

No More Gods: The White Tiger

## TEASER

INT. BASEMENT POOL. DAY

A small basement pool lit by tube lights. No windows. The walls painted in "fun" colours.

The sound of one person swimming.

A Clock ticks. It reads 6.

BILLI, Indian, long dark hair, late twenties, athletic and strong, swims fast front crawl laps in a confidently cut red bikini; she's alone.

"Cello suite number 1 in G Major" is playing through her waterproof MP3 player. The music starts to reach a crescendo, a pair of dirty brown boots start to pace alongside her.

Billi's P.O.V as she breaths: under the water, side of the pool, under the water, boots standing on the poolside.

The final note of the music plays, she pulls herself out of the pool, takes off the MP3 player, glances at a utility door in the corner that is slightly ajar. She sighs and shakes her head.

A Man's legs appear behind her.

An arm reaches down, and with a single hand grabs her from behind by the throat, lifts her easily into the air turns her to face an angry-faced man.

She holds his forearm for support and contrives to look utterly terrified. She kicks out trying to free herself, gripping his forearm for support.

The man is a VAMPIRE. He looks like he smells bad, has deep vivid emerald green eyes, and smiles at her with only his mouth.

VAMPIRE

Didn't your mother ever tell you,  
never to go anywhere alone?

His voice is full of malice.

Billi suddenly relaxes, causing the vampire to look confused before becoming angry. He raises Billi higher, trying to scare her.

BILLI

Didn't yours tell you not to play  
with your food?

Billi speaks with ease even though she is lifted off the floor by her neck.

BILLI (CONT'D)  
What's the matter, cat got your  
tongue?

The vampire looks at her angrily. Then, without dropping her  
reels back his face a mask of fear, but determined not to  
lose his meal, he postures.

VAMPIRE  
(To someone out of shot,  
he calls over a shoulder)  
Breakfast's waiting.

BILLI  
(Sniffing the air)  
They've gone.  
(Grinning)  
Didn't your mother ever tell you  
never to go anywhere alone?

The vampire hesitates... Snarls showing his extended canines  
and drops Billi to the ground. Billi rolls her eyes.

There is a sudden explosion of snarling teeth and fur as  
Billi transforms into an angry BENGAL TIGER.

Fear grips the vampire's features.

Billi quickly decapitates him with a single bite, and the  
vampire crumbles to dust.

Instantly back in human form and now naked, she dashes for  
the shelter of a large white towel. She collects the pieces  
of her ruined bikini with a sigh.

END OF TEASER

ACT 1

EXT. NOTTINGHAM TRAIN STATION. DAY

Morning, grey and wet, commuters fill the station. Muffled announcements as trains arrive.

A train glides to a halt. A crowd disembarks. In the centre of the group is JACK a tall white-blond hair, self-confident manner, late thirties, pale-faced with ice blue eyes, and a nonchalant gate.

He leaves the station via a side exit.

He leans against a wall, takes out his phone and looks up an address. The word Opium appears in the search box.

He looks around; he inhales deeply through his nose, smiles knowingly and crosses the road.

INT. CITY CENTRE APARTMENT. DAY

Billi sits in a towel at a white desk, in a white room, writing shorthand notes in a red notebook. Classical music plays quietly in the background.

She takes a photo of her notes and sends it to a contact in her phone. Her phone beeps in reply. She looks at her message it's a "shocked cat" emoji. She smiles but does not reply.

She turns to a large map of Nottingham pinned to a notice board, and places a red sticker over her apartment block; The map's covered in little red dots.

INT. LECTURE HALL. DAY

SALLY, mid/late 20's, bookish, red-hair in perfect victory rolls and flawless pale skin, sits to the side of the stage of a lecture hall. People are entering the hall and the room is beginning to fill.

Sally's phone vibrates in her pocket, she pulls it out. On stage, her name announced.

PROFESSOR (O.S.)  
Miss Sally Ann Granger.

She reads the message, raises her eyebrows and sends a shocked cat emoji in response.

Sally takes to the podium, behind her images flash across a screen, images of cats throughout history, sculptures, paintings from many different eras, then a cat video from the internet. This gets a laugh.

SALLY

Who would have imagined that in our modern time, we would still be worshipping cats?

We're not so reverent as we once were, it's true. But it would seem that cats hold as treasured a place in our society as they have ever done.

Cats have played a significant role in human culture since the times of ancient Egypt.

But that was only the beginning.

CUT:

EXT. STREETS. DAY

It's wet, Billi holds a yellow umbrella, a supermarket bag, and a coffee. She turns into an alley. A dog growls.

ALISON

I dunno why he don't like ya.

Billi smiles and hands the bag and coffee to a young homeless woman whose weathered appearance makes her look far older than she is.

BILLI

He can probably smell my cat.

She looks at the dog, who backs away a little.

BILLI (CONT'D)

Where did you sleep last night?

Alison looks ashamed, Billi sighs and crouches down. The dog continues its growl.

BILLI (CONT'D)

It's not safe down there.  
Here.

Billi pulls out a handful of cash.

BILLI (CONT'D)

Take this.

She pushes the money into Alison's hands.

BILLI (CONT'D)

The shelter at the station allows dogs. Just do me a favour and stay out of the caves.

ALISON

They're free. Ad'rather sleep on'  
dog shelf than in that shelter.  
Shelters 'ave too many rules, I  
like my freedom.

BILLI

Is that the freedom to die cold and  
alone? Or the freedom to accept my  
help?  
Alison, promise me that you'll go  
to the shelter.

ALISON

Alright, fine, I'll go.

BILLI

Good.

Billi pats the dogs head gently, it whimpers.

Billi walks away.

Her phone rings, she looks at the screen, it shows "unknown  
number".

She answers.

BILLI (CONT'D)

Look, I don't care about bloody  
PPI.

UNKNOWN MALE VOICE (O.S)

You're in danger, she's in danger.  
The White Tiger is in Nottingham.

BILLI

Who is this? How did you get this  
number? Hello!

There's no response, the phone goes dead. A dial tone, Billi  
stares at her phone.

BILLI (CONT'D)

What the f...

CUT:

EXT. THE LACE MARKET. DAY

JACK stands on a quiet side street, looking at a red door on  
an old Victorian warehouse. He pulls his coat around him.

The word Opium is written in red on a black lacquered sign  
over the door.

Jack crosses the street and presses an intercom buzzer.

INTERCOM - FEMALE (O.S)

Yes.

JACK

It's Jack.

The door swings open slowly, from Jacks point of view it looks like no one has opened it, he rolls his eyes theatrically.

JACK (CONT'D)

How terrifying.

He walks into the darkness.

INT. FOYER OF BAR. DAY

The room opens into a bar and restaurant, a stone staircase to one side. Candles burn on each step.

