIGHT**

JANET (15), scared out of her mind, tears flowing from her eyes, lies on the ground. She's gagged with her chest area exposed. Her hands and feet are tied together like a pig heading out for slaughter.

MALONE DEVIL MCBRIDE (40s), bald, a handsome son of a gun, possesses the deepest voice you'll ever hear, stands over her with a knife, rubbing his bald head and tapping his index finger on the blade.

MALONE DEVIL MCBRIDE  
Don't worry, lamb. The promised  
land will be there for you too.

He stops rubbing his head. Janet releases a scream that echoes throughout the woods.

There are six hearts in six separate jars surrounding a circle with a lightning design in the middle.

The ground shakes. The trees bicker. The hearts gain tempo.

McBride lifts up the knife to strike.

BANG! A bullet passes through McBride's shoulder.

He hits the ground hard.

DONALD (30s), built like a gym rat, wearing a S.W.A.T. uniform and gear, points an automatic weapon at McBride's forehead.

The S.W.A.T. team surrounds the area.

DONALD  
Drop it, now!

McBride sucks his teeth. He drops the knife.

Donald puts down his weapon. He takes out his handcuffs and swings McBride over on his stomach, placing a knee on McBride's back.

Out of the corner of Donald's eye he sees one of the hearts. He removes his helmet in disbelief.

McBride arches his head to the left and notices that Donald still has the handcuffs in his hand.

OWEN (30s), husky, but in shape, another member of S.W.A.T., unties Janet. She cries in his arms while Owen removes his helmet.

OWEN  
My name is Owen. Everything is  
going to be OK. I promise.

Donald turns his attention to Owen and Janet, still holding the handcuffs.

S.W.A.T. MEMBER (O.S.)  
(to Donald)  
Apply the fucking handcuffs. What  
are you doing?

Donald is startled by the bass in the member's voice. He drops the handcuffs on the ground. McBride is able to roll over and --

SMASH DONALD'S HEAD INTO THE GROUND

McBride quickly picks up the handcuffs and jets over to Owen. The S.W.A.T. team raises their guns at McBride, but it's too late. He takes the sharp end of the handcuffs and --

STABS OWEN IN HIS THROAT

Janet screams while blood splashes on her face.

Shots ring off, hitting McBride in his back. He coughs up blood with a smile -- then --

RIPS A PIECE OF OWEN'S THROAT OUT

McBride falls to the ground while blood gushers out of Owen's throat.

While Janet screams hysterically, Donald looks up from the ground, bleeding from a broken nose and rocking a black eye.

His teeth clinch, eyes red, fighting back tears -- when --

**INT. DONALD'S HOME - DONALD'S BEDROOM - NIGHT**

Donald awakes from his NIGHTMARE.

He screams out loud and jumps out of bed. LISA (30s), dimples in her cheeks that make her look younger, is scared out of her mind.

LISA  
Donald, what's going on?

Donald grabs his chest. He struggles to breathe as if he's having an asthma attack. He squeezes his hand and his body shakes.

LISA (CONT'D)  
Baby! Honey!

She holds him tightly. She grabs a cell phone from the nightstand. She dials a number.

LISA (CONT'D)  
I need an ambulance.

She pauses.

LISA (CONT'D)  
I don't know what's happening...

**SUPER: FIVE YEARS LATER**

**INT. "SAINT JOHN'S" CATHOLIC SCHOOL - LOCKER ROOM - DAY**

MICHAEL (16), weakling, nothing but skin and bones, sits on a bench, staring at the lockers.

BOBBY (17), a mean looking kid that is in serious need of a diet, SLAPS him across the face.

BOBBY  
Look at your ugly self. A face only  
a mother could love.

Michael doesn't say a word.

BOBBY (CONT'D)  
You got something to say?

He slaps Michael again. Nothing.

Bobby turns around and walks away.

Michael scratches his head.

MICHAEL  
I'm going to rip your tongue out.

Bobby stops, turns in Michael's direction, and burns a hole into him with his eyes.

BOBBY  
What the fuck did you say?

Michael remains silent, scratching the other side of his head.

BOBBY (CONT'D)  
Are you talking back to me? Can't be. Please, say it again?

Bobby gets in Michael's face.

BOBBY (CONT'D)  
Say it. Give me a reason to nail your balls to the wall.

Michael stares straight ahead, not flinching. He stops scratching and pulls on his own hair.

BOBBY (CONT'D)  
Fucking weirdo.

Michael cuts his eyes over to Bobby.

BOBBY (CONT'D)  
Come on. Say some --

Michael puts his finger on Bobby's lips.

MICHAEL  
Shush. Silence. Do you hear that?

BOBBY  
Hear what?

MICHAEL  
Screaming.

Bobby leans back.

BOBBY  
What scr --

Michael reaches into Bobby's mouth and --

PULLS OUT BOBBY'S TONGUE

Sharp moans and muffled screams can be heard. Blood pours from Bobby's mouth and through his hands. Bobby rolls around on the floor as if he's on fire.

**INT. DONALD'S HOME - FATIMA'S BEDROOM - NIGHT**

FATIMA (16), pretty girl with long flowing hair that reminds people of Goldilocks, sleeps in her bed with a fan blowing on her face. She hears a knock coming from her window.

She wakes up groggy and sees BRIAN (16), a goth head that uses too much eyeliner, outside her window, looking jittery. She gets up and opens it.

FATIMA  
What are you doing?

BRIAN  
Let me in.

FATIMA  
Have you forgotten that you don't live here anymore?

BRIAN  
Did you hear about Bobby?

FATIMA  
Everyone has heard about Bobby.

She rests on the side of the window in her nightgown. Brian admires her defined legs.

She sees him looking and attempts to cover them up.

FATIMA (CONT'D)  
Is that why you're here?

Brian tries to shake his dirty thoughts out of his head, literally.

BRIAN  
Yeah, I mean, isn't that nuts?

FATIMA  
I don't know. Michael was always fucking weird.

BRIAN  
Can you blame him?

Fatima thinks it over for a moment. She sucks her cheeks in before saying...

FATIMA  
If my dad finds you --

BRIAN  
I know. My mom doesn't know I'm here either.

FATIMA  
Then go.

She tries to close the window, but Brian puts his hands on the windowsill, preventing her from closing it.

BRIAN  
Wait.

FATIMA  
Yes?

BRIAN  
Do you believe in the supernatural?

She calls his bluff and attempts to shut the window, but Brian doesn't move his hands away. She stops before the window slams into his hands. She reopens it.

BRIAN (CONT'D)  
That's what he was talking about.

FATIMA  
Who?

BRIAN  
Michael. He said that the Devil made him do it.

FATIMA  
That's not surprising.

BRIAN  
Devil McBride - the serial killer.

Fatima laughs while Brian climbs in through the window and sits next to her.

BRIAN (CONT'D)  
I'm not lying. That's what Michael said. I overheard the conversation between Donald and my mom.

Fatima stops laughing.

FATIMA  
What else did they talk about?

BRIAN  
She caught me listening and went in her room.

FATIMA  
Figures.

Fatima hums the Devil's Lullaby.

Brian freaks out.

BRIAN  
What are you doing?

FATIMA  
Humming.

BRIAN  
No, don't say the lullaby, don't  
sing it, don't even hum the fucking  
thing. I'm telling you that fucking  
song is possessed. Michael was  
singing it when he was taken out.

Fatima looks confused.

FATIMA  
All your cussing is gonna make me  
lose my religion. Go home, Brian.

She gently slaps his face, pushing him out the window.

BRIAN  
You cuss too though.

FATIMA  
Shut the fuck up.

A playful struggle ensues. He gives in and climbs out.

BRIAN  
Fatima, please, listen to me.

FATIMA  
Adios, Brian.

She closes the window. He presses his face against the glass.

BRIAN  
(muffled)  
Don't sing the lullaby again. It's  
possessed.

Fatima walks back to her bed.

She climbs in, pulls the covers over her, and rests on a  
pillow as the air from the fan puts her to sleep.

**EXT. DONALD'S HOME - NIGHT**

Brian walks away. Fatima's dad, Donald, calls for him.

DONALD  
Brian, surprised you're here.

Brian almost trips.

BRIAN  
Oh shit, Donald. I was returning something to Fatima.

DONALD  
Awesome but you know you're not supposed to be here without your mom's permission.

Brian puts his hands in his pockets.

BRIAN  
She really wanted it. You know your daughter. Always pushy. See you later.

Brian tries to get away, but Donald's firm voice stops him.

DONALD  
Hold up, Brian.

BRIAN  
Yes?

DONALD  
It's nothing personal. I always liked you. Your mom and I we just... look if it was up to me you could come over as much --

BRIAN  
It's cool, man. Don't worry about it.

Brian darts away.

Donald shouts out...

DONALD  
Can I at least give you a ride home?

Brian shouts back as he runs...

BRIAN  
I'm good like Superman.

**INT. LISA'S HOME - BRIAN'S BEDROOM - NIGHT**

Brian enters his bedroom through the window. The only light comes from his computer screen. He sees a PowerPoint like presentation on his screen.

**INSERT - COMPUTER SCREEN**

COMPUTER SCREEN: HI!

**BACK TO SCENE**

Brian walks over to the computer screen and sits down. He clicks the mouse and sees --

**INSERT - COMPUTER SCREEN**

COMPUTER SCREEN: Was your day good?

**BACK TO SCENE**

Brian looks around the room. He doesn't see anything. He presses the ESC button, but nothing happens.

He rushes over to the light and turns it on. He opens his door and exits the room.

**IN THE HALLWAY**

Brian looks around with curious eyes.

BRIAN

Mom.

No one answers.

**IN LISA'S BEDROOM**

He peeks inside, but finds no one.

**IN THE KITCHEN**

He looks inside and sees nothing but fried fish on the stove. Brian realizes that he's alone.

**BACK TO BRIAN'S BEDROOM**

The computer screen still has "Was your day good?" on the screen. He sits down and types in...

BRIAN: Yes.

**INTERCUT WITH BRIAN AND THE COMPUTER SCREEN AS NECESSARY**

COMPUTER SCREEN: That's great. Are you afraid of the dark?

He lowers his eyebrows.

BRIAN: No.

COMPUTER SCREEN: Do you like fish?

BRIAN: Yes.

COMPUTER SCREEN: You like music?

BRIAN: Yes.

COMPUTER SCREEN: Do you have a sister?

Brian looks around again in his room. His hands tremble. He turns back to the computer.

BRIAN: No.

COMPUTER SCREEN: Step-sister?

BRIAN: Not anymore.

COMPUTER SCREEN: Please answer Yes or No.

BRIAN: No.

COMPUTER SCREEN: Do you like nursery rhymes?

Brian swallows hard.

He turns off the computer monitor. He steps away from it. He turns around and walks to his bookshelf. It contains horror movies, horror books, a bible, books about the dark arts, magic, etc.

He takes out a black book with a front cover that reads --

SPELLS TO THE PROMISED LAND - MCBRIDE EDITION

BLURB! -- The screen pops on.

His eyes widen. He slowly turns around and reads...

COMPUTER SCREEN: Not nice. Do you like nursery rhymes?

Brian puts the book back and walks over to the computer. He plops down.

BRIAN: No.

COMPUTER SCREEN: Do you believe in the supernatural?

BRIAN: Yes.

COMPUTER SCREEN: Are you obsessed with the supernatural?

BRIAN: Yes.

COMPUTER SCREEN: Do you want to become an agent of the supernatural?

He sweats like a pig.

BRIAN

It's a joke or something.

He wipes the sweat from his face. Something catches his eye.

COMPUTER SCREEN: Do you think this is a joke?

Brian shoots out of his chair and runs out the room.

#### **IN THE LIVING ROOM**

He tries to open the door, but it won't open.

