

Fatal Revelation

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INT. HOUSE - ROOM - NIGHT

The walls are dark-purple.

A small round table and three chairs around it are the only furniture.

The flickering flame of three candles in the middle of the table illuminates the room.

A eerie atmosphere permeates the place.

INT. HOUSE - ROOM - MINUTES LATER

MARA, a good-looking woman and ALBERT, her straight-faced brother, both in their 30s, enter the room accompanied by a ghastly elderly man in his 70s. He is ALCESTER.

ALCESTER

(to Mara and Albert)

My name is Alcester, I'm from the Seance Services Association, I'll be the MEDIUM for this session. Please, follow my instructions.

Mara offers a subdued smile.

MARA

Nice meeting you, Mr. Alcester, I'm Mara.

Albert briefly looks at Alcester.

ALBERT

(coldly)

I'm her brother, Albert.

A brief pause.

Slowly, they take a seat around the table.

ALCESTER

What's the name of the spirit you want to contact?

MARA

Our Grandpa MARTIN

Alcester writes a few words on two pieces of paper and gives one paper to each of them.

ALCESTER  
 Let's start by joining hands. Recite  
 the ritual words with me.

The PARTICIPANTS join hands forming a circle.

They slowly say the words.

|                              |                              |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| ALCESTER                     | MARA, ALBERT                 |
| Our beloved Martin, we bring | (in unison)                  |
| our souls to you. Commune    | Our beloved Martin, we bring |
| with us, Martin, and move    | our souls to you. Commune    |
| among us.                    | with us, Martin, and move    |
|                              | among us.                    |

A long silence. The spirit is not responding.

Their expression shows deep disappointment.

ALCESTER  
 Martin wants to hear our voices  
 again. Let's repeat the chant.

Mara and Albert nod.

|                              |                              |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| ALCESTER                     | MARA, ALBERT                 |
| Our beloved Martin, we bring | (in unison)                  |
| our souls to you. Commune    | Our beloved Martin, we bring |
| with us, Martin, and move    | our souls to you. Commune    |
| among us.                    | with us, Martin, and move    |
|                              | among us.                    |

A few minutes of silence, then...

Three distinct, loud RAPS interrupt the silence.

Mara and Albert appear astonished. Alcester looks  
 hypnotized. He is in a state of trance.

ALCESTER  
 Martin, I'm going to ask you a few  
 questions. Please respond YES with  
 two raps and NO with one rap.

Alcester falls in deep concentration.

The other two participants close their eyes.

ALCESTER (cont'd)  
 Do you recognize us?

MARTIN

I know my grandchildren, I don't know you, but I perceive strange vibes. Something in your past, something evil.

ALCESTER

(irritated)

You're wrong, Martin. I'm just a Medium, I'm here to do a honest job.

Silence falls again in the room.

After a few seconds, Alcester restart the conversation.

ALCESTER (cont'd)

They would like to know where the box with the diamonds is located. Can you tell them?

One very loud knock on the table follow the question.

ALCESTER (cont'd)

Why not?

For a few minutes, a deep silence follows the question.

Alcester's mouth begins to move almost imperceptibly.

A low-pitched, unearthly voice comes out of his lips.

Martin's words are spoken through Alcester's mouth.

MARTIN

(slowly)

How did you find out about the diamonds?

Alcester stares at Mara and Albert with an inquisitive glance.

Mara stares at Albert.

MARA

(whispering)

Tell him.

Albert looks at Alcester as if he was waiting for his assistance.

Alcester's expression remains imperturbable.

ALBERT

I read the letters you wrote to Grandma when you were in South Africa.

MARTIN

Where did you find them?

ALBERT

I was cleaning the attic, they were in an old chest.

MARTIN

Who gave you the permission to read my letters?

MARA

Nobody, I was curious.

MARTIN

(upset)

Shame on you, you shouldn't have read those letters, they didn't belong to you.

ALBERT

You and Grandma are dead. What you care...we need those diamonds. You always said that you loved us. Prove it!

MARTIN

It is because I loved you that I don't want to give them to you. Terrible things can happen, those stones are cursed. Somebody may die.

ALBERT

How come you didn't die?

MARTIN

I was able to break the curse.

ALBERT

How?

A long silence.

MARA

(insistingly)

How Grandpa?

MARTIN

I...

A beat.

MARTIN (cont'd)

Now, it's no longer important.

ALBERT

Maybe, they were never cursed, it's only in your mind.

MARTIN

I saw my co-workers die after they hid a few stones.

A long silence interrupts the conversation. Alcester intervenes.

ALCESTER

Martin, are you tired? Do you want to rest?

Again, silence.

Suddenly, Alcester's lips move rapidly.

MARTIN

The truth is that I killed the man who jinxed me...a local warlock who wanted my diamonds. An African legend says that I've liberated myself from the curse when he died.

Mara is visibly shaken. Albert is stone-faced.

MARA

My God, were you ever caught?

MARTIN

No, I was able to escape and I brought with me the best stones. Nobody saw me again.

ALBERT

I don't believe in these primitive superstitions. Diamonds bring wealth not death, that's all they do. They make you rich.

MARTIN

Would you put your life at risk to get the diamonds?

ALBERT

Yes, I would, any time. It's all a figment of your imagination.

MARTIN

What about you Mara?

Mara glances at Albert. He nods.

ALBERT

(whispering to her)

OK.

MARA

(hesitantly)

I feel the same way.

A deep silence returns in the room.

Mara, Albert and Alcester stare at each other.

Finally, after a few minutes, Alcester's lips move slightly.

MARTIN

If this is what you want, I--

ALBERT

(forcefully)

Yes, tell us where they are.

MARTIN

The box is in the cemetery near grandma's grave. Excavate two feet from the headstone on its right side. You'll find the box under a foot of soil.

MARA

Thank you Grandpa, we'll never forget you.

ALBERT

Finally, my life will change.

The room is immersed in a funereal silence.

Mara and Albert stare at Alcester. He looks at them with a smirking face.

Alcester slowly extracts a small gun from his pocket and point it to Albert and Mara.

ALBERT (cont'd)  
What's going on?...Are you crazy?

MARA  
What you want from us? Who're you?

Alcester looks at them and laughs.

ALCESTER  
I'm the curse.

Two gun shots pierce the silence of the room.

Mara and Albert fall over the table, instantly dead. A rivulet of blood crawls down from the heads to their faces wetting the table's surface.

ALCESTER (cont'd)  
(smiling)  
You should have listened to your grandpa. His diamonds are really cursed.

He swiftly exits the room. Laughing.

EXT. CEMETERY - NIGHT

Alcester excavates furiously near a tomb.

The work is exhausting. He breathes with difficulty.

A persistent rain falls over the place. It's pitch-black. Indeed, a spooky atmosphere.

His movements slow down with each passing moment.

Suddenly, his shovel falls from his hands.

He compresses his chest with a grimace of pain.

He slowly collapses on the ground. Dead!

**The End**