JACK enters, the door closes behind him, and a FEMALE VAMPIRE emerges from the shadows behind it. She's beautiful, tall and elegant, with deep emerald green eyes.

JACK

You think that's impressive, scary possibly? But, my dear, the stench of you seeps into my very bones.

He reaches out and strokes the back of his hand down her cheek, she freezes and looks terrified. Jack smiles grimly and hooks a finger under her chin.

JACK (CONT'D)

Take me to him.

INT. LOFT BAR. DAY

Hundreds of candles illuminate the room, large red paper lanterns hang low from the ceiling, heavy red curtains block all sunlight. Cello music plays softly.

Low tables fill the room, at a few sit green-eyed men and women, obviously yet discreetly armed, watching Jacks every move.

In the corner, a terrified young woman plays the cello, flanked by a small group of vampires.

Jack focuses on the girl; he hear's her heart beating fast.

THUMP-THUMP THUMP-THUMP THUMP-THUMP. THUMP-thump-THUMP-thump.

There's another heartbeat, Jack sniffs the air and gives a knowing smile.

Scanning the pale faces until he sees a man, GEORGE, mid 30's, handsome yet pensive, rounded shoulders, sitting away from the others, his heartbeat steady.

Jack smiles at him as he talks to Eldred.

JACK

You should have told me you had a  
pet. I'd have brought a bone.  
Good dog.

George glowers but doesn't move.

A plush grey sofa runs along the length of the back wall.

In the centre of this behind a low black lacquered table sits a handsome man in a custom suit, ELDRED. A pot of tea and two white china cups in front of him, Jack walks up confidently and sits on the low bench opposite the man in the suit. He looks to be in his thirties, has mousy blonde hair and intense emerald green eyes, he sits straight and neat.

Eldred looks at Jack with considerable curiosity and raises an eyebrow. He then pours Jack a cup of tea and slides it across the table, as Jack reaches for the cup, every vampire in the room apart from Eldred puts their hands to their weapon.

ELDRED

You must excuse them, the thought  
of meeting "The White Tiger" has  
them on edge.

A smug smile passes over Jack's face. Eldred leans back and steeples his fingers.

ELDRED (CONT'D)

So. You are the cat who kills cats  
for money. Controversial, though  
useful I'm sure.  
I've gone to great lengths to find  
you, I'm told that you can help fix  
a small problem I've been having.

Jack shrugs and sips his tea.

JACK

For the right price, old man, I can  
fix anything.

In the corner, George stares at the two men and growls under his breath.

EXT. MARKET SQUARE. DAY

It's raining; Jack leans against the large grey statue of a lion, idly watching people dash past.



He pulls out his phone, and we see a map on his screen.

He walks away from the statue following the map, puts his phone back in his pocket, and pulls his coat's collar up.

He sniffs at the air as he approaches the castle and looks annoyed.

JACK

A domestic? They would lower me to  
a domestic!

He turns back towards the marketplace and catches a scent on the air. He smiles slyly.

Holding a bright yellow umbrella, Billi heads across the market place. She strolls towards the main entrance of the council house, as she climbs the stairs, she stops turns and scans the crowd.

JACK (CONT'D)

*The cat.* Of course it's you.

Billi turns and enters the building.

INT. LOFT BAR. DAY

The vampires are leaving the loft, others are putting out the candles, one of them brings the cello player to Eldred, she's gagged and looks terrified.

ELDRED

Have her taken to my rooms.

When the vampire leads the crying woman away, George is waiting.

GEORGE

Why do you need him?

Eldred looks up and raises an eyebrow.

ELDRED

I assume you are talking about that  
arrogant tiger?

George nods and sits heavily on the chair across from Eldred.

GEORGE

Why you need him, what damage can  
she possibly do?

ELDRED

So far she has eluded you at every  
turn. I'm putting my faith in a  
better class of hunter.

Eldred leans in closer and shows his teeth a little.

ELDRED (CONT'D)

You think you have a say in how things are run here? Perhaps you believe I value your opinion? That you should be consulted?  
You. Are. Nothing.

Eldred stands leaving George, the finals candle goes out.

INT. CAVE. DAY

Sally, walks casually through a dimly lit sandstone cave. The loose stone and sand crunch slightly beneath her feet.

She comes to a ancient wooden doorway, presses her ear up against it then sniffs the surrounding air. She looks around sniffs again, once content that she is alone, she moves to open the door.

There's a buzzing; Sally looks confused for a second before rolling her eyes and digging a mobile phone out of her pocket.

SALLY

Billi, hi.

EXT. LACE MARKET. DAY (SAME TIME)

Footsteps echo on paving stones; Billi walks through the back streets towards a large church carrying her lunch.

She's on the phone.

BILLI

Who's the white tiger?

INTER-CUT BETWEEN SALLY AND BILLI:

SALLY

I'm good thanks, you?

Sally walks away from the door towards the cave's entrance.

Billi stops walking and sighs.

BILLI

Jesus Sal, hi. This is important.

Billi enters a churchyard and sits on a bench.

BILLI (CONT'D)

I got an odd call this morning from an unknown number.

(MORE)

BILLI (CONT'D)

Someone was trying to disguise  
their voice, they told me "the  
white tiger" is in town, and that  
I'm in danger.

SALLY

Who called?

BILLI

(talks slowly as if to an  
idiot)  
An unknown number.

SALLY

The white tiger, hold on...

Sally uses her phone to access some files and scan reads  
them.

SALLY (CONT'D)

The only white tiger listed is  
Jack, Siberian White, he's, oh, an  
assassin. Shouldn't be after you  
though, cats don't kill cats.

There's silence on the end of the line, and Sally closes her  
eyes.

SALLY (CONT'D)

Shit. Sorry, Bill, I didn't mean-

BILLI

It's fine...

Billi closes her eyes and takes a deep breath.

BILLI (CONT'D)

Well-then, I best be on the lookout  
for "the white tiger". Somehow I  
imagine he'll be easy to spot.

SALLY

If he's got any sense, he'll be the  
one running from you.

BILLI

Where are you by the way? Not  
spelunking in your lunch hour  
again, are you?

SALLY

What after you explicitly told me  
not to? Obviously not.

BILLI

Be careful Sal.

SALLY

Bye Billi.

INT. CAVE. DAY

Sally pockets her phone, and pushes hard against the wooden door, it opens slowly to reveal a large room.

Sally takes out a torch and shines it along the walls, there is nothing there until she brings the beam of the flashlight over a small door at the far end of the cave, slowly and cautiously she moves across the room, her footsteps make no sound now. She crouches down to the door and pushes it open a fraction, sniffing the air.

Carefully she pushes it all the way open and shines in her torch. She beams.

SALLY

Jackpot.

