MY DEATH APPROACHES THEE

Written by

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Loosely based on my personal experience in my early twenties.

FADE IN:

BLACK SCREEN

SUPERIMPOSE:

The locations and names in this story have been changed to protect the innocent.

YOUNG FEMALE (V.O.)
My death approaches thee/ on the darkest night/ in the deepest sea/ on the land or in flight/ wether you are awake or if you are asleep/ there is nowhere to run/ there is nowhere to hide/ it doesn't matter who you tell/ because no one will ever believe that my death, my death approaches thee!

EXT. CEMETARY - DAY

A YOUNG MAN dressed in all black stares at a half a dozen fresh grave sights. Several headstones mark them. The weather is dark and gloomy.

YOUNG GIRL (V.O.)

You should be here, not us.

CLOSE ON YOUNG MAN'S FACE

The young man closes his eyes and a single tear falls.

BACK TO SCENE

An UNDERTAKER wearing overalls and a large straw hat walks up to where the young man is standing.

A seventh burial sight that hasn't been filled is situated by the other six.

THE UNDERTAKER

You are probably wonderin' why there's an empty grave.

YOUNG MAN

No. This is a graveyard, after all.

THE UNDERTAKER

For some reason unknown to me young folks drop like flies this time of year.

YOUNG MAN

Really? How long has this pattern you've noticed been happening, sir?

THE UNDERTAKER

I have been the caretaker of this cemetary for over 20 years now and for the last thirteen years the deaths just keep pilin' up. How old are you, son?

YOUNG MAN

Thirteen, sir.

THE UNDERTAKER

I think I'll have to say a special prayer for ya, son. The odds don't seem to be in your favor.

The old black man walks over by the seventh burial sight and digs a fresh hole beside it.

The young man turns around and walks towards a car that has two adults, male and female, wearing dark clothing as well, that stand motionlessly outside of the vehicle.

THE UNDERTAKER (CONT'D)

"Though I walk in the valley of darkness I shall not fear.."

As the sound of the old black man's voice diminishes as the young man walks away a strong gust of wind almost knocks the young man down.

MYSTERIOUS WHISPER (V.O.)

My death approaches thee...

The young man turns around and notices that the old black man heard the voice as well.

Their eyes lock for what seems like a small eternity with the knowledge of what was heard.

The old black man can see the fear in the young man's eyes as he shakes his head denying what just happened.

The young man turns around and runs toward the car with the adults that continue to wait.

The young man and the two adults get inside the car and it drives away.

The old black man, still frightened by what he had heard, holds his shovel right beside him.

He coughs, grips his chest and then his eyes turn white as day. His lifeless body falls into the freshly dug burial sight face first.

INT. CAR(RIDING DOWN ROAD) - DAY

The young man sits in the backseat of the car as it rides down the road. His MOTHER and FATHER are in the front seat with the father driving.

MOTHER

Are you okay, Son.

YOUNG MAN

Yes, mother.

FATHER

Were you close to them?

YOUNG MAN

The son was in my science class. I never met the rest of them.

MOTHER

That was the third time this week someone from your school has mysteriously lost their lives.

FATHER

I am seriously considering taking that management position upstate. This town is getting a very bad reputation for this.

MOTHER

You expect me to leave New Salem?

FATHER

Do you want our son to be next on this list?

YOUNG MAN

Mom?

MOTHER

Yes, Nathaniel.

NATHANIEL

Does "my death approaches thee" mean anything to you?

Nathaniel looks at the rear view mirror and he can see the fear in his mother's face as he mentions this.

MOTHER

"My death approaches thee?". It sounds like something out of the Bible, doesn't it, Father?

FATHER

Was that something you heard at church, Son?

NATHANIEL

No, I think the caretaker said it as I was leaving the cemetary.

MOTHER

Don't bother with such nonsense!

NATHANIEL

I wouldn't have mentioned it if it wasn't for the look I saw on his face. I've never seen someone so frightened before.

FATHER

You'd think that a man that buries people for a living wouldn't be afraid of anything.

MOTHER

I don't want you to mention this to your sisters when we get home, Young Man. Do I make myself clear?

Nathaniel looks at the rear view mirror again and sees both the fear and the exchange of knowing glances between his father and mother.

NATHANIEL

Yes, Ma'am.

EXT. OLD HOME - DAY

Nathaniel and his parent's car pulls up into the driveway of a very old mansion.

The car parks and the family approaches the doorway.

INT. OLD HOME - DAY

The front door swings open and the light from outside is almost blinding. Three shadows can be seen moving forward then the vision of Nathaniel and his parents becomes clear.

Three YOUNG GIRLS play with dolls and other toys in the living room as TWO REDHEADED WOMEN sit on the couch.

The redheaded women stands up immediately as Nathaniel and his mother and father approach.

MOTHER

BRIANA! CAITLIN! Why on earth are you here!?

(Both sisters will speak with a heavy Irish accent.)

BRIANA

Are you not happy to see us, sister?

MOTHER

I just wasn't expecting to see you, dear.

CAITLIN

We've come with gifts and news!

The three little girls run around them in circles and play with their dolls.

LITTLE GIRL#1

(mimicking accent) Auntie Caitlin has a bun in the oven!

MOTHER

Is this true?

Everyone looks at Caitlin's very swollen abdomen.

BRIANA

You think she got that by downing too many pints, lass?

LITTLE GIRL#2

I know how it happened! When a boy inserts his penis into a woman's vagina...

MOTHER

That'll be enough, Young Lady! Father, please give them a bath and get them ready for bed while I catch up with my sisters.

Nathaniel walks up slowly and his aunts' attention diverts to him.

BRIANA

Nathaniel, you're still...

Caitlin bumps into Briana and this interrupts her.

CAITLIN

... Awake. I can't imagine how hard it must be for you losing your classmate.

NATHANIEL

We weren't really that close.

MOTHER

Go help your father with your sisters then come back down after they are sound asleep, Dear.

NATHANIEL

Yes, Ma'am. Congratulations Aunt Caitlin.

CATTLIN

You have grown into such a charming young man, Nathaniel. I hope my little miracle will be just like you one day.

Caitlin bends over and kisses Nathaniel on his cheek. Nathaniel hugs her back and then hugs his Aunt Briana as well.

Nathaniel then heads upstairs and the sound of footsteps trails off.

MOTHER

(addressing Caitlin) Just like him?

CAITLIN

If I am as lucky as you are, sister.

BRIANA

I don't think any four-leaved clovers or rabbits feet had anything to do with your good fortune, sister.

MOTHER

The funny thing about luck. It always runs out when you need it the most.

CATTLIN

That is why we are here. We need to stay for a while. It would seem that we are no longer welcome in Newbridge...

BRIANA

...or Dublin. The Obrian's have made sure of that.

MOTHER

The Obrian's? What on God's green Earth have you done?

Caitlin looks down at her swollen abdomen then looks up at her sister and smiles.

BRIANA

What do you think?

MOTHER

Do you really believe that this will change anything?

Unknown to Nathaniel's mother and Briana, Nathaniel sits at the corner of the stairs and spies on their conversation.

INT. OLD HOME - UPSTAIRS - SISTER'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

The three young girls are all dressed in their nightclothes and lay in their beds.

Nathaniel sits indian-style near the foot of their bed. The light is dim.

GIRL# 1

Tell us a story so we can go to sleep.

NATHANIEL

Have you heard LITTLE RED RIDING
HOOD?

GIRL#2

I've already heard that one. I want to hear another one!

NATHANIEL

Why don't you tell me a story?

GIRL#2

What story could we tell you that you wouldn't know?

You said mother is always telling you stories. How about one of hers?

GIRL#2

But she said we weren't supposed to tell you.

NATHANIEL

What nonsense! I am your older brother!

GIRL#2

Okay...

GIRL#1

I want to tell the story!

GIRL#3

No, me!

NATHANIEL

I've got an idea. How about you each take a turn telling me different parts of this story you are not supposed to be telling me?

GIRL#1

That sounds like fun!

NATHANIEL

Okay, GABRIELLA, you can start first.

GABRIELLA

"My death approaches thee/ on the darkest night and in the deepest sea/.."

GIRL#2

"On land or in flight/ wether you are awake or if you are asleep/.."

GIRL#3

"There is nowhere to run/ there is nowhere to hide/ No one will listen/ in only God can you confide/..."

GABRIELLA

"It doesn't matter who you tell because no one will ever believe/ that my death, my death approaches thee.."

Mother told all of you this story?

GABRIELLA

She said it was an old Irish legend.

NATHANIEL

What was this legend about?

GABRIELLA

A man was caught cheating on his wife and he left her. She..

GIRL#2

Placed a curse on her husband's lover and all her descendants.

GIRL#3

The firstborn child dies three days after he or she is born.

NATHANTEL

This is mother's idea of a bed time story? Why did she tell you I wasn't supposed to hear this?

GIRL#2

Maybe because you are her firstborn child.

GABRIELLA

It's only a story, Nathaniel.

Nathaniel's father KNOCKS on the DOOR and slowly enters the dimly lit ${\tt room.}$

FATHER

Why aren't you asleep, girls?

GABRIELLA

We were telling Nathaniel stories!

FATHER

What stories, my Dear?

GIRL#2

The one mommy tells us every halloween!

GIRL#3

The one about OLD MAN MCHENRY!

"My death approaches thee", Father. Does this remind you of anything?

FATHER

Your mother has requested your presence, Son. I'll take over from here.

NATHANIEL

But, Dad.

FATHER

Do as you are told, Son.

NATHANIEL

I know what I heard, Father!

Nathaniel storms out of the room and SLAMS the DOOR SHUT.

GIRL#2

Are we in trouble, daddy?

INT. OLD HOME - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Mother and her two redheaded sisters, Caitlin and Briana sit in different sofas in the living room.

Mother drinks her tea as Caitlin PLAYS an IRISH TUNE on her ${\tt VIOLIN}$.

Briana dances as the MUSIC PLAYS. The song is interrupted as Nathaniel enters the living room via the stairs.

MOTHER

Are your sisters asleep?

NATHANIEL

Not yet. Father is tucking them in right now.

MOTHER

I'm surprised. They usually fall asleep in the middle of their bedtime stories with me.

NATHANIEL

Gabriella shared a very interesting bedtime story with me tonight, Mother.

CAITLIN

Was it The Three Little Pigs?

No. It was a bedtime story mom made up called "My death approaches thee."

Mother drops her TEA GLASS and it SHATTERS on the floor. Briana stops dancing and immediately cleans the broken glass on the floor.

Briana exits the living room to throw the broken glass away.

CAITLIN

This story is an old Irish legend, dear boy. I'm surprised your mother never told you it before.

Briana enters the living room.

BRIANA

Are you talkin' bout the one about OLD MAN MCHENRY?

CATTLIN

Yes, my dear sister.

MOTHER

Since it would seem that my son is going to get to hear this story after all maybe we should do it properly, sisters.

Caitlin PLAYS an IRISH TUNE with her VIOLIN as her sister begins to narrate the story.

BRIANA

The year was 1872...

