

SACRED ACCEPTANCE

FADE IN:

EXT. ISLAND - DAY

Overcast on a deserted tropical paradise.

A run down BOAT pulls into a small Jetty.

Five PASSENGERS, all in black cloaks, disembark the boat.

They run towards a small, dilapidated, motel.

The last passenger stops to look back at a hurricane stirring in the far distance.

INT. MOTEL/BASEMENT - DAY

Small and dingy with foldable chairs stacked against the walls and a small card table to the side.

EDNA, 28, a classic 'flapper girl' from the 1920's, stands against the wall. She lights a cigarette.

KIRILL, late 20's, Russian Knife Thrower from the early 1900's, throws a small set of knives at a dart board.

NICK, early 20's, rough around the edges, a 'cool' zest about him, wears leather attire from the 1950's. He looks out a small window at the approaching bad weather.

NICK

It's time.

TED, early 30's, plump and indulgent, attire from the 1940's, carries two large tubs of ice-cream down the stairs to the basement. He scoops a spoonful from one tub into his mouth.

CASSANDRA, 18, black and red stripped hair, gothic clothing, innocence within her eyes, follows close behind.

EDNA

How did you know the hurricane was coming?

CASSANDRA

I don't know. I just see things sometimes. I can't stop it.

Kirill gathers his knives and throws them at the board again. He creates a circle with them around the bullseye.

Nick looks at Cassandra.

NICK  
Ok, let's do this.

TED  
Better hurry. This ice-cream is melting.

Ted shoves another mouthful in.

Kirill takes a jewelled knife from a small pocket in his pants. He hands it to Cassandra.

KIRILL  
Think you have what it takes?

CASSANDRA  
Can't hurt to try.

She looks to the ceiling and whispers--

CASSANDRA  
Give me the means.

She throws it at the board and hits the bull.

Edna CLAPS.

NICK  
Well done.

He walks to Ted, eyes fixated on Cassandra.

NICK  
You know we've been waiting for you. Passing a task from all of us just ensures you're in.

TED  
Chosen one, my ass. She won't be able to finish this.

Ted hands her one of the tubs.

She looks to the ceiling and whispers--

CASSANDRA  
And the strength.

MOMENTS LATER

The others sit in awe, watching Cassandra as she sits at the small card table and licks the last bit of ice-cream from her finger.

KIRILL  
Wow.

EDNA  
You've got to have a bottomless  
pit in there or something.

Ted looks at Nick.

TED  
She's alright.

NICK  
Edna. You're up.

Edna stands.

EDNA  
Let's see if you can do this.

Edna dances around the floor in a quick succession of 'flapper' moves.

Cassandra stands. She looks to the ceiling again and whispers--

CASSANDRA  
To find my path.

She repeats Edna's dance steps to perfection.

EDNA  
Very good.

NICK  
One last test and you're in. If  
you want it?

Nick sits at the small table. He takes a deck of playing cards from his jacket pocket and places them on the table.

Cassandra looks to the ceiling again. Whispers--

CASSANDRA

To make the right decision.

She sits across from Nick and smiles.

He shuffles the deck in different variations then hands it to Cassandra.

She shuffles the deck in the same variations then hands it back to Nick.

Nick holds up a card, facing him.

CASSANDRA

Ace of hearts.

Nick puts the card down. He takes another.

CASSANDRA

Five of diamonds.

Nick puts it down. Holds up another.

CASSANDRA

Ten of clubs.

Nick picks up the deck and puts it back in his pocket. He stares at her. Impressed.

NICK

Your talents combined with what we  
have to offer...wow...the  
possibilities are endless.

Cassandra looks to her knees.

CASSANDRA

I need a few moments. Alone.  
Please.

NICK

Alright.  
(to the others)  
C'mon.

Nick ushers Edna, Ted and Kirill out.

Cassandra paces the room.

She creeps up the basement steps and puts her ear to the door.

#### RECEPTION

Thunder BOOMS as the hurricane nears. The front doors fling open.

Nick, Edna, Ted and Kirill hover around each other, unfazed.

KIRILL

The girl has skills, but do we  
really need her?

He takes a small knife sharpener from his pocket and begins to sharpen his knives.

TED

We can have who ever we want,  
whenever we want. Why her?

Ted heads toward the kitchen.

NICK

Because I want her!

Edna walks circles around Nick.

EDNA

He fears that if we don't get to  
her first, then someone else will  
and you know what that means.

NICK

I will not lose. They can't have  
her.

EDNA

Don't worry my little sugar bear.

She licks his ear.

EDNA

We got to her first. She'll join us.

Ted walks out of the kitchen with another tub of ice-cream.

KIRILL

Hey, tubby, eating so much only weighs you down when we need you.

Ted grumbles--

TED

I like the way it feels when it rolls down my throat. Ok?

BASEMENT

Cassandra pushes her palms against the table.

CASSANDRA

Why me? I don't want to be a killer. But I have to be, either way.

She breathes heavy. Closes her eyes.

Nick joins her.

NICK

Are you ready?

Edna, Ted and Kirill head down to the basement. They stand close.

Cassandra looks to ceiling once more. Whispers--

CASSANDRA

I'm with you.

NICK

Why do you keep doing that?

She unbuttons her jacket.

CASSANDRA

Cause I've made my decision.

The walls shake. Lights flicker out.

CASSANDRA (V.O)  
And you're not gonna like it.

BOOM! CRASH! THUD! THWAK!

Silence.

The lights flicker back on. The walls stop shaking. Sun begins to shine through the basement window.

Cassandra, jacket off, bloodied weapons tucked in a holster across her chest, stands amongst the bodies of Nick, Edna, Ted and Kirill, sliced and diced.

Each one has a wooden stake through their heart.

CASSANDRA (V.O)  
My powers long outreached what they thought I was capable of and would have taken them to the next level. Made them unstoppable. For all eternity.

The bodies slowly disintegrate in the sunlight.

RECEPTION

Cassandra walks towards the front doors.

CASSANDRA (V.O)  
But I had already been approached by a higher power. I was already on a test. And I chose heaven over hell.

EXT. MOTEL - DAY

Beautiful weather. No sign of a hurricane.

Cassandra walks across the island.

CASSANDRA (V.O)  
Even though they were really weird vampires, I think I actually liked them. Too bad now.

She walks down to the jetty and gets into the boat.

FADE OUT

THE END