She crawls into the room, and the door shuts.

INT. BILLI'S APARTMENT. NIGHT

Billi opens the fridge, peers inside, and sighs. She pulls out something leftover on a plate and pops it in the microwave.

She's dressed fashionably for a casual night out.

She opens the door to a small balcony and steps outside. She closes her eyes and inhales deeply through her nose. Then, with her eyes still closed turns to the left and sniffs more gently.

The microwave bings, she sighs again, looks despondently over the city.

BILLI

Eat. Hunt. Repeat.

EXT. NOTTINGHAM'S LACE MARKET. NIGHT

The rhythmic beat of music comes from the various bars; the streets are bathed in a patchwork colourful light. Traffic rumbles by.

Billi stares up at a hotel, she sniffs the air and catches a scent. She turns left and heads to a bar across the road.

She stops suddenly in the middle of the road sniffing the air again suddenly agitated, she looks around, searching.

Billi's P.O.V each sound can be pinpointed...

People talking...

Music...

People eating...

Laughing...

She looks from side to side, taking in as many sights and sounds as possible.

A tram driver's bell snaps Billi back to reality, she crosses the street and descends into a basement; Tantra.

INT. BASEMENT BAR. NIGHT

A bar runs the length of one wall, high tables and stools litter the floor, along another wall low bed like booths spill plush cushions through red beaded curtains.

A barman, TOM, university age, wipes down the bar and smiles as he sees Billi enter.

Billi sits at a bar stool and turns to face the people currently occupying the bar.

Billi's P.O.V; Scanning the beaded booths, she examines each of the customers, until she comes to the silhouette of five people sitting and lying around. Billi focuses her attention on this group, and hears a distinct sound.

A SINGLE HEARTBEAT. A drink is placed onto the bar next to her; she didn't order it, she doesn't pay for it.

She swivels the chair back to face the bar.

BILLI

Thanks, Tom.

The barman simply smiles and moves down the bar to serve new customers.

Billi turns back to watch the vampires, sips her drink as the shadows' movie behind the curtain. As she watches them, she raises her eyebrows.

Billi's phone beeps. She pulls it out of her pocket and reads the message on the screen.

SALLY (TEXT)

W.T is missing presumed dead. Be  
careful xx

Billi puts her phone in her bag.

BILLI

He's just a tiger.

A dark-haired VAMPIRE, mid to late 30's, emerald green eyes, swaggers confidently across to her.

Billi stares at him, and sighs.

BILLI (CONT'D)  
And he's an idiot...

When he speaks, his tone is calm and friendly, at odds with what he has to say.

VAMPIRE (2)  
I tasted your stench as soon as you came in.

His green eyes stare at Billi.

VAMPIRE (2) (CONT'D)  
We don't like your kind in here.

BILLI  
Well, that makes two of us. Who's the girl?

VAMPIRE (2)  
No one of interest.

He grins as he speaks showing off his large canines.

VAMPIRE (2) (CONT'D)  
You're interesting though; a cat, that's obvious. But what kind?

BILLI  
Looks at me. Whay do you think?

Billi leans in closer and almost whispers.

BILLI (CONT'D)  
Why don't you take me somewhere private and I'll show you.

They lock eyes for a moment, then Billi suddenly sits bolt upright.

A break in the music causes the bar to fall silent. The hairs on the back of her neck stand on end.

The vampire is staring at Jack who is descending the stairs into the bar, the vampire walks away from Jack backwards, blindly knocking the drink from a woman's hand.

WOMAN  
Hey!

Billi slowly gets to her feet; the sound of her heartbeat a little too fast. She closes her eyes takes a deep breath, and her heartbeat slows.

Billi turns and comes face to face with a strikingly handsome man. Jack.

BILLI

Shit.

They stare at each other for a moment then panic breaks out around them. Billi looks down and touches herself, Jack laughs.

Smoke billows out of the booth the vampires were in, leaving the girl looking confused; the fire alarm sounds, the vampires are gone.

Jack smiles at Billi and places a hand on her shoulder; she looks surprised that he's touched her.

JACK

They went that way, should we follow?

The barman comes over and gives Jack a dirty look.

TOM

Come on Billi, we need to be outside. Now.

The three of them leave.

INT. BASEMENT OFFICE. NIGHT

Sally sits on an antique chair at a crowded desk made from planks of wood pushed through a Victorian wine wrack. Around her ancient-looking leather-bound books lie open, there's a hand-drawn map pinned to the bare brick wall. A single bare light bulb illuminates the space.

She drinks tea, staring at the medieval image of a panther and a smartly dressed man embracing as others fight a large hooded figure.

The text below reads: Nottingham 1349.

Sally takes a deep breath, closes her eyes, and places her hand onto the page.

EXT. MEDIEVAL NOTTINGHAM. NIGHT

Everything moves in slow motion, there is no sound.

Sally stumbles, opens her eyes and flinches as a vampire runs right through her. He's chased by a lion. She looks around. She's in a deep sandstone pit littered with debris and fire. Fighting surrounds her, vampires with weapons fight werecat's of all large species, lions, tigers, leopards. Suddenly, all but two of the fighting cats and vampires run from a large hooded figure. Leaving a smart but dishevelled vampire, Eldred, and a jet black panther, they race towards the beast.

Around the feet of the beast, a strange blue glow lights the billowing figure. The vampire stops, he calls out to the panther, but it runs on, pounces at the shadow figure and slams it hard into the blue light.

A sudden implosion of blue white light fills Sally's vision she shades her eyes, it fades away slowly.

Sally looks up, blinking. Eldred stares at a beautiful Mayan, woman. She's naked. Eldred reaches out a hand to touch the woman's face. He's almost touching her when there's a snap, and the woman disappears, leaving in her place a jade statue of a Jaguar.

Eldred collapses to his knees and cries out.

INT. BASEMENT OFFICE. NIGHT

Sally pulls her hand from the book, opens her eyes, shakes her head and stares at the drawing again.



SALLY

What?  
What?

CUT.

EXT. NOTTINGHAM'S LACE MARKET. NIGHT

A small crowd gathers outside the bar. Sirens sound in the distance.

Billi pushes Jack up the street away from the crowd, suddenly angry.

BILLI

Who the hell do you think you are?

Jack almost laughs.

Firmly but gently Jack holds Billi's arms to her sides and walks her across the road into the shadow of another building. He smiles sweetly and let's go of Billi's arms, Billi growls a little.

JACK

I heard about your quarrel with the council, and as another who believes they lack vision, I thought I should introduce myself. I'm Jack.

BILLI

Quarrel? Look, this isn't some petty argument, what they're doing is wrong, they need to be stopped. They think you're dead by the way.

JACK

You know who I am?

Billi shrugs and nods. Jack looks happy with this.