STORY SEQUENCE - EXT. FOREST - DAY

The wind blows furiously through the overgrown trees. Every shade of green imaginable shines vividly in rich color.

The leaves and the trees seem to grow before one's eyes. Flowers of every imaginable color bloom all around.

A YOUNG WOMAN with long braided blonde hair and a loose fitted dress strolls through the forest without shoes. Doves and other wildlife seem to be fond of her and draw nearer and nearer.

BRIANA (V.O.)

KATIE O'BRIAN was only fifteen years old when she married Old Man Mchenry. Her grace and beauty was legendary. People would say flowers would bloom and gentle rains followed her as she would take her strolls through the enchanted forest.

Katie walks toward a clearing and a small castle is situated by a cliff overlooking the sea.

Katie carries a basket fulls of apples and smiles as she heads towards the castle.

BRIANA (V.O.)

But the greatest light has a way of casting the darkest shadow.

INT. CASTLE - STAIRWAY - DAY

Katie continues to carry her basket of fresh apples up a spiral staircase.

She approaches a large door and the sound of a woman and man moaning grows louder and louder.

INT. CASTLE - BEDROOM - DAY

Katie stands in the doorway of the bedroom and discovers OLD MAN MCHENRY naked in bed with a beautiful curly REDHEADED WOMAN making love.

The redheaded woman, on top of Old Man Mchenry, turns and smiles at Katie. She laughs wickedly then turns back around and continues to have sex with Old Man Mchenry.

BRIANA (V.O.)

People say that a dark storm filled with terrible thunder and lightning appeared out of nowhere. Trees snapped like twigs and entire villages burned to the ground that day.

The redheaded woman gets off of Old Man Mchenry as he lies passed out on the bed snoring.

She approaches Katie, naked and smiling wickedly. THUNDER CRASHES with lightning flashing all around. The scene turns very dark outside of the huge bedroom window.

REDHEADED WOMAN

I think that was the first time your husband has experienced what it is like to be with a real woman, Katie O'brian Mchenry.

Katie stands in shock with tears flowing down her face.

KATIE

ELIZABETH MCSHADEN, you are a witch and a whore!

ELIZABETH

And I am carrying Old Man Mchenry's first born child.

KATIE

This child is an abomination in the eyes of God and you, Elizabeth, are cursed for all eternity. You and your children's children will lose your firstborn child.

Katie takes a knife and cuts her own hand. Blood flows out violently. She then approaches Elizabeth and forcibly grabs her arm.

Katie cuts a giant gash on Elizabeth's hand as well. She then grabs Elizabeth's hand with her own bleeding hand.

KATIE (CONT'D)

Bound by our blood they shall only see the light of day for three days then MY DEATH APPROACHES THEE!

Katie lets go of Elizabeth's hand and takes steps backwards and then trips through the large open window.

EXT. CASTLE - DAY(DARK AND STORMY)

Katie's body falls through the air towards the sea below.

Her body hits the water and a large splash follows.

BRIANA (V.O.)

After Katie O'brian died the clouds parted and the sun began to shine but..

The dark storm mysteriously disappears and only a cloudless sky can be seen.

EXT. FARMLANDS - DAY

People tend their fields, which are healthy and full of produce including corn, berries etc.

All of the fields crops wither in front of people's eyes for no reason at all.

BRIANA (V.O.)

A great famine engulfed all of Ireland forcing many poor, starving farmers to flee to the new world.

END STORY SEQUENCE.

INT. OLD HOME - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Caitlin places her violin next to her on the sofa and begins massaging her swollen belly.

Briana sits on a couch as well.

NATHANIEL

So, the legend of Old Man Mchenry is a true story?

MOTHER

I think Nathaniel has heard enough for one night. It's time for you to go to bed, Young Man. You have church to attend in the morning.

NATHANIEL

But Aunt Briana hasn't answered my question yet, Mother.

MOTHER

If it is a true story would you actually believe it?

NATHANIEL

I'm a little too old for fairy tales, mother.

MOTHER

Do you think the lessons you learn in church are fairy tales as well?

NATHANIEL

To be honest I've never seen anyone walk on water yet.

MOTHER

I do believe that there was a prophet in the book of KINGS that cursed a man and all his descendents with leprosy just for telling a lie! Sometimes the truth can be very dark and very brutal, Son. I knew it would be too much for you to handle. That is why I forbid your sisters to tell you.

NATHANIEL

Should I believe that what I heard the old caretaker say today and the story you just shared with me was just a coincidence?

MOTHER

Believe whatever you want, Son, but you don't see anybody dropping dead after only living for three days, do ya?

NATHANIEL

I've only been raised to believe that a man rose from the grave after being dead for three days, Mother.

BRIANA

Nothin gets past you, does it, Nathaniel?

CAITLIN

Aye, he is a sharp one!

MOTHER

Off to bed now. If you don't make it to church then you wouldn't be able to make any of your smart-ass remarks to me you little heathen!

Nathaniel turns and starts to walks up the stairs.

MOTHER (CONT'D)

You're forgettin your manners, Lad.

Nathaniel turns around then marches down the stairs. He kisses his mother on her cheek and hugs his Aunt Briana and Aunt Caitlin.

NATHANIEL
Good night, Aunt Briana. Good
night, Aunt Caitlin.

FADE TO WHITE.

DREAM SEQUENCE - EXT. CEMETARY - DAY(GLOOMY)

Nathaniel is walking by himself in the same cemetary from the previous scene. He is dressed in his best Sunday suit complete with coat and tie but his feet are bare.

Ghosts rise from several graves, fifty in all. Small children, middle-aged adults and senior citizens all appear.

Nathaniel finds himself surrounded by them. He makes eye contact with several of them and notices that they never blink.

One of the ghosts, a small girl ghost, floats towards Nathaniel.

GIRL GHOST

How many more must take your place?

Another ghost rises out of a freshly dug grave. It is the ghost of the Old Black Man. He floats past the little girl ghost and stops right in front of Nathaniel.

Nathaniel appears frightened and cannot speak.

The Old Black Man pulls off his wedding ring and places it in Nathaniel's inner coat pocket.

The Old Black Man leans forward so he can whisper in Nathaniel's ear.

THE UNDERTAKER'S GHOST (whispering) You will remember when the time is right. Now I must take you to where you belong.

The Ghost of the Old Black Man picks Nathaniel up over his head and begins to float towards a freshly dug open grave.

Nathaniel can see where the ghost is taking him and attempts to escape his clutch but he is unable to do so.

THE UNDERTAKER'S GHOST (CONT'D) Though I walk in the valley of the shadow of death I shall not fear...

The ghost of the Old Black Man tosses Nathaniel into the grave.

INT. FRESHLY DUG GRAVE (TOTAL DARKNESS EXCEPT FOR NATHANIEL)

Nathaniel seems to fall for an eternity.

NATHANIEL

Aaaaaaggghhh!!!!

END DREAM SEQUENCE.

INT. OLD HOME - UPSTAIRS - NATHANIEL'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Nathaniel falls out of his bed and lands on the floor of his room.

The impact wakes Nathaniel up immediately. A couple of seconds pass and his father opens the door to his room.

Nathaniel's father rushes towards Nathaniel to make sure he is okay.

FATHER

What happened, Son? I heard screaming.

NATHANIEL

Someone was screaming?

FATHER

It sounded like you. What are you doing on the floor, Son?

Nathaniel, still confused as to why he is lying on the floor himself, looks around the room in bewilderment.

Nathaniel's mother, aunts and sisters all stand in the doorway to see what is wrong.

NATHANIEL

I honestly don't know. Why is everyone in here?

Nathaniel's father helps him back up on his feet.

FATHER

I think it's time that we all went back to bed. I don't want us to be late for church tomorrow. Everyone turns around and heads towards their rooms.

CLOSE ON NATHANIEL'S BEDROOM WINDOW

A female apparition's face and hands press against the exterior of Nathaniel's bedroom window.

It's eyes are pitch black and it's face seems to be rotten exposing a skull-like face with exposed teeth.

EXT. CHURCH - DAY

A tiny, old church is situated in front of the old cemetary from the previous scene.

Many cars are parked in the parking lot in front of the church.

The sound of the CHURCH BELL ECHOES LOUDLY.

INT. CHURCH - DAY

The small church is packed with people. Nathaniel and his family are situated in the middle of the church.

The sound of the CHURCH BELL CEASES.

The PREACHER walks up to the pulpit and raises his hands up high.

PREACHER

My dear brothers and sisters. Every time this year New Salem has experienced many mysterious deaths that seem to defy explanation. Many of you are related to some of them. Some of you were either friends or acquaintances. Some have asked me if your beloved departed have gone to heaven or hell or even purgatory. One thing I can tell you is that from the book of Genesis to the book of Revelations there is no mention of purgatory anywhere to be found. In the Bible it states, and I quote, "The dead will no longer have any share of the pleasures, pains or concerns with the world of the living..."

WOMAN (O.S.) Aaaaaghhh!!!

The interruption of the woman's shrieks of terror fills the church.

EXT. CEMETARY - DAY

A small group of people stand near the freshly dug, open grave.

An OLD BLACK WOMAN and her DAUGHTER approach the scene.

People that were in the church walk towards the source of the disturbance with Nathaniel and his family included.

A MAN that was standing near the freshly dug grave approaches the old black woman and attempts to keep her from seeing why the other woman screamed.

The man has to use all of his strength to keep her from seeing the reason behind the scream.

OLD BLACK WOMAN (screaming) It's him, isn't it?

The old black woman falls to her knees and sobs like a newborn baby.

Many people rush forward to console her.

OLD BLACK WOMAN (CONT'D)
This town is cursed!

The old black woman has several people that hug and console her. For a reason unknown to everyone and herself she pushes all of them away with supernatural strength.

Her eyes go from dark brown to a pale blue color and she walks toward the crowd with a different step as if she is someone else.

She stops and looks at everyone closely.

OLD BLACK WOMAN (CONT'D) (with Irish accent) Me patience is wearin' thin. The bloodline of the Mcshaden whore that stole my man will soon come to an end!

The old black woman collapses and is unconscious on the ground.

The man that had attempted to restrain her walks towards her then stops abruptly.

His eyes also go from a dark brown to a light blue color.

THE MAN

(Irish accent) There is nowhere to run, there is nowhere to hide. It doesn't matter who you tell because no one will ever believe that my death approaches thee!

The man collapses on the ground. One BRAVE MAN that stands in the crowd approaches him. He kneels down to examine the unconscious man.

BRAVE MAN

(Addressing the crowd) He is dead!

The old black woman's body as well as the brave man's body continues to lie motionless on the ground where they fell.

A strong gust of wind blows through the cemetary.

Flowers that are situated on several graves wither before everyone's eyes.

The crowd, Nathaniel's family included, flee cemetary in terror.

INT. OLD HOME - LIVING ROOM - LATE AFTERNOON

Nathaniel and the rest of his entire family conjurn in the living room.

The father paces back and forth. The young girls are next to their mother crying.

FATHER

Everyone is leaving town! We should be packing right now!

MOTHER

There is nowhere we can go. She will always find us.

