

Innocently Guilty

Written by

Robert Dale Franklin

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Final Draft of story.

robertdfranklin64@yahoo.com

EXT. NIGHT - WINTER - SHIP - 1625 BOSTON MA - COLONIES

Monstrous waves guide a battered ship into port. Merciless winds abuse human flesh as white knuckles grasp creaking wood and frozen iron.

CAPTAIN
Drop the anchor!

Echos of fractured metal and glass fill swollen ears. Collapsing bodies secure the crippled ship to dock. Lifeboats see saw while being burdened with supplies.

CAPTAIN (cont'd)
Can anyone see people on the beach?

Through shadowy gales the beachfront is scrutinized. Haunting images hover above the snowy sands. Frosted faces turn to perspiration as suspicious silhouettes accelerate towards the ship. Crew members scatter from creatures advancing upon them with unforgiving intensity.

The exhausted men are overpowered while women are thrown to the rotting frigid decks.

CAPTAIN (cont'd)
Fight with your life! Defend the women and children!

1ST MATE
Too many creatures!

The invaders subdue the ship's passengers. Final shots echo into the blustery night as screams fade into darkness.

CAPTAIN
You bastards, I will settle the score in Hell's hot!

The creatures scatter the Captain's tortured body.

DARK GRUEL
Mankind will never defeat us! These weak creatures cannot even enter our realm. There are far more to slay. No mercy for these weak humans who wrap themselves in love.

Human carnage litters the ravaged decks.

CUT TO:

EXT. DAY - SAME SHIP

Two days later the grim ship is discovered by townspeople. Hesitant to board the vessel they discover a massacre. United in their labor, they load the mutilated bodies onto a rattling buckboard.

RICHARD NEWTON

This new land is cursed! Such a gruesome way to die.

Decaying bodies permeate the air with a nauseating stench as townsfolk struggle to regain composure.

ORVIS CAREY

Must you state our land is cursed? Certainly our voyage to this new land has strengthened our resolve.

RICHARD NEWTON

Study the dead! This is not the result of the native people we've encountered here.

LUCY DOCKER

Gentlemen, let us not quarrel with one another. Certainly we can agree something diabolical is among us.

RICHARD NEWTON

What human could be responsible for such brutal deaths? This sight has filled my heart with dread.

ORVIS CAREY

I am horrified by this ghastly slaughter.

The disturbed group transport the mangled bodies into town. Wolves follow at a distance.

RICHARD NEWTON

Not much further until we reach the doctor's office! Keep moving, we must evade the beasts of the land!

The frightened people perspire while some lean over holding their stomachs. Honey-colored hues glow in the distance as the village comes into sight.

CUT TO:

INT/EXT. DAY - DR. CODDINGTON'S OFFICE/FRONT YARD.

Iron doorknobs quake against oak walls as cats disperse under faded furniture within a cluttered living room. The doctor presents a stare of unwelcome.

DR. CODDINGTON
Now that you have nearly destroyed my doors, kindly state your business.

RICHARD NEWTON
D-d-doctor, please forgive us. Out-
outside, there is something to see.

The doctor slams down his cup.

DR. CODDINGTON
There better be, after such a
disruptive entrance into my home!

Outside, the doctor witnesses an unpleasant group surrounding a weathered wagon. Some succumb to sickness as others help the ill.

DR. CODDINGTON (cont'd)
Yes, where is this urgent matter?

RICHARD NEWTON
Doctor, prepare your senses.

A trembling arm wrenches back the aged tarps to reveal a menacing sight to the baffled doctor. Apprehensively the doctor approaches the stacked discoloring corpses.

DR. CODDINGTON
What in God's Holy name? Quickly,
into the barn. Let us not make a
scene for others to see.

RICHARD NEWTON
Yes of course, doctor. You heard the
good doctor ... into the barn.

DR. CODDINGTON
What form of death is this? This is
surely no sight for the weak. These
are worse than exhumed bodies.

The exhausted group stands perplexed with the doctor.

CUT TO:

INT. DAY - BARN/LAB

Frayed woolen blankets drape the moldy windows. Doctor Coddington extends his snowy convulsing arm to grab his leather diary. The Indian fountain pen needs ink. His sight is fixated on the grotesque human remains in the wagon.

RICHARD NEWTON
Doctor, what caused such deaths?

DR. CODDINGTON
I will predispose the cause of death.
Are there any more bodies like these?

RICHARD NEWTON
No doctor, there are none. Doctor,
please help us! We can only hope you
can resolve this nightmare.

DR. CODDINGTON
You have not brought me normal
deaths. I, too, am extremely shocked.
Logic eludes me, sir.

RICHARD NEWTON
So, what do you think, doctor? Are we
a cursed people? Are we to be damned?

DR. CODDINGTON
Sir. Please excuse yourself from my
laboratory. I cannot think correctly
with your paranoid questions. I must
have time to think clearly. Be gone
with you, sir!

Richard Newton exits the crowded barn.

ORVIS CAREY
Please excuse our friend, doctor. He
is frightened. As are we all.

The doctor agrees. Sadness befalls his eyes as his red
cheeks quiver.

DR. CODDINGTON
Well, they are here. These poor souls
had no chance of survival. A slow
examination will ensure I present a
more thorough explanation of these
bizarre and grizzly deaths.

The doctor slips on his gloves.

(CONT'D)

DR. CODDINGTON
Where did you discover these bodies?

ORVIS CAREY
On a ship, doctor. We burned it into
the sea, as we feared some disease.

DR. CODDINGTON
Very well! Gentlemen, shall we mildly
transfer the male bodies to separate
tables for proper examination.

DR. CODDINGTON (cont'd)
We must place the women near the open
stove so they can thaw. Let's agree
to remain silent regarding this
issue. Please inform the man outside
as well. We must avoid spreading fear
to others in town.

ORVIS CAREY
Doctor, are we deceiving our
neighbors by being silent?

DR. CODDINGTON
No! We can inform the townspeople
when we have a better understanding
of this matter.

All agree with the insistent doctor.

DR. CODDINGTON (cont'd)
Now please help me to examine the
dead. Afterwards there is coffee and
sweets over by the tools. Please wash
your hands properly after handling
these brutalized bodies.

LUCY DOCKER
Doctor, shall such a death befall me?

The doctor's gentle gaze soothes Lucy.

DR. CODDINGTON
I should say not, dear lady.

The doctor speaks to everyone. Continuously he reaches for
napkins. Before giving his diagnosis to the anxious party,
he vomits once. He rinses his mouth with black coffee, then
spits it out quickly.

DR. CODDINGTON (cont'd)
The rigid holes in the men's chests are not the result of a knife or arrow. Furthermore, a uniquely sharp serrated instrument caused these gruesome punctures.

DR. CODDINGTON (cont'd)
I understand this may be very confusing. I simply have no knowledge of such events. The weapon entered the chests of the men and froze all nearby organs. As they are now.

LUCY DOCKER
Froze with a weapon, doctor?

DR. CODDINGTON
Yes, a weapon. Remain calm.

ORVIS CAREY
Doctor. Please forgive me. Your explanation sounds completely bizarre. Are you certain of such medical findings?