JACK (CONT'D)

I didn't think you were on speaking terms with those... pious wankers, isn't that what you called them?

Billi almost wincing in recollection.

BEGIN FLASHBACK:

INT. COUNCIL CHAMBER. DAY

Billi stands in a large room that resembles an empty church, poorly lit by hundreds of candles.

She faces a group of oddly dressed men in robes who look down at her from behind a large candle covered stone alter.

They stare down at her, trying to make her feel small, it doesn't work. She meets their stares, unimpressed, unmoved, unafraid.

A large black man wearing robes suggesting he is a Lion is talking at her.

SIMBA

I find your insistence on raising  
this point time and again  
insulting, Cat!  
Questioning what is written is  
sacrilege!

BILLI

It's hardly my fault that what's  
written is bollocks.  
But I'm not here to talk about  
that, am I? You told us we could  
see her, we came in good faith.

A look of disgust passes across the faces of each member of the council.

BILLI (CONT'D)

Even someone as unaccountably  
arrogant as you must have realised  
that when I found out she wasn't  
here, I'd be upset.

SIMBA

We do not fear your temper  
tantrums.  
Nor are we impressed by a female  
trained by a *Felis catus*!

Some members of the council smile, Billi looks utterly incensed.

BILLI

You couldn't tame me at 15, what  
chance do you think you have now.

She points an irate finger in Sally's direction. Sally smiles sweetly at the council, who look on her with disgust.

BILLI (CONT'D)

If you have hurt a hair on her  
mother's body I swear to any god I  
can find that you will pay.  
She trains me, so that I can  
protect us.

SIMBA

Protect you from what?

Billi shoots him a look like a dagger.

BILLI

From you.  
 You who keep us locked away as your  
 damn slaves, and then expect  
 gratitude!  
 You, who look down on me, with your  
 ridiculous ceremonial names, and  
 call me *Cat*. Like I the one who  
 should be ashamed!

Sally moves closer and quietly takes Billi's hand, Billi  
 accepts it but doesn't look at her, she merely carries on  
 talking.

BILLI (CONT'D)

One day this cat will bring you to  
 your knees.

SIMBA

How dare you threaten us, now you  
 are free of our rule!

Billi is holding back rage, Sally gently squeezes her hand  
 and, Billi takes a deep breath.

SALLY

You call this free?  
 We are no more free than the women  
 you lock up, and the cats you keep  
 down.  
 We will not be free until you  
 change the way you rule.

An Indian man whose robes declare he is a Tiger shifts  
 angrily and address's Billi.

BAGH

You were called here to answer to  
 face sentencing for the night you  
 escaped, and for continuing to  
 neglect your role as a female.  
 Not to once again draw our  
 attention to your personal beliefs;  
 beliefs we have warned you against  
 in the past. Your insubordination  
 will not go unpunished!

Billi stares silently at him for a full 10 seconds. Far  
 longer than Bagh is comfortable with. When she finally talks  
 it's almost a growl.

BILLI

My belief that treating women as  
 cattle is wrong, is never going to  
 change!

(MORE)

BILLI (CONT'D)

You brought us here to see her and  
you have denied us that.  
Deception will not work for you  
again.

Bagh pulls himself into a proud pose. But it just makes him  
look pompous.

BILLI (CONT'D)

The fact you pious wankers have  
your heads so far up your own arses  
that you're not willing to see the  
truth, is quite honestly, not my  
concern.

At her side, Sally barely stifles a giggle.

BILLI (CONT'D)

As for sentencing, you just said I  
was free of your rule. So, am I or  
aren't I?

Billi looks at Sally and kisses her forehead.

BILLI (CONT'D)

What happened that night is on you,  
if you want to sentence someone for  
those needless deaths then sentence  
your damn selves!

She looks up at the council, pure hatred on her face,

BILLI (CONT'D)

So, unless you produce her this  
instant we're leaving. And if  
anyone wants to stop us, then  
please, please try.

She stares at them, they avoid each other gaze and barely  
look at Billi.

BILLI (CONT'D)

As for neglecting my role as a  
female, well...

Inter-cut as Billi talks with flashes of still images.

Sad young girls cling together in dirty rooms...

A young woman, 15/16 years old, leads a man far older than  
her into a room...

BILLI (CONT'D)

You remember what happened the last  
time you tried that, don't you?

A Tiger mauls a man's leg as he screams...

BILLI (CONT'D)  
Did he ever walk again?

END FLASHBACK:

EXT. NOTTINGHAM'S LACE MARKET. NIGHT SAME TIME

Billi jumps as Jack places a hand on her shoulder.

BILLI  
You weren't there.

Jack simply shrugs.

JACK  
Word like you gets around. Come on,  
let me buy you a drink.

Billi looks unsure but Jack guides her down a side street and into a bar called Opium.

INT. CHINESE BAR. NIGHT

It's dimly lit, on one side plush red and gold seats sit smartly around tables of white linen, on the other side a black lacquered bar, people sit at low red and gold tables on cushioned benches, large red paper lanterns hang low from the ceilings. Hushed conversations and oriental music fill the room.

Jack enters first and smiles at the seated guests, closely followed by an irritated-looking Billi.

BILLI  
Do you mind turning down the  
aftershave, is there any need for  
pheromones that strong? It's giving  
me a headache.

Jack smiles and gives a polite nod.

JACK  
I like to see the vampires squirm.

Billi rubs her temples.

BILLI  
I don't squirm.

JACK  
You don't look happy.

Billi seems anxious, obviously frustrated, talking in an angry whisper she keeps looking at the people in the bar.

BILLI

Are you surprised? You used a scent so strong I could taste it, then cornered me. I'm still young, you're lucky my impulse control is strong.

JACK

I was confident in your skills. From what I've heard you're one of the best. Besides, there's a protocol in place for unexpected changes.

BILLI

A bloody one.

Jack shrugs. He reaches out and brushes Billi's hair out of her face, she looks furious.

JACK

I didn't think you'd mind me stopping by.  
Most women don't mind my company.

The hairs on the back of Billi's neck stand on end. She shivers and rubs her temples again as if fighting off a headache.

BILLI

So, that's why you're here?  
I'm not like the other women you've met sweetheart. I've not been brainwashed into worshipping your Y chromosome.  
No doubt you heard what I did to the last man stupid enough to try it. Word gets around after all.

Jack walks away from Billi towards the restaurant, Billi follows. He goes to a table with a bottle of wine and 2 glasses waiting on it. He stops pours 2 glasses, picks them up and offers one to Billi.

She takes it and puts it down on a different table. Jack gives a sly grin.

JACK

You killed them.

BILLI

Them? What? No.

JACK

That's what they say.

BILLI

That was different. I was helping my friend. I had no choice.