FATHER

What are you talking about, mother?

NATHANIEL

The legend of Old Man Mchenry, father. It's true. Isn't it, Mother?

FATHER

But that was just a bedtime story you used to put our girls to sleep.

MOTHER

I was preparing them for the future, my love.

FATHER

What are you talking about? Has everyone in this house gone mad?

The Mother walks over to a very large bookshelf and pulls out a large old book. The title OUR FAMILY is in bold print on the cover.

The mother opens the book to a page near the center of the book.

CLOSE ON BOOK

A picture shows a redheaded woman with two baby redheaded girls. The caption at the bottom reads ELIZABETH MCSHADEN MCHENRY, 1877.

Another picture of a small baby boy is right next to this picture. the caption at the bottom reads BABY NATHANIEL MCHENRY, BORN 1873, DIED 1873.

MOTHER (V.O.)

I named our son after her first victim. He was my great, great, great uncle.

BACK TO SCENE

No one in the room, including the father, makes a sound.

MOTHER

The women in our family have passed this story down to their children and their children's children. We have kept this secret and the blood is on our hands.

NATHANIEL

Did I have an older brother or sister, mother?

MOTHER

No, my dear. You were the first to survive the curse in over 200 years.

What about the curse? Why is she attacking the people of this town?

MOTHER

Before you were born I persuaded your father to move us to New Salem for a reason, Young Man. I had heard stories in the old country about an old lady that was gifted in the supernatural arts..

NATHANIEL (interrupting) A witch?

MOTHER

If it weren't for that witch you wouldn't be here with us right now.

NATHANIEL What did you do, mother?

MOTHER

I paid her a visit and she placed a spell over you to protect you from the curse. After you had survived I thought nothing more about it and I always believed that the deaths that have happened here had nothing to do with us.

NATHANIEL

Now what do you think, mother?

MOTHER

The spell protects you but someone is always made to take your place.

NATHANIEL

So, the voice I heard and the nightmares I have been having are all because of me! They all died because of me!

MOTHER

No, Young Man. Their blood is on my hands. The curse of Katie O'brian is eternal and there is nothing in Heaven or Earth that will break it.

NATHANIEL

What about Aunt Caitlin's baby?

MOTHER

He or she will be an Angel that watches over it's younger siblings if your aunt decides to have more.

CAITLIN

My child will survive!

MOTHER

How can you be so sure of yourself, Caitlin? You heard what she said in the cemetary. She is after us all now!

CAITLIN

That spirit is bound by her curse and her curse is bound by blood! If she would dare murder her own great, great, great nephew or neice she will burn!

NATHANIEL

What is she talking about, mother?

MOTHER

Your Aunt Caitlin thinks that she has undone the curse by seducing Oliver O'brian; Katie O'brian's only living relative.

CAITLIN

I did what you wouldn't dare do, sister. If I am right your son and daughters won't have to know the pain that our mother and our mother's mother went through!

NATHANIEL

Have you ever spoke to our minister about any of this?

MOTHER

If I had I'd probably be sittin in a padded room right now, boy!

NATHANIEL

Since I was a small boy you have forced us to go to church every Sunday and every chance you get you are quoting scripture but in reality my own mother is nothing but a hypocrite and a coward!

Mother slaps Nathaniel in the face. Hard.

NATHANIEL (CONT'D)

So, we're the lepers and the child murdering Katie O'brian is the prophet?

Mother rights down an address and hands it to Nathaniel. She then slumps down on her couch in tears.

Nathaniel places the piece of paper inside his coat pocket then he notices something strange. He pulls something out and examines it closely.

A gold ring is in Nathaniel's hand.

THE UNDERTAKER'S GHOST (V.O.)

You will remember when the time is right.

Caitlin and Briana rush to their sister's side.

MOTHER

I've given you the same choice I had many years ago, Son. You can go to the minister and see if his infinite wisdom can lift this unholy curse or you can visit that witch that saved your life! Who knows, you might get lucky and we can all have your nephew's first birthday party here!

FATHER

I can't allow my son to do this, mother!

MOTHER

He is the only one that may be able to save us all!

Nathaniel shows his family the ring.

NATHANIEL

You see this, father? This belonged to the undertaker at the cemetary. He gave it to me in my dream last night! All the souls that have taken my place in death deserve better.

Nathaniel turns around and walks towards the front door.

EXT. SUBURBAN STREET - NIGHT

Nathaniel walks down the street he has lived all of his life. Every home on the street is completely deserted.

The street is dirty and the trash service has not run at all.

A couple of homes front doors are left wide open with the lights still on inside them.

EXT. CHURCH - NIGHT

Nathaniel approaches the front entrance of the town church. One car occupies the parking lot.

INT. CHURCH - OFFICE - NIGHT

The minister is busy packing his clothes and other things into a suitcase that is placed on his desk.

SEVERAL LOUD KNOCKS on his DOOR are heard.

NATHANIEL (O.S.)

FATHER HENRY, I need to speak with you! Open the door, please!

Father Henry ignores Nathaniel and continues to pack his suitcase.

Nathaniel opens the door without permission and enters the room to find Father Henry busy as he organizes his things in his suitcase.

FATHER HENRY

I'm sorry, Nathaniel, I was given a transfer to another parish. Your new minister should be here next week. Whatever problem you are having I'm sure you can take it to him.

NATHANIEL

Remember the sermon you gave a few weeks ago about how God really felt about cowards?

FATHER HENRY

We all fall short of his everloving mercy and grace, Son. There is only one perfect human being, my boy, and I am not him.

I know why everyone is dying, father. I need your help! If you are truly a man of God you will know what needs to be done!

Father Henry SLAMS his SUITCASE SHUT.

FATHER HENRY

That damn mother of yours came to me once. When she was pregnant with you! I told her if she kept talkin about this crazy curse someone will make sure that she would be put away for good!

A look of shame and guilt overcomes Nathaniel as he hears what is said.

NATHANIEL

If my mother is as crazy as you had said then why do you pack so quickly?

Father Henry grabs his suitcase and tries to walk past Nathaniel but Nathaniel doesn't allow him to leave the room.

FATHER HENRY

Let go of me, boy!

NATHANIEL

Not until you tell me what I must do to stop this!

Father Henry and Nathaniel struggle for a few seconds before Father Henry breaks free from Nathaniel's grip.

FATHER HENRY

There is no hope, boy! If what your mother told me is true there is no hope! The only way to end this once and for all is through love and forgiveness. That wicked spirit that was once Katie O'brian doesn't understand or care about anything but vengeance!

Father Henry forces himself past Nathaniel and leaves his office.

INT. CHURCH - NIGHT

Father Henry walks through the center of the dark church. The only light visible is the streetlights that pierce through the windows.

Nathaniel follows several feet behind him.

NATHANIEL

That's it! That's your answer?

Father Henry stops walking and turns around.

FATHER HENRY

All of you always expect some grandiose, complicated explanation from me! The answer is simple, son. It is the truth we all run from and it is the one thing that we cannot ever accept.

The front doors of the church are blasted wide open by a strong gust of wind that almost knocks both of them off of their feet.

The dark church fills with thick fog.

MYSTERIOUS WHISPER

My death approaches thee!

Father Henry runs out of the church as fast as he can.

EXT. CHURCH - PARKING LOT - NIGHT

Father Henry runs up to the single car in the parking lot. He gets his keys and hurriedly attempts to unlock the driver side door.

Father Henry opens the door, gets in the car and drives away.

Nathaniel chases after him.

NATHANIEL

(shouting) Father Henry, wait!!!

EXT. SUBURBAN STREET - NIGHT

Father Henry's car drives down the empty street going very fast.

The TIRES SCREECH as the car takes the turns.

INT. FATHER HENRY'S CAR(DRIVING DOWN ROAD) - NIGHT

Father Henry, still gripped with fear, drives as fast as he can down the dark road.

A young girl wearing a plain white dress stands in the center of the road.

Father Henry slams on the brakes to avoid hitting her with the car as the CAR SCREECHES and turns sideways.

The young girl(Katie O'brian) becomes transparent as the car passes right through her and HITS a TREE on the side of the road.

EXT. SIDE OF SUBURBAN STREET - NIGHT

Father Henry's totalled car is crunched up against and old tree on the side of the road.

The driver side's glass is shattered and Father Henry is lying halfway out of the car. He is bleeding profusely and half conscious.

Steam is boiling out of the hood of the car as well.

Father Henry looks up and sees the young girl(Katie O'brian) standing in the center of the road. The young girl transforms into a withered, skeletal corpse then vanishes entirely.

A wicked laugh echoes as this happens.

As the spirit of Katie O'brian vanishes Nathaniel runs up to the wrecked vehicle towards Father Henry.

NATHANIEL

Are you alright? Let me call an ambulance for you!

FATHER HENRY

It's too late for me, boy. You were right, lad. God does hate a coward.

NATHANIEL

That's bullshit! We need to get you to a hospital!

Father Henry reaches out and grabs Nathaniel by his shirt and pulls him closer.

FATHER HENRY

FATHER HENRY (CONT'D)

(coughs up blood) You may not believe in me or your mom but God's truth is eternal...

Father Henry dies as the last words leave his lips.

NATHANTEL

Father Henry! Father Henry!

Nathaniel shakes Father Henry's lifeless body in an attempt to revive him but it proves to be useless.

Father Henry's lifeless head rolls over and his lifeless eyes have turned a milky white color.

A LOUD THUMP ECHOES as Nathaniel drops Father Henry's BODY on the CAR.

Tears well up in Nathaniel's eyes as he steps backwards in disbelief.

Nathaniel stands in the center of the abandoned suburban street.

A strong gust of wind blows up several dead leaves into the air.

MYSTERIOUS WHISPER (V.O.)

There is nowhere to run, there is nowhere to hide...

Another strong gust of wind almost knocks Nathaniel off of his feet.

MYSTERIOUS WHISPER (V.O.)

No one will listen, in only God can you confide...

A third gust of wind successfully knocks Nathaniel down.

MYSTERIOUS WHISPER (V.O.)

It doesn't matter who you tell because no one will ever believe, that my death, MY DEATH APPROACHES THEE!

Nathaniel struggles to get back up on his feet but successfully manages to do so. He wipes the dirt and dust off of himself.

He pulls out the piece of paper in his coat pocket and takes a closer look.

Using his cellphone as a flashlight he shines the light on the paper to read the address.

CLOSE ON PAPER

The address on the paper reads "1313 WICCAN WAY, NEW SALEM"

NATHANIEL (V.O.)

The only thing missing is some ridiculously cheesy eerie music in the background.

BACK TO SCENE

Nathaniel holds his phone close to his face.

NATHANIEL

1313 Wiccan Way, New Salem...

CLOSE ON PHONE

The cellphone's screen shows the navigation system locating the address which is 1.2 miles away.

BACK TO SCENE

Nathaniel walks down the dark street alone.

EXT. SUBURBAN STREET - NIGHT

Nathaniel approaches a street corner and looks up at a street sign that reads WICCAN WAY.