#### **IN THE KITCHEN**

He tries to open the back door. It won't budge. He tries the windows, but nothing is going to open for him. He takes a heavy object and tries to break the window.

Nothing happens.

#### **BACK TO BRIAN'S BEDROOM**

He rushes into his room and sees --

HIS WINDOW IS SHUT

He tries to open it, but it doesn't move. He tries to kick it out, but the window won't break.

BLURB! - A new message appears on the computer screen.

COMPUTER SCREEN: Do you want to be pastor number two?

Brian walks over to the screen with shaky hands and a stride from a man who pissed his pants. He bends over and types...

BRIAN: What do you mean, pastor number two?

The screen goes black and shuts off.

He scans the room, but finds nothing out of the ordinary. He then searches under the bed and finds nothing. He gets up and sits on the bed.

He hears McBride's lullaby coming from the computer.

McBride's words are displayed on the screen.

MALONE DEVIL MCBRIDE (V.O.)

(sings)

*Hey my lambs, please come and stay.  
I need your help to take my pain  
away.*

Brian stands up and walks to the screen.

#### **INTERCUT AS NECESSARY**

MALONE DEVIL MCBRIDE (V.O.)

(sings)

*Don't be shy, please come and stay.  
There's enough room for everyone to  
play. You're my beauty, and my  
power. I want you to blossom into a  
beautiful flower. If you leave, I  
will turn old and gray. I need you  
to stop my decay. I need you all to  
always behave and never stop being  
brave. Please obey your master and  
become one of my pastors. Don't be  
afraid to take my hand. Walk with  
me to the promised land.*

Brian rips the computer cord out of the socket. He closes his eyes for a moment and opens them. He turns around and finds...

MICHAEL

MICHAEL

Hey, Brian. Welcome to the promised land!

Brian tries to scream, but Michael covers his mouth.

MICHAEL (CONT'D)  
Shush. This won't hurt a bit.

Michael kisses Brian. Blood drips from their mouths as Michael forces the blood to flow down Brian's throat.

Brian's eyes turn blood red.

**INT. "SAINT JOHN'S" CATHOLIC SCHOOL - HALLWAY - DAY**

Fatima talks with ALICE (18), beautiful, but always has a nasty snarl on her face. Fatima has her locker open while students flood the hallway, dressed in their catholic uniform.

ALICE  
You gotta come.

FATIMA  
I don't think my dad's gonna let me outta his sight.

ALICE  
Convince him, flat tits. Just don't bring that douchebag.

FATIMA  
Douchebag?

ALICE  
I know he's your step-brother and all --

FATIMA  
Haven't been for awhile.

ALICE  
Whatevs, but you know he's weird ass fuck. You know he has the hots for you, right?

Fatima slams her locker shut, sucking her teeth in.

ALICE (CONT'D)  
I want my people to have fun. He'll talk about devil penises and shit.

FATIMA.  
I doubt it's his type of thing anyway.

ALICE  
Good, good. Kiss, kiss.

Fatima kisses her on the cheek.

ALICE (CONT'D)  
Chapstick is your best friend.

Alice releases a false laugh. Fatima smiles as Alice walks away. She quickly loses it and storms to her next class.

### **IN SCRIPTURE CLASS**

The scripture teacher, MS. WALKER (60s), bears a nasty mole on her chin, has a discussion about a passage from the Catholic Bible.

Fatima plays with her pencil while Brian looks through his book. The class seems uninterested.

Ms. Walker reads the passage.

MS. WALKER  
"On that very day Abraham took his son Ishmael and all those born in his household or bought with his money, every male in his household, and circumcised them, as God told him. Abraham was ninety-nine years old when he was circumcised, and his son Ishmael was thirteen. Abraham and his son Ishmael were both circumcised on that very day. And every male in Abraham's household, including those born in his household or bought from a foreigner, was circumcised with him."

She closes it.

MS. WALKER (CONT'D)  
Any questions about this passage?  
Does anyone think circumcision is necessary to get closer to God?

A MALE STUDENT (17) answers.

MALE STUDENT  
It is what it is. Besides, that problem was over for me years ago.

FEMALE STUDENT (O.S.)  
It's a hygiene thing. Isn't it?

MS. WALKER  
Yes. It's also --

BRIAN (O.S.)  
Bullshit!

Ms. Walker's mouth drops open.

MS. WALKER  
What did you say?

BRIAN  
I apologize for my language. It's just this bible is full of horse crap.

Brian closes the book and plays with his hair.

MS. WALKER  
Oh, really now? Explain.

BRIAN  
Where do I begin? I mean first of all Jesus dying on the cross is bogus. This is a man who walked on water, turned water into wine, kept a whore from being raped by twelve men --

The class laughs.

BRIAN (CONT'D)  
-- and it's telling me that he was put down with a beating and three nails to the body?

MS. WALKER  
Mary Magdalene was his companion.

BRIAN  
Companion? So, Jesus never hit that?

MS. WALKER  
Watch your mouth, Brian.

BRIAN  
I'm just saying. It's hard to believe that twelve men was with one whore and never ate her ass. The holy ass for that matter.

The class laugh.

BRIAN (CONT'D)  
Somebody was slapping skins with  
that.

MALE STUDENT  
He has a point.

MS. WALKER  
(to Male Student)  
Quiet!

BRIAN  
I wonder if a rainbow appeared when  
God nudded in the Virgin Mary.

The class laughs again.

MS. WALKER  
Brian!

BRIAN  
Dear Teacher, does God have a  
pussy?

The class is in shock, especially Fatima. She covers her  
mouth.

MS. WALKER  
What did you just say?

BRIAN  
Does God have a pussy? We are made  
out of his image, right? So, God  
must have a pussy and P.H.A.T. ass.

Ms. Walker sighs, dropping her mouth in disbelief.

MS. WALKER  
Go to Father Dean.

BRIAN  
I would love to fuck God. He's got  
to have the best pussy in The  
Universe.

The class cracks up.

MS. WALKER  
Now!

**INT. DONALD'S CAR - DAY - TRAVELING**

The inside is clean, but the interior design shows some wear and tear.

FATIMA  
He said he wanted to fuck God.

DONALD  
He said what?

FATIMA  
It was awesome. I never knew he had it in him.

DONALD  
Yeah, don't start getting any ideas.

FATIMA  
Can I go to Alice's party tonight?

DONALD  
See you're getting ideas... no.

Fatima puts her head down.

DONALD (CONT'D)  
Will her parents be there?

She puts her head up.

FATIMA  
Yeah... of course.

Donald shakes his head.

DONALD  
You gotta lie better than that.

FATIMA  
Dad, please. I'll be home by eleven.

DONALD  
Ha! No.

FATIMA  
OK fine, twelve?

DONALD  
Fatima.

FATIMA  
Fine, fine... ten-thirty?

DONALD  
How about you stay your butt home  
and spend the night with your dad?

FATIMA  
I do that every night, and you're  
boring.

DONALD  
Not always.

FATIMA  
Ha!

DONALD  
I used to get down with the homies,  
you know?.

FATIMA  
What the hell did you just say to  
me?

**EXT. DONALD'S HOME - DAY**

They arrive home and get out of the car. Donald has his keys  
in his hand.

FATIMA  
OK, how about this? I'll clean the  
house for a week?

DONALD  
Now we're talking. Up that ante.

FATIMA  
A month? Wait, that's too long. Two  
weeks? Two weeks?

DONALD  
You're losing me here.

They reach the front door. Donald looks for the house key  
while Fatima lingers over him.

FATIMA  
I'll get a job, and pay my own  
tuition?

He stops for a moment. He finds the house key and opens the  
door.

DONALD  
Be home by ten.

They enter the home. Fatima walks in with a strut.

FATIMA  
Cool, ten-thirty it is.

**INT. LISA'S HOME - LIVING ROOM - DAY**

Brian sits on the couch with Lisa. Her living room is neatly decorated like a woman who's in touch with the latest trends.

LISA  
What the hell were you thinking?

BRIAN  
I don't know. I don't know what  
came over me.

LISA  
God, Brian.

BRIAN  
I don't know, Mom. I just --

He pauses.

BRIAN (CONT'D)  
-- don't know.

He shakes his head like he's trying to knock something out of it.

Lisa gets up and paces the room. She doesn't look at Brian.

LISA  
They suspended you. I can't believe  
you would do something like this. I  
know you liked Donald --

Brian shoots her a hateful glare behind her back.

LISA (CONT'D)  
-- but Donald and I --

BRIAN  
You're right.

Brian bats his eyes.

Lisa turns around.

LISA  
Excuse me?

BRIAN  
I said you're right, Lisa. What I  
did was wrong.

LISA  
(confused)  
It's mom to you, son.

BRIAN  
Is that why Donald's divorcing you?

She marches over to him.

LISA  
What?

BRIAN  
Is that why he's divorcing you,  
being a little weak bitch?

LISA  
Excuse me!

BRIAN  
(sighs)  
You're so weak, fragile, like glass  
shattering when it's too cold.

Lisa shakes her head. She calmly says...

LISA  
Go to your room.

BRIAN  
I'm just trying to help.

She yells...

LISA  
Go!

BRIAN  
You need to take my hand, lamb. I  
need you to walk with me.

Brian reaches out his hand. Lisa grabs his hand and pulls him  
close.

LISA  
(stern)  
Go to your fucking room... now!

BRIAN  
Do you hear that?

LISA  
Hear what?

BRIAN  
Drip, drip, drip.

LISA  
What the fuck is wrong with you?

Brian pulls his hand away and walks around the living room.

BRIAN  
That sound.

Lisa shakes her head.

BRIAN (CONT'D)  
Where is it coming from?

He leaves the living room.

LISA  
Where are going?

A short pause.

LISA (CONT'D)  
Brian.

She steps out of the living room and into the --

#### **HALLWAY**

She doesn't see Brian.

LISA  
Brian.

She hears the floorboard creak from upstairs.

She walks up the stairway to --

#### **BRIAN'S BEDROOM**

She pushes open the door. He's not in there.

She hears a light cry from the bathroom.

**IN THE BATHROOM**

She walks in and finds Brian. He's in the fetal position, whimpering, and his body shakes.

She darts to him and wraps her arms around him.

LISA

You need to tell me what's wrong.

Brian grabs her. He whispers in her ear.

BRIAN

Your marriage but we can fix that.

Lisa squints her eyes.

LISA

What are you talking about?

Brian whispers again.

BRIAN

Drip, drip, drip.

She pulls away. Brian gives her a wink.

Blood drips from her nose. A drop of blood lands on a bathroom tile.

Brian looks down and smiles.

She shoots up and looks in the mirror. Tears of blood run down her cheeks, blood oozes from out her ears, and now her pores. She has blood seeping through her clothes.

She freaks out and darts for the door, but it slams shut. Brian runs up to her.

BRIAN (CONT'D)

Come here, lamb.

He wraps his arms around her and spins her around.

BRIAN (CONT'D)

Give your son a kiss.

Brian kisses Lisa. Blood drips from their mouths while it runs down Lisa's throat.

Her eyes turn blood red.

**INT. DONALD'S HOME - DONALD'S OFFICE - NIGHT**

Donald looks over a folder while he sits in his chair.

Jeffrey - Inmate 1245 is shown briefly on the front cover. He closes it and tosses the folder on his desk.

Framed photos of Donald on the S.W.A.T. team are laid out on the desk.

He picks up another folder. Malone McBride Case File is shown on the front cover.

**IN THE LIVING ROOM**

He walks in with the folder and sits on the couch. He takes out two DVDs from the folder sleeve and places them on the table.

They are labeled Malone McBride's Interview and The Devil Is Real (Archive Footage) Original Michelle Browning's Case File.

He picks up "The Devil Is Real" DVD and places it into the DVD player.

He grabs a DVD remote and sits back down. He presses play.