JACK

How righteous of you.

Jack drinks his wine. He smiles at her. Taking in Jack's expression, there's a snarl in Billi's voice.

BILLI

What are you so happy about?

The bar falls silent. The door locks behind them; Billi turns her head a little towards the sound but does not take her eyes off Jack.

JACK

Oh, nothing much, I do enjoy it when things go my way.

Billi looks at the people in the restaurant, they have all stop talking and are watching her, many have glasses filled with something dark red. They all have green eyes.

As she listens she only hears two heartbeats hers and Jack's...

BILLI

Fuck.

When she looks up, Jack has stopped smiling, he gestures to the room.

JACK

My clients.

The vampires stare at Billi, but some share confused whispers.

JACK (CONT'D)

It would appear you're becoming something of a nuisance. Personally, I admire your work, it lacks only ambition. Wanting only the freedom to be mediocre. When you could be so much more. And you waste it on vermin like this.

Jack's arm flies out to the nearest vampire and he crushes his neck in one strong hand. The vampire crumples. Other vampires back away.

Billi closes her eyes; her breathing starts to slow and calm. When she opens her eyes, her new expression causes a brief look of uncertainty to cross Jack's face.

BILLI  
You have ambition? That's why you  
kill your own?

Billi turns from him and walks around the room, moving from table to table playing with cutlery, picking up a fork here replacing it there, picking up a knife.

JACK  
It keeps things interesting, it  
also pays rather well.

Vampires scatter as Billi paces the restaurant.

JACK (CONT'D)  
I'm doing this for the future of  
our kind, a new start away from the  
council. I thought you'd  
understand.

Billi walks back to Jack.

BILLI  
You're just swapping one bunch of  
morons for another.  
You're not doing anything to make  
lives better.  
You're just killing for fun.

Billi is right in front of him now, looking up into his face.

BILLI (CONT'D)  
I don't like killing for sport.  
Self-defense, well, that's a  
different story.

Jack looks down at the steak knife pressing into his chest.

JACK  
You realise that will have little  
effect, don't you? Or do they  
really not teach the women  
anything?

Billi holds a knife over Jack's heart, they don't break eye contact. Jack steps closer, the tip of the knife to rips through his shirt and pushes into his skin. Blood seeps into his shirt; the closest vampires shift uneasily.

Billi stands firm, she shrugs.

BILLI  
Maybe not, but it'll sting.  
Don't make me do this Jack. Killing  
once was enough.



JACK

Oh, come now, you killed more than one.

BILLI

They would have killed her!

Jack laughs, snarls and grips Billi's arms to her side.

JACK

I think I'm going to enjoy this.

Before Jack can react Billi's jaw transforms into her tiger form, she tears into Jack's throat spraying the startled vampires and white tablecloths in blood.

His body stands motionless, looking shocked, then collapses onto the floor.

She looks up, the vampires back off. She walks through them, they part fearing her revenge.

Then, unable to resist, the vampires leap at Jack's body, shoving each other out of the way in a desperate feeding frenzy.

Billi moves behind the bar, removes her clothes slowly, folds them into her bag. And then turns into the tiger.

She pounces on a vampire, some try to draw weapons, others try to leave.

Now frantic with fear, in their panic, they cannot unlock the door.

Billi pounces again, lunging into a group of vampires.

A vampire pulls out a copper blade and stabs Billi in the shoulder breaking the knife into the wound.

Billi growls in pain and throws herself at the vampire.

Each vampire Billi kills crumbles to dust.

Soon a single female vampire remains, she manages to get the door open, Billi breathing heavily and bleeding at the shoulder paces slowly towards the vampire, roars angrily and allows her to run.

Billi returns to the bar and changes back into her human form, wincing at the pain in her shoulder, she can't reach the knife still lodged into the wound.

She dresses carefully and heads for the door.

Her footsteps break the silence as she makes her way past Jack's broken body.

The door closes.

INT. LARGE WHITE BATHROOM. NIGHT

Billi stares at her reflection, she looks detached, lost. She sends a text.

She turns on the shower and gets in fully dressed, sits on the floor under the water hugs her knees and begins to cry.

The water runs red.

The sound of the shower echoes around the tiled room.

Billi's phone begins to ring and ring and ring.

FADE:

INT. CHINESE BAR. NIGHT

Blood stains the floor, Jacks body lies in the centre of the room.

The sound of boots on stone.

A scraping sound and Jacks body is dragged across the floor by black-gloved hands.

A soft thud.

A car boot closes.

INT. LARGE WHITE BATHROOM. NIGHT

Frantic banging on the front door, Sally bursts into the bathroom.

SALLY

Oh, shit. Bill, what happened?  
Where are you hurt? Come on kiddo,  
talk to me.

Sally takes off her shoes and jacket and climbs under the water with Billi.

SALLY (CONT'D)

Jesus Christ! It's freezing!

Sally spots the wound on Billi's shoulder, the copper glints in the light. She looks at Billi's impassive face and quickly pulls out the blade.

Billi cries out.

Sally turns the water temperature up, steam fills the shower. She physically pulls Billi's face to hers. Sally hugs Billi tightly and presses her forehead onto Billi's. There's purring, and Billi seems to relax a little.

Sally leads Billi out of the water. Grabbing them both towels and wrapping Billi tightly.

BILLI

I had to kill him. I had no choice.  
I killed him.

SALLY

OK honey, you're not making sense.  
Who did you kill?

Billi looks up at Sally like she is seeing her for the first time.

BILLI

Jack. I killed the white tiger.

Red-water runs down the drain.

INT. CANDLELIT CAVE. NIGHT

Eldred sits in a plush armchair. Reading a book.

Beside him, in a glass cabinet, stands the jade panther statue.

A knock at the door.

Eldred places his book on the arm of the chair.

ELDRED

Come.

A vampire enters. JOSEPH. Black, smart, bookish.

JOSEPH

You were correct, my lord. He  
attacked the tiger. She brought him  
down, I've sent the dog to fetch  
his body.

Eldred smiles.

ELDRED

If I am to draw the council out,  
then this tiger is my best bet.  
They fear her. And so they should.  
Have his body brought to me.

The vampire leaves. Eldred turns to the statue.

ELDRED (CONT'D)  
Soon, my love, we shall be  
reunited.  
And then the cats will understand  
what true pain is.

INT. OPIUM BAR. NIGHT

George stands in the weak light of the lanterns surveying the mess. His hand over his mouth, the scent of blood is strong, he tries not to be sick.

Jack's body is gone, blood trails across the floor where the body has been dragged away.

SOPHIA, the vampire Billi allowed to live, stands in the centre of the bloodstain.

The room is silent.

GEORGE  
Where's the body?

SOPHIA  
It was here.