He walks down the street until he approaches a wooded driveway with an old mailbox with the numbers 1313 on it's side.

EXT. 1313 WICCAN WAY - DRIVEWAY - NIGHT

As nathaniel walks up the wooded driveway many large candles are lit up on both sides of the driveway illuminating the path.

The place is surrounded by all different sizes and colors of cats.

The house is old and the landscaping is not well maintained.

The large candles lead all the way up to the doorway of the old home.

Nathaniel follows them up to the doorway. He lifts his arm to knock on the door but it swings open before he gets a chance.

All the candles that lead to the doorway mysteriously loose their flames.

FEMALE VOICE (O.S.)

Come in, I've been expecting you.

Nathaniel steps inside the old house.

INT. WITCH'S HOUSE - NIGHT

The moment Nathaniel steps inside the house the DOOR mysteriously SLAMS SHUT behind him without anyone touching it.

The home is lit completely by candles. A crystal ball is in the center of the coffee table.

A small female arm reaches out from the corner and the hand lands gently on Nathaniel's shoulder.

Nathaniel turns to find no one there and then turns back around to find a OLD WOMAN that is very thin and dressed in all black. She examines him from head to toe. She seems to see something about him that can't be seen.

OLD WOMAN

I am Belinda and you are Nathaniel.

NATHANIEL

I believe that I have you to thank for saving my life.

BELINDA

What's more important, the needs of the one or the needs of the many?

NATHANIEL

Didn't I hear that line on STAR TREK?

Belinda takes Nathaniel's hands and examines them closely.

BELINDA

You are innocent but you bare the weight of so many innocent lives that were taken before their time.

NATHANIEL

It's my fault. I should've been the one that died, not them.

BELINDA

I am the one that helped your mother when no one else would, boy.

NATHANIEL

Did you know that this was going to happen?

BELINDA

Over the years the evidence became all too clear for me to ignore. Your mother should've told me.

NATHANIEL

Told you what?

BELINDA

That the curse was bound by blood.

NATHANIEL

What would you have done differently if she had?

BELINDA

I would've sent her on the path that I am about to send you down.

NATHANIEL

Why is it that all these attacks happen only during this time of year?

BELINDA

This time of year the barrier between the world of the living and the realm of the dead weakens giving these evil spirits a window of opportunity to settle unfinished business.

NATHANIEL

So, when will this end?

BELINDA

At midnight on all hallow's eve the barrier will be sealed again until next year.

NATHANIEL

But that's only three days away!

BELINDA

I must warn you before we go any further.

(MORE)

BELINDA (CONT'D)

If we are not able to get Katie O'brian to reverse the curse you may not live to see another day.

NATHANIEL

If I am the type of person that would choose self preservation over saving the lives of innocent people then I'd say this curse is well deserved.

BELINDA

I couldn't have said it any better myself.

The WIND HOWLS outside of the witch's house.

BELINDA (CONT'D)

Before I send you on your journey I need to learn why Katie O'brian placed a blood spell on your ancestor.

NATHANIEL

Why is that necessary?

BELINDA

If we are going to ask her to lift the curse we need to understand what truly drove her to place it in the first place.

NATHANIEL

It was because Elizabeth Mcshaden slept with her husband.

BELINDA

My intuition tells me that there is much more to this story than what you have been told.

Belinda reaches out with her skinny arm and holds out her hand.

BELINDA (CONT'D)

Take my hand. We are about to take a journey together.

Nathaniel reluctantly reaches out and takes Belinda's hand. As he takes her hand a flash of white light engulfs them both.

INT. CASTLE - BEDROOM

Nathaniel and Belinda stand next to the bed as Elizabeth Mcshaden gets out of the bed and is naked. She is only covered by a bedsheet as she approaches Katie O'brian.

Katie O'brian appears shell shocked and heartbroken. She drops the basket of fruit she is carrying on the floor.

NATHANIEL

Can they see us?

BELINDA

This is only a memory of the past. It cannot be changed or altered in any way. No one here sees us.

Elizabeth Mcshaden walks forward and the image of her being passes through Nathaniel and Belinda as if they are ghosts as well.

ELIZABETH

I think that was the first time your husband has experienced what it is like to be with a real woman, Katie O'brian Mchenry.

Katie stands in shock with tears flowing down her face. Belinda is visibly moved by what she witnesses.

NATHANIEL

Elizabeth Mcshaden is the spitting image of my mother!

BELINDA

Quiet boy, I'm trying to pay attention!

KATIE

Elizabeth Mcshaden, you are a witch and a whore!

ELIZABETH

And I am carrying Old Man Mchenry's first born child.

Belinda shakes her head in disappointment. She closes her eyes.

FADE TO WHITE.

EXT. GRASS LAWN - DAY

Katie O'brian and Old Man Mchenry look at each other with stars in their eyes.

A PREACHER dressed in all black clothes stands behind them.

PREACHER

You may kiss the bride!

Katie O'brian and Old Man Mchenry share a passionate kiss in front of a small group of people. Elizabeth Mcshaden is present as well.

Belinda and Nathaniel stand in the scene but no one notices them.

BELINDA

No wonder her heart broke the way it did!

NATHANIEL

What are you talking about and where are we now?

BELINDA

I took us back just one day! When Katie O'brian discovered her husband in bed with Elizabeth Mcshaden it was their wedding night!

NATHANIEL

You're telling me that his betrayal took place on their wedding night! What a bastard!

BELINDA

I believe that when Katie O'brian fell to her death she was still a virgin.

Belinda takes Nathaniel's hand once more and closes her eyes again.

FADE TO WHITE.

INT. WITCH'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Nathaniel and Belinda stand in her living room. It is still lit with candles.

Belinda turns her back to Nathaniel.

BELINDA

They say that the greatest light always casts the darkest shadow.

Belinda turns around to face Nathaniel and he can see the tears well up in her eyes.

BELINDA (CONT'D)

I can't blame her for what she did and what she has become.

NATHANIEL

Are you still going to help me end this?

BELINDA

Regretfully, yes. Too many innocent lives have paid the price for one woman's evil deeds.

NATHANIEL

You should tell that to Adam and Eve.

BELINDA

I think that you would really be making your mother proud by what you just said, boy.

NATHANIEL

I was just being sarcastic.

BELINDA

Most kids your days don't pay attention in church.

NATHANIEL

How is it you, a..., well..., a witch...

BELINDA

I prefer the term supernatural specialist. It sounds so much nicer.

NATHANIEL

Ok, then. How is it a supernatural specialist can favor a religion that has condemned people like you?

BELINDA

Because they teach people to have faith in something greater than themselves.

Flashes of light shine through her windows as several loud BANGS on the WALLS startle them both.

NATHANIEL

What was that?

BELINDA

We both know the answer to that.

Belinda walks over to her bookshelf and pulls out a giant, old book and places it on her coffee table next to the crystal ball.

She opens it to the center and rips out a single page of paper.

Belinda walks towards Nathaniel and attempts to hand him the piece of paper but another LOUD BANG on the WALL is so strong it knocks them both off of their feet.

Belinda grabs her necklace and holds the green jewel that hangs on it up high.

She closes her eyes and white energy flows out of it. As this happens the LOUD BANGS on the WALLS and the flashes of light outside cease.

Belinda gets back up on her feet and helps Nathaniel to get back up on his as well.

BELINDA (CONT'D)

We don't have much time, here.

Belinda hands the piece of paper to Nathaniel.

NATHANIEL

What is this?

BELINDA

You must follow these instructions perfectly if you are to enter the realm of the dead.

NATHANIEL

The realm of the dead? You've gotta be shitting me!

BELINDA

If you expect the spirit of Katie O'brian to forgive your great, great grandmother and lift the spell you must be willing to sacrifice your own life!

NATHANIEL

I can't believe that you and Father Henry share the same answer to this problem.

BELINDA

Your Father Henry is my nephew! I guess he was paying attention as well.

NATHANIEL

Earlier tonight I paid him a visit. He didn't survive.

BELINDA

He shared his faith with you. These were the last words to leave his lips. I felt it.

Flashes of white light appear again outside of Belinda's windows.

BELINDA (CONT'D)

I must tell you one more thing and then you must hurry. You don't have much time, boy.

A LOUD BANG on the WALL interrupts her.

BELINDA (CONT'D)

If anyone is left in town that does not have Mcshaden blood running through their veins your family is in danger.

NATHANIEL

The only person left in town that isn't a Mcshaden is... my father!

Nathaniel runs towards the door then turns around to check on Belinda.

NATHANIEL (CONT'D)

But what about you?

BELINDA

I'll distract her for as long as I can, now go!

Flashes of white light through Belinda's windows grow brighter and brighter as another LOUD BANG against the walls almost knocks them both off of their feet.

Nathaniel approaches the front door and exits Belinda's home.

BELINDA (CONT'D)
Now that the boy is gone why don't you show yourself, Katie O'brian?

The candles in Belinda's house flicker from light to darkness. The form of Katie O'brian, badly decomposed, steps towards Belinda with a wicked grin on her face.

Katie O'brian's badly decomposed arms reach out to strangle belinda.

EXT. SUBURBAN STREET - NIGHT

Nathaniel runs down the poorly lit street. He hears another LOUD BANG from Belinda's house.

He stops and turns to see what it was.

CLOSE ON BELINDA'S HOUSE

A body is shot out of the front window like it was being tossed out of a cannon.

BACK TO SCENE

The lifeless body of Belinda hits the pavement right by Nathaniel's feet.

CLOSE ON BELINDA'S BODY

Belinda's eyes are still open but are completely lifeless.

BACK TO SCENE

A strong gust of wind blows up the leaves by Belinda's home and blows past Nathaniel as he stares at the lifeless corpse in horror.

Nathaniel realizes that his family is in danger and leaves Belinda's body hoping he is not too late.

INT. OLD HOME - LIVING ROOM

Nathaniel's father sits on his couch and drinks his whiskey as his mother paces back and forth.

Briana and Caitlin sit in the other couch as they watch their sister.

FATHER

Do you realize that we are the only family that hasn't left New Salem?

MOTHER

He still isn't answering his phone!

FATHER

What kind of mother are you? You send your only son to see a witch of all things in the middle of the night and then you've got enough nerve to pace around and worry about him?

MOTHER

What choice do I have?

The conversation is interrupted by the sounds of little girls crying upstairs.

FATHER

I better go check on them.

The father goes up the stairs to check on his daughters.

MOTHER

(shouting) What kind of father sits around the house drinking when his son's life is in danger!?

The father marches back down the stairs to confront his wife. He stands face to face with her.

FATHER

When a man is helpless and can't even protect his own family what is he supposed to do! You tell me!

Mother slaps father across the face and her sisters have to keep them from much worse physical abuse towards each other.

As Caitlin pushes father away from mother he recomposes himself.

FATHER (CONT'D)

You are just as guilty as your ancestor was! You hid this from me and now we are paying the price for your lies!

MOTHER

I had no choice!

FATHER

You could have told me!

MOTHER

You wanted a family and I was afraid that I was going to lose you!

Mother begins to cry. Caitlin and Briana come to comfort her.