**INSERT - T.V. SCREEN****EXT. MALONE DEVIL MCBRIDE'S HOME - DAY**

Reporter MICHELLE BROWNING (30s), mean looking face, tone body, stands outside McBride's home with her CAMERAMAN. Her name and channel number (seven) are displayed on screen.

MICHELLE BROWNING

This is Michelle Browning reporting from outside of Malone McBride's home. He has recently been nick named Devil McBride due to his practice with the dark arts and the six murders that followed.

She walks closer to the home. The Cameraman follows her.

MICHELLE BROWNING (CONT'D)

McBride was a great singer and had a promising career, but cancer had other plans.

The DVD cuts to a new scene. The fast forward symbol can be seen on screen as if you're watching the DVD yourself.

**INT. MALONE DEVIL MCBRIDE'S HOME - BASEMENT - DAY**

They walk around. There are shelves with books and jars with liquid and other strange substances in them: chicken feet, bones, tongues of different species, anything that can create a gross out moment.

MICHELLE BROWNING

This is where he performed the majority of his spells.

She points to the shelves.

MICHELLE BROWNING (CONT'D)

As you can see, these things aren't easy to get.

She looks ahead.

MICHELLE BROWNING (CONT'D)

Oh, yes. There.

She points while she scoots over to --

MALONE DEVIL MCBRIDE'S SPELL SYMBOL

It is painted on the floor.

She kneels down.

MICHELLE BROWNING (CONT'D)

This is where he took the hearts of what he called "Lambs." I can only imagine the horror that those people went through.

She stands.

MICHELLE BROWNING (CONT'D)

But was he always a Devil?

She shakes her head.

The fast forward symbol appears again.

**IN HELEN'S BEDROOM**

She stands in the empty room. It rots away.

MICHELLE BROWNING

This is Helen McBride's room. The daughter of the Devil. When McBride was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer he was devastated.

**INSERT - PICTURE OF HELEN MCBRIDE**

Helen McBride (17) is shown. A caption appears that says Helen McBride at seventeen years old.

MICHELLE BROWNING (V.O.)

He did not want to leave his daughter all alone in this world. The mother died at child birth, and he was all that she had left.

**BACK TO SCENE**

She walks in front of the camera.

MICHELLE BROWNING

He only had months to live. No treatment could save him. Desperate, he turned to the dark arts looking for a cure, blaming God for his cancer and making him leave his daughter in this world. Rumor has it he became a master sorcerer, performing a variety of spells like mind control, and some even say, possession.

The camera blacks out for a split second.

MICHELLE BROWNING (CONT'D)

You see, his parents declined taking care of Helen and his brother, Victor, was --

She swallows hard.

MICHELLE BROWNING (CONT'D)

-- unfit. He found a spell that could cure him. A spell that could keep him with his daughter, forever. If he was successful he would have performed the spell on his daughter too.

The Cameraman shakes the camera.

MICHELLE BROWNING (CONT'D)  
Is everything all right?

CAMERAMAN (O.S.)  
Yes.

The Cameraman steadies the camera.

CAMERAMAN (O.S.) (CONT'D)  
Ready.

She regains her composure.

MICHELLE BROWNING  
However, that did not happen.  
Former S.W.A.T. team leader, Owen  
Landings, and his team stopped  
McBride before he could finish the  
spell.

The Cameraman coughs.

MICHELLE BROWNING (CONT'D)  
Dude.

CAMERAMAN (O.S.)  
Sorry.

She rolls her eyes and gathers herself.

MICHELLE BROWNING  
However, this resulted in Owen's  
death, and McBride being paralyzed  
due to a lack of judgment by the  
arresting S.W.A.T. member. This  
drove them apart. Helen was  
disgusted with her father's actions  
and disowned him.

The Cameraman sneezes.

CAMERAMAN (O.S.)  
I'm sorry.

MICHELLE BROWNING  
Uh huh. Soon after McBride was  
arrested he learned that his  
daughter, Helen, was murdered by  
the father of one of his victims as  
an act of revenge.

He sneezes again.

MICHELLE BROWNING (CONT'D)  
 Oh goodness gracious. We are going  
 to edit this out, right?

CAMERAMAN (O.S.)  
 Of course.

Michelle looks into the camera with an inquisitive  
 expression.

MICHELLE BROWNING  
 You're bleeding.

She touches her nose, indicating where she sees the blood on  
 the Cameraman.

CAMERAMAN (O.S.)  
 Oh, fuck.

The fast forward symbol appears again.

#### **IN THE BATHROOM**

She plays with her hair in the dirty mirror while the  
 Cameraman films her.

She looks at the camera through the mirror.

MICHELLE BROWNING  
 How's the nose?

CAMERAMAN (O.S.)  
 Do you hear that?

MICHELLE BROWNING  
 What?

CAMERAMAN (O.S.)  
 That sound.

MICHELLE BROWNING  
 What sound?

CAMERAMAN (O.S.)  
 Bang, bang, bang.

MICHELLE BROWNING  
 Ummmmmmmm, no.

WHAM! -- The Cameraman attacks her with the camera.

She screams in horror while the camera smashes her face in.

The screen pauses when the pause symbol appears. It stays that way for a few seconds.

The screen goes black when the stop symbol appears on screen.

**INT. DONALD'S HOME - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT**

He tosses the DVD remote on the couch. He looks at the other DVD case. He attempts to pick it up when his cell phone rings in his pocket.

He reaches in and answers the cell phone.

DONALD

Hello.

DETECTIVE JAMES (V.O.)

Is this Donald Ward?

DONALD

Yes.

DETECTIVE JAMES (V.O.)

This is Detective James. I'm calling about the Michael Arkil case. Can you come to the Michael residence?

Donald looks at his watch.

DONALD

Depends. Why do you want me there?

DETECTIVE JAMES (V.O.)

Remember McBride?

**INT. MICHAEL'S PARENTS' HOME - MICHAEL'S BEDROOM - NIGHT**

Donald steps in. There are police officers and a forensic team scattered around the room.

He spots DETECTIVE JAMES (40s), scruffy looking with a five o'clock shadow, dressed in a suit. He motions for Donald to come near the body.

Michael -- He strangled himself with a wire. He hangs from the ceiling.

DETECTIVE JAMES

Donald, right?

Donald nods his head. They shake hands.

Donald looks at the body.

DONALD

What do you mean he's back? He's dead.

DETECTIVE JAMES

I think it's a cult. He did retain a small fan base after the murders. The parents are in the other room. What's left of them anyway.

Donald shakes his head.

DONALD

First his brother, now him, and his family.

Donald gives James his attention.

DONALD (CONT'D)

Payback?

DETECTIVE JAMES

Michael's father did kill McBride's daughter.

DONALD

He was acquitted.

DETECTIVE JAMES

Your point?

Donald looks at the body again.

DETECTIVE JAMES (CONT'D)

Look over here.

They walk over to a computer. James moves the mouse and clicks on play. The same lullaby we heard before plays while they speak.

DONALD

The Devil's Lullaby.

DETECTIVE JAMES

Straight out of his children's book.

Donald thinks for a moment.

DONALD

The Devil told me to do it. Do you believe in any of that stuff?

DETECTIVE JAMES

Do you? What came over you that night?

Donald balls his fist.

DONALD

I didn't come here to talk about that.

James sucks his teeth.

DETECTIVE JAMES

Right.

Donald inspects the body.

DONALD

His heart isn't missing. What about the hearts of the parents?

DETECTIVE JAMES

Still intact.

DONALD

It can't be a copycat then.

DETECTIVE JAMES

What about McBride's brother, Victor? You think he's capable of doing this?

DONALD

Victor committed suicide years ago.

Donald gets closer to the body. He swallows hard and blinks a bit. Donald stares at Michael's chest.

DONALD (CONT'D)

So, whoever this is isn't trying to finish it?

Detective James shrugs his shoulders.

DONALD (CONT'D)

McBride was murdered two years ago. Why would --

DETECTIVE JAMES

This is why I called you. I know you've been poking around McBride's case files.

DONALD  
Spying on me?

DETECTIVE JAMES  
It's not hard. Your name is on the  
sign-out sheets... and now this --

Detective James waves his hand around the room.

DETECTIVE JAMES (CONT'D)  
-- happens.

Donald rubs his chin.

DETECTIVE JAMES (CONT'D)  
Can you tell me why you're  
interested in this case?

DONALD  
I'm a P.I. now. This case felt  
familiar. I just wanted to check it  
out.

Donald looks at Michael's body again.

DETECTIVE JAMES  
Right, well no need for you to  
investigate alone.

While Donald stares at Michael's body he sees the face of  
Owen with his throat cut out.

DETECTIVE JAMES (O.S.) (CONT'D)  
Let's share what info we have. Two  
brains are better than one or so  
they say.

Donald grabs his chest. His breathing is a bit heavy.

DONALD  
(muffled)  
Bring everything you have tomorrow  
morning. We can discuss it in my  
office.

Donald rushes out the room.

DETECTIVE JAMES  
Are you OK?

DONALD  
Tomorrow morning.

Donald leaves the room abruptly.

**INT. DONALD'S CAR - NIGHT**

He gets in his car and grabs his chest. He breathes heavy, trying to capture air. He grabs the steering wheel and closes his eyes.

He stays that way for a few seconds.

He opens his eyes. He seems to calm down.

**INT. ALICE'S PARENTS' HOME - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT**

There is a small party going on. Fatima dances with a boy and looks like she's having a good time. Alice talks to MIRANDA (17).

MIRANDA

You've never been caught doing this?

ALICE

Of course not, Miranda.

MIRANDA

You must be a genius.

The doorbell rings.

ALICE

I am.

Alice scoots over to the door. She opens it to reveal --

BRIAN

ALICE (CONT'D)

What do you want?

BRIAN

Can I join ya?

ALICE

I heard what happened today. You should go back and beat off to God.

She tries closing the door.

BRIAN

I got lotsssssssssss of beer.

She stops and looks at the bags behind him.

BRIAN (CONT'D)  
Am I invited in?

She releases a big smile, showing her pearly white teeth.

ALICE  
Aw, I can kiss you.

BRIAN  
Go right ahead.

He releases a smile.

**LATER**

The teens act drunk. The fun kind of drunk. Fatima and Brian sit on a couch.

FATIMA  
I didn't think Lisa would let you out after today.

BRIAN  
She had a change of heart.

FATIMA  
I should go see her.

BRIAN  
She misses you.

Brian sips on a beer.

FATIMA  
She does?

BRIAN  
Yep. She loves you.

Brian places his hand on her thigh.

BRIAN (CONT'D)  
You should come over. Spend some time with us.

Fatima removes his hand from her thigh.

FATIMA  
I'll see if my dad wants to go with me.

Alice sits on Brian's lap. She talks to Fatima in a drunken rant.

ALICE

I love your step-brother. Just when I thought the beer was going bye-bye, he comes and savesssssss the day. I love you.

Alice hugs him.

BRIAN

Aw yes, I love you too, kiddie.

Fatima coughs.

ALICE

Kiddie?

BRIAN

Are you into nursery rhymes?

ALICE

Are you fucking serious?

BRIAN

Want to hear a lullaby?

He bounces her up and down on his knee.

BRIAN (CONT'D)

I think it'll be your favorite?

ALICE

Why not.

BRIAN

(sings)

*Hey my lambs, please come and stay.  
I need you to make my pain go away.  
Don't be --*

FATIMA

I thought you told me never to say it? Why are you singing it?

BRIAN

I did? Oh yes... I did.

ALICE

Why? What's wrong with it?

Fatima sits up.

FATIMA

He thinks it has something to do  
with Michael ripping out Bobby's  
tongue.

Alice laughs.

ALICE

That's so silly.

Brian taps his foot on the floor.

BRIAN

Is it? You did read his children's  
book, didn't you?

