BLOOD CABIN

Based on Hansel & Gretel by
Brothers Grimm

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SUPER: "In early 14th century, a great famine struck the land of Europe"

EXT. SWAMP COTTAGE - DAY

A tiny cottage stands next to a quiet swamp. Lush forest surrounds the land. Fishes splash the water and birds sing on the trees.

WOMAN (V.O)
(scream)
Hans! Grace! Run!

HANS (6) and GRACE (13), two siblings in peasant clothing, run out of the cottage into the forest. Fresh BLOOD covers their garments and faces.

Again, the SCREAM of the woman bursts out from the cottage.

The two kids fasten their speed.

Hans covers his ears.

Grace turns her head and gazes at the cottage.

GRACE
I’m sorry...

Tears roll down from her eyes as she looks away from the cottage.

They run and run until they disappear into the wood.

EXT. FOREST: RIVERSIDE - TWILIGHT

A narrow river streams through the lush forest.

Grace sits on the side of the stream. Blood on her dress turns the water into red as she washes it.

Just a few steps from her is Hans. He sits under a big tree, staring at the ground. Dry blood still soaks his garments.

GRACE
Hans!

No response.
GRACE
Come on, clean yourself here!

Still no response.

Grace stops washing her clothes. She turns around and approaches Hans.

GRACE
Hans...

Hans lifts his head.

GRACE
Come on, you should wash your clothes. Or else, wild animals will--

HANS
--Why did they do it?

GRACE
Hans...

HANS
Mr. and Mrs. Abbott. Also Peter... (beat) ...They were our friends.

Grace sits beside Hans and embraces him.

GRACE
They say hunger can change people.

HANS
But Mom...

Tears roll down from Hans’ eyes.

Grace taps his shoulder.

GRACE
She’s in the better place now...

Tears start to come out from her eyes as well.

GRACE (uneasy)
Everything will be alright.
EXT. FOREST: RIVERSIDE - MIDNIGHT

Darkness surrounds the forest. An unseen wolf HOWLS loudly from distance.

Grace and Hans still sit under the big tree, embracing each other.

    HANS
    Grace...

    GRACE
    Yes?

    HANS
    I’m hungry...

    GRACE
    Me too...

Hans clutches his stomach.

    GRACE
    We wait until the sun comes out and we’ll find something to eat, alright?

A sound of THUNDER roars from the sky.

Rain starts to fall and turns into a really heavy one. Even the trees can’t protect the kids from it.

    GRACE
    My good god...

Grace helps her brother to stand up and runs away from their spot.

    HANS
    Where are we going?

    GRACE
    Finding a shelter!

They run deeper into the wood around without any clear direction.

    GRACE
    Hans, tell me if you see any--

    HANS
    --Grace, look!

Hans stops and grabs his sister’s clothes, stopping her.
He points at a light in a distance.

HANS
Is that a house?

GRACE
A house?

Hans runs toward the light. Grace follows him.

GRACE
Wait!

They get closer and closer to the source of light. It then reveals itself to be a HOUSE. Hans stops in front of the door and begins to knock it. Grace arrives.

GRACE
Hans, wait!

HANS
What’s wrong?

The door opens. A weak-looking, fat OLD WOMAN stands in front of them.

Grace and Hans look at her in the eyes. Their bodies shiver violently.

The Old Woman looks at the two kids with confusion.

OLD WOMAN
Oh my god. What brought you here, my children?

GRACE
We...

(beat)

We--

OLD WOMAN
--Ow, it doesn’t matter. Please come inside first. You have to make yourself warm.

The Old Woman plods into the house. Hans follows her.
GRACE
(whispers)
Hans!

HANS
What?

GRACE
I don’t think we should--

HANS
Why not?

Hans walks into the house.

Grace exhales a deep breath and follows him.

INT. FOREST HOUSE: LIVING ROOM – CONTINUOUS

Hans and Grace follow the Old Woman into a cozy living room. A fireplace sits in the corner, lightens up the entire space.

OLD WOMAN
You poor little creatures. Please make yourself warm.

Hans and Grace approach the fireplace and warm themselves there.

OLD WOMAN
You can stay here until the rain is over. If you want to stay any longer, you are very welcome.