GEORGE  
Well, it isn't now.

Sophia shrugs.

SOPHIA  
I smell cat, maybe the tiger took  
him home.

GEORGE  
Use those nostrils, this was a male  
cat, small, domestic, not a female  
tiger.

SOPHIA  
How many bloody cats live in this  
city!

GEORGE  
Are you scared?

Sophia growls at him.

SOPHIA  
You need to tell him the body is  
gone.

George grins.

GEORGE  
You're scared of him too?

Sophia grabs George by the throat. He chokes and she winces and pulls away.

GEORGE (CONT'D)

Sorry, did I forget to mention that  
I brushed my teeth with garlic this  
morning.

Sophia glowers at him and leaves, slamming the door.

George finally slumps forward, he looks relieved and rubs his neck.

INT. CANDLELIT CAVE. DAY

Eldred looks up as George enters with Joseph.

ELDRED

And.

George shakes his head and shrugs.

GEORGE

From what I can tell he was put  
into the boot of a car.

ELDRED

You lost him.

GEORGE

I never had him. I told you he'd  
mess this up.

Eldred stares at George for too long. George shifts uneasily.

ELDRED

He did exactly as anticipated.  
We've always known where the tiger  
lives, she's not shy, she has no  
need to be. But the cat... I  
believe the cat and the tiger are  
close. An attack such as this will  
warrant one to visit the other.

A knock and a man DC Pratt enters the room.

Eldred looks at him expectantly.

DC PRATT

She's not alone. Someone else is  
with her. Another woman.

Eldred smiles. He talks to George.

ELDRED

Go and see who's there. Keep watch  
and follow. No excuses this time.  
Detective, you know what to do.

INT. BILLI'S APARTMENT. DAY

Sun pours through the large windows of the minimalist  
apartment.

Billi sits at the breakfast bar, Sally busies herself making  
tea and coffee in the white kitchen. She hands Billi a large  
cup of black coffee in a white mug, Billi takes it without a  
word.

SALLY

Come to the house for a few days. I  
don't want you to be alone.

Sally walks to the fridge and opens it.

SALLY (CONT'D)

Toast, banana, cereal? You've got  
to eat something kiddo. Bacon? I  
make an excellent bacon sandwich.

BILLI

I killed and man, and you want me  
to eat?

She sighs deeply and walks over to the large windows nursing  
her coffee.

BILLI (CONT'D)

Sometimes I forget what I am. I  
start believing I can have a normal  
life.  
Just be Billi.  
But I'm not, am I? I'm The Cat.  
I took a name given to me as an  
insult, and I turned it into a  
weapon.  
And worst of all, I enjoyed it.

Sally stares at her friend.

BILLI (CONT'D)

If I carry on down this path, if I  
keep having to kill to get what's  
right.  
I'm scared The Cat will consume me.  
That I'll become like Jack.  
Nothing more than a killer for  
hire.

Sally closes the fridge, walks over to Billi and hugs her  
tightly, gently presses her cheek to hers, and purrs quietly.

SALLY

That's not who you are Bill.  
You know that.  
No one fights harder than you for  
what's right, not what's easy.  
That's why I know you'll never let  
that part of you consume you.  
Because it won't be the right thing  
to do.  
You're stronger than you know  
kiddo.

Billi fights back the tears, puts her hand on Sally's cheek  
and pushes the hair out of her face, tucking it behind her  
ear.

BILLI

I don't know what I'd do without  
you.

She rests her forehead on Sally's.

INT. APARTMENT CORRIDOR. DAY

A man stands in the hallway, looking at the number on the  
door, he seems hesitant.

He knocks.

INT. BILLI'S APARTMENT. DAY

Billy and Sally sniff the air, Billi looks angry.

BILLI

Expecting visitors?

Billi goes to the door and looks through the peephole. She  
sees a man. She growls.

INT. APARTMENT CORRIDOR. DAY

Billi opens the door and stands in the frame blocking the  
entrance.

BILLI

Can I help you, constable?

Billi puts a little too much emphasis on the pronunciation...  
cunt-stable...

The man, DC PRATT, mid 40's, tall, seems to remember he has a  
job to do and straightens up.

DC PRATT

That's detective Pratt.

BILLI  
Oh, well, much better.

Billi wrinkles her nose.

BILLI (CONT'D)  
I'm curious, did *they* tell you that  
I wouldn't be able to smell them if  
you covered yourself in cheap  
aftershave? Or was that a personal  
choice this morning.

DC Pratt shifts uneasily.

BILLI (CONT'D)  
What do you want?

DC PRATT  
I want to speak to your friend.

BILLI  
My friend?

A large black and white cat appears at the door, rubbing  
itself on Billi's ankles. DC Pratt stares at the cat, gets  
out his phone and takes a photo of it. The cat darts back  
into the house.

Billi grabs DC Pratt by the wrist, squeezing him hard, he's  
in obvious pain. She does not let go.

BILLI (CONT'D)  
What the hell was that?

There's a ding as the elevator arrives at the end of the  
corridor, the doors open and a scent hits Billi making her  
recoil a little, but she does not let go of DC Pratt's wrist.

George steps out of the lift and looks at Billi.

BILLI (CONT'D)  
Your police dog? Very progressive.

DC Pratt looks at George.

GEORGE  
Let him go, he's only following  
orders.

George glances sideways at DC Pratt

GEORGE (CONT'D)  
Though I thought his orders were to  
watch from a distance.

DC Pratt scowls at George.



BILLI  
What do you want?  
If you're here to scare me, it's  
really not working. If you're here  
to irritate me...

She lets go of DC Pratt's wrist, he drops the phone and Billi stamps on it.

George bends down and picks up the pieces and pushes them into DC Pratt's hands.

GEORGE  
The cat's not here, I can't smell  
her. That one's just a pet. Go and  
tell him.

DC Pratt looks from George to Billi and leaves in a hurry, Billi peers inside the house Sally's tail pokes out from under the sofa. She stares at George.

BILLI  
You work for the greenies?

GEORGE  
Greenies?

Billi points to her eyes.

GEORGE (CONT'D)  
Kind of. Why is she here?

BILLI  
What are you talking about?

GEORGE  
Get her out of here. She's getting  
too close.

BILLI  
Too close to what? Who the hell are  
you?

GEORGE  
Just a friend.

BILLI  
Dogs and cats are rarely friends.

GEORGE  
Just keep her safe.

DC Pratt listens at the end of the corridor, he grins and walks away.

INT. BILLI'S APARTMENT. DAY

Billi leans on the door and looks at the cat sitting on the floor, the cat runs into Billi's bedroom.

Sally walks out of the bedroom wearing a white bathrobe.

SALLY  
Is everything in this house  
monochromatic?

Billi is still staring at Sally.