ALICE

Of course.

She bites her nail.

ALICE (CONT'D)

I don't remember much.

BRIAN

Would you like for me to refresh  
your memory?

She grabs his drink.

ALICE

Entertain me.

She drinks it with a heavy gulp, then burps.

She chuckles.

**INSERT - PASTORS OF THE PROMISED LAND CHILDREN'S BOOK**

The art work is unique. It has an oil painting feel to it.  
Definitely something a child would want to read. The pages  
turn while they speak.

BRIAN (V.O.)

An old man wanders into town  
looking for help. The first lamb  
found him and guided him to his  
friend, but before they departed  
the lamb gave him something to take  
with him. He went through seven  
pastors --

ALICE (V.O.)  
Pastors?

BRIAN (V.O.)  
That's what he called them after  
the first lamb talked to him about  
forgiveness. Something about  
preaching the good word, and  
growing from the fruit of  
knowledge.

FATIMA (V.O.)  
He sealed it with a kiss. Smooch,  
smooch.

Alice sounds a bit inquisitive.

ALICE (V.O.)  
OK. Odd, but OK.

BRIAN (V.O.)  
Each pastor gave him something for  
his journey. The first gave him the  
ability to forgive, the second gave  
him the ability to learn from his  
mistakes, etc.

ALICE (V.O.)  
Oh, he was a retard?

Fatima snickers.

BRIAN (V.O.)  
No. Moral of the story is that he  
was an old man who lost his way,  
but found it when he could finally  
trust in something.

ALICE (V.O.)  
Oh, OK. So, what turned him into  
Devil McBride?

BRIAN (V.O.)  
God.

The book closes. The title "Pastors to the Promised Land" can  
be seen.

#### **BACK TO SCENE**

Alice is bewildered.

ALICE

Huh?

BRIAN

They never got along.

ALICE

Bummer.

BRIAN

Want to hear something creepy?

ALICE

Sure.

BRIAN

They say his spirit still lives in the lullaby, and whoever hears it can take a piece of his personality... even become him.

Alice laughs.

ALICE

I'll be right back.

She darts to a computer in the living room. Fatima shouts out...

FATIMA

It's banned. You won't find it.

BRIAN

It can still happen.

FATIMA

What?

BRIAN

All he needs is seven hearts by seven pastors. It could happen if you believe in that kind of thing.

Fatima runs her hand through her hair.

FATIMA

OK.

BRIAN

Sometimes things aren't always what they seem to be --

He sips his drink.

BRIAN (CONT'D)

-- and sometimes things are exactly  
what they seem to be.

McBride's lullaby plays at the party. The teens stop in their tracks and seem to be in a trance.

Fatima looks around nervously. She looks over and sees Tagger (15) frozen in place with spray paint on the wall.

Suddenly the teens get back into the party. Tagger continues with his art.

FATIMA

What just happened?

Brian grabs her mouth.

BRIAN

Finding out what you taste like.

Brian forces himself on Fatima and kisses her. Blood flows from their mouths as they kiss. Her eyes turn blood red.

Alice sees them - blood and all.

ALICE

Ahhhhhh, how beautiful.

Alice's eyes dilate red.

**INT. DONALD'S HOME - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT**

Donald looks over McBride's case file. He hears the door open and slam.

DONALD

I said ten.

Fatima appears, looking bugged eye. Her hair is a mess and she walks with an uneven stride.

FATIMA

Sorry, daddio.

DONALD

Daddio?

Fatima walks up the stairs to her bedroom, holding the railing.

FATIMA

I'm fine and dandy, love.

Donald gets up, eager to find out what's wrong with her.

**UP THE STAIRWAY**

He stops at the bottom step. He speaks in a demanding voice.

DONALD  
What happened at the party?

FATIMA  
Lots of things.

DONALD  
I want straight answers.

FATIMA  
Fun times, good times, daddio.

She yawns.

FATIMA (CONT'D)  
Goodnight, sweet pea.

Fatima exits to her room.

Donald looks as if he saw a ghost. He marches up the stairs.

**IN FATIMA'S BEDROOM**

He storms in.

DONALD  
Fatima --

She's partially nude. He quickly closes the door.

**IN THE HALLWAY**

He holds the doorknob, pressing his ear against the door.

DONALD  
Have you been drinking?

FATIMA (O.S.)  
(muffled)  
Tsk, tsk, Dad. Should have knocked.  
That's sexual harassment.

DONALD  
Were you?

She opens the door, wearing only a long t-shirt. He jolts back. She breathes on him.

FATIMA  
What does it smell like?

DONALD  
Like I think you need to stay out of my office. Have you been in my files?

FATIMA  
No, Daddy. I promise.

She winks at him.

DONALD  
Go to sleep. We're talk in the morning.

He walks away, but stops. He looks at her while she lets out a half smirk. Then she lifts up her T-shirt and scratches her inner thigh.

FATIMA  
Is there anything else you want to poke around in?

Donald walks away, holding his mouth and shaking his head.

She slams the door shut.

**INT. DONALD'S HOME - LIVING ROOM - DAY**

The sun beams in through the curtains. Donald opens the door and Detective James walks in with a file in his hand.

DETECTIVE JAMES  
Is this early enough?

DONALD  
My office is this way.

**IN DONALD'S OFFICE**

Detective James looks at an old S.W.A.T. photo of Donald and Owen in his hand.

Donald looks through Michael's case file on his desk. There are papers scattered around.

DETECTIVE JAMES  
Must have been hard.

He puts the photo down.

DONALD  
You have no idea.

DETECTIVE JAMES  
McBride was one of a kind. I'll  
give him that.

DONALD  
McBride got a lot of complaints in  
prison.

DETECTIVE JAMES  
For a crippled, he got around.

DONALD  
Michael doesn't have any history  
with violence, or mental disorders.

DETECTIVE JAMES  
That's why I think this kid was  
drinking some psycho's kool-aid. I  
think he ripped that kid's tongue  
out, freaked himself out, came to  
his senses, didn't want to do it  
anymore, and they killed him and  
his family.

DONALD  
That's a stretch.

DETECTIVE JAMES  
Or someone a little too obsessed  
with the past.

Donald looks at James with an angry expression.

DONALD  
If you think I'm the one, arrest me  
now.

Donald puts his hands out, mimicking an arrest.

James looks him over -- then -- smiles.

DETECTIVE JAMES  
His drug tests came back negative.  
No signs of alcohol abuse either.

Donald returns to the file.

DONALD

You should have never let his  
parents take him.

DETECTIVE JAMES

His parents posted bail. What I was  
supposed to do? Chain him down to  
the fucking cell?

DONALD

I'm going to talk to the prison  
staff.

DETECTIVE JAMES

I think it's best if you stay put.  
I'll take over from here.

James gathers up the papers. Donald is about to say something  
when --

Fatima walks past the office. Donald sees her.

#### **IN THE LIVING ROOM**

Donald grabs her hand, stopping her.

DONALD

Where are you going?

She spins around, playing with her hair.

FATIMA

To meet up with some friends.

DONALD

Are you feeling better?

FATIMA

Never better, daddio.

She kisses him on the cheek. He lets her hand go.

FATIMA (CONT'D)

I'll be back before nightfall.

She swings her hair swiftly, hitting Donald in the face. She  
skips out the door.

DETECTIVE JAMES

Daddio, huh?

Donald thinks to himself for a moment.

Detective James sucks his teeth.

DETECTIVE JAMES (CONT'D)  
I'll see myself out.

James walks toward the door.

DONALD  
Can you call me if anything pops  
up?

DETECTIVE JAMES  
Maybe.

Detective James walks out the door. Donald closes it.

**LATER**

He walks in with the Malone McBride Interview DVD.

**INSERT - T.V. SCREEN**

**INT. INTERVIEW ROOM - DAY**

McBride sits in a wheelchair with his hands folded. There's a white backdrop that make McBride's cold eyes pop out. He looks to be in a daze.

REPORTER (O.S.)  
McBride... McBride.

McBride snaps out of it.

MALONE DEVIL MCBRIDE  
Oh, I'm sorry. Where were we?

REPORTER (O.S.)  
The question that I asked you.

MALONE DEVIL MCBRIDE  
Oh, yes. I was so close. All I  
needed was a beating heart.

REPORTER (O.S.)  
Do you really believe in the dark  
arts?

MALONE DEVIL MCBRIDE  
Dark arts? There's nothing dark  
about it. It's beautiful, like  
blossoming flowers from a grave.  
(MORE)

MALONE DEVIL MCBRIDE (CONT'D)  
 Darkness is the opposite of light,  
 but your eyes adjust to the  
 darkness, does it not?

REPORTER (O.S.)  
 Yes, yes it does.

MALONE DEVIL MCBRIDE  
 Can the light blind you if it's too  
 bright?

REPORTER (O.S.)  
 Yes, it can.

MALONE DEVIL MCBRIDE  
 You can walk in darkness because  
 your eyes can adjust, but if you  
 walk in the brightest of light,  
 you'll be walking blind.

REPORTER (O.S.)  
 Perhaps, but you need some light to  
 see in darkness.

McBride lets out a grin.

REPORTER (O.S.) (CONT'D)  
 Wouldn't you be immortalized with  
 your music though?

MALONE DEVIL MCBRIDE  
 This wasn't about the music. You  
 know that.

REPORTER (O.S.)  
 Helen is dead now. Do you think her  
 mother would have wanted this?

Malone rolls his eyes in the back of his head. He stops and  
 licks his lips.

MALONE DEVIL MCBRIDE  
 The mother would be proud.

REPORTER (O.S.)  
 Helen was born out of wedlock. Is  
 that the reason your parents denied  
 her?

MALONE DEVIL MCBRIDE  
 They believe in the word of God. I  
 believe in mine.

REPORTER (O.S.)  
 What was going through your head  
 when you were caught?

Malone puts his head down.

MALONE DEVIL MCBRIDE  
 I failed her.

REPORTER (O.S.)  
 Her as in Helen?

Malone looks up with cold eyes.

MALONE DEVIL MCBRIDE  
 Next question.

REPORTER (O.S.)  
 How do you feel about the S.W.A.T.  
 members that paralyzed you?

McBride turns head away from the camera.

MALONE DEVIL MCBRIDE  
 What goes around comes around.

REPORTER (O.S.)  
 You're looking at life in prison.  
 Given your medical condition and  
 questionable mental health, your  
 lawyer wanted you to serve your  
 sentence in a cancer institution  
 for prisoners, heavily guarded. Why  
 did you tell your lawyer not to do  
 that?

MALONE DEVIL MCBRIDE  
 When it's your time, it's your  
 time. There's no escaping Death.  
 I'll be ready soon...

He looks directly at the camera.

MALONE DEVIL MCBRIDE (CONT'D)  
 ...my lambs.

### **BACK TO SCENE**

Donald pauses the DVD. Blood drips from his nose. He touches  
 it and investigates his hand. He gets up when --

MCBRIDE STANDS RIGHT BEFORE HIM, NAKED

He is covered in lightning tattoos that look burned into his skin. He whispers...

MALONE DEVIL MCBRIDE  
She's coming back.

Donald falls flat on his back, scared out of his mind. He looks back up and McBride is nowhere to be seen.

Donald grabs his chest and tries to calm down. He touches his nose and realizes --

THE BLOOD IS NO LONGER THERE

**INT. STATE MAXIMUM PRISON - VISITOR'S SECTION - DAY**

Donald walks up to the OFFICE CLERK (20s).

DONALD  
I'm here to see the Warden.

OFFICE CLERK  
State your reason, and show your badge.

Donald gives the Office Clerk his badge. The Office Clerk inspects it.

DONALD  
It's for a murder case. I want to talk to the Warden about McBride.

The Office Clerk hands him back the badge and buzzes him in.