GRACE
Maam, we really appreciate your hospitality.

OLD WOMAN
Ow, please don’t say that. It’s a necessity to help others, isn’t it? Besides, I live alone here in the woods. Having some companion is splendid for me.

GRACE
We’ll be very happy to accompany you, Maam.

OLD WOMAN
I’m glad to hear that. Anyway, let me bring you some food first, you look so thin and weak.
The Old Woman strolls into another room.

HANS
Grace, did you hear it? She’s going to bring us food!

GRACE
(whispers)
Don’t be too loud!

HANS
What’s wrong?

GRACE
Don’t you realize there’s something weird with her?

HANS
She seems like a nice old lady.

GRACE
Yet she walked very slowly when she entered here and really fast when she left!

HANS
What’s the matter with--

GRACE
--Hans! Enough! Is it even usual for an old woman live alone in the middle of the woods?

Grace stares at the room which the Old Woman left for.

GRACE
I think she’s hiding something.

INT. FOREST HOUSE: KITCHEN - NIGHT

A dim, dirty kitchen. Clouds of white steam come out from a big, boiling pot in the middle of the room.

Grace walks quietly into the kitchen.

She looks around, but the Old Woman is not there.

GRACE
Maam?

No answer.

Grace proceeds further into the room.
She notices the boiling pot and sniffs the steam that comes out of it.

GRACE
Good god...

Grace clutches her stomach, holding back her hunger.

She then takes a look on the inside of the pot and finds...

...a pile of HUMAN LIMBS, ORGANS, AND HEADS boiled inside.

Grace eyes widens. She covers her mouth with her hands and jumps backward.

Her body shakes violently as she tries to control her breathing.

Without her notice, the Old Woman approaches her from behind. Her hands hold a giant CLUB.

SMACK!

Grace falls down to the floor, unconscious.

INT. FOREST HOUSE: KITCHEN - LATER

A STONE OVEN in the corner.

The Old Woman throws a pile of firewood into the oven while her mouth WHISTLES cheerful melody.

A few steps away are Grace and Hans. Both are unconscious. A large CAGE confines them.

Grace slowly opens her eyes.

GRACE
What...

The Old Woman turns to Grace.

OLD WOMAN
Ow, you’re awake already! Pity the oven isn’t ready yet. But don’t worry. It won’t take any longer.

Grace shakes Hans.

GRACE
Hans! Wake up! Wake up!
OLD WOMAN
It was splendid that you and your brother came. I was longing for fresh meat. It’s hard to find fresh food nowadays, isn’t it?

Hans opens his eyes.

HANS
(limply)
Grace? What happened?

GRACE
She’s one of them!

The Old Woman throws the last piece of firewood into the oven.

OLD WOMAN
Alright, alright! Baking time!

The Old Woman approaches the cage.

Hans begins to close his eyes again.

GRACE
Hans! She’s going to eat us!

The Old Woman opens the cage.

OLD WOMAN
Alright, who will be the first?

GRACE
Go away!

Grace kicks her in the face.

OLD WOMAN
Ow! You’re a naughty little girl!

The Old Woman grabs Grace by her shoulder and pulls her out of the cage.

Grace grabs the Old Woman back and bites her neck.

The Old Woman SCREAMS in pain.

Grace then rips a big chunk of flesh from the neck. Blood bursts uncontrollably from the old Woman’s neck.

Grace tries to control her breathing while the old Woman trashes on the floor.
She then crawls back towards Hans.

GRACE
Hans!

Grace taps Hans’ cheek. He gradually opens his eyes.

GRACE
Come on! We have to get out from here!

HANS
Grace...

GRACE
Now!

HANS
...I don’t think I can walk anymore.

Grace doesn’t answer. She stares at Hans’ eyes and her breathing gets heavier.

She then turns her eyes to the Old Woman’s twitching body.

And to the burning oven.

INT. FOREST HOUSE: DINING ROOM - NIGHT

Grace and Hans sit opposite to each other on a DINING TABLE. Both of them hold one of the Old Woman’s BAKED LIMBS.

Grace looks at the cooked limb with disgust.
She looks at her brother, who remains silent.
Grace looks back at the limb.
Snaps her teeth.
Cries.
And takes a bite of the limb.

FADE OUT