BILLI  
What have you been doing?

INT. CANDLELIT CAVE. DAY

George enters, his boots heavy on the sandstone floor.

Eldred sits behind a large wooden desk watching him, he smiles.

ELDRED  
I hear our tiger has a pet cat.

George looks around as smug vampires move in, they surround him.

ELDRED (CONT'D)  
What did you tell her?

GEORGE  
Tell who?

ELDRED  
It would seem the good detective  
overheard your conversation with  
the tiger.  
I'll ask again.  
What did you tell her?

GEORGE  
Why don't you ask the good  
detective?

Eldred glowers.

ELDRED  
A wolf protecting a cat? You  
realise it will never work.

George is grabbed by two vampires, they pin his arms behind him, he struggles to free himself.

ELDRED (CONT'D)

I'll ask you one last time. What did you tell her?

GEORGE

Drop-dead.

A large vampire punches George hard in the stomach, he bends over and another vampire puts a bag over his head, punches him unconscious and George is dragged from the room.

INT. BILLI'S APARTMENT. DAY

Billi and Sally are sat talking.

BILLI

So, you've been looking for old books. Why?

Sally sips her tea.

SALLY

You know mum told me stories? Well, she was never too clear on the details. I never knew where and only had a vague idea of when. All I was ever sure about was who.

BILLI

The council.

SALLY

Exactly. The council. And you know that what they lack in kindness they make up for pig-headed arrogance.

BILLI

That's putting it mildly.

SALLY

Well, it got me thinking if something important had happened hundreds of years ago, something that the council want to destroy or protect or something... Well would they move, or would they stay?

Billi stares at Sally.

BILLI

You've lost me.

SALLY

What caused the war with the vampires?

Billi gets up and walks to the window.

BILLI

The vampires attacked and killed a werecat Queen. They broke a truce. And in the process, condemned the females of our kind to centuries of "protection" at the hands of the clowder council. It's one of the many reasons I can't stand the bastards.

SALLY

Right, but who taught us that?

BILLI

The council, well, and your mum.

SALLY

Yes, but she was never sure if that had happened. I mean, it is generally agreed that a vampire did have something to do with the death of K'ab'al, but that's really all we know.

Billi sighs, she's getting bored.

BILLI

So?

SALLY

What I'm saying is, I think the war started here, in Nottingham. I think the council stayed close to the city because there's something here they need. And I think I know what it is.

Sally pulls out the books she had been reading the night before and drops it heavily onto the coffee table.

BILLI

You brought that... You raced out in the middle of the night to save your friend, and brought that?

Sally ignores her and pours through the book until she finds the image. She points at the man.

SALLY

That's Eldred.

She points at the panther.

SALLY (CONT'D)

That is K'ab'al. Does that look like the body language of a man about to kill?

Billi stares at the image.

BILLI

Ok, I'm still not sure what I'm supposed to do with this.

Sally smiles.

SALLY

I went into the drawing.

BILLI

What?

SALLY

This was drawn by a cat, it's a memory. I can see them, mum told me it was possible, I just figured it out. Look it's easier to show you.

Before Billi can argue Sally grabs her arm and puts a hand on the book.

CUT TO:

EXT. MEDIEVAL NOTTINGHAM. NIGHT

A sudden implosion of blue light fills Billi's vision, she shades her eyes, the light fades away.

Sally is still holding Billi's hand. She looks at Sally in mild horror.

Sally points towards Eldred.

SALLY

Look.

Eldred is stood staring at a beautiful, naked woman. Eldred reaches out a hand to touch the woman's face. He's almost touching her when there's a snap, and the woman disappears, leaving in her place a large jade statue of a Jaguar. Eldred collapses to his knees and cries out.

Billi looks around.

BILLI

I know where this is.

Sally looks at Billi.

CUT TO BLACK.

EXT. NOTTINGHAM CITY STREETS. DAY

Billi walks through the city, wearing a large tiger print scarf wrapped around her head and shoulders and a pair of tiger-striped trainers. A large bag over her shoulder, the black and white face of a cat peeks out, Billi gently pushes it back inside. The cat meows.

BILLI  
I like to wear this. It makes me  
feel safe.

More meowing from the bag.

BILLI (CONT'D)  
Oh, shut up.

She walks along a side street towards the castle and continues to talk to the bag.

BILLI (CONT'D)  
Where is it again?

There's more meowing from the bag.

BILLI (CONT'D)  
No need to be like that.

They turn into a gated Victorian estate; large brick houses line the streets. Billi walks up to a long stone staircase. Finally, she stands in front of a large 3 story red brick house.

The cat jumps out of the bag and runs around to the back of the house. The front door is opened by Sally, now wearing a simple long dress.

INT. SALLY'S HALLWAY. DAY

The hallway is light and airy, with original tilling and balustrades.

There are ancient cat-related artefacts on top of a large wooden sideboard. Billi takes it all in.

BILLI  
I like what you've done with the  
place.

She points to the massed figures on the sideboard.

BILLI (CONT'D)  
How many of these did you actually  
buy?

Sally smiles. Billi walks past the sideboard and a framed photo catches her eye. Sally and her work colleagues, George is among them.

She picks up the photo and points to George. He has his arm around Sally's waist in the picture.

BILLI (CONT'D)  
Who the hell is this guy?

Sally smiles and looks a little embarrassed.

SALLY  
George. He's a friend. Well, he was. When he came back from Scotland, he'd changed, he avoided me and left work.

She shrugs, takes the photo from Billi and places it back onto the sideboard.

SALLY (CONT'D)  
I expect he realised I was different too. I smell him around. Mostly in the caves.

BILLI  
So he's working with the vampires?

SALLY  
I doubt it. But he is with them.

BILLI  
Does he know where you live?

Sally looks ashamed.

BILLI (CONT'D)  
Jesus Sal, he could lead them right to you.

SALLY  
Well, he hasn't yet.

INT. CAVE. DAY

George comes to. Chained to a wall, his face bleeding. He spits blood onto the floor.

Two burly vampires stand close to him, one holding a bat tipped with silver, the other wearing a silver knuckle duster.

A door opens and Eldred steps in, a chair is pulled up in front of George Eldred sits and crosses his legs.

George looks up at him.

GEORGE

I'm not going to tell you where she is, she's not the threat. Her friend's the threat.

ELDRED

No, Billi is a convenient weapon. The other, simply vermin getting too close to things she cannot possibly comprehend. And you will tell me where to find her.

George shakes his head.

GEORGE

Kill me.

ELDRED

Why sacrifice yourself for this girl? You're on the wrong side now my child, she will never accept you. And given the chance, Billi will kill you.

GEORGE

Rather her than you.

Eldred leans back in his chair, closes his eyes for a moment. He looks at the other vampires in the room.