**IN THE WARDEN'S OFFICE**

The WARDEN (50s) sits at his desk while he talks to Donald.

WARDEN  
What about him?

DONALD  
What happened here?

WARDEN  
Don't you have the file?

DONALD  
Yes, but if there's something you missed I need to know.

WARDEN

Malone was kept out of general population for obvious reasons. The guards stated in their reports that he talked to himself almost every day. Like there was someone else in the cell.

DONALD

You didn't find that odd?

WARDEN

Everything is odd around here.

Donald rests his folded hands on the Warden's desk.

DONALD

How did the inmates act around him?

WARDEN

He was always under surveillance and protection when he entered general places.

DONALD

Until the day he was murdered?

WARDEN

The guards involved were released shortly after.

DONALD

What were their statements?

WARDEN

They all claimed they don't remember leaving him.

DONALD

Where are they now?

WARDEN

The cemetery.

Donald is taken aback by the comment. He unfolds his hands.

WARDEN (CONT'D)

They all died a week apart. One walked into traffic, the other --

DONALD

What about Jeffrey? Did they find how he killed himself?

WARDEN  
You might want to ask Father Murphy  
about that.

DONALD  
And where is he?

The Warden takes a deep breath.

WARDEN  
You got any change?

**INT. HOMELESS SHELTER - DAY - CONTINUOUS**

The homeless shelter is a three story apartment complex in the middle of the downtown district. Only a few homeless people are there.

Donald only sees one bathroom on this floor and a living room. Two homeless people sit on the couch watching TV. Another is making a sandwich in the kitchen. Their ages vary but all of them are men.

DONALD  
Can anyone tell me where Father  
Murphy is?

HOMELESS MAN ONE (30s) points to the back.

HOMELESS MAN ONE  
Bedroom.

Donald nods his head and walks to the --

**BEDROOM**

The bedroom is neatly furnished with a walk in closet and dresser.

FATHER MURPHY (50s), a blind man, sits on his king size bed holding a walking stick. His dog, a German Shepherd, rests near his feet.

Donald walks in.

DONALD  
Good Morning, Father. May I sit  
next to you?

FATHER MURPHY  
It's not like I'm going to stop  
you.

Donald sits on the bed. The dog doesn't move.

DONALD

I'm a detective. I want to ask you  
a few things about McBride.

FATHER MURPHY

The Sorcerer McBride. It's been  
awhile, but be my guest.

DONALD

So, you believe the rumors?

FATHER MURPHY

They aren't rumors, bucko.

Donald rubs his own knee.

DONALD

Jeffrey killed McBride then later  
himself. Why would he do that?

FATHER MURPHY

You got any change?

DONALD

What for?

Father Murphy points to a corner in the room. There Donald spots an old JUKE BOX. He sees a coin slot where you select music.

Donald reaches in his pocket and takes out two quarters.

DONALD (CONT'D)

Where should I put them?

FATHER MURPHY

In the Still of the Night.  
Temptations, please.

Donald walks over to the juke box. He slides the two quarters in and selects the song. It plays in the background while Donald talks to Murphy.

The juke box has an alert on the screen displaying that Donald has one credit left.

Donald walks back to the bed and sits. Father Murphy swings his body side to side with the music.

FATHER MURPHY (CONT'D)  
 He wouldn't. The guards that were around him started to act strange too. They weren't talking like themselves. It was like someone else was behind them, controlling their minds.

**INT. JANET'S HOME - DAY**

A door bell is heard. Janet, now in her twenties, opens the door to reveal --

FATIMA, BRIAN, ALICE, MIRANDA, AND TAGGER

Tagger holds a can of spray paint in his hand. The number seven is spray painted on the door. The girls play with their hair in different ways: curling it with their index finger, twisting it, etc.

JANET  
 Can I help you?

FATIMA  
 Hi, Janet. Remember me?

JANET  
 No, no I don't. Who are you guys?

Fatima rolls her eyes toward the door. Janet looks at the spray painted seven.

The girls stop playing with their hair.

FATIMA  
 My sweet, sweet, lamb. How I missed you.

Janet tries to close the door, but Alice kicks it in. Janet runs away before she gets jumped.

A struggle ensues, but it doesn't last long.

Alice pulls out a knife.

ALICE  
 Now please, hold still.

She stabs Janet in the chest. The others, except Fatima, take out knives and join in on the fun.

Fatima looks out of it. She shakes her head like she has rocks in it. They continue to stab away. She releases a scream and darts for the door.

MALONE DEVIL MCBRIDE (V.O.)

Fatima.

She stops at the door.

MALONE DEVIL MCBRIDE (V.O.) (CONT'D)

Don't leave me this way.

The door slowly closes.

MALONE DEVIL MCBRIDE (V.O.) (CONT'D)

I need you.

**INT. HOMELESS SHELTER - FATHER MURPHY'S BEDROOM - DAY**

Father Murphy and Donald continue to talk. The dog sniffs around Donald while the song plays.

FATHER MURPHY

I heard one of them sing his lullaby. Then another. And another. When inmate 1245, Jeffrey, killed him he didn't know why. He came to me saying that there was something in his head. That the Devil was in his head.

Donald pets the dog.

FATHER MURPHY (CONT'D)

He was talking about McBride.

Donald stops petting the dog. The dog licks Father Murphy's feet.

FATHER MURPHY (CONT'D)

I know how this is going to sound, but McBride made Jeffrey kill him so he could be free of his body and finish the spell.

The song stops. Donald gets up and plays another song. Simple Man by Lynyrd Skynyrd. Donald puts his arms over the juke box and waits for the chorus.

Father Murphy stands up, his cane sharp on the floor. The dog gets on all fours.

FATHER MURPHY (CONT'D)  
You knew all this. Why come here?

DONALD  
To know I'm not going crazy. That  
my gut is right.

Donald turns around and leans against the jukebox. The chorus plays.

DONALD (CONT'D)  
How do I get my daughter back?

Father Murphy walks gingerly over to Donald, tapping his cane along the way. The dog follows.

FATHER MURPHY  
You got anymore change?

**INT. JANET'S HOME - HALLWAY - DAY**

Tagger sprays a design on the wall. Fatima looks on while Brian, Alice, and Miranda STAB Janet to death.

Fatima has a drunken look on her face.

Screams of agony are heard throughout the ordeal.

**EXT. HOMELESS SHELTER - DAY**

Donald walks to his car when his cell phone rings. He picks up.

DONALD  
Got anything new?

DETECTIVE JAMES (V.O.)  
She's dead.

DONALD  
Who?

**INT. JANET'S HOME - LIVING ROOM - DAY**

Donald walks in and sees her mutilated body. He grabs his chest.

Detective James grabs him and pushes him outside.

**EXT. JANET'S HOME - DAY**

Donald gets away from him and lands on his hands and knees.

DETECTIVE JAMES  
Where were you today?

DONALD  
(muffled)  
What?

DETECTIVE JAMES  
Where?

DONALD  
(muffled)  
At the prison. Check the sign-in  
book. You love to do that.

Donald gets up, but still has a hard time catching his  
breath.

DETECTIVE JAMES  
The design spray painted on the  
wall, it's the same one he used  
when you stopped him.

DONALD  
(muffled)  
Did they take the heart?

DETECTIVE JAMES  
No.

Donald rushes to his car.

**INT. DONALD'S CAR - DAY - TRAVELING**

He can't get a grip on his cell phone. Finally, he does and  
dials a number. He gets the answering machine.

LISA (V.O.)  
I'm busy right now. Please, leave a  
message.

DONALD  
Lisa, trust me here. Something is  
wrong with Brian. Please stay away  
from him until I get there.

He hangs up the phone.

**EXT. LISA'S HOME - DAY**

Donald is outside, ringing the doorbell. He peeks inside the windows, looking for any sign of life. There is none.

BRIAN (O.S.)  
Can I help you?

Donald is startled.

DONALD  
Hey! Is your mom around?

BRIAN  
No. What brings you here?

Donald runs his hands in his pant and shirt pockets.

DONALD  
It seems that I lost my house keys.  
I know that Lisa still has a spare.  
Do you mind if I go inside and look  
around?

Donald looks into Brian's eyes. It's like there's nothing behind them.

BRIAN  
Wouldn't she be carrying them?

Donald licks his lips.

DONALD  
Right. How about I wait for her?  
You could show me all those weird  
looking scary picture books.

BRIAN  
Those books about dark magic and  
spells?

DONALD  
Yeah those the ones.

Brian shrugs his shoulders and walks toward the door. Donald follows him in.

**INT. LISA'S HOME - LIVING ROOM - DAY**

Donald looks around. Brian runs his hand through his own hair.

BRIAN  
When did you become interested in  
the supernatural?

DONALD  
Boredom. Lisa will be back any  
minute, right?

BRIAN  
I guess.

#### **UP THE STAIRWAY**

Donald takes a look around. Brian stops fooling with his  
hair.

BRIAN  
You two getting back together  
anytime soon?

DONALD  
Would you like that?

Brian smiles.

#### **IN BRIAN'S BEDROOM**

The room looks neat and organized as can be.

DONALD  
How has she been doing?

BRIAN  
She's doing just fine.

Brian sits on the bed.

Donald looks at the books on the shelf.

DONALD  
So many books. I wouldn't know  
where to begin.

BRIAN  
What would you like to learn?

DONALD  
Anything cool. Anything that a  
sorcerer would do.

BRIAN  
You're a believer now?

Donald doesn't respond. Brian chuckles and walks to his shelf. Brian picks out the "Spells of the Promised Land" book.

BRIAN (CONT'D)

Here you are.

He tosses it to Donald.

BRIAN (CONT'D)

Your favorite person wrote it.

Donald looks at the cover with disdain.

DONALD

Thanks.

BRIAN

I'm getting something to eat. Would you like anything?

DONALD

No, thanks.

Brian walks out of his room. Donald sits on the bed, looking through the book. He finds the table of contents. He puts his finger under the word POSSESSION.

He flips through the chapter, but finds nothing useful. He goes back to the table of contents. He sees a chapter on MIND CONTROL.

Under it he finds a chapter called POSSESSION OF ENTITIES. He flips to it.

The first page reveals --

MALONE DEVIL MCBRIDE'S SPELL SYMBOL

Donald reads some of the chapter. There is a picture of six hearts in glass jars and a man holding a beating heart.

Another shows the man ripped in two, but his spirit remains, covered in lightning tattoos.

He flips back to the first page and reads the caption under the symbol --

I AM DEATH

Brian returns.

BRIAN  
Still curious?

Donald jumps back. He closes the book.

DONALD  
I think I'm good.

He gets up and faces Brian.

DONALD (CONT'D)  
Can I borrow this?

BRIAN  
Go right ahead.

He walks toward the door.

BRIAN (CONT'D)  
I thought you were waiting for  
Lisa?

Donald stops.

BRIAN (CONT'D)  
Don't you need your key?

DONALD  
I'm going to use the bathroom.

BRIAN  
Oh.

#### **IN THE BATHROOM**

He walks in and turns on the faucet. He places the book down on the toilet. He checks the water and then splashes it on his face. He turns his head to the bathtub.

It's so clean you can eat off of it. He looks in the mirror and breathes heavy.

BRIAN (O.S.)  
(sings)  
*Take me to the promised land. Take  
my hand and be one of my pastors. I  
need her to forgive my sins. Oh  
please take me to the promised  
land.*

**IN THE HALLWAY**

Donald walks the hall to the bedroom while he listens to Brian singing and playing a guitar.

BRIAN (O.S.)

(sings)

*Your innocence is all I need to  
cure myself of this torment. I want  
to live with her forever. It was  
meant to be.*

**IN BRIAN'S BEDROOM**

He walks inside, looking irritated.

BRIAN

(sings)

*Oh please take me to the promised  
land.*

Donald stares at him for a moment with the black book in his hand.