The doctor does not welcome Orvis's comment.

DR. CODDINGTON
Are you a doctor, sir? Do you have skills in medicine? Can you provide a better explanation? As I recall, you folks stormed my house for help!

Orvis is humbled before the doctor and others.

ORVIS CAREY
Yes, Doctor. We sought your help.

DR. CODDINGTON
I am frustrated I have little more to offer you. Let us continue with this hellish examination.

The doctor picks up his notes.

DR. CODDINGTON (cont'd)
The women have large hand prints on their torsos. Jagged and pointed impressions on their naked bodies, suggests a large creature of sorts.

The worried crowd stares at one another.

ORVIS CAREY

A creature! Doctor, I'm afraid you are not going to like me much longer, if I hear more of this folklore.

DR. CODDINGTON

Sir, you can disagree. But stop interrupting me. Or you surely will not like me much longer!

Orvis returns to the coffee and stands alone.

DR. CODDINGTON (cont'd)

I suspect the creature ravished the women before death. Strange bluish fluids leak from every woman. A mere man is not responsible for these gladiator style deaths.

LUCY DOCKER

Are you saying some unknown creatures are lurking about the countryside and stalking us? Trying to kill us?

DR. CODDINGTON

Quite possibly. I must conduct more tests. Hopefully I can gain more understanding. No one should be alone after nightfall. No one!

Orvis politely interrupts.

ORVIS CAREY

Please forgive me, doctor. It's late. We should all be home now. Good night to you, sir.

DR. CODDINGTON

Yes. Gentlemen, make sure the women are home safely. Then the men can watch each other closely from their door. Keep a light burning in the home every night now.

The people return cups and plates and slowly leave the doctor's foul-smelling lab.

DR. CODDINGTON (cont'd)

I will inform you all later when I learn more. Good Night!

CUT TO:

INT. NEXT DAY - MORNING - DOCTORS OFFICE/LAB

The Doctor circles his office pondering. Cradling a cup, he talks aloud to himself.

DR. CODDINGTON
Those bluish fluids. Why? How? By
what means? There is a sinister force
at work here. What insidious
proportion of a man can do this?

The doctor leaves his office and enters the barn/lab.

DR. CODDINGTON (cont'd)
The fluids still leaks from the
females. And their bodies are still
frozen. What devilish metamorphosis
is at work here?

The doctor spends much of the day gathering notes and retracing his steps. Placing his lunch on the raw corpses, he continues to work and eat. The men decay quickly as the women lie in an icy sarcophagus.

DR. CODDINGTON (cont'd)
I'm going to need help with the
disposal of these bodies. I have no
family to report to. A simple prayer,
and in the ground they go!

A firm knock shakes the door.

DR. CODDINGTON (cont'd)
Good Day! You're just in time. I am
going to need help with the burial of
these dead people.

ORVIS CAREY
Dead people, Doctor?

DR. CODDINGTON
Oh yes, forgive me sir. It's been a
very long day. Shall we go.

ORVIS CAREY
I think it would be best, Doctor, to
simply burn the bodies.

The doctor closes the door and the men leave.

CUT TO:

EXT. THE SAME NIGHT - CEMETERY

The two men strain while digging resting places.

ORVIS CAREY

We should have just burned these damn people, it would have been much easier! They stink like shit! I'll never again eat meat.

DR. CODDINGTON

We may need to exhume them.

ORVIS CAREY

You can exhume them! I am done with this ugly work. Now let's get the hell out of here, doctor!

DR. CODDINGTON

Afraid of a cemetery? Only dead people here. They can't hurt you.

Strange sounds in the distant forest capture the men's full attention.

ORVIS CAREY

No, but I am afraid of those noises, doctor! Please, let's get out of this dead place now!

The sounds draw closer and the men retreat quickly. Some of the tools are forgotten. Sprinting like children, the two men are saturated during their run back to town. They both clutch their pistols.

DR. CODDINGTON

I am greatly concerned about these peculiar happenings. I must admit to you I am, frightened.

ORVIS CAREY

What can be happening to our new home? Is this land truly cursed?

DR. CODDINGTON

Sadly, I have no medical answers for those questions. We must remain on alert everyday. Good Night, sir!

The sweaty men rapidly enter their homes.

CUT TO:

INT. THE NEXT DAY - DOCTORS OFFICE/LAB

The doctor nervously enters his experiences into his journal. Consuming large amounts of coffee and pacing the floors, he explains his logic to himself.

DR. CODDINGTON

My understanding of this diabolical massacre is something other than a man killed those tortured people, and violently raped the women, leaving behind the unscientific traces of its evil existence.

Talking aloud and wiping his eyes he continues to journal his findings.

DR. CODDINGTON (cont'd)

What forces or powers of nature, or the unknown, am I encountering? This is by no means, practical medicine. Heavenly Father, please help me to understand these strange occurrences. In Jesus' name I pray, AMEN!

There's a delicate knock on the door.

DR.'S WIFE MARGARET

Have you eaten breakfast? There is an awful odor about this place. I'm very concerned, my husband.

DR. CODDINGTON

No dear, I have not eaten. Thank you, Margaret. Please do not venture out alone. Have someone accompany you at all times. I don't have time to explain. Just obey, please.

DR.'S WIFE MARGARET

These words frighten me!

DR. CODDINGTON

I too am frightened Margaret. There are strange happenings in our new land. I and another man buried many people last night, who died a death I have never before examined. Please be careful always. Have someone with you when you're outdoors.

(CONT'D)

DR.'S WIFE MARGARET
There is nothing else you can tell
me? I would like to know more of
these new fears that trouble you.

Margaret turns to walk away. The doctor softly touches her
arm, bringing her close.

DR. CODDINGTON
Margaret, we must be careful! I will
explain to you later. You must trust
me as I tell you something evil is at
work in this village.

Margaret reacts with dread.

DR.'S WIFE MARGARET
I thought we were to live a peaceful
life here. Have children, build a
family and care for one another.

DR. CODDINGTON
I agree. We are dealing with the
unseen, Margaret. Things we know
little about. Things we cannot see.
Let's have that breakfast now.

The Doctor and Margaret finish breakfast.

DR. CODDINGTON (cont'd)
My love, the men and women I and
another man buried, were so horribly
assaulted. The men had holes driven
into their chests. The women leaked
bluish fluids. The expressions on all
the faces were frozen in terror. They
witnessed something so wicked!

DR.'S WIFE MARGARET
Oh my! Could a beast of the land done
such things? We do have bears and
wolves nearby.

DR. CODDINGTON
No! This has the workings of forces
beyond our understanding. A
supernatural power killed them. I
suggest we remain close to the Lord!
Let's have a prayer together.

CUT TO:

INT. NIGHT - PRATT HOME

The Pratt family is a practicing family of faith, living a short distance from the doctor's busy office. They are newer to the colonies than most, so their home is not among the others built near one another.

The meadows have been deforested to develop their home. Daily bible readings, singing, praying, are all activities this family adores and lives by. Hard-working people, honorable, noble, dedicated to the community. No other family compares to their enthusiastic zeal.