ELDRED

Let us leave him to contemplate how little future he truly has.

He looks at George.

ELDRED (CONT'D)

If you fail to tell me what I need to know, I will keep you alive so when we find her, and we will find her, you can watch as we drink her.

The vampires leave, the door shuts. George fights back tears.

INT. BASEMENT OFFICE. DAY

Billi stares at the books that fill the small space in the basement office.

BILLI

Well, you have been busy.

SALLY

Some of these are 6 or 700 years old Billi, they're incredible.

Billi leans her back against the wall.



BILLI  
And you thought this would go  
unnoticed?

SALLY  
Not especially, but come on, who's  
reading it?

BILLI  
Someone tried to have you killed,  
so someone is. What are you looking  
for anyway?

SALLY  
Hope.

Billi raises her eyebrows. Sally looks exasperated.

SALLY (CONT'D)  
I want to get her out. If I can  
find anything here that can help  
me... Anything that can show me how  
the council began, it could show me  
how we can end them.

Billi's expression softens, she places a hand on Sally's  
shoulder and kisses the top of her head.

BILLI  
We'll get her back, we'll make them  
pay.

ACT 3

INT. CAVE. NIGHT

George pulls at his chains. He's exhausted but determined. He shakes the chains again, the pins begin to loosen. He doubles his efforts.

As he pulls he begins to alter, his face elongates. Claws appear, the chains snap.

INT. SANDSTONE CAVES. NIGHT

George stumbles along a dark narrow corridor carved into the caves. It's silent, he moves slowly. He stops and sniffs, until.

GEORGE

Sally.

George picks up the pace.

Behind him there's shouting, his escape has been noticed.

He tries to speed up, constantly looking over his shoulder and trying to follow the scent of Sally.

Chasing footsteps sound like they are getting closer. George begins to panic. He reaches a fork in the tunnels, he sniffs the air and looks into one tunnel.

GEORGE (CONT'D)

Sally.

Hearing the footsteps behind him he pauses, looks at both tunnels and then runs into the other tunnel.

INT. SALLY'S KITCHEN. NIGHT

Billi and Sally are drinking tea.

BILLI

You really think Eldred was in love with a cat?

SALLY

You saw them, what else was that. He was broken.

BILLI

So, who were they fighting?

SALLY

That's what I'm trying to find out.

There's frantic banging at the door. Both look and smell the air.

BILLI  
Blood?

SALLY  
George!

They both stare towards the door.

INT. SALLY'S HALLWAY. NIGHT

Sally opens the door slowly, George is sat on the front step, bleeding and exhausted.

GEORGE  
No one followed me.

Behind Sally, a Bengal tiger pads softly into the hall, and sits calmly staring at George. He jumps.

GEORGE (CONT'D)  
Shit.

Gathering himself, he stands and walks slowly into the house.

GEORGE (CONT'D)  
Billi?

Sally grins and closes the door.

SALLY  
Not many people would get that close to a tiger.

George seems to forget his injuries. He turns to Sally.

GEORGE  
Not many people have tigers living in their houses.

BILLI  
I don't live here.

George turns and looks astonished. Billi is walking into another room, naked. George looks from Billi to Sally and she smiles.

SALLY  
Come on, let's get you cleaned up.

INT. SALLY'S KITCHEN. NIGHT

Billi sits in a chair arms folded watching as Sally tends gently to Georges wounds.

SALLY  
What happened?

GEORGE  
I wouldn't tell him who you were.

Sally smiles, Billi rolls her eyes.

BILLI  
Why were you with them? How do you  
know they didn't follow you?

GEORGE  
They chased for a while, but once I  
left the cave I guess they stayed  
to protect him.

BILLI  
So, you don't know if they stopped  
following you?

GEORGE  
Their sense of smell isn't actually  
that great. They can't tell the  
difference between Sally's scent  
and an actual cat. So I left the  
cave where the homeless are, they  
all have dogs. If they followed me,  
they'll have lost me there.

Sally closes her eyes, Billi bridles.

BILLI  
You did what?

GEORGE  
I -

BILLI  
They'll kill them all!

Billi runs angrily out of the house. George goes to follow  
her.

SALLY  
I wouldn't.

George shakes her off and leaves, chasing after Billi.

INT. CAVE. NIGHT

George enters the cave.

Billi is on her knees, sobbing.

In front of her are the bodies of 3 homeless people, one of  
them is Alison. Her dog is lying beside the body whining.

Billi does not move, she places a hand on the dog, it doesn't mind.

She talks, quietly.

BILLI

You did this.  
You didn't think about the people  
you were putting in harm's way.  
You did this.  
It was never safe down here, god  
knows I've told her often enough.  
But you pissed them off and lead  
them right here.  
You did this!  
What did you think would happen?

Billi stands, anger radiates from her.

BILLI (CONT'D)

You did this!

Sally runs into the cave, sees the carnage and puts her hand to her mouth.

SALLY

Oh no. Alison.

Billi walks over to Sally, shouldering past George, who is still staring at the dead bodies.

BILLI

Go home. Go now. They could still  
be close.

GEORGE

I... I didn't think.

BILLI

No. You didn't.

GEORGE

I didn't want this to happen. They  
tortured me. I just wanted to  
getaway.  
I'm sorry.

He's crying now.

Sally tries to put a hand on Billi's shoulder, she shrugs it away.

SALLY

How did you end up with them?

George shrugs.

GEORGE

They live in the caves, I didn't know. I mean how could I? Vampires aren't supposed to be real. I thought that the caves would be a safe place to, you know...

Sally looks confused. Billi sighs.

BILLI

He means he'd come here on a full moon. After all, he'd only be putting more homeless people at risk.

George looks hurt.

GEORGE

I woke up one morning and I was surrounded. They grabbed me, took me to him and he tried to use me.

BILLI

Took you to who? Who are they protecting? Who used you?

GEORGE

Eldred.

There's a gasp from Sally. George looks up, both Billi and Sally are staring at him. Sally's mouth has dropped open.

SALLY

Eldred? Eldred!

INT. SANDSTONE CAVES. NIGHT

A dark tunnel, dimly lit by candles standing on shelves carved into the walls.

Footsteps crunch on the rough sandstone floor.

An older man, carrying a tray of food and water walks past the entrance of a well in the centre of the cave, he puts the tray down on a battered old table.

INT. WELL. DAY

Down a deep pit, a row of candles sit on shelves carved into the wall, casting dim light into the depths.

At the bottom of the pit is a pile of rags and rope, covered in blood.

The pile begins to move, an arm pulls the rags from its body.

A man, scarred and bloody, pushes himself up on to his knees.

His hair is white, he staggers slowly to his feet.

He looks up.

Its Jack, he screams into the darkness.

CUT.