BRIAN (CONT'D)

Did you like that?

DONALD

A McBride song. Didn't know you  
knew any of them.

BRIAN

One of my favorites.

Donald swallows hard.

BRIAN (CONT'D)

He had some good hits.

DONALD

When did you learn to play guitar?

BRIAN

I didn't. Sometimes you just gotta  
go with your gut.

Brian pats his stomach.

Donald squeezes the book. Donald is about to march of to Brian -- when --

BRIAN (CONT'D)

Hi, Mom!

Donald turns around and sees --

LISA

She looks fine, putting her hair in a pony tail.

LISA  
Well, isn't this a surprise.

Donald stops. He walks right to Lisa and whispers in her ear...

DONALD  
Did you get my message?

LISA  
Why are we whispering?

BRIAN  
I'll cover my ears.

Brian covers his ears and lays on his stomach.

DONALD  
Did you get my message?

LISA  
No, I didn't hear it yet. What's going on?

Donald looks over at Brian who still has his ears covered.

DONALD  
Out here.

#### **IN THE HALLWAY**

He rushes her out the door.

DONALD  
I don't know how to explain this --

LISA  
Then don't.

DONALD  
Lisa, Brian and Fatima --

She puts her index finger on his lips.

LISA  
Shhh! It's OK. I signed the divorce papers last night.

Donald removes her finger from his lip.

LISA (CONT'D)  
You'll get them soon, my beloved.

Donald stares at her for a moment with his mouth slightly dropped open.

LISA (CONT'D)  
It's like you saw a ghost.

She smiles.

LISA (CONT'D)  
You don't find me pretty anymore.

Donald grips the book tightly. He runs down the stairs.

Lisa's eyes cut to him. She growls.

**EXT. LISA'S HOME - DAY**

Donald runs outside the house with Lisa not far behind. She stops at the door.

LISA  
This is what you wanted. This is  
what you deserve!

Donald gets in his car and drives off.

**INT. LISA'S HOME - LIVING ROOM - DAY**

Brian runs down the steps and stops. Lisa cuts her eyes over -- when --

BRIAN VOMITS ON THE STAIRS

LISA  
I'm losing energy.

Brian looks up at Lisa, scared out of his mind.

LISA (CONT'D)  
Shit!

Brian runs up the stairs like the Devil is on his ass.

LISA (CONT'D)  
Damn kids.

She chases after Brian. A knock is heard. Lisa stops. The door creaks open.

LISA (CONT'D)  
Well, it's about time.

**INT. DONALD'S HOME - LIVING ROOM - DAY**

Donald enters his home and sees Fatima as she watches one of McBride's DVDs. She turns it off and runs with arms stretched out.

She hugs him tightly.

FATIMA  
You're home. I missed you.

Donald grabs her arms and pulls her off.

DONALD  
Fatima!

FATIMA  
Sorry, daddio. Take a chill pill.

He lets go of her arms.

DONALD  
How old are you?

FATIMA  
What type of question is that?

She feels his forehead.

FATIMA (CONT'D)  
You OK?

Donald grabs her face and looks into her eyes.

FATIMA (CONT'D)  
Looking for something?

DONALD  
How did you take my daughter?

She gets away from him.

FATIMA  
What are you talking about?

She spots the book. Her eyes twitch. Then her head. Her arms and feet follow.

She falls to the floor, convulsing. White foam shoots from her mouth.

DONALD

Fatima!

He picks her up with book in hand and runs to --

**DONALD'S OFFICE**

He places her on his desk, knocking over his pictures.

She stops convulsing and looks into his eyes.

FATIMA

Dad!

DONALD

Fatima.

FATIMA

Give me a kiss.

She tries to Kiss Donald but he pushes away.

He squeezes the book in both hands. His hands shake.

Fatima gets off the desk and walks to Donald.

FATIMA (CONT'D)

You have to calm down. You're going to cause yourself to have another panic attack.

Donald makes his way to the --

**HALLWAY**

Fatima follows him out and looks around.

FATIMA

Do you hear that?

Donald walks backwards to the door.

DONALD

I'm gonna go get help.

FATIMA

That sound. That hiss, hiss sound.

DONALD  
I don't hear anything.

Donald tries to open the door but it doesn't budge.

**UP THE STAIRWAY**

She stands on the first step, listening carefully.

FATIMA  
Please, tell me you hear that now?

DONALD  
I hear nothing.

Fatima runs to Donald and grabs his forearm.

FATIMA  
Come on. I'll show you.

She drags Donald to --

**FATIMA'S BEDROOM**

They rush in.

FATIMA  
It's in here.

DONALD  
Let go of me!

Donald walks backwards toward the door.

DONALD (CONT'D)  
You're fucking McBride!

The door closes. MIRANDA and ALICE are revealed to be behind the door. Donald doesn't see them, but Fatima does.

Fatima eyes glow red.

Donald spots their reflection in the window. Miranda holds a lighter, while Alice holds a can of hairspray.

He turns around and gets hit with a --

FIREBALL

in his face.



The fall wakes her up. Donald grabs his chest and breathes heavy.

Fatima looks around, confused. She spots her dad.

FATIMA

Dad?

She looks up and sees --

MIRANDA AND ALICE

Their throats are slashed and blood continues to flow out.

Fatima releases a scream. Donald looks over and reaches out for her. She grabs his hand.

Miranda and Alice walk down the steps.

Fatima pulls on Donald with all her strength.

Donald gets on his knees and pushes himself up. He still breathes heavy.

Fatima rests her dad on the door.

Suddenly, Miranda and Alice appear from the top of the stairway saying...

MIRANDA

Fatima, please. I need you.

ALICE

Fatima, please. I need you.

Fatima looks on, lips quivering.

MIRANDA (CONT'D)

Come with me now!

ALICE (CONT'D)

Come with me now!

They rush out the door.

**EXT. DONALD'S HOME - DAY**

She has Donald wrapped around her shoulder. She places him on the car. She reaches into his pockets and takes out the car keys.

She pushes a button and the car unlocks. She places him in the passenger seat. She urgently gets into the car and drives off.

**INT. DONALD'S CAR - DAY - TRAVELING**

Donald's cell phone vibrates in his pocket. He doesn't bother to answer it.

Donald tries to calm himself.

DONALD  
(muffled)  
Father Murphy.

FATIMA  
What?

He reaches in his pocket and tosses over the cell phone.

DONALD  
Call this homeless shelter and ask for Father Murphy. Tell him I need to meet with him at the hospital.

FATIMA  
OK, OK. Wait a fucking homeless shelter?

DONALD  
Just do it.

She unlocks the cell phone.

FATIMA  
You have a missed phone call from James. He left a message.

DONALD  
Put it on speaker.

She does just that.

DETECTIVE JAMES (V.O.)  
Donald, we've got a few missing person reports. Alice Tate and Miranda Horsgrave, all from Saint John's.

DONALD  
No shit.

DETECTIVE JAMES (V.O.)  
Their parents called it in. Miranda didn't come home last night, and Alice's mother said the place was trashed when they got home, but no sign of Alice. Get this though.

(MORE)

DETECTIVE JAMES (V.O.) (CONT'D)  
Michael's body is missing from the  
morgue.

A noise is heard in the background.

DETECTIVE JAMES (V.O.) (CONT'D)  
Hold on. This graffiti kid is  
acting up.

FATIMA  
Sam?

DETECTIVE JAMES (V.O.)  
Oh shit --

Static is heard. The message ends. Fatima hibernates the  
phone.

FATIMA  
What the fuck is going on, dad?

Sirens are heard. Cops and ambulances rush to a scene.

DONALD  
Follow them.

#### **EXT. POLICE STATION - DAY**

Fatima stops the car near the police station.

IT'S IN FLAMES

Fire fighters are on the scene trying to put out the fire.

Donald opens the door and rolls out. He rushes to the  
station.

FATIMA  
Dad!

She rushes toward him. A few cops and EMTs spot him. They  
look him over and see his hands. They take care of him while  
the police station burns.

#### **LATER**

He rests in an ambulance with Fatima. His hands are wrapped  
up. Detective James walks over to them. He looks shaken up, a  
few cuts and bruises, but nothing serious.

DONALD  
What the hell happened?

DETECTIVE JAMES  
I can say the same about you.

DONALD  
I was attacked.

DETECTIVE JAMES  
With burned fucking hands?

FATIMA  
They were from my school. They  
tried to set him on fire.

DETECTIVE JAMES  
Right.

Donald has a blank stare.

DETECTIVE JAMES (CONT'D)  
You're under arrest.

FATIMA  
You can't do this.

DETECTIVE JAMES  
The hell I can't.

FATIMA  
I saw it all. You don't know what's  
going on.

James grabs Donald by the arm so tightly he could have ripped his arm off.

DONALD  
Where the hell are you going to  
take me?

A small struggle ensues when Fatima --

KICKS JAMES IN THE NUTS

She quickly grabs her father and they run off.

**INT. "SAINT MARY'S" CHURCH - DAY**

They walk inside the church and see Father Murphy with his dog, sitting on the bench. His dog has a blue leash around its neck. Father Murphy looks up at a Jesus painting. He has a brown paper bag resting next to him.

DONALD  
They told me you'd be here.

Father Murphy looks over at Donald.

FATHER MURPHY  
Pay the piper.

Donald drops some change in the brown bag.

The dog barks at Fatima. She trembles.

Father Murphy talks to Fatima.

FATHER MURPHY (CONT'D)  
Don't worry. He's not going to  
bite.

Fatima hides behind her father. Donald talks to Father Murphy while keeping his eyes on the dog.

DONALD  
I had the book.

The dog sniffs Donald's hands. He tries to move them away. Father Murphy sniffs Fatima.

FATHER MURPHY  
Tell me what happened?

DONALD  
Two kids tried to kill me, my  
daughter is possessed --

Fatima gives away a scared look.

DONALD (CONT'D)  
-- I'm confused as all hell, and I  
lost the book you told me to get.

Father Murphy motions for them to sit down. The dog still watches Fatima like a hawk.

DONALD (CONT'D)  
Please. What does McBride really  
want.

FATHER MURPHY  
Death. The power of Death.

Donald doesn't know what to think.

DONALD  
I don't understand.

FATHER MURPHY

He becomes Death itself. If he completes the spell and gains the power of Death, he will be everywhere.

DONALD

Because Death is everywhere. The only way to escape Death is to become Death, the true immortal.

Father Murphy nods his head in agreement.

DONALD (CONT'D)

We can't let that happen. Show me how do we get it out?

The dog looks up at Father Murphy.

FATIMA

What are you guys talking about?

Father Murphy taps his cane on Donald's shoulder.

FATHER MURPHY

Stay here.

FATIMA

Wha - wha - what are you talking about?

Father Murphy walks away with his seeing eye dog. He holds the blue leash while tapping the cane on the floor.

DONALD

He's part of you now. We have to get him out.

FATIMA

No, no, I know how that shit goes, and I'm not doing it.

DONALD

We don't have a choice. He's not going to get you too.

FATIMA

Find another way.

DONALD

There's no other way.

FATIMA

Sure there is. Letting me finish.

She squeezes his hands. He lets out a scream.

FATIMA (CONT'D)

You killed her. If it wasn't for  
you, Helen and I would be together.  
We will be a happy family, forever.

Donald gets on his knees.

FATIMA (CONT'D)

My daughter will return - through  
yours.

Father Murphy returns and strikes her with his cane upside  
her head. She's knocked out.

The dog growls.

### **IN THE BEDROOM**

It's a small room with a brick wall surrounding it. There is  
a cabinet with oils and books in it, a table, and a bed.

Donald drags her inside and places her on the bed. Father  
Murphy stands by the bed, holding onto the dog leash. Father  
Murphy places the brown bag on the table and rests his cane  
against the wall.

