

Acolyte

written by

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EXT. TRAIN STATION - NIGHT

An isolated TRAIN STATION sits beside a single rail track.

The flickering lights of a small town can be seen in the distance.

Outside a single light illuminates the door.

Inside the station, lights are being switched off one by one.

INT. TRAIN STATION - CONTINUOUS

BARNEY (60), the lone station guard walks around flicking light switches.

The station is quickly in darkness except for a light coming from beneath the closed door of an office.

Entering the office, Barney sits at the desk and takes out his cell phone. Tapping it, a news page flashes up.

ON PHONE SCREEN: MISSING SKULL MYSTERY. Three police officers now confirmed dead. Archaeologists still missing.

The phone rings and a picture of LUCINDA (55) appears. Barney answers the call.

LUCINDA (O.S.)

Hi Honey, Tim and Laura got a late table at Porini's, we are on baby sitting duties.

A broad smile splits his face.

BARNEY

Is my little Princess awake? Let me talk to her.

LUCINDA (O.S.)

She's awake and wired. Sarah, Grampa wants to say hello to you.

The confident voice of SARAH (6) replaces Lucinda's.

SARAH (O.S.)

Gramma let me stay up late, she said you'll tuck me in tonight.

BARNEY

Well I better do as Gramma says or we'll both get into trouble.

SARAH (O.S.)

Hurry home. I want a story, the one with the bear.

BARNEY

The one with the bear. That's my favourite too, I'll be back as soon as I can, I promise. Can I speak to Gramma for a minute?

SARAH (O.S.)

Sure you can, love you Grampa.

BARNEY

Love you too Princess.

Sarah's voice is replaced by Lucinda's.

LUCINDA (O.S.)

How long you gonna be?

BARNEY

The ten oh five should be through shortly then I'm done for the night, be home about ten thirty.

LUCINDA (O.S.)

Okay. Drive safe, see you soon.

BARNEY

Bye.

The rumbling of a train is heard approaching.

Barney hangs up, places the phone in his pocket and walks towards the door that leads to the platform.

EXT. TRAIN STATION - CONTINUOUS

The train passes through the station and sounds the whistle.

Barney waves to the driver and turns to walk back inside when a sudden thud catches his attention.

Looking around he sees a hessian sack against the window of the station, he lifts it and enters the station.

Unseen and unheard by Barney, flashes of gunfire light up one of the carriages as it passes.

INT. TRAIN STATION - CONTINUOUS

Placing the sack on the desk he opens it and recoils in horror. Inside is a severed head.

Scrabbling for his phone, Barney starts tapping in a number when a deep, rasping, menacing voice can be heard.

VOICE (O.S.)

What is your name?

Dropping his phone, Barney runs for the door.

VOICE (O.S.) (CONT'D)
DON'T FUCKING LEAVE. What is your
name?

Turning he stares at the sack.

BARNEY
Barney.

VOICE (O.S.)
Open up the sack. Look at me.

BARNEY
No, I can't, I'm too afraid.

VOICE (O.S.)
Open the sack Barney and look at
my face.

Barney, terrified, walks to the desk and opens out the sack.

The head is barely human, vessels and tissue grow over the skull, the mouth is lipless revealing sharpened teeth. The partially reformed eyelids suddenly flick open.

Barney's eyes lock with the blood red eye sockets as his own eyes start to turn red around the iris.

VOICE (O.S.)
Now you belong to me.

BARNEY
What are you?

VOICE (O.S.)
I am the architect of your death.

BARNEY
What? What the hell are you?

VOICE (O.S.)
I am Aurek and you are will
contribute to my becoming.

Barney backs towards the door as the room darkens.

BARNEY
(terrified)
No. No no no.

VOICE (O.S.)
Take a pen, push it through your
hand.

Trembling and mesmerised he takes a pen from the desk and forces it through his hand, he falls to the floor in agony.

On the head, an ear starts to reform.

VOICE (O.S.)
Good. See me.

Barney screams as visions flash through his mind.

VISIONS:

A fully formed AUREK, a demon, slaying and torturing men, women and children.

Scenes of horror, fire, death and destruction.

Gun fire as three police officers are shot dead.

VOICE (O.S.) (CONT'D)
See me as I was, as I will be.
You will help rebirth me with the
death of your loved ones.

BARNEY
(crying)
No, I can't.

Barney tries to crawl towards the door.

VOICE (O.S.)
Put the pen in your eye.

Pulling the pen from his hand, he tries to resist but eventually pushes it into his eye.

BARNEY
NOOOOOOOOOOO.

VOICE (O.S.)
If you love them, kill them. Or I
will torture them as I have you.

BARNEY
I won't let you.

VOICE (O.S.) (CONT'D)
You're mine, you do my my
bidding. Now, be my acolyte.

Blood pouring down his face and from his hand, Barney stands as his eye now becomes fully red.

Grabbing the sack he heads outside.

VOICE (O.S.) (CONT'D)
Your family, your friends, your
neighbours, all will die. Soon, I
will be whole.

FADE OUT.