Knock

By

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MAN (V.O)
My grandmother used to tell me
ghost stories when I was a little
boy.

EXT. HOUSE IN THE MIDDLE OF THE WOODS - NIGHT
A rustling of leaves. Three HOODED FIGURES slowly walk out
of the shadows of the woods towards the house. One of them
carries a lantern. The lantern emits a yellowish light. Its
hue is pale and sickly.

MAN (V.O)
Her favorite one, the one she’d
always tell me, was the story of
the Kumakatok...
The HOODED FIGURES stop near the door.

DOOR’S PEEPHOLE POV - THREE HOODED FIGURES,
their faces obscured by shadows. A SMALL FIGURE is in the
middle. It is flanked by two other figures. They are much
taller, but are of equal height with each other. On the
left, TALL FIGURE and on the right FIGURE WITH LANTERN.

MAN (V.O)
(continuing)
...three robed figures that knock
on doors in the middle of the
night.
The SMALL HOODED FIGURE extends its hand to knock on the
door.

MAN (V.O)
When they knock, someone inside the
house dies.

INT. BASEMENT
The basement is lit by a single light bulb. The room is
bare, except for a table in the middle. A MAN sits with a
bottle of LIQUOR in his hand. The table is cluttered, on it
a HANDGUN, a bloodied AXE and some PICTURES. Under it are a
pile of BOTTLES.

(CONTINUED)
MAN (V.O)
They cannot be killed by human hands. You cannot hope to fight them off.

The man reaches for the liquor under the table, angrily sweeping the handgun aside as it gets in his way. The gun falls off the table.

MAN (V.O)
There are no hangings or protective talisman that can keep them at bay. No garlic, or silver or Wolfsbane.

Takes an even long swig of the liquor and downs the whole thing. He reaches down for yet another bottle.

MAN (V.O)
Leaving the door unanswered does not help either. One knock is all it takes.

FADE TO BLACK

MAN (V.O)
However, my grandmother told me there were four rules the Kumakatok must follow.

EXT. HOUSE IN THE MIDDLE OF THE WOODS - NIGHT

The SMALL FIGURE in the middle withdraws its hand. The door has a large WHITE CROSS painted on it.

MAN (V.O)
One, they cannot knock on doors with crosses on them.

The FIGURE WITH LANTERN approaches the door and raises his right hand. A grayish claw. It begins scratching at the white cross. The TALL FIGURE joins in.

MAN (V.O)
But that does not stop them.

The SMALL FIGURE walks around the house to a back door. The door lies on the ground, hinges splintered.

MAN (V.O)
Two, they cannot knock on doors which have been broken down.

The SMALL FIGURE enters the house.
INT. INSIDE HOUSE - NIGHT

The moonlight allows us to see the SMALL FIGURE moving across the living room. It moves fluidly, as if afloat. It goes across the kitchen and down a flight of stairs.

At the bottom of the stairs lies a thick, sturdy door. It has multiple small white crosses painted on it.

INT. BASEMENT

The MAN puts down the bottle. Empty again. He looks at one of the PICTURES. It is a picture of a child and a woman.

    MAN (V.O)
    Three, they must come for the sick,
    the disabled, or the evil.
    (beat)
    I’m no saint.


INT. INSIDE HOUSE - NIGHT

The SMALL FIGURE scratches at the door vigorously. The white crosses are almost gone.

INT. BASEMENT

The MAN puts the picture down. He reaches for something below the table.

    MAN (V.O)
    Four,

INT. INSIDE HOUSE - NIGHT

The SMALL FIGURE stands in front of the basement door. It is not scratching anymore. All traces of the white crosses are gone.

It extends its right hand towards the door.
INT. BASEMENT

The man holds the HANDGUN in his hands.

MAN (V.O)  
(continuing)
When they knock, someone in the house must die.

The light bulb flickers off, on, off.
A gun cocks in the darkness.
The light flickers on. Close up of the man’s grin.

INT. INSIDE HOUSE - NIGHT

Two loud knocks: Knock. Knock.

Close up of a grayish, gnarled fist pulling away from the door.
The SMALL FIGURE turns the doorknob. The door is not locked. It opens.

INT. BASEMENT

The light bulb flickers on and, in the foreground: the man slumped down, bullet hole on the side of his head.

A little further away from the man, the SMALL FIGURE watches in silence.
The SMALL FIGURE exits the basement.

INT. INSIDE HOUSE - NIGHT

The SMALL FIGURE closes the door behind him and turns toward the stairs. From its topmost part, a yellowish light begins to fade into view.

Its hue is pale and sickly.
The SMALL FIGURE turns towards the basement door and slowly begins to scratch a CROSS.

FADE TO BLACK

TITLE OVER: KNOCK