Nestled before a seasoned rustic stove, circulating family prayer and dinner concludes. Father settles into his hand made rocking chair savoring his Indian pipe, while one child redirects the rising smoke.

Mother lovingly shepherds other children to bed. The flickering of leaning candles invents shadow games the children relish, as the youngest submerge beneath various woven animal blankets.

Frightening sounds of scraping metal voices outside produce goose bumps upon the startled parents. Concerned eyes peer out the frost and mildew covered window. The blistery landscape howls while biting the trembling cabin, as saws devouring wood.

Twisting bursts of snowy fog unearth three ominous figures advancing upon the wintry cabin. Gruesome sounds echo from within the intimidating eruption of snow emerging their way. No precious time is wasted placing ragged furniture at the splintery door, and sealing the vintage window with sheets.

The door slowly expands repeatedly as a timeless scratch meanders its rattling frame. The panicked children rapidly rise from slumber to embrace their worried parents. Freezing breezes break through the thick log and mud cabin.

MR. PRATT

Hurry now, everyone to the corner of
the bedroom, quickly!

The father nervously distributes ironware from the stove.

MR. PRATT (cont'd)

Hold them high, children. Should we
be invaded, strike with all your
strength, kill the intruders! Defend
one another! Stay behind your mother
and I. We will be your defense!

(cont'd)

A ghostly figure encroaches a fragmented wall. Two more emerge. Screams bellow from deep within excited lungs. The creatures sinister gaze contemplates the united family.

The blazing stove is virtually extinguished. One creature bearing a large satchel sets it down as objects bulge from within. A gleaming yellow band seals the suspicious sack. Stretching from a maple beam a creature pushes with its might against the wood.

MR. PRATT (cont'd)

What are you? Leave my home, now!

One creature extracts from the sack an eel-like serpent. The hideous slithering monster presents scales and thorns on one side, and a human-like hand on the other. The Eels are arranged on the beam locking their menacing scaled ends to the dark splintery plank as the claw remains open.

Clenching the father's throat, one creature effortlessly elevates him to the flexing claws. The courageous children break free from the specters and desperately attempt to free their struggling father.

With dreadful screams and aggressiveness, every effort by the defending children is enforced in order to release their beloved dad. Anne furiously struggles, and frees herself from a monster, and dashes towards her weakening husband within an Eel's slimy claw!

ANNE PRATT

Release my Husband, now!

Anne begins biting the Eel's claw. A small child leaps to grasp her dad's feet. Missing, she plummets to the decaying floor, whimpering fiercely.

Striking feverishly on the claw, trying to pry the fingers apart, the father fails to escape its mighty grip. The man's eyes quickly surge. The diabolical eel curls up out of reach from others leaving the father hopelessly amiss.

ANNE PRATT (cont'd)

Children, kill these monsters! Help
your father, kill them now!

Scaling a creature to reach their dad, the children rapidly freeze, and plunge below. The eldest Son is assaulted, and implanted in the claw next to his nearly defeated father.

The boy struggles against the large creatures.

Cont'd

The son boldly kicks his feet onto his father. A delicate wink is the father's sole reaction. Anne pounces on a creature and stares into her husband's eyes, pausing with tears she turns to help her son.

Unable to withstand the creatures might, Anne is violently pulled to the floor. Fleeing for a few moments, she desperately releases one child into the winter night.

ANNE PRATT (cont'd)

Run, child! As fast as you can! Go to the neighbor's house! Run now!

A creature splatters powder on Anne and she is still! Dissolving through a wall another creature hunts for the escaped child. The remaining children are mercilessly strangled by the claw hands. They squirm hopelessly.

Moments later the creature re-enters through the wall with the weeping child. Anne and Isaac horribly observe the resisting child fastened within a flexing claw.

DARK GRUEL

Die, child! You must die!

The ghastly beasts vanquish the family!

ANNE PRATT

Stop! You bastards! My family! My children! I will kill you!

Isaac attempts to help, but he also is paralyzed by powder thrown on him. The beasts surround Anne. They disintegrate her clothes to the floor, marveling at her beauty. Isaac, yards away, turns from viewing his mother.

Raising their bony hands high the creatures invoke an icy field, consuming Anne.

DARK GRUEL

Woman, in our quest for Earthly lusts, you shall be agreeable.

Another powder saturates Anne's body.

ISAAC

Stop! I will kill you! Stop, you're hurting my mother!

The creatures rape Anne shamelessly as Isaac resists the horrifying sight, crying out to his overtaken mother.

Cont'd

Another powder is spread over Anne.

DARKER GRUEL

Your mother is worthless and she shall serve our needs. We spare your life so you will live centuries in torment.

ISAAC

No! I want to kill all of you!

DARKER GRUEL

You shall experience pleasure when your son rapes women. His victims feelings, shall be yours. By these emotions you will know he lives, and suffers the curse. You will seek him though your attempts will be futile.

DARKER GRUEL (cont'd)

Isaac will understand his sex with women shall be a penalty for you. Though he will obey the curse, without experience of death.

ANNE PRATT

No, please leave my son. Take me. Do not harm my only family!

DARKER GRUEL

The powerful bond between mother and son shall be eternal and without contact. There shall be no place in time where you meet with comfort and joy. Your memory of this day will never fade from your tormented mind!

The Darkest Gruel hovers over Isaac's youthful physique.

DARKEST GRUEL

You will be like us in every way. Your desire for females shall be eternal, and your mother will suffer.

DARKEST GRUEL (cont'd)

Your moral code will rupture with the curse. Frustration, anger, worry will shadow you. Men will be your adversaries. Your appearance repulsive. Isolation, misery, will you be wed to.

(MORE)

DARKEST GRUEL (cont'd)
Now arise gray Gruel, and become one
of us for all eternity.

The Darkest Gruel speaks over both Anne and Isaac as they
turn from the bodies of their family members.

DARKEST GRUEL (cont'd)
Woman, you shall materialize forward
into years, never again seeing your
son. Unclean for eternity will you
be. The moon's light shall withdraw
from you.

The consummation commences. Isaac begins reshaping while the
three creatures circle them in chants.

ANNE PRATT
You beasts will suffer a mother's
revenge, I swear to you!

DARKEST GRUEL
You cannot punish us any further.

Anne reaches for a creature and strips it of the lariat
around its ghostly waist. The creature falls into the other
two and they begin to glow and scream horribly, slowly and
painfully evaporating!

Anne vanishes. Isaac's ghoulish appearance concludes, as he
is consumed by a portal opening before him.

ISAAC
I shall meet you Gruels where time
and forgiveness have no measure. Then
my vengeance upon you shall begin.
Through eternity I will recall you,
mother. I shall find you one day, I
promise you!

DARKEST GRUEL
We obey the curse. So shall you. You
deserve to perish. She has set us
free from timeless sufferings.

The creatures disappear. Isaac is swallowed by the portal.

VOICE IN PORTAL
This is your destiny. We curse you
with a thirst for human beings.

CUT TO:

EXT. DAY - PRATT HOME

The sun has not yet eclipsed the polar treetops, when Doctor Coddington and three thickly padded men arrived at the Pratt home. After repeated knocking, the doctor gently opens the unstable door.