DONALD

He wants to use my daughter to  
bring his back.

Donald ties her hands together.

FATHER MURPHY

He needs a body.

DONALD

Not hers.

FATHER MURPHY

Not just hers. His body was too  
weak. He needs another one. A  
healthy one that can withstand the  
spell.

Donald ties her feet together.

DONALD

He said he's going to bring his  
daughter back through mine.

Donald finishes tying her feet.

DONALD (CONT'D)  
He's not getting her body.

FATHER MURPHY  
What about the others?

Donald's eyes light up.

DONALD  
Brian. Lisa.

FATHER MURPHY  
What are you waiting for?

Donald looks over at Fatima.

FATHER MURPHY (CONT'D)  
I'm blind. Not weak. Go.

DONALD  
How do I know you can protect her?

Father Murphy lets go of the dog leash and grabs Donald's hands.

FATHER MURPHY  
There are many forces at work here.

Donald gets free and removes the bandages.

HIS HANDS ARE HEALED

Father Murphy picks up his cane.

FATHER MURPHY (CONT'D)  
I know how to handle shit.

**EXT. LISA'S HOME - DAY**

Donald looks around the home for anything strange. Finds nothing.

He walks up to the front door. He turns the knob. It's unlocked. He pushes the door open and enters the house.

**IN THE LIVING ROOM**

It looks spotless. Too eerie to be legit.

**UP THE STAIRWAY**

He walks up slowly, checking every corner.

**IN BRIAN'S BEDROOM**

He opens the door and sees --

BRIAN LYING ON THE BED

His hands are placed on his heart. Blood leaks through them.

Donald darts over to the body and removes his step-son's hands.

BRIAN'S HEART IS MISSING

DONALD

Brian.

BRIAN

Yes?

Donald jumps back. Brian opens his eyes and sits upright. A bloody, gory hole is present where the heart should be.

DONALD

McBride.

BRIAN

Don't I look beautiful?

DONALD

You're not getting her too.

Brian looks at Donald's hands.

BRIAN

I see you made a new friend.

Brian lets out a grin.

BRIAN (CONT'D)

I don't like them.

Brian walks around the room.

BRIAN (CONT'D)

Always trying to be heroes.

Smoke can be seen from the background. Donald coughs.

Donald sees the smoke coming from the hall.

**IN THE HALLWAY**

He realizes --

THE HOUSE IS ON FIRE

**IN BRIAN'S BEDROOM**

He turns back to face Brian. Brian's lifeless body is on the floor.

MALONE DEVIL MCBRIDE (V.O.)  
I will have her.

Donald is afraid.

MALONE DEVIL MCBRIDE (V.O.) (CONT'D)  
I will have my family.

Donald scurries over to the shelf when --

IT LIGHTS UP IN FLAMES

Donald trips and falls on his back.

MALONE DEVIL MCBRIDE (V.O.) (CONT'D)  
Everyone will feel my pain. They  
will burn and scream for my mercy.

Donald gets up and lifts up the window.

MALONE DEVIL MCBRIDE (V.O.) (CONT'D)  
I. AM. DEATH.

**EXT. LISA'S HOME - DAY**

He crawls out the window. He spots a tree and climbs down while the house burns.

He runs to the front when --

DETECTIVE JAMES PULLS OUT HIS GUN

DETECTIVE JAMES  
Get down, now!

DONALD  
This isn't what it --

He coughs.

DONALD (CONT'D)

-- seems.

DETECTIVE JAMES

On your knees, now!

Donald gets on his knees. James arrests Donald without a care to his well-being.

DETECTIVE JAMES (CONT'D)

There was nothing at your house but a pool of blood and a burnt up spell book. You got some questions to answer.

He picks him up and takes him away.

**INT. "SAINT MARY'S" CHURCH - BEDROOM - DAY**

Father Murphy has his hand over Fatima's head. The dog rests on the floor.

FATHER MURPHY

Your dad has more in him than he wants to let it out.

FATIMA

Is that what you say to all the pretty girls?

Father Murphy removes his hand. Fatima opens her eyes.

FATIMA (CONT'D)

What are you doing?

FATHER MURPHY

About to fuck your shit up... again.

Her hands and feet come untied. Fatima sits up.

The seeing eye dog loses its shit. It barks, growls, wanting a piece of Fatima.

Father Murphy grabs the leash and whispers in the dog's ear. He lets go of the handle and the dog darts out of the room.

FATIMA

You and that damn wonder dog. Do you remember when I came up to you?

He faces Fatima.

FATIMA (CONT'D)

I could smell the white light on you. I knew you were sent there to see what I was up to. You did a fine job with that.

FATHER MURPHY

I did what I had to do.

Fatima gets out of bed, cracking her knuckles.

Father Murphy doesn't show any fear.

FATIMA

I would love to kill you, but you'll just come back again.

She walks over to him.

FATIMA (CONT'D)

I'll just leave a message for him.

Father Murphy takes his cane and stands up. He points the cane to the brown paper bag.

FATHER MURPHY

Don't be a dick.

Fatima reaches in her pocket and drops the coins in the bag.

Father Murphy twirls his cane.

FATHER MURPHY (CONT'D)

Now you can dance.

**EXT. DETECTIVE JAMES' CAR - DAY - TRAVELING**

Donald is in the back seat, trying to explain himself. He wheezes. The McBride spell book can be seen in an evidence bag in the passenger seat.

DONALD

You got to listen to me, my daughter is in danger.

DETECTIVE JAMES

In danger from what? You?

DONALD

Devil McBride.

DETECTIVE JAMES  
Devil McBride? The very dead, Devil  
McBride?

DONALD  
I know how it sounds, but it's  
true. He found a way to --

DETECTIVE JAMES  
Did that Post Traumatic Syndrome  
screw with your brain?

Donald can't find the words.

DETECTIVE JAMES (CONT'D)  
All I know is teens are missing,  
and there was a pool of blood in  
your daughter's room.

DONALD  
You got to listen to me.

DETECTIVE JAMES  
Where did the bodies go? Huh? Tell  
me.

DONALD  
He probably took them to where I  
stopped him before.

DETECTIVE JAMES  
Wrong. I have that area under  
surveillance. Try again.

Donald rests his head on the window.

DETECTIVE JAMES (CONT'D)  
Where did you get the book from?

He coughs wildly. It's like he's coughing up a lung.

DETECTIVE JAMES (CONT'D)  
That's not going to work on me.

Donald continues to cough. He takes heavy breaths and gasps  
of air.

James looks on with discomfort.

Donald's eyes roll in the back of his head. He bangs his head  
on the car door, knocking himself out.

DETECTIVE JAMES (CONT'D)  
Shit!

He pulls the car over.

**EXT. TOWN STREETS - DAY**

He takes out Donald from the car. James rests Donald's body on the sidewalk.

James tries to wake Donald up.

DETECTIVE JAMES  
Come on, don't play this game.

He listens to Donald's heart. Then his breathing habits.

DETECTIVE JAMES (CONT'D)  
Fuck!

James then quickly turns Donald on his stomach and takes off the handcuffs.

He flips Donald on his back.

He pumps in Donald's chest.

DETECTIVE JAMES (CONT'D)  
You better wake the fuck up.

He attempts to shake Donald's head when --

DONALD PUTS HIM IN A CHOKE HOLD

A struggle ensues.

It lasts for half a minute until James passes out. Donald pushes him off.

Donald takes the car keys from James' pocket and enters the car, leaving him there.

**INT. "SAINT MARY'S" CHURCH - BEDROOM - DAY**

Donald bursts in.

DONALD  
Father Murphy!

He notices that Murphy is on the bed. He runs over to him. Murphy looks up.

DONALD (CONT'D)  
Where's Fatima?

Father Murphy points behind Donald.

FATHER MURPHY  
(muffled)  
Behind you.

He turns around and spots --

BE HOME BY NIGHTFALL

written in blood.

He turns back to Father Murphy.

Donald looks at Father Murphy's stomach. He bleeds from his liver and kidney area.

FATHER MURPHY (CONT'D)  
(muffled)  
Couldn't hurt the girl.

DONALD  
How do I stop him?

Father Murphy pushes him away with what strength he has left.

FATHER MURPHY  
Play his game. Now go win.

DONALD  
I don't understand.

Father Murphy covers his bloody gut with his hands.

FATHER MURPHY  
Listen to your gut.

**INT. DONALD'S HOME - NIGHT**

The sun sets when Donald enters his home.

He looks into his office, then the living room, then up the stairs.

No one is around.

**IN DONALD'S OFFICE**

He looks through his drawer, but can't find the McBride file.

LISA (O.S.)  
Looking for this?

Donald looks up and sees Lisa, wearing a provocative nightgown. Blood leaks through her pores.

DONALD

Lisa?

She walks over to him with the McBride file in her hand.

LISA

Why did you divorce me?

Donald backs up against the wall. She grabs him.

LISA (CONT'D)

Why did you leave me? I loved you.  
Was it my son? You didn't want him  
to stick it to your daughter?

He pushes her off. She falls on her ass and laughs.

DONALD

You're not getting her!

LISA

I am already her!

Donald has fire in his eyes. Lisa stands up.

LISA (CONT'D)

Oh, look at you. I'm so proud of  
you. You couldn't get me out of  
your head. You made me feel so  
special.

Donald charges at Lisa, slamming her on the desk. He lies on top of her with his forearm under her throat.

LISA (CONT'D)

Do you hear that?

Donald turns his attention to the hall.

LISA (CONT'D)

Slit, slit, slit.

Donald rushes out of his office, freeing Lisa.

LISA (CONT'D)

If you run fast enough you'll catch  
her before she gets to the good  
parts.

**IN THE BATHROOM**

He enters the room and catches Fatima --

CUTTING HER ARMS WITH A RAZOR

FATIMA

I can't stop. He won't let me stop.

He attempts to grab her hands, but she slashes at him.

FATIMA (CONT'D)

I can't control my hands.

She tries to cut him again, but he moves out the way.

FATIMA (CONT'D)

Please, help me!

The door slams.

He tries to open it, but it won't move.

She lunges at him with the razor. He moves out the way. He trips on the rug and falls into the bathtub. The shower curtain comes down with him.

She attacks again.

She cuts the shower curtain as she tries to get to Donald.

He wraps her up with the curtain and presses her up against the door.

The razor cuts through the curtain and almost cuts up his face. He bangs her body against the door.

She drops the razor.

She sticks her hand through the slit and tears open the curtain. She falls on top of him. Her eyes are blood shot when she tries to strangle him.

FATIMA (CONT'D)

Come on, daddio. Sing me a song.

She knees him deep in the groin. He lets out a scream.

FATIMA (CONT'D)

Music to my ears.

He tosses her away violently. She hits her head on the tub. He gets up and tries for the door again.

It doesn't open.

FATIMA (CONT'D)

Dad.

He looks at her.

FATIMA (CONT'D)

My head hurts.

Donald calms down a bit. She looks at her arms.

FATIMA (CONT'D)

What happened to me? Why am I  
bleeding so much?

Donald turns the knob. It won't open.

DONALD

It'll be all right.

He spots the razor near his feet.

DONALD (CONT'D)

It'll be over soon.

He covers the razor with his foot and slides it under the  
bathroom door.

She rests her head against the bathtub.

FATIMA

I love you, Dad.

The door finally comes unstuck. Donald opens it when --

LISA CUTS THE TOP OF DONALD'S FOREHEAD WITH THE RAZOR

Blood leaks from his hairline.

Lisa tries to cut him again, but Donald tosses her on top of  
Fatima.

#### **UP THE STAIRWAY**

He runs down the stairs and gets startled by --

DETECTIVE JAMES

He points a gun at Donald.

DETECTIVE JAMES

Freeze!

Donald stops before he reaches the last step. He notices his door is wide open.