CAITLIN

You are not the only person that is in pain, here. We are all paying a heavy price just because we want a normal life!

Gabriella stands in her pajamas next to everyone. She managed to make it down the stairs without anyone noticing.

Everyone looks at her as she stands there frowning.

GABRIELLA

Are you and mommy fighting?

Father kneels down to eye level to speak to his daughter.

FATHER

No, darling, we are not fighting. We are just worried about your brother, that's all.

GABRIELLA

Where is he?

FATHER

He'll be home any minute, now. Let's get you back to bed.

Father scoops Gabriella up and carries her up the stairs leaving his wife with her sisters in the living room

GABRIELLA

Is mommy going to spank him?

Father and Gabriella disappear as the sound of his footsteps fade as he marches up the steps.

CAITLIN

Why do you think he's not answerin his phone?

BRIANA

Call him again, sister.

Mother picks up her cellphone and dials her son's phone. As the sound of the PHONE'S RING ECHOES a strong gust of wind blows the front door wide open.

Mother drops the phone as she, Caitlin and Briana stare at the empty doorway in terror.

BRIANA (CONT'D)

Nobody's there.

CAITLIN

My water just broke!

Mother and Briana look down and see Caitlin's water flow down her dress and drip on the floor.

Mother's phone lies on the floor.

CLOSE ON PHONE

The display on the phone's face shows that Nathaniel is on the other end of the line.

BACK TO SCENE

Mother grabs Briana by her hand.

MOTHER

Go get Caitlin's suitcase...

EXT. SUBURBAN STREET - NIGHT

Nathaniel stands in the middle of the street as he holds his cellphone up to his ear.

MOTHER (V.O.)

We need to get her to the hospital. This baby is coming tonight!

NATHANIEL

You can't leave dad alone with the girls! Mom, can you hear me!

INT. OLD HOME - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Mother's cellphone lies on the floor of the living room. The room is vacant.

CLOSE ON CELLPHONE

The word SON shows on the face of the cellphone.

NATHANIEL (V.O.)

Mom! Don't leave the girls alone with dad!

INT. OLD HOME - UPSTAIRS - SISTER'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Father looks at his three young daughters as they sleep peacefully in their beds.

His eyes go dark and his demeanor changes drastically. An evil grin appears on his face.

FATHER

(whispering in Irish accent) If I should die before I wake I pray the Lord my soul to take..

The father tiptoes out of the room and slowly closes the door behind him.

EXT. SUBURBAN STREET - NIGHT

Nathaniel hangs his cellphone up and places it in his pocket as he runs as fast as he can towards his house.

INT. OLD HOME - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Mother assists Caitlin with her luggage as they head towards the front door that is still wide open.

Mother hands a set of car keys to Briana.

MOTHER

You help Caitlin in the car and get it running. I'll just let my husband know what is happening and I'll be right there.

Briana grabs the suitcase and escorts Caitlin towards the front door.

Mother walks towards the kitchen.

EXT. SUBURBAN STREET - NIGHT

Nathaniel runs and comes to a complete stop as he pants in exhaustion.

Nathaniel grabs his cellphone and looks at it's face. The navigational system shows that he still has 1.2 Miles to go.

NATHANIEL

I'm never going to make it there in time!

BELINDA (V.O.)

The curse was bound by blood.

Nathaniel smiles as an idea crosses his mind.

NATHANIEL

I know what I must do!

INT. OLD HOME - KITCHEN - NIGHT

Father sits at the dining room table with a bottle of Irish whiskey. He pours himself a glass and drinks it all in one try.

Mother walks up to him slowly with a disgusted look on her face.

MOTHER

I know that you are upset with me and I can't blame you for behaving the way you have tonight. My sister's baby is on the way and I need you to take care of the girls for me so I can get Caitlin to the hospital.

Father slams the empty glass on the table and refills it to the top. He ignores mother completely and drinks the other glass entirely in one gulp.

MOTHER (CONT'D)

Did you hear what I just said?

Mother's question is interrupted by the sound of a CAR HORN HONKING.

FATHER

(with Irish accent) Aye, lass. I heard ya loud and clear. (burps) Would you like a glass?

MOTHER

Have you lost your mind?

FATHER

(with Irish accent) Why hurry, darlin? It's just another funeral we'll have to attend.

Mother knocks the glass off of the table and IT SHATTERS as it hits the ground.

MOTHER

I will pretend that I didn't hear that just this once! I have to get my sister to the hospital! Take care of our daughters!

Father stands up and can't keep his balance due to being intoxicated.

FATHER

(with Irish accent)Don't you worry, darlin. I'll take really good care of them!

The CAR HORN HONKS again. Mother stomps angrily away from father.

EXT. OLD HOME - DRIVEWAY - NIGHT

The passenger side door is wide open as the car idles in the driveway. Briana is in the driver's seat and Caitlin lies in the back.

Mother approaches the car and gets in. She shuts the passenger side door shut then the car backs up out of the driveway and then disappears down the road.

Father stands in the doorway of the house and waves goodbye.

INT. OLD HOME - UPSTAIRS - SISTER'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Gabriella and her two younger sisters still sleep peacefully in their beds.

EXT. OLD HOME - DRIVEWAY - NIGHT

Father slams the front door of the house shut.

INT. OLD HOME - LIVING ROOM

Father walks through the living room and then opens the door that leads to the garage.

He flips a switch on the wall and the automatic garage door opener opens the huge garage door.

INT. OLD HOME - GARAGE - NIGHT

Father flips a switch on the wall and the light to the interior of the garage comes on.

He walks over to one of his many shelves and grabs a gas container that is completely full.

Father carries the gas container out of the garage.

EXT. OLD HOME - NIGHT

Father walks toward the front of the old home and douses the home with gasoline.

He covers the entire front and walks toward the side of the house as he continues to splash gasoline on his home.

EXT. SUBURBAN STREET - NIGHT

Mother's car rides down a suburban street very fast and then turns into a parking lot of a hospital.

EXT. HOSPITAL - NIGHT

Mother and Briana help Caitlin out of the car and then assist her into the entrance of the hospital.

EXT. SUBURBAN STREET - NIGHT

Nathaniel is about two hundred yards from his home as he continues to run towards it. He stops and has to catch his breath.

He looks up and sees his father as he pours gasoline on the side of the house.

Nathaniel reaches into his coat pocket and pulls out a switch blade knife. He opens it then continues to walk towards his home with the weapon concealed.

EXT. OLD HOME - NIGHT

Father runs out of fuel as he pours the last drop of it on the home.

Father throws the can of gasoline down and pulls out a lighter.

Father ignites the lighter and holds it above his head really high.

Nathaniel walks up behind his father with his knife still concealed.

NATHANTEL

What are you doing, Father?

FATHER

(with Irish accent) Just waterin' the garden, boy.

NATHANIEL

With a lighter in the middle of the night? Where are my sisters?

FATHER

(with Irish accent) They're upstairs as leep in their beds. You should join them.

NATHANIEL

I think I will. I am kinda sleepy.

FATHER

(with Irish accent) Well, off you go then!

NATHANIEL

Don't I get my hug first?

FATHER

(with Irish accent) Aren't you a little bit old for that sort a thing?

Nathaniel secretly cuts his left hand with his pocket knife and continues to keep the weapon concealed as he talks to his possessed father.

NATHANIEL

Come on, Dad, it's not like I'm asking you to tuck me into bed and tell me a story to put me to sleep.

Nathaniel's father puts the lit lighter down and the flame is extinguished.

FATHER

(with Irish accent)Okay, come here boy!

Father extends his arms wide open to welcome his son with a hug.

Nathaniel walks up to him slowly and right before they embrace Nathaniel successfully cuts his father's hand and then he grabs his father's bleeding hand with his own bleeding hand.

FATHER (CONT'D)

(with Irish accent) Have you gone mad you little brat?

Nathaniel steps back and smiles.

NATHANIEL

No, Katie O'brian, I haven't.

FATHER

(with Irish accent) You think you are so clever child! In a couple of minutes I will burn your home to the ground!

NATHANIEL

With my blood coursing through my father's veins you are going to find that a bit difficult.

FATHER

(with Irish accent) The spell!

Nathaniel's father falls to the ground and flops like a fish as the spirit of Katie O'brian struggles to maintain possession of him.

Her spirit exits and reenters several times before it is unable to take hold entirely.

Father, as himself, sits up and sees his son as he stands in the front yard of their home with him.

FATHER (CONT'D)

Nathaniel? Why are we out here? How did we get here?

Nathaniel rushes forward and helps his father up off of the ground.

FATHER (CONT'D)

Why is my hand bleeding?

Nathaniel and his father see several flashes of white light and the spirit of Katie O'brian stands in the center of the street and looks at them with a very evil grin on her face. FATHER (CONT'D) And what the hell is that?

NATHANIEL

Listen to me, Dad. We are not safe here or anywhere for that matter. Katie O'brian is trying to kill us!

FATHER

Oh yeah, I remember that! Where's your mother?

NATHANIEL

I don't know.

Katie O'brian's spirit vanishes without a trace.

FATHER

I've got a feeling that this is going to be a very long night.

NATHANIEL

You call mother while I check on the girls.

INT. HOSPITAL - DELIVERY ROOM - NIGHT

Caitlin lies in bed while a DOCTOR and a couple of nurses help her deliver her baby.

Everyone in the room with mother and Briana included wears scrubs except for Caitlin.

DOCTOR

Push again, dear!

Caitlin grunts in pain as she follows the doctors orders.

Mother and Briana comfort each other as they witness the birth of Caitlin's child.

CLOSE ON WINDOW

In the darkness of the night outside of the delivery room window a hazy outline with human form presses against the window.

It's dark black eyes and badly decomposed face has a look of pure hatred on it as it witnesses what takes place.

BACK TO SCENE

Caitlin looks out of the window and sees Katie O'brian's spirit as she spies on her.

CAITLIN

AAAAAagggghhhh!!!!

The horrifying vision causes Caitlin to push hard enough to expel her baby successfully from her womb.

DOCTOR

Good job, dear. It's a girl!

The doctor brings Caitlin's baby girl over for her to see but Caitlin is too preoccupied by what she sees staring at her in the window.

CAITLIN

She's here! She's here!

DOCTOR

All six pounds and five ounces of her!

The baby cries out very loud for her mother.

CAITLIN

No, not her! Katie O'brian is here, look!

Caitlin points at the window. Everyone in the room turns around to see the ghastly apparition and it's badly decomposed face as it's evil grin turns into a menacing scowl.

The vision of Katie O'brian vanishes entirely.

Mother walks towards the window and she holds up a green jewel that glows brighter and brighter.

MOTHER

Please take my sister to a safe place that doesn't have any windows. I'll be there shortly!

BRIANA

Is she going to attack us?

MOTHER

If she were stronger she would've already done it!

Mother's CELLPHONE RINGS. As she continues to hold the glowing green jewel up high she answers the call.

MOTHER (CONT'D)

Yes, dear.

FATHER (V.O.)

Where are ya, darling?

MOTHER

How drunk where you when I left? I am at the hospital. My sister just gave birth to her daughter.