Sunlight illuminates the foreboding cabin. Voices are heard off in the back. Eerie echoes of whispers and hisses captivate the men's chapped ears.

DR. CODDINGTON
Hello, is anyone home?

The men vigilantly scan the home. Cautiously one man removes a worn blanket from a broken window frame. Sunlight explodes into the cold cabin, revealing horrors in the shadows, as the men squint their eyes.

ALBERT
Dear God in heaven, dear God in
heaven! What has happened here!

The men strain while staring at the bodies despairingly hanging by the roof beam.

DR. CODDINGTON
What in God's name has transpired
here? I'm afraid gentlemen, this damn
nightmare is far from over.

TIMOTHY
What nightmare doctor? Please inform
us of what you know.

DR. CODDINGTON
My shattered nerves already need
rest. Now I will have to bury more
battered bodies!

TIMOTHY
More dead, doctor?

DR. CODDINGTON
I am a simple man. I did not ask for
this curse from hell to enter my
life. In any event, I am a doctor and
I will care for anyone ... even the
dead I can barely look at.

The men keep from smelling the deceased, as they hold their weapons tightly while searching for life.

Cont'd

BROWN EEL

You cannot save the dead! Get out of this place now.

The men continue to stare about the room.

DR. CODDINGTON

Hello? Is someone alive and in need of help?

BROWN EEL

Why are you here? You cannot save the dead! Leave now! And you are unable to help us!

The raising of a clattering lantern reveals gruesome creatures staring back at the stunned men.

TIMOTHY

Doctor, look! These are serpents with human-like claw hands! Their scales tilt up in the rear, and have fluid exuding from them. Thorns protrude from their bodies, and they speak! What can this be?

DR. CODDINGTON

Where do you come from? Why have you killed this beautiful family?

BROWN EEL

You would not sympathize with our existence. You humans all deserve to die horribly.

The doctor's curiosity studies the creature.

DR. CODDINGTON

Cut them down! Then we will burn them alive, these devils from the pit!

BROWN EEL

You have no power over us, mortal! You are weak creatures! Your efforts are futile, and we live beyond your physical realm.

The men search their coats then turn back to the menacing snakes securing the bodies of the Pratt family. The courageous men squint while having to look at the corpses. The knives shimmer in the sunlight.

Cont'd

DR. CODDINGTON

Cut these wicked bastards to pieces!

The eels quickly release the bodies, crashing them against the frozen floor, cracking bones. Coiling out of sight, the Eels blend within the few shadows of darkness.

DR. CODDINGTON (cont'd)

Come now, quickly! Remove the bodies from this damned home.

The four men evacuate the deceased from the house, placing their decaying remains in the snow mounds outside. Sinister laughter and whispers echo from within the cabin as the vibrating windows shatter.

TIMOTHY

Doctor, there are barrels of oil!

Immersing the cabin in oil the men set it ablaze. Shrieks and ghoulish screams fill the burning structure. The front door explodes open. A monstrous Isaac stands in the threshold clutching the eels.

The massive human-like ghostly silhouette levitates out of the fiery frame and passes by the men unchallenged. The eels curl up into its torso as they withdraw from the ignited home. The eels flick their tongues at the bewildered men.

BROWN EEL

Beware, the Gruel shall devour your women. Flee this land!

TIMOTHY

Doctor, what have we observed here today? The Beast stands some 7 feet tall or more. It's image is transparent. A cloak wraps its wintry figure. Long icy like fingers, and dark nails, green eyes, as the plants of the land. What can this be? When have we seen such things?

DR. CODDINGTON

I don't know what we are dealing with, gentlemen. I just know I am very, scared. Let us cremate our friends. Then we will search for the mother, Anne ... and son, Isaac.

CUT TO:

EXT/INT. NIGHT - BOSTON MASS. YR 1845 TWO CENTURIES LATER

Heavenly lights illuminate the city. Red and orange hues permeate every home. Grey and black shadows escaping chimneys appear to melt the moon and stars.

On Massachusetts Avenue resides Abner Dyer. Silhouettes can be observed frolicking within as visitors gleefully pass through his bustling home. Every tooth glowing, eyes sparkling, lips open and close upon one another with glee.

Busy hands and bodies embrace. Joyous giggles and singing unite spirited souls. A spoon and glass create musical love to one another.

ABNER DYER

Merry Christmas to all! Have a wonderful night here!

A hearty Merry Christmas is returned from a joyous group.

NEIGHBOR JOHN

Where is Eunice, Abner?

ABNER DYER

She is recuperating from flu. Come now, enjoy. It's Christmas Eve!

The hand-carved clock displays an hour not so distant from sunrise. Guests kneel outside surrendering to their foolish consumption.

Meanwhile, in the hallway upstairs ...

A neighbor overhears moans and sighs from a nearby room. The thick door opens just a finger's width, exposes a young woman on her knees, as a man clutches her wavy hair within his brawny hands, guiding her head slowly to and from his jolting pelvis.

After a few moments of gawking the silent spectator retreats with a snicker.

Within the kitchen comes much noise.

Abigail, Abner's wife caresses a frosted pitcher of juice for Eunice. She brings it to her room. Abruptly she stops before entering, as marital melodies compose the air. A mother's curiosity leads Abigail to spy.

Abigail surveys the hall and peers down the staircase, adjusting herself to glance through the revealing keyhole. She rubs her eyes a few times.

ABIGAIL DYER

I need my spectacles. Who is standing
in the corner?

Abigail witnesses Eunice exposed on her bed, as a blurry transparent figure is atop her daughter. Stroking her eyes repeatedly again, she inspects the room. Eunice's large breasts waver about as she is passionately encroached by what appears to be a large silhouette.

ABIGAIL DYER (cont'd)

I drank too much wine.

Rotating herself, she peers through the keyhole to the distant corner of the gloomy room. Conforming her head a few times, she leaps with a scream rupturing the maple bedroom door. Her shivering scream disrupts the entire house, provoking everyone to scramble up the antiquated staircase.

Jerking quickly, he waves his large hand towards the door and a powerful force drives Abigail out of the room, hurling her against the decrepit stair railings, shattering a few rails. The massive Gruel pushes off of Eunice and flees out the dark oak bay window. Eunice lies helplessly and dazzled in snow and ice.

ABNER DYER

Abigail, darling, what happened, why
are you covered in snow?

The entire party now reaches Abigail in the hallway.

ABIGAIL DYER

In there Abner, a monster is hurting
our daughter!

Abner and others advance through the door to find Eunice is nearly frozen, and soaked in bluish fluids.

ABNER DYER

Eunice sweetheart, what happened to
you here?

Shivering badly, she attempts to answer.

EUNICE DYER

It, it, asked me if I was its mother.

A woman screams, jolting the entire room. Two men run to her, as she nearly faints. Abner covers Eunice with a thick skin blanket. The weak woman begins to recover.

She places her arms around the men for support.

NEIGHBOR LYNN

Eli is dead! A twisted rope surrounds
his bent neck!