DETECTIVE JAMES (CONT'D)

One more step --

DONALD

Please, listen to me.

DETECTIVE JAMES

Where's Fatima?

DONALD

Can you just listen to me, please?

DETECTIVE JAMES

Fatima!

DONALD

She's not Fatima. I can still save her!

DETECTIVE JAMES

(to Donald)

Shut up!

DONALD

Please.

DETECTIVE JAMES

Fatima, are you all right?

Donald takes a step down. James fires a shot, but misses.

DETECTIVE JAMES (CONT'D)

That's going to be your last warning.

DONALD

I won't move, but please just hear me out.

DETECTIVE JAMES

I heard enough of your --

Fatima stumbles out of the bathroom.

FATIMA

Help!

Donald looks at her, briefly. He turns back to James.

DONALD

Shit.

DETECTIVE JAMES

Everything is going to be OK.

FATIMA

He's trying to kill me!

DONALD

No, I am not. I'm trying to save her.

DETECTIVE JAMES

(to Donald)

Shut up and get on your knees.

FATIMA

He thinks he's Devil McBride. He killed Brian, and now he's trying to kill me and Lisa.

She falls before she reaches the first step.

DONALD

That's not her.

DETECTIVE JAMES

On your fucking knees before I put you there myself!

DONALD

Under one condition.

DETECTIVE JAMES

No. Down now!

Donald waves his hands in the air.

DONALD

How come you never asked me about these?

James looks at Donald's hands.

DONALD (CONT'D)

Last time I checked, I'm not the fucking Wolverine.

James lowers the gun.

DETECTIVE JAMES

Well, darn. You just ruined all the fun.

James shoots Donald in the shoulder. The bullet passes through his body, out the other end. Donald collapses.

**EXT. WOODED AREA - SPELL SITE - NIGHT**

Donald is tied to a tree by a wire string. The cut is still fresh on his forehead and his bullet wound clotted.

He sees six bodies --

LISA, BRIAN, MIRANDA, ALICE, SAM (TAGGER), AND MICHAEL

on the ground with their hearts in six separate jars. The jars are placed next to each of their bodies.

Fatima is on her knees, looking dazed and confused.

DONALD

Fatima, whatever he is doing to you, you can fight this.

DETECTIVE JAMES (O.S.)

She's been doing well so far.

DONALD

Get the fuck away from my daughter!

Detective James kneels down, shaving his head bald with a knife. He finishes up and takes a bottle of alcohol and dumps it over his head. He shakes the alcohol off his head.

DETECTIVE JAMES

See the resemblance?

DONALD

You're Victor McBride?

Victor smiles.

DONALD (CONT'D)

You killed yourself.

VICTOR MCBRIDE (DETECTIVE JAMES)

Faking your death isn't as hard as it seems. Especially when you have death on your side. Now impersonating a detective, that takes brains.

DONALD

Let my daughter go.

VICTOR MCBRIDE  
You can't escape Death.

Donald tries to get out of the wire, but his shoulder is still raw. He moans in pain.

VICTOR MCBRIDE (CONT'D)  
This one's for you.

Fatima removes her shirt and exposes her bra. The cuts on her arms are still fresh.

DONALD  
Leave her alone! Leave her the fuck alone!

Victor walks over to a log and picks up a lighter.

He sets the ground on fire. It makes the McBride symbol.

He stands over Fatima and removes her bra.

Donald struggles to get free.

Father Murphy's seeing eye dog appears from around a tree. It scoots over to Donald and chews on the wire.

Victor's eyes turn completely blood red. Fatima does as well.

A tremor soon follows.

The dog has trouble biting through.

Victor looks down at Fatima.

MALONE DEVIL MCBRIDE (V.O.)  
Take me to my promised land. Helen,  
daddy's coming for you.

The dog continues to chew through the wire.

The hearts vibrate and the jars break open. The hearts break apart and swarm around Fatima and Victor.

Victor gives Fatima the knife.

FATIMA STABS HERSELF IN THE CHEST

DONALD  
No!

She cuts into her chest, moving the blade down. Fatima doesn't make a sound.

The dog bites through the wire and scurries away.

Donald jumps through the fire and tackles Victor. She suddenly stops.

The knife remains in her chest. The heart pieces fall to the ground.

Fatima snaps out of it. She's in excruciating pain.

Victor snaps out of it too.

VICTOR MCBRIDE  
You motherfucker.

Donald tries to tackle him again, but Victor DDTs him to the ground.

Donald bleeds all over his own face.

Victor gets on top and punches him.

VICTOR MCBRIDE (CONT'D)  
I should tie you up, slice little cuts around your body, and place maggots inside them. Let them eat you from the inside out.

Victor sticks his finger inside the bullet wound.

VICTOR MCBRIDE (CONT'D)  
This will have to do.

Victor digs deeper.

Donald releases a scream.

Fatima struggles with the knife.

FATIMA  
Daddy!

Victor looks up. His eyes turn blood red again.

VICTOR MCBRIDE  
Excuse me, daddio.

Victor takes his finger out and walks back to Fatima. She crawls away.

Victor grabs her foot and brings her back to the center. The heart pieces swarm around them again. Victor takes the knife and holds it in place.

She spits up blood.

Donald gets up. He sprints over to them.

Fatima's eyes turn blood red again.

Donald attempts a punch, but gets kicked in his gut. He hits the ground.

Fatima stands up and continues to cut deeper into her chest. Blood pours out.

Victor picks up Donald and makes him watch.

VICTOR MCBRIDE (CONT'D)  
Do you feel it?

He watches as she cuts open her chest.

VICTOR MCBRIDE (CONT'D)  
Powerless, watching your loved one  
die, knowing you failed. How does  
it feel?

Donald kicks Victor in his groin. Victor releases him.

Donald then pulls out the knife from Fatima's chest. Blood flows out from Fatima's mouth.

Victor charges at him, but Donald is able to --

SLIT VICTOR'S THROAT

He holds his throat and stumbles into the fire. The hearts fall to the ground. Fatima does as well.

She spits up blood.

DONALD  
Baby. Baby.

FATIMA  
(muffled)  
Dad.

Donald calls out...

DONALD  
Murphy!

Fatima holds his hand.

FATIMA  
(muffled)  
I don't want to die.

DONALD  
You're not going to die. I'm right  
here.

He looks back and sees Victor on fire. He turns back.

DONALD (CONT'D)  
I promise. You're not going to die  
like this.

He takes off his shirt. His raw bullet wound makes this  
difficult. He wraps the shirt around her, covering her  
breasts. He takes her shirt and presses it against her chest.

DONALD (CONT'D)  
Where's the car?

FATIMA  
(muffled)  
On the east side.

DONALD  
Come on.

He picks her up in his arms. He struggles with her due to his  
condition. He jumps through the fire.

The fire rises. Devil McBride's voice is deafening.

McBride releases a roar.

Donald books it out of there.

#### **IN THE WOODED AREA**

Devil McBride's roar can be heard as Donald runs to the car.

Fatima looks like she's fading.

DONALD  
Hold on, baby.

FATHER MURPHY (V.O.)  
Go back.

Donald stops.

FATHER MURPHY (V.O.) (CONT'D)  
Follow your gut.

**IN THE SPELL SITE**

He returns with Fatima in his hands. The fire burns bright. Malone Devil McBride appears. He's naked, covered with lightning tattoos that are burned into his body.

MALONE DEVIL MCBRIDE  
Did that maggot scene turn you on?

DONALD  
You need a living man to finish it.

Malone checks him out.

The heart pieces rise and swarm them.

DONALD (CONT'D)  
I'm willing to become one with you.

Malone smiles and looks at the fading Fatima.

MALONE DEVIL MCBRIDE  
We're going to be one happy family.

He places her down. She awakes with dried blood around her mouth. Her chest still leaks blood.

FATIMA  
(muffled)  
Dad.

McBride's eyes turn blood red, but Donald's turn white.

FATIMA (CONT'D)  
(muffled)  
Dad, no.

Malone growls and launches himself at Donald, entering his body, trying to take control. With all the strength he has left, Donald PULLS OUT THE KNIFE and --

STABS IT THROUGH HIS OWN CHEST

piercing his heart.

Malone Devil McBride comes out of Donald's body. McBride's chest is ripped open and his heart is missing. McBride's eyes are white now.

McBride touches his bloody chest. Blood drips from his fingers.

MALONE DEVIL MCBRIDE  
Helen.

He dissolves, releasing a scream. The hearts and fire swarm around Fatima. They enter her body while she screams in agony.

This lasts for a few moments before the fire disappears.

Only the smoke remain.

### **LATER**

She wakes up, disoriented. She checks her chest and it's completely healed. She looks over at her dad and sees his lifeless body.

Tears roll down her cheeks.

FATIMA

Daddy.

She tries to touch him, but he's too hot. She breaks down.

Father Murphy's dog comes over to her. It barks at her.

It darts away, but stops suddenly. It barks at her again.

She doesn't know what to think of it.

The dog barks again.

She gets up and walks toward the dog. It runs deeper into the woods. She follows it.

### **IN THE WOODED AREA**

She follows the dog before she stops in her tracks.

FATHER MURPHY APPEARS NEXT TO THE DOG

He has his walking cane in hand as well.

FATHER MURPHY

You will be OK.

FATIMA

What happened?

FATHER MURPHY

The spell was a success.

Fatima looks confused.

FATHER MURPHY (CONT'D)  
Go back to your body. You'll find  
your answers soon.

**IN THE SPELL SITE**

She awakes surrounded by EMTs.

She's being carried out on a stretcher.

EMT  
Stay calm. You're going to be fine.

FATIMA  
Where's my dad?

She looks over and sees EMTs loading her dead family and  
friends up in body bags.

FATIMA (CONT'D)  
My dad?

EMT  
I don't think he made it.

She puts her hands over her head.

**INT. HOSPITAL - FATIMA'S ROOM - NIGHT**

Two detectives walk in.

DETECTIVE HENRY (40s), strong male, and DETECTIVE RUIZ (30s),  
looks like a leading lady.

Fatima rests in her bed with a blank stare.

DETECTIVE HENRY  
Fatima.

She looks their way.

DETECTIVE RUIZ  
My name's Detective Ruiz and this  
is my partner, Detective Henry. If  
you're ready, we would like to ask  
you a few questions.

DETECTIVE HENRY  
Can you tell us what happened?  
Anything you remember?

Fatima stares in the distance for a moment.

DETECTIVE RUIZ

Fatima.

She comes to.

FATIMA

Sometimes things aren't always what they seem to be, and sometimes they are exactly what they seem to be.

DETECTIVE RUIZ

Excuse me?

FATIMA

Do you believe in the supernatural?

DETECTIVE HENRY

We'll come back later.

They leave the room.

Fatima rubs the side of her face against a pillow.

**SUPER: FIVE YEARS LATER**

**EXT. PARK - DAY**

Fatima is in a park, reading a book. A YOUNG CHILD falls down in front of her.

YOUNG CHILD

Ouch.

The child looks at the knee and sees a small scrape.

FATIMA

Let me see.

YOUNG CHILD

Can you help me?

FATIMA

Of course.

She places her hand over the scrape.

FATIMA (CONT'D)

(sings)

*Hey my lambs, come my way. I need  
you to take my pain away. Please  
don't be shy, come and play.*

YOUNG CHILD

(sings)

*There's enough room for everyone to  
stay.*

Fatima laughs loudly. She whispers to the Young Child.

FATIMA

You're going to be a wonderful  
singer.

She removes her hand.

THE SCRAPE IS NO LONGER THERE

The Young Child is amazed.

FATIMA (CONT'D)

Be safe, kid.

Fatima walks away.

YOUNG CHILD

Thanks, miss. Are you an angel?

Fatima sighs.

FATIMA

I'm the devil's angel.

**FADE OUT.**

**THE END**