FATHER (V.O.)

That wasn't me, dear. I was possessed!

Mother realizes the terrible mistake she made by leaving her husband alone with her daughters. A look of sheer panic covers her face.

MOTHER

Please tell me our daughters are okay!

FATHER (V.O.)

They are all okay. Nathaniel saved me in the nick of time.

MOTHER

Nathaniel? He's home? How is he? Let me speak to him!

INT. OLD HOME - LIVING ROOM

Father holds his cellphone up to his ear as the conversation continues.

FATHER

(to mother)I'll get him. (to
Nathaniel) Get in here, Boy, your
mother wants to speak to you!

Nathaniel walks up and takes the cellphone away from his father and puts it up to his ear.

NATHANIEL

Yes, Mom, I'm okay. No, I went to the minister first. No, he's gone now. (beat) Yes, I found her. (referring to Belinda) Yes, she told me what to do... No, she's gone too.

Nathaniel hangs up the cellphone and appears very sad.

FATHER

What did she say, boy?

Nathaniel ignores his father's question and walks over to the coffee table and opens one of the drawers. He takes something out and walks back over to his father.

Nathaniel places a green jewel in his father's hand.

NATHANIEL

She told me to tell you to keep this held up high. As long as you do this we'll be safe.

Father holds the jewel up high and it begins to glow brightly.

FATHER

What happened earlier? You still haven't told my why my hand was bleeding?

INT. HOSPITAL - PRIVATE ROOM

Caitlin is in bed and she nurses her newborn baby girl. Mother and Briana are right beside her.

CAITLIN

Your boy is alive!

MOTHER

Yes, he is.

CAITLIN

Will he be able to end this nightmare?

MOTHER

I don't know. The minister and Belinda have both been killed.

CAITLIN

You're tellin me that my baby is still in danger!

MOTHER

We are all in danger!

CAITLIN

Can you give my daughter the chance that your son had?

MOTHER

I can't! It's too dangerous!

CAITLIN

The blood will be on my hands, not yours!

MOTHER

Nathaniel will put an end to this. What you ask isn't necessary.

CAITLIN

I cannot lose her!

MOTHER

You are asking me to take from Peter so that I can give to Paul, sister.

CAITLIN

I am asking you to help me to save the life of my newborn child!

MOTHER

This unholy situation has made demons of us all, sister. I want nothing more to do with any of it!

CAITLIN

You are going to turn your back on your own flesh and blood!

Mother pulls out a folded piece of paper and hands it to her sister.

Tears are streaming down her face as she does this.

MOTHER

If you choose to place the protection spell over your daughter both you and I are murderers! If I do not help you I will send your daughter to the grave! Damn you to hell, Katie O'brian!

CAITLIN

We will find a way to save everyone if Nathaniel fails, sister. I promise.

MOTHER

I am going to have to ask you and Briana to never speak to me again. Do I make myself clear?

BRIANA

Why are you treating us this way?

MOTHER

Because I refuse to be a pawn in your master plan. You knew that I wouldn't be able to refuse!

CAITLIN

With my child being a descendant of Katie O'brian herself and with the added protection of this spell the curse will be broken forever!

MOTHER

Did you stop to think about what is going to happen when my daughters come of age? No, you only thought of yourself.

BRIANA

We will end this, sister.

MOTHER

You have the spell. There is nothing more I can do for you. Goodbye.

EXT. HOSPITAL - PARKING LOT - NIGHT

Mother walks towards her car. She is visibly upset. As she walks she sees someone that stands in front of the car.

The undertaker from the cemetary that passed away stands there. He is slightly decomposed and see through. He looks as if he is judging her.

The vision of the undertaker stops mother dead in her tracks.

THE UNDERTAKER

How could you?

The undertaker disappears after those words escapes his lips.

Mother hurriedly gets into her car and drives away.

INT. CAR(RIDING DOWN ROAD) - NIGHT

Mother rides down the suburban street towards her home. Her RADIO PLAYS a SONG as she drives.

Mother notices something unusual as she drives. The suburban street is lined with several people that stand on both sides.

She recognizes them instantly. They are the badly and slightly decomposed ghosts of the victims of Katie O'brian.

Mother, scared out of her wits, grabs her cross and her Bible with her right hand and places it across her chest as she drives.

MOTHER

"Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done,..."

Mother's radio stops playing the song and STATIC replaces the tune.

The STATIC grows LOUDER and LOUDER.

MYSTERIOUS WHISPER (THROUGH RADIO) My death approaches thee!

Mother turns the radio off completely.

INT. HOSPITAL - PRIVATE ROOM

Briana stands over Caitlin and her newborn baby girl. She holds the spell with one hand and has her other hand on the forehead of her niece.

BRIANA

(chanting in Ancient Gaelic)
Nothing shall harm you...

INT. CAR(RIDING DOWN ROAD) - NIGHT

As mother continues to drive the decomposed apparitions continue to appear on the side of the road.

MOTHER

"Forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those that trespass against us..."

Mother looks at the front passenger seat of her car and a little girl sits right beside her. The little girl holds a teddy bear and appears lifeless.

INT. HOSPITAL - PRIVATE ROOM

Briana continues to stand over Caitlin and her newborn baby girl. She still holds the spell with one hand and has her other hand on the forehead of her niece.

SISTERS (IN UNISON) (chanting in Ancient Gaelic) Nothing shall harm you...

Caitlin raises her arm up towards the sky and holds the green jewel that glows brightly as the chant is repeated over and over again.

EXT. SUBURBAN STREET - NIGHT

Nathaniel's family car swerves off of the side of the road and violently crashes against a tree.

INT. CAR(CRASHED AGAINST A TREE) - NIGHT

Mother bleeds profusely and she approaches death. She trembles and appears weak.

The front windshield is completely shattered.

MOTHER

(weakly whispering)"And lead us not into temptation, But deliver us from evil..."

Mother dies as those last words escape her lips. Her eyes remain open and lifeless as her mouth is agape as well.

The car radio turns on again by itself. A WICKED LAUGH echoes through the speakers.

INT. OLD HOME - UPSTAIRS - SISTER'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Gabriella and her little sisters are asleep in their beds.

One of the many little dolls turns it's head and it seems as if it stares at the girls as they sleep.

CLOSE ON BEDROOM WINDOW

The vision of Katie O'brian's apparition has it's hands and face pressed against the window. It's dark eyes stare intensely into the room.

INT. OLD HOME - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Nathaniel and his father sit on the couch.

NATHANIEL

And that's when I realized that your life was in danger.

FATHER

Because I wasn't protected by the spell.

NATHANIEL

Exactly.

FATHER

So, the priest and the witch.., I mean Belinda are both...

NATHANIEL

Dead.

FATHER

I hate to think about who's going to be next.

GABRIELLA (O.S.)

Mommy!!

Nathaniel and his father both stand up in response to the scream that came from upstairs.

They proceed towards the stairs.

INT. OLD HOME - UPSTAIRS - SISTER'S BEDROOM

Nathaniel and his father enter the bedroom to find Gabriella as she cries in the corner of her bed. She rocks back and forth as if she's in a rocking chair.

The two younger sisters wake up from a deep sleep and see their father and Nathaniel as they check on Gabriella.

SISTER#1

What's the matter with Gabby, dada?

FATHER

I don't know. (addressing Gabriella) Honey, are you okay?

GABRIELLA

Mommy's dead...

Gabriella breaks down and cries uncontrollably.

FATHER

What on Earth are you talking about, Sweetheart. Mommy's at the hospital with your aunt.

GABRIELLA

No, she's not.

FATHER

Nathaniel, get my phone and call your mother.

NATHANIEL

It's downstairs. I'll go get it.

Nathaniel exits the room on his errand to fetch the phone.

INT. OLD HOME - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Nathaniel walks over towards the coffee table in the living room and picks up his father's cell phone.

He dials a number and the PHONE RINGS several times. No one answers.

On about the seventh or eighth ring someone answers his mother's phone.

MYSTERIOUS WHISPER (THROUGH PHONE)

There is nowhere to run, there is nowhere to hide...

Nathaniel drops the cellphone on the floor.

MYSTERIOUS WHISPER (THROUGH PHONE)

(CONT'D)

No one will listen, in only God can you confide..., (wicked laughter grows louder and louder.)

Nathaniel uses his foot to end the "conversation" and smashes the phone into several pieces.

After Nathaniel pulverizes the phone into a thousand unrecognizable pieces he looks back to see his father and sisters as they stand behind him.

FATHER

What happened? Where's your mother?

NATHANIEL

I don't know. I need to go find her.

FATHER

Do you think I'm going to allow you to leave this house after everything that has happened tonight?

NATHANIEL

If I don't go through with this it will mean that our priest and Ms. Belinda died in vein.

FATHER

I don't care about them, Son. I care about you!

NATHANIEL

We can't always place ourselves above the lives and the needs of others.

Nathaniel takes slow small steps backwards towards the front door.

FATHER

Please don't do this son. I don't want to lose you.

NATHANIEL

I'm sorry, Dad. I have to do this.

Nathaniel turns around and walks out of the front door of his home.

Gabriella pulls on her father's shirt to get his attention.

GABRIELLA

She said that he's next.

FATHER

Who said he's next?

GABRIELLA

(pointing her finger)her!

Katie O'brian stands at the entrance of the home as she stares menacingly at everyone.

Her solid form vanishes without a trace.

Nathaniel's sisters cling to their father tightly.

EXT. SUBURBAN STREET - NIGHT

Nathaniel walks down the center of the deserted suburban street alone. He pulls out a piece of folded paper and begins to read as he walks.

A couple of LOUD THUMPS startle him. He looks up to see a black cat as it roots through one of the many trash cans beside the street.

Nathaniel holds the piece of paper back up and begins to read again.

BELINDA (V.O.)

You must go to a clearing in the forest just past the cemetary. This is where the living can enter the realm of the dead but once the barrier is breached all spells that were cast for protection will no longer protect you.

Nathaniel looks up and gulps in fear then continues to read again.

BELINDA (V.O.)

The only way a spell bound by blood can be broken is by true forgiveness and by true love.

Nathaniel discontinues for a moment.

NATHANIEL

"And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us..."

Nathaniel looks back down at the paper and reads as he walks down the center of the deserted suburban street.

BELINDA (V.O.)

The greatest light always casts the darkest shadow. You must bring the shadow back into the light.

Nathaniel looks up as he walks and notices that a thick wall of fog has risen and that he is completely surrounded by it.

Nathaniel folds the paper and places it back into his pocket as he walks through the thick fog.

Nathaniel's CELLPHONE RINGS.

Nathaniel pulls his cellphone out of his pocket to answer the call.

MOTHER (V.O.)

Nathaniel...

NATHANTEL

Yes, mom. Is Aunt Caitlin alright?

MOTHER (V.O.)

(menacingly) Nathaniel...

NATHANIEL

What's wrong with you, Mother? Is that really you?

MOTHER (V.O.)

(laughs wickedly)Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. (laughs wickedly)

A couple of electric sparks flash off of Nathaniel's phone. He throws it down and it spontaneously bursts into flames.