BROWN EEL

Don't touch me, human! Or I will bend
your neck too.

Eden has with her in her trembling hand, a large knife with
cake on it. Abigail and others enter the frenzied room.

EDEN SMITH

Step aside, I will slash Eli down!

ABIGAIL DYER

There Abner, the creature fills the
window!

All turn towards the window. Eli's body crashes against the
floor. The eel maneuvers towards Isaac in the window. Eden
screams loudly raising her arm.

Eden lunges towards the eel. Isaac, the Gruel, reaches for
his icy hair with precision pulling a strand out as it
thickens and becomes serrated with thorns and glowing tips.

The Gruel launches the spear at Eden. It clashes with her
chest transporting her backwards, impaling her to the
thickly carved pine bedpost.

The creatures evade capture, leaving the wood stove,
concealed in icicles.

CUT TO:

EXT. THAT DAY - SUNRISE - OUTSIDE ABNER'S HOUSE.

Caleb Beecher the town drunk is wavering in a neighbor's
yard while urinating. The creatures glance at Caleb as they
drift by. Caleb tries to focus on them.

CALEB BEECHER

No more buying rum from Indians! Look
at that. I peed on myself. Now I
cannot return to the party! What do
those Indians put inside the rum!

Caleb falls back into the snow and passes out. He is later
found by a few neighbors who carry him home and place him on
his bed.

CUT TO:

INT. DAY - LIVING ROOM ABNER'S HOUSE - CHRISTMAS DAY

Abner anxiously anticipates both Reverend Woolrich and Undertaker Cobb. Having experience in medicine, Abner is overtaken with grief and is powerless to examine his daughter's butchered body.

Wood and brass echo throughout the house.

ABNER DYER

Please, someone answer the door.

Levi Pemberton slowly opens the decorated door and welcomes in two tall heavily dressed gentlemen.

UNDERTAKER COBB/REV.WOOLRICH

Merry Christmas to all!

An odd stare greets the two men.

ABIGAIL DYER

Help us gentlemen, please!

REVEREND WOOLRICH

Of course we shall, dear child!

Undertaker Cobb discreetly examines the butchered women's bodies, before addressing the matter.

UNDERTAKER COBB

Both women remain in a well heated room, yet their bodies are frozen.

Cobb inspects the crowd with an indicting stare.

ABIGAIL DYER

I saw a large transparent figure on top of Eunice. I also saw Eli hanging from a beam in the same room. The creature propelled a strand of its hair at Eden, and killed her! Eunice died from contact with the creature! What sort of being can do such things, Reverend?

UNDERTAKER COBB

Creature, you say, ha?

The Reverend and Undertaker expose many empty bottles littering the house. The two men cautiously sit down. They pour themselves coffee. After a few savoring sips, the men look to Abner.

Cont'd

ABNER DYER

Gentlemen, Eli was strangled by a serpent with a human hand?

Crumbling ashes within the glowing iron stove catches everyone's attention. Abner and Abigail implore their story to the two astonished men.

UNDERTAKER COBB

Please do not be irritated. Your story appears completely bizarre, and sorely difficult to digest in my mind. There are many mash, bourbon, and wine bottles scattered about this large house.

UNDERTAKER COBB (cont'd)

Now, how about we think more clearly. Maybe some more coffee will help?

LEVI PEMBERTON

Every word of this story is the gospel, I swear to you!

Cobb again walks over to the dead ladies.

UNDERTAKER COBB

Strange bluish fluids are discharging from Eunice. This is very unnatural to me. What is the fluid?

Abner stands with objection to Cobb's tonality.

ABNER DYER

Of course it is unnatural, Mr. Cobb! Some damn beast had sex with Eunice, then murdered her!

UNDERTAKER COBB

Are you such a beast, Abner?

The room erupts with opposition. Abigail surrenders to her emotions upon the floor. Abner reaches to help up his distraught wife.

ABNER DYER

How dare you insult me, you bastard! In my home you call me a murderer?

Cobb places his hand on Eunice's face and hands. He looks around the room at everyone.

UNDERTAKER COBB

I apologize for that remark, Abner. I had to test you for sincerity. I believe you did not hurt Eunice. It does seem a very weird story, with all the bottles lying around. You can understand my point of view.

The crowd settles.

ABNER DYER

This is exceedingly difficult to convey. There was a giant silhouette, a being, in the room with Eunice, then it escaped, and with it a talking serpent.

A suspicious stare between the two quests suggests many unanswered questions and confusion.

UNDERTAKER COBB

We are deeply grieved by your losses. When may we please remove the bodies for proper burial?

A wave of Abner's shaking hand and the gentlemen begin with their morbid duties.

LEVI PEMBERTON

Abner, I am your witness and I shall help you in any way possible.

Abner displays his appreciation to Levi.

ABNER DYER

Yes, we celebrated last night, and into the morning, but we could never do this to our daughter, or anyone!

Cobb and the Reverend listen politely as they secure the bodies for transport. Abigail is on the floor. She is holding her other two daughters, Deborah and Judith. They all embrace tightly.

LEVI PEMBERTON

A strong family bond is needed at this difficult time.

REVEREND WOOLRICH

Levi, those are truthful words. Together we shall comfort them.

CUT TO:

INT. DAY - FLASH-FORWARD 1895 - ANNE PRATT'S HOME

Laying on her sofa, drunk with ecstasy, Anne Pratt revives herself once more, from yet another curse seduction trance, due to her son Isaac raping another woman.

Sluggishly Anne creeps across the splintery floor, trudging for the door she grasps her floral robe. Tenderly massaging her scalp, she droops her head staring into the floor.

ANNE PRATT

I abhor these awakenings from
darkness. They haunt me so well.

A pounding on the front door.

ANNE PRATT (cont'd)

Yes, who is it?

WILLIAM TOWER

William Tower, Anne. You owe me
money, and I want to be paid
immediately!

Reluctantly, Anne unbolts the decrepit wooden door.

WILLIAM TOWER (cont'd)

You're late again Anne. Now you are
indebted to me twice.

Anne fetches money from her drawer, then stands silent before William. He clutches a large handful of her coiled hair and forces Anne into the bedroom. He then shoves her on the bed, tearing off her robe. William is transfixed by Anne's flawless body.

Later William joyfully exits the house while Anne rushes to reach the toilet.

ANNE PRATT

What heinous crimes have I committed
to relentlessly suffer by my son's
actions through his victims, and by
this wicked man?

ANNE PRATT (cont'd)

Please dear Lord, my son needs your
help. He is amidst the meandering
souls never revived. Have mercy on
him oh Lord. I shall endure any
duration of torment, just please
acquit my son from this curse.
Please! Please!

(MORE)

ANNE PRATT (cont'd)
I will progress in misery until I know Isaac is here with me. I am as any mother who loves her children. I have lost all I had. Isaac is all of my life who survives. I will die for him! Thank You, amen.

Anne's swollen eyes close as she curls on the floor.

CUT TO:

INT. CHRISTMAS NIGHT - CALEB'S HOUSE - FLASH-BACKWARD 1895

Caleb awakens from a drunken parade lasting into Christmas sunlight. The night rules the landscape. Alcohol has again been his bridesmaid. Staggering from his bed Caleb struggles to make it into the kitchen, without kneeling over a bucket. He washes his mouth clean, filling an iron pan with water, he places it upon a glowing stove.

CALEB BEECHER
I must have absolutely outdone myself last night. I dreamed I saw a ghost and a snake, and the snake spoke to me. I think I will drink less in the future. No need in terrorizing myself with vivid hallucinations.

CALEB BEECHER (cont'd)
I shall visit the Dyer family. Surely their home will be brimming with feast and joy.

CUT TO:

EXT. SAME NIGHT - STREET

Caleb meets Ashwini Patel during his walk. With a glowing smile they greet one another.

CALEB BEECHER
Ashwini, I am on my way to the Dyer home for a Christmas feast. Do you wish to join me?

ASHWINI PATEL
Yes, indeed! It sounds like fun!

The two start off for Abner's house.

CUT TO:

EXT. SAME NIGHT - FOREST

Cradling the eels in his powerful arms, the Gruel caresses his fiendish cohorts.

GRUEL

I so dearly miss my mother. Tens of thousands of orbits have passed since I have been with her. Time is my vicious enemy. He displays no mercy on my memory. I have no barricade against this foe. It continues stabbing at my heart!

GRUEL (cont'd)

Where in time could she be? How does she look? We were cursed and she banished. My tears sear through my cloak and corrode my bones. Surely any son who loves his mother would feel my sufferings.

GRUEL (cont'd)

Any woman could be her. My heart crumbles when women deny me. Soon I pray, may one woman ... say yes, I am your mother.

BROWN EEL

You need not be frail master. We too will slaughter for you. We love you! We are your family. The humans deserve to die and we should not have mercy on them.

The Gruel nestles a photograph of his mother and him.

GRUEL

I will devour the world to find you, Mother! I will, find you! We will unite, and once again be a family.

BROWN EEL

Yes, Master. We shall devour all humanity to find her! We have more than enough time.

The Gruel floats about the forest setting trees ablaze. Digging up the earth with his long fingers, he removes bodies, feeding them to the eels. He hurdles rocks at the stars causing them to explode and sprinkle on earth.

CUT TO:

INT. DOORWAY - ABNER'S HOUSE - SAME NIGHT

After a few attempts, Caleb opens the door ever so slightly. He peaks his head into the home.

CALEB BEECHER
Merry Christmas Dyer family, Merry
Christmas I say!

Caleb and Ashwini wait in the doorway.

CALEB BEECHER (cont'd)
Very peculiar, no one is home on the
most exciting day of the year.

The motioning of wooden clock hands rattle the vacant home.

ASHWINI PATEL
Where could they be on Christmas
night, Caleb?

CALEB BEECHER
I do not know. I do smell a foul odor
Ashwini. Do you smell it?

ASHWINI PATEL
Yes, Caleb, a putrid odor. The odor
of rotting meat.

CALEB BEECHER
Good heavens, I hope they didn't
spoil the Christmas dinner!

They inspect a few rooms for anyone to talk to. The home has a haunting silence to it.

CALEB BEECHER (cont'd)
I don't see any signs of a Christmas
dinner here at all. Why haven't they
eating a Christmas dinner?

ASHWINI PATEL
Maybe they had dinner elsewhere.

CALEB BEECHER
Possibly. Though this home is usually
the gathering point for all the town.

ASHWINI PATEL
Let's leave Caleb, please.

CUT TO:

EXT. SAME NIGHT - FEW MINUTES LATER - STREET

STRANGER

Ah, hello good evening, Merry Christmas! The Dyer family is at the undertaker's home, you will find them there, sadly. Good Night!

The man quickly moves on his way.

CALEB BEECHER

Shall we seek the Dyers at the undertaker's home?

Ashwini hesitates to answer.

ASHWINI PATEL

Yes, of course ... I think.

CALEB BEECHER

Ashwini, I too am nervous. Perhaps it is the best thing we do.

ASHWINI PATEL

Yes, they are our friends.

CALEB BEECHER

Let us see if they need help!

Ashwini smiles and locks her arm in his.

CUT TO:

INT. SAME NIGHT - UNDERTAKER'S HOME

They arrive inside the undertaker's unpleasant home to find neighbors frowning around a wide birch table.

UNDERTAKER COBB

Enter! There has regretfully been three deaths today.

Ashwini and Caleb await some explanation. They move towards a few chairs.

ASHWINI PATEL

Yes ... whom have we lost?

The Undertaker, not a respecter of women, stares at Caleb and directs his answer. Everyone awaits an answer to Ashwini's question.

UNDERTAKER COBB
Abner will inform you!

Everyone looks oddly at Cobb.

ABNER DYER
Our daughter Eunice, her husband Eli,
and Eden, are all dead.

Abner's explanation rattles his body.

UNDERTAKER COBB
We've been here before Abner. It's
not the first time since we landed
here. How many have you and I buried
in recent years? It's not the end of
the world!

Cobb receives unfriendly gazes.

ABNER DYER
Good God, sir! How can you be so
heartless? Our daughter is dead!

UNDERTAKER COBB
I am not heartless! We have to find
out what is happening here. We have
dealt with death in the past, and
will in the future. Now let's try to
stop it from happening to us!

ABIGAIL DYER
Well, Mr. Cobb, I should say as any
loving parent. I wish it were me and
not my child, who were dead!

UNDERTAKER COBB
Very well, madam. Can we please
proceed with what happened in your
house? How did these people die?

ABNER DYER
We have told you many damn times,
Cobb! How much must we repeat
ourselves? Eunice was my daughter,
why would I desire to destroy her?
Telling you the same story a hundred
times is very frustrating and
insulting to us both.

The group becomes angry with Cobb. The bodies remain close
by and are not thawing. Ashwini pours herself a cup of tea
as Cobb watches her with disdain.

Cont'd

A calm settles into the smoky room.

ABIGAIL DYER
No element of the story has been
spared to anyone!

ABNER DYER
A ghostly silhouette is responsible
for the deaths of these people!

CALEB BEECHER
Di - did you say ... ghostly?
I have something to add to your
statement, Abner.

ABNER DYER
Yes! It was a grayish silhouette.

REVEREND WOOLRICH
Please tell us, Caleb! Or were you
simply drunk again?

CALEB BEECHER
My dear Reverend, please shut up! I
know what I saw. It was a ghostly
figure in the yard!

Abner erupts from his seat spilling his tea.

ABNER DYER
You see, Caleb saw the beast too!

JETHRO DOGGETT
If these are the facts of our
haunting circumstances, then we are
dealing with life-forms, powers,
superior to human beings.

Everyone looks to the Reverend. The bodies are constantly
stared at.

UNDERTAKER COBB
Abner, tell us all again how these
people died.

Abner smashes his cup against the wall.

UNDERTAKER COBB (cont'd)
You sir, can leave my home!

Abner smashes a plate on the floor.

Cont'd

ABNER DYER

You bastard, Cobb! We have explained this to you many times already! Repeatedly you interrogate both Abigail and I. We have told you the truth, Mr. Cobb. We are not murderers of these people!