The wicked laugh continues to echo through the phone as it burns on the cold pavement.

The phone explodes and the evil laughter ceases completely.

The fog lifts and visibility improves.

Nathaniel looks up and sees his Aunt Briana as she stands in the center of the deserted suburban street. She holds up her VIOLIN and PLAYS a SAD IRISH SONG.

NATHANIEL

Aunt Briana, what are you doing out here?

She ignores him completely and continues to PLAY the SAD IRISH SONG with her VIOLIN.

NATHANIEL (CONT'D)

Aunt Briana, did you here me? Why aren't you with my mother and Aunt Caitlin at the hospital?

She continues to PLAY her VIOLIN.

BRIANA

We used to play this song at every funeral we went to in Ireland. Do you like it, boy?

NATHANIEL

When you say "we" who are you referring to, exactly? Would it be Old Man Mchenry, Katie?

Briana puts her violin down and the music stops. The fog disappears entirely.

The image of Briana morphs into the image of Katie O'brian. She appears badly decomposed.

KATIE

You Mcshadens think you are so clever.

NATHANIEL

Your little killing spree is about to come to an end, Katie. Your time is running out.

KATIE

I am just getting started, lad. I plan on paying your little newborn cousin a visit before this night is through.

NATHANIEL

If that's true then why are you out here with me?

KATIE

I wanted to see the look on your face..., oh, wait... I don't want to ruin the surprise.

NATHANIEL

What are you talking about?

A small explosion interrupts their conversation. Nathaniel looks up and sees a car on fire in the distance.

He recognizes the car immediately.

Katie waves bye-bye to Nathaniel and vanishes completely. A sound of wicked laughter trails behind.

Nathaniel runs at full sprint towards the burning car.

Nathaniel gets about twelve feet away from the burning car and sees something extremely disturbing. Tears begin to pour down his face. His mothers lifeless body hangs halfway through the broken glass of the drivers side window. Her arm is extended and she has a Cross on a necklace with her dead fist.

Her lifeless eyes are still open as her body burns with the vehicle.

Nathaniel falls to his knees as he continues to watch the car burn.

NATHANIEL (CONT'D) (crying uncontrollably) I'm so sorry, mother!

Nathaniel's mother's eyes blink a couple of times. A wicked look possesses her dead face.

Her jaw begins to move and she attempts to vocalize.

MOTHER

(raspy voice)It doesn't matter who
you tell because no one will ever
believe that my death, my death
approaches thee!

Mother's lifeless body pulls itself back into the burning vehicle. It cranks the car and puts it's burning hands on the steering wheel.

The burning car drives past Nathaniel as it becomes entirely consumed by flames.

The car then explodes into a thousand pieces in the middle of the road.

Nathaniel falls to the ground and cries uncontrollably over the loss of his mother.

Nathaniel passes out cold.

FLASHBACK SEQUENCE - OLD HOUSE - KITCHEN - DAY

Mother prepares a meal by the stove for her children. Several brown paper bags filled with food lie on the counter.

YOUNG NATHANIEL opens the door that leads outside and stomps through the kitchen and does not speak to his mother.

She notices right away that his nose is bleeding.

Young Nathaniel comes back into the room with a baseball bat in his hands as he heads towards the open door.

Mother snatches the bat out of young Nathaniel's hands before he can get out of the house.

MOTHER

Just what are you planning on doing with this, Young Man

YOUNG NATHANIEL

I'm gonna hit Billy Johnson over the head with it as hard as I can!

MOTHER

I'm guessing he's the one that gave you this bloody nose! That boy is twice your size. He'll just take that bat from you and beat you with it!

YOUNG NATHANIEL
Maybe I'll get daddy's gun instead!

MOTHER

No, young man. I want you to sit down so your mother can teach you a very important lesson.

YOUNG NATHANIEL (whining) Not again!

MOTHER

There will come a day that you will appreciate everything I am teaching you.

Mother gets a paper towel off of the kitchen counter and wipes the blood off of Nathaniel's nose.

MOTHER (CONT'D)

You'll never put out fire with fire, Boy.

YOUNG NATHANIEL

I'm not supposed to fight back?

MOTHER

Once young Billy Johnson's father heres that his son is bullying the little children in this neighborhood he'll get a real ass whoopin. I'll make sure of that!

YOUNG NATHANIEL

But what am I supposed to do the next time someone decides to bully me? I can't hide behind you the rest of my life, mother.

MOTHER

I'll tell your father it's time you learned how to defend yourself but you have to promise me something, boy.

Young Nathaniel rolls his eyes.

YOUNG NATHANIEL

What is it?

MOTHER

You must never use what your father teaches you to hurt other people. Always turn the other cheek and never hold a grudge against those that would try to hurt you.

YOUNG NATHANIEL

Why?

dark!

MOTHER

A heart filled with vengeance will never be filled with light. That is why.

YOUNG NATHANIEL Like E.T.? His heart glowed in the

MOTHER

As does yours when it is filled with love and compassion.

YOUNG NATHANIEL That sounds like yucky girl stuff!

END FLASHBACK
SEQUENCE:

EXT. SUBURBAN STREET - EARLY MORNING

Nathaniel wakes up and pulls himself off the ground. He looks back and sees the wrecked remains of his family's car in the middle of the road.

The road and the ground are covered in a thick fog and the sun cannot be seen.

Nathaniel pulls out the folded paper in his pocket and opens it.

NATHANTEL

(reading the folded paper)"The greatest light always casts the darkest shadow. You must bring the darkness back into the light."

Nathaniel closes his eyes.

MOTHER (V.O.)

A heart filled with vengeance will never be filled with light.

Nathaniel opens his eyes and smiles.

NATHANIEL

I know what I must do!

Nathaniel walks away.

CLOSE ON CAR WRECKAGE

A skeletal arm lies next to the wreckage of the burned car. It continues to grasp the crucifix on the gold necklace.

The skeletal hand opens slowly and the gold necklace and the crucifix hits the ground.

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - NIGHT

Caitlin is in her hospital gown as she rocks her newborn baby in her rocking chair. Briana PLAYS a SOFT LULLABY with her VIOLIN.

Caitlin kisses her baby on the forehead.

CAITLIN

(softly) Good night, my angel.

EXT. CEMETARY - EARLY MORNING

Nathaniel walks into the cemetary. Several freshly dug graves are right by the old tombstones.

Nathaniel notices a small trail that leads into the woods just past the cemetary.

Nathaniel walks towards the trail and he sees several spirits of the people that died in his place.

The undertaker, the small girl, his classmates and the preacher are all there.

They all appear as they were in life except for the fact that their eyes are pitch black.

Nathaniel passes the spirit of the undertaker as he walks towards the trail.

UNDERTAKER

"Though you walk through the valley of darkness have no fear..."

Nathaniel then passes the spirit of the small girl.

SMALL GIRL

I miss my mommy!

NATHANIEL

I will make this right! No one else will die in my place!

Another spirit appears next to the preacher. Nathaniel's mother.

MOTHER

Are you sure you are going to go through with this, Son?

NATHANIEL

Don't worry, Mother. I know what to do!

As nathaniel passes the spirits in the cemetary he looks back at them. They all appear badly decomposed and their eyes are black, empty spaces.

Nathaniel does his best to ignore this and he walks towards the trail in the dark, wooded forest.

Just as nathaniel reaches the entrance the spirit of Katie O'brian stands in front of it and blocks Nathaniel from entering.

KATIE

Just where do you think you are going?

NATHANIEL

We both know you cannot harm me.

KATIE

I paid your family another visit after you left, Boy.

NATHANIEL

Why?

KATIE

A promise is a promise and you are only as good as your word, Lad.

NATHANIEL

The curse you placed on Elizabeth Mcshaden didn't mention killing anyone other than the firstborn child!

KATTE

If that whore of a witch hadn't placed that spell on you I could keep my word!

NATHANTEL

I am through with you... for now.

Nathaniel walks right through the vision of Katie O'brian and vanishes into the forest on the trail.

EXT. FOREST TRAIL - EARLY MORNING

Nathaniel walks alone down the lonely path through the forest.

He seems reassured that the worst is behind him.

KATIE (O.S.)

I thought you might like a little light to guide your way!

Nathaniel looks back and notices that the forest behind him is on fire and it continues to spread towards him.

Nathaniel runs away from the blaze as fast as he can down the trail.

KATIE (O.S.) (CONT'D) (shouting) There is nowhere to run, there is nowhere to hide. No one will listen, in only God can you confide...

Nathaniel trips over a rock and lands face first in the dirt.

He attempts to get up and run again but he discovers that his ankle is twisted and he can only limp very slowly.

Nathaniel looks forward and notices that the clearing he needs to reach is about fifty yards away.

He also looks back to see the large fire as it catches up to him as he stands still.

Nathaniel limps as fast as he can towards the clearing and tries his best not to look back at the blazing inferno behind him.

KATIE (O.S.) (CONT'D) (shouting) It doesn't matter who you tell because no one will ever believe that my death... (laughs wickedly), my death approaches thee!

As Nathaniel gets about five feet away from the clearing ahead he finds himself almost completely surrounded by the blazing inferno.

Nathaniel continues to push past the pain and moves forward.

He leaps forward and lands outside of the blazing trail in the clearing.

EXT. FOREST CLEARING - DAY

Nathaniel lands on the ground in the clearing. His Jacket is on fire.

He quickly takes it off and throws it on the ground. He then remembers that the instructions Belinda gave him are in it.

Nathaniel reaches inside the burning jacket and pulls out the piece of paper. It too, is on fire.

Nathaniel manages to put the small flame out as he pours soil on it to extinguish the small flame.

He brushes the dirt off of the burnt paper.

CLOSE ON DIRT PAPER

Only the spell to enter the realm of the dead can be seen on the burnt paper.

BACK TO SCENE

Nathaniel holds the burnt paper up and notices that the ground has a large circle with a huge human eye drawn in the center.

NATHANIEL

(reading the spell) "step over the one that watches light and darkness within the circle..."

Nathaniel follows the instructions and walks to the center of the circle and stands over the eye.

NATHANIEL (CONT'D)

(reading the spell) "repeat these words three times to enter the realm of the dead.."... "Mecha lecka hi make a hiney ho". (laughing to himself) Seriously! Wasn't that on PEE-WEE'S PLAYHOUSE? Okay, then, "Mecha lecka hi make a hiney ho, Mecha lecka hi make a hiney hoooooooo"

As the last word escapes Nathaniel's lips a bright light engulfs the area that he stands on and then Nathaniel is swallowed up by the hole.

INT. HOSPITAL - PRIVATE ROOM - MORNING

Nathaniel's Father and sisters enter Caitlin's private room to find Caitlin and Briana with the newborn baby girl.

Nathaniel's father appears upset and tears still continue to fall down the cheeks of the young girl's faces.

BRIANA

What happened?

The young girls run towards Briana and hug her as they cry uncontrollably.

GABRIELLA

Mommy's dead!

CAITLIN

What?