ABIGAIL DYER

Why would Abner and I kill Eunice? How could we? She remains frozen even before us now. How is that? You've known us since we settled! How come their bodies are frozen still?

JETHRO DOGGETT

Yes, indeed! Why are the bodies still frozen? Such a hoax is impossible.

UNDERTAKER COBB

I don't know why. Can we please just dispose of them, soon? Or, we can feed them to the wild animals?

Abner smashes another plate on the floor.

ABNER DYER

To hell with you, Mr. Cobb!

UNDERTAKER COBB

Abner. I shall require your help in my business for a few hours to repay me for the damage to my belongings.

Cobb smirks with a fiendish grin.

UNDERTAKER COBB (cont'd)

Caleb. Tell us about your ghost. I am very interested in hearing this. And please ... don't break anything.

Abner shakes his fist at Cobb.

CALEB BEECHER

I could see through it. A snake was in its hands.

UNDERTAKER COBB

Your story resembles Abner's.

Abner looks with excitement at Caleb.

Cont'd

ABNER DYER

Good heavens, finally some agreement
from you, Mr. Cobb!

Cobb stares down Abner.

LEVI PEMBERTON

These unfortunate set of
circumstances have us all at each
other like wolves.

UNDERTAKER COBB

Reverend. What is your opinion?

REVEREND WOOLRICH

There are powers greater than us.
These are not human deeds.

Caleb and Ashwini then leave the house.

CUT TO:

EXT. SAME NIGHT - ASHWINI'S FRONT DOOR - SNOWING

ASHWINI PATEL

Good Night, Caleb. Thank You!

CALEB BEECHER

Good Night, Ashwini My pleasure!
Please remain calm.

Ashwini is fixated on Abner's house.

CALEB BEECHER (cont'd)

Are you going inside, dear lady?

ASHWINI PATEL

Caleb, I just saw a ghostly figure
float into Abner's house!

CALEB BEECHER

Please tell me what you saw, Ashwini.

ASHWINI PATEL

Ther-there was a transparent figure
hovering above the ground. It-it,
passed right through the walls,
Caleb.

CUT TO:

INT. SAME NIGHT - BACK AT THE UNDERTAKER'S HOUSE

Frantically bursting past the front door, Caleb and Ashwini make their way into the smokey room again.

ASHWINI PATEL
I just saw a ghost at Abner's house!
It floated above ground and passed
through the walls of the house!

The frenzied crowd jumps up from the table and gathers all sorts of arms, and rushes towards Abner's home.

CUT TO:

INT. SAME NIGHT - ABNER'S HOME - BEDROOM

The Gruel cradles a worn picture as he reluctantly extends it to Abner's daughter Deborah within her decorated room. She begins to shiver. Her eyes widen as she closely examines the creature before her.

GRUEL
Are you my mother?

DEBORAH
N-n-No, I am not your mother. What
thing are you?

GRUEL
I am not a (thing)! I had a family!
Like you, I was loved!

The Gruel waves his hands and Deborah is naked. He salivates over her youth.

DEBORAH
Oh, ah! What breed of man are you?

GRUEL
You shall not receive mercy from me.

DEBORAH
Oh, oh, ahhh! It is not love you
extend? I have never been so consumed
by a man in this way!

GRUEL
I am far more than a mere man.
Tonight your life is mine!

CUT TO:

INT. DAY - FLASH-FORWARD 1895 - ANNE PRATT'S HOUSE

Anne struggles in retreating from another sex trance. The powerful curse thrusts Anne about her bed, causing Anne to surrender to its evil will.

CUT TO:

INT. NIGHT - ABNER'S HOME - BEDROOM FLASH-BACK 1845

Deborah's nipples begin to splinter, her teeth chatter, her eyes fracture, and lips fragment, as she shivers hopelessly. Deborah's husband's body plummets to the aging floor, cracking the creaky planks. The eel stings the dead man's face with its scales, turning it powdery.

Caressing her cheek, the Gruel's tears spill onto Deborah's face, searing her flesh into cloudy ash.

BROWN EEL

The voices of men approach, master.
They will intend to kill us!
This female is not your mother! Let
us quickly chew out her eyes!

Men crash through the slender doorway.

ABNER DYER

Dear God ... Noooooo! I have lost
another daughter!

Abner collapses upon Deborah's frozen figure. He hugs Deborah and his body begins to freeze. A few men strenuously pry him off of Deborah, and he slowly defrosts. Deborah leaks bluish glowing fluids!

ABNER DYER (cont'd)

Turn your lustful gazes away from my
daughter! Have you no decency for the
dead of my family?

UNDERTAKER COBB

Abner, we are here to help you! Not
to gawk at your daughter's body!

A nerve-battering hiss echoes from the yard. Men and rifles are heard outside the house. Within the bedroom, Abner and Abigail slowly carry Deborah's frozen body to the cobblestone fireplace. Shivering in grief, they hold Deborah next to the erupting flames.

The able men are helpless.

Cont'd

Abner and Abigail's tears collide with Deborah's frozen body, transforming into small glowing ants which excavate deep into her body.

UNDERTAKER COBB (cont'd)
What the hell is this ... burn the
bitch now!

Abner stands and takes a swing at Cobb. Missing, he crumbles to his knees again beside his broken bride.

UNDERTAKER COBB (cont'd)
Abner, please don't fight the
monster. I will have to burn you too!

Blistering winds extinguish the fireplace. Gunshots and terror erupt again outside.

From the window men are witnessed firing into the woods in various directions. Blazing arrows soar through the raw air ricocheting and hitting everything.

ABNER DYER
Kill it! Two of my daughters are dead
due to this creature! Kill it twice
for me!

UNDERTAKER COBB
Abner, let us kill it once!

ABNER DYER
Mr. Cobb, sir. My life has been
stolen from me!

ABIGAIL DYER
Yes, we have to cremate yet another
daughter of ours. The pain is
staggering!

UNDERTAKER COBB
Let us kill the beast once!

JETHRO DOGGETT
Mr. Cobb! What plans do you have for
killing this monster?

Cobb ignores Jethro and walks over to the bed. Abner stares out the window and watches the creatures escape unscathed. He slams the window hard, shattering it.

CUT TO:

EXT. DAY - CHURCH SANCTUARY - MEETING

Two days have elapsed. Deborah has been cremated.

UNDERTAKER COBB

Every home, every street, every yard,
must be secured! These creatures are
maneuvering without detection among
us. We must be on alert!

A garrison of men circle the church. Tales of horror are
exchanged among the preoccupied militia. A loud impact ends
a man's life. An intruding ice spear lands in his solar
plexus.

Frenzied men hurry to their wounded neighbor. The ice spear
sinks into the ground, pulling his organs through his body.

UNDERTAKER COBB (cont'd)

Carry him off to the side of the
church. Leave him there!

A neighbor yells at Cobb.

NEIGHBOR

My God man, he's one of us! We can't
just throw him here and forget him!

UNDERTAKER COBB

He is dead! Do you want to be?

REVEREND WOOLRICH

Hmm, creatures from another realm?
Another place within this universe.
We must truly trust in the Lord now.