FATHER

The police discovered her remains early this morning. (breaking into tears) We haven't found Nathaniel yet.

CAITLIN

When did you see him last?

FATHER

Early this morning.

CAITLIN

Where did he go?

GABRIELLA

He's going to try to stop Katie O'brian.

BRTANA

How?

FATHER

The witch that put the spell on him gave him instructions.

Caitlin hands her newborn baby to Briana and walks over to father.

CAITLIN

I know we've never seen eye to eye and we both know what the future has in store for your daughters if your son does not succeed.

FATHER

You're talking about the, uh...

CAITLIN

The curse.

FATHER

Yes, I know.

CAITLIN

Before my sister left she gave me the spell to protect my baby from this evil.

FATHER

What?

Caitlin holds up the paper with the spell for father to see.

CAITLIN

This is the only reason your dear son is still alive. Do you want your daughter's children to suffer such a horrible fate? FATHER

Of course I don't but we both know what will happen if we do this?

CAITLIN

That's why I am leaving this decision up to you.

Caitlin hands father the spell. He looks it over a few times then looks back up at her.

He hands the spell back to her.

FATHER

Letting innocent people die so that my own flesh and blood will survive is just evil. I can't have that kind of blood on my hands.

CAITLIN

Your wife felt the same way.

FATHER

Why don't you ask the girls what you are asking of me?

Caitlin redirects her attention to Gabriella as she consoles her crying sisters.

CAITLIN

Gabriella, there is something you and your little sisters need to understand. When your mother told you the story of Katie O'brian she was trying to prepare you for a cruel future that fate has prepared for you. One day you may find yourself in love and wanting to have a family of your own. One day you may find yourself pregnant with your first child. If your brother doesn't succeed in ending this curse once and for all your first baby will not live beyond three days. This spell will protect your child but innocent people may end up dying instead of your child. Are you willing to pay this price to protect your baby?

Gabriella takes her little sister's hands and they look at each other for several seconds. Gabriella then looks at her Aunt Caitlin.

GABRIELLA

The only decision we can make that will save both us and others a great deal of misery and pain is to never have any children if our brother can't break Katie O'brian's curse.

LITTLE GIRL#1

What about your baby, Auntie Caitlin?

A look of guilt is very visible on both Caitlin and Briana's face.

BRIANA

We placed the spell on her child and her child is Katie O'brian's only living descendant. She would never try to attack her own flesh and blood!

FATHER

(to Caitlin) What did you do?

CAITLIN

I seduced Katie O'brian's only living descendant!

FATHER

Do you know what happens to people that fight fire with fire? They get burned!

Father gathers all of his daughters and walks towards the room's exit.

CAITLIN

Where do you think you are going?

FATHER

I'm taking my family as far away from you as I possibly can!

CAITLIN

There's nowhere to run and there's nowhere to hide. She'll find you! She'll always find you!

The hospital room's DOOR SLAMS SHUT.

EXT. REALM OF THE DEAD - NEITHER NIGHT OR DAY

Nathaniel floats in a liquid space filled with many different hues of every color imaginable.

Spirits seem to fly past him at super fast speeds as he floats around without any form of control and no real sense of up or down or left or right.

In the brilliant display of light a shadow emerges. It flies past Nathaniel and wraps around him several times like a snake that is about to suffocate it's victim.

The shadow hovers close to Nathaniel. The decrepid, badly decomposed face of Katie O'brian becomes vividly visible.

Her look of pure hatred does not go unnoticed by Nathaniel.

NATHANIEL

I know you want to kill me, Katie O'brian. You will be pleased to know that I am no longer under the protection of Belinda's spell. I sacrificed my protection to save you from the darkness.

KATIE

Why would you wish to save me? I have killed your ancestors for over a century and there is nothing you can say or do that will ever change anything.

NATHANIEL

I should hate you but I do not. You took my friends and my mother from me and you may even take my life but you will never take me from the light. I have come here to help bring you back to the light.

KATIE

What kind of fool would risk his own life in order to save his greatest enemy?

NATHANIEL

I am not your enemy, Katie. You are! You have allowed your hatred to take control of you and it has become your eternity. I cannot change the past and I pity you.

KATIE

Pity me? It is your life that is about to come to an end.

NATHANIEL

And it is you that has chosen to remain in darkness forever.

KATIE

"Treat others as others would treat you." Elizabeth Mcshaden stole my husband and bore his bastard child!

NATHANTEL

He didn't deserve you! How great of a man was he if he chose to betray you on your wedding night?

KATIE

How do you think I will return to the light, child?

NATHANIEL

You need to remember who you truly are. You need to embrace the love that existed within you before you were left broken and scarred by betrayal.

KATIE

Do you really think you can help me?

NATHANIEL

Take my hand.

The dark spirit's shadow of a hand grasps Nathaniel's hand as he reaches out to it.

NATHANIEL (CONT'D)

"Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done..."

FLASHBACK SEQUENCE - VIVID FOREST - DAY

Katie is young and alive. She walks barefooted through the forest as a gentle rain breaths down on her.

She smiles and breaths a deep breath of fresh air. She looks up to see the dark clouds part and the sun's rays shine down directly upon her.

Small creatures gather near her and small birds fly closer to her.

One small bird lands on her shoulders and gives her several pecks directly on her lips before it flies away.

Katie walks further down the trail and the light of the sun parts the shadows for her.

NATHANIEL (V.O.)
"... On Earth, as it is in heaven.

"... On Earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread.."

Flowers of every imaginable color bloom along the path as she continues to walk in the gentle rain with the sunlight that shines upon her.

A small puddle of water appears in front of her.

Katie looks down and sees her own reflection as it stares back at her.

She sees an innocent girl with golden blonde hair and ruby red lips. She sees her baby blue eyes and a single tear of joy falls into the puddle.

NATHANIEL (V.O.)

"And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us..."

As Katie hears Nathaniel's words she reaches the clearing of the path that leads to her late husband's castle by the sea.

She looks at the castle and a dark storm appears out of nowhere. Lightning flashes everywhere and the winds turn very violent.

INT. CASTLE - BEDROOM

Katie stands in the center of the bedroom she shared with her husband in life.

She sees Elizabeth Mcshaden, naked, riding her husband on her wedding bed.

Nathaniel stands with her and continues to hold her hand. He can see her heart break right in front of him as tears flow down her young cheeks.

Nathaniel walks in front of the vision of betrayal and blocks Katie's view.

NATHANIEL

"..And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.."

Katie falls to the floor and continues to weep like a baby.

Nathaniel lifts Katie up and holds her face close to his.

NATHANIEL (CONT'D)

"For thine is the Kingdom, and the power. And the glory, Forever."

KATIE

Amen.

Nathaniel kisses Katie in the center of her forehead.

END FLASHBACK SEQUENCE:

EXT. REALM OF THE DEAD - NEITHER NIGHT OR DAY

Nathaniel and the dark spirit of Katie O'brian continue to hover aimlessly in the immaterial spirit world.

The dark spirit that is Katie O'brian begins to fill with a light brighter than the sun.

For a fraction of a second Katie appears to have sprouted giant, white feathered wings.

Katie takes on a material form and is completely naked. She continues to shine with brilliant white and golden light.

Nathaniel does his best not to stare at her naked appearance and continues to look only at her eyes.

KATIE

Your prayer saved me!

NATHANIEL

It was love and forgiveness that saved you.

KATIE

You dear, sweet boy..

Katie embraces nathaniel with a very loving hug and closes her eyes.

FADE TO WHITE:

NATHANIEL'S MEMORY SEQUENCE - INT. OLD HOME - LIVING ROOM

Nathaniel sits on the staircase as he spies on his mother and Aunt Briana and Caitlin.

CAITLIN

We need to stay here for a while. It would seem that we are no longer welcome in Newbridge...

BRIANA

Or Dublin. The O'brian's have made sure of that.

MOTHER

The O'brian's? What on God's green Earth have you done?

Caitlin looks down at her swollen abdomen then looks up at her sister and smiles.

BRIANA

What do you think?

MOTHER

Do you really believe that this changes anything?

END NATHANIEL'S MEMORY SEQUENCE:

EXT. REALM OF THE DEAD - NEITHER NIGHT OR DAY

The newly saved spirit of Katie O'brian looks disgusted and begins to turn dark. Sounds like THUNDER ECHO all around.

KATIE

That clever little slut. She thinks that seducing my kin will save her and her baby's ass!

NATHANIEL

Katie, no! Don't allow yourself to fall again.

KATIE

You knew! You sneaky little shit!

NATHANIEL

It doesn't matter, Katie! She was only trying to protect herself from you!

KATTE

Love and forgiveness? That was your answer?

The light leaves Katie's spirit entirely. Only a dark shadow remains visible.

Katie's dark arm reaches out and chokes Nathaniel.

KATIE (CONT'D)

The apple never falls far from the tree.

Katie's other dark arm reaches out and grabs Nathaniel. It pulls him closer and she gives him a dark kiss that sucks the very life force out of him.

NATHANIEL

Noooooo!!!

Nathaniel's life force drains completely.

EXT. CEMETARY - DAY

The day is overcast and gloomy. Katie O'brian's dark spirit places Nathaniel's lifeless body next to one of the open graves and floats away.

The ghost of the undertaker, his wife and several other victims of Katie O'brian stand in the cemetary near their graves.

Only dark empty shells appear where their eyes once were can be seen.

Nathaniel's ghost joins them. He has only dark, empty spaces where his eyes once were as well.

Katie O'brian's wicked laughter grows louder and louder.

INT. HOSPITAL - PRIVATE ROOM - DAY

Caitlin holds her baby next to her chest as she breast feeds the newborn child.

A NURSE walks into the room, looks down and smiles at what she sees.

NURSE

All of the paperwork is done and you are free to go, ma'am.

CAITLIN

Thank you, dear.

Caitlin begins to get up out of her chair with her baby.

The nurse gets a wheelchair that was in the corner of the room and puts it in front of Caitlin and her baby.

NURSE

Hospital rules.

CAITLIN

Oh, alright.

Caitlin gets in the wheelchair as she continues to cradle her baby.

NURSE

What did you name her, dear?

CAITLIN

I named her Katie.

NURSE

That is a beautiful name if you don't mind me saying so, ma'am.

CAITLIN

I named her after one of her ancestors on her father's side of the family.

NURSE

That's lovely.

A MALE CNA walks into the room. He looks down and waves at the baby.

NURSE (CONT'D)

Your ride is here! (redirecting her attention to the male cna) Don't forget her bags!

MALE CNA

I'll come back for them after I get her to her car, okay?

NURSE

Don't make her wait all day!

MALE CNA

Yes, ma'am.

The male cna pushes the wheelchair Caitlin and her baby occupies out of the room as the nurse waves goodbye and smiles.

INT. HOSPITAL - HALLWAY

As the male cna pushes Caitlin and her baby in the wheelchair down the hallway a LOUD THUMP is heard from behind them.

INT. HOSPITAL - PRIVATE ROOM

The nurse's lifeless body lies on the floor. It's eyes are still open and she still has a very large smile on her face.

FADE OUT.

THE END.