A spiked snowball lands in the face of a man. His face has
caved in and spikes are protruding out the sides and back of
his head. A glowing bluish tint causes the deceased man's
blood to boil, popping teeth out of his head.

UNDERTAKER COBB

Burn this poor bastard, right here!

Dreadful hissing surrounds the courtyard, capturing the
weary men's attention as they aim rifles.

PHOEBE UNDERHILL

I see it! Shortly after the trees
with no bark. There, the creature!

Every eye studies the area in which Phoebe points. A
defensive calm settles over the frightened formation.

LEVI PEMBERTON

I see it too! My God, it is massive!

UNDERTAKER COBB

I too can see! Caution everyone! We do not fully understand this creature, and its power over us!

ABNER DYER

I see it too! To hell with caution! Kill the bastard who murdered my two beautiful daughters!

UNDERTAKER COBB

Abner, remember others have died as well, not only your damn family!

Abner ignores Cobb's scolding and fires his weapon. A symphony of rifle shots erupt. Bullets tear bark off of trees, rip leaves from limbs, fracture branches, though the creatures avoid any harm.

UNDERTAKER COBB (cont'd)

Gentlemen, please protect me with all your might!

The Gruel's specter-green eyes dazzle the courtyard. Disturbing hisses persist as voices are hearkened within the woods. A swarm of wasps circle the creatures.

It's immense frame is concealed by a grayish cloak. Enormous hands hang by the hips of the 7-foot-plus figure. Long icy hair shimmers and flows in the daylight. A glowing lariat surrounds his waist.

ABNER DYER

Come forth you hideous beast!

REVEREND WOOLRICH

Why are you killing human beings?

GRUEL

Why was my family killed? They were human beings also!

ABNER DYER

We knew nothing of your family! You are a murderer! You are paying some penance for your evil deeds!

The Gruel throws more spiked ice balls into the courtyard. The men fire back. Abner shoots three rifles.

Cont'd

The Gruel looks towards Phoebe.

GRUEL
Are you my mother?

ABNER DYER
No, she is not your trollop mother!

With the wave of his hand, the Gruel pushes Abner back against a tree. Falling to the ground, Abner struggles to get back on his feet.

ABNER DYER (cont'd)
Don't answer this demon! He never had a mother! And if he did, she is a penny tramp, for all to enjoy!

UNDERTAKER COBB
Oh, that's great Abner. Get more of us killed with your foolish words!

Abner is slammed against the tree once more.

UNDERTAKER COBB (cont'd)
Abner. Before your mouth gets us all killed. That is the second time this creature has hurt you from two hundred feet away. SHUT UP!

BROWN EEL
Kill them master, kill them!

Tears spill from the Gruel. Landing in snowy ice, producing clouds of dark smoke that transform into black wasps. They sting the men, causing panic as they scramble.

ABNER DYER
Come out from behind the trees, you coward. Your mother is a whore!

UNDERTAKER COBB
Hey Beast! How about you kill Abner, and spare the rest of us? I don't want to die! I'm willing to look the other way if you are! Hell, you can even bed Abner's wife!

Abner shoots the tree Cobb is hiding behind. Cobb shoots back. Everyone begins shooting at the creatures in the woods.

Cont'd

GRUEL
Are you my Mother?

ABNER DYER
No! My wife is no one you know.

UNDERTAKER COBB
Defend your families!

Whipping more spiked snowballs landing in men, bodies engulf in flames, spewing out liquid eyes and causing teeth to burst from melting jaws. The Gruel surrounds himself with thick ice walls.

Ice-nadoes enter the courtyard and ferociously spin men in circles, slamming them to the ground, causing them to vomit, as shards of ice shoot in many directions, propelling through stone, trees, wood, and man. The Gruel is hit and wails as bending over.

UNDERTAKER COBB (cont'd)
It can feel pain! Continue the
onslaught! Don't stop shooting!

Ice spears catapult through the air decapitating men, carrying their heads to the doors of a neighbor's house. Blistering high winds encircle the courtyard, scraping the flesh from the skulls of the defending men.

The prolonged battle ensues deep into night. The creatures flee ... leaving behind defeated men. Abner continues his insane rants as others help the wounded and remove the dead.

The wounded who are deeply freezing are placed within engulfing troughs. Smoldering flesh turns the air sour. The men awaken from the nearly frozen death, and jump from the engulfing trench.

The men withdraw and enter the church. They fall about the sanctuary and chew into hot breads.

UNDERTAKER COBB (cont'd)
We are all scared! I have changed my
pants a few times, myself! But we
must act in spite of fear!

The nearly beaten men listen with weary bodies. Drinking coffee and eating bread, their blistered faces and swollen fingers tremble as some pass out while eating.

CUT TO:

INT. DAY - CHURCH - A FEW DAYS LATER

The townsfolk begin imploding at a meeting. A human barricade secures the town as throbbing hearts stand in defense of their lives and homes.

REVEREND WOOLRICH

We must have order here!
Understandingly so, we are frightened
and weak, but we must prevail over
the creature! We must remain united,
we must remain calm and focused!

JETHRO DOGETT

How do we prevail over something so
mightier than ourselves? Yes, the
creature feels pain, but we seem to
be losing to its powers!

Tonalities escalate. Torches rise into the air. Chaos ensues within the church, as many declare their own strategies.

UNDERTAKER COBB

Silence! We must have order! If we
are to defeat this creature, we must
remain composed! We cannot allow
uncertainty to be our demise. And I
certainly don't want to die!

ABNER DYER

Uncertainty? I'm quite certain, I
want to kill the bastard that
murdered my beautiful daughters! I
want to kill it twice, once for each
one of my daughters!

UNDERTAKER COBB

Forget your daughters, Abner! Many
families have lost loved ones! We are
sick of hearing your complaints about
how you suffer. Look around you,
Abner ... this church is littered
with folks who are suffering!

A loud scream from the courtyard permeates the church walls, and silences the excited crowd inside. Cautiously, some motion towards the cracked windows, and witness pandemonium in the courtyard. A group of men kneel alongside another who is laying face down in red snow.

Armed men scramble outside. The creatures instantly flee.

CUT TO:

EXT. DAY - TWO DAYS LATER - CHURCH YARD

Another meeting is held in the church courtyard.

REVEREND WOOLRICH
Gentlemen, Now is an opportune time
to declare your peace with God!

UNDERTAKER COBB
Reverend, I am not planning on dying,
neither are others ... so stop trying
to scare us ... we are already
wetting our pants, damn you!

Huddled near fire pits outside, men protect themselves from
the biting air. A high-pitch object descends rapidly among
the disoriented men securing an impact.

UNDERTAKER COBB (cont'd)
Fire into the west side of the
forests! Kill the bastard!

The air fills with gray clouds. Chilling hisses linger in
the frigid air.

UNDERTAKER COBB (cont'd)
We can't stand here all night, what
do we do, Reverend?

ABNER DYER
You don't ask the Reverend what to
do, Cobb ... you ask me! Damn it! My
daughters are dead! Raise your
weapons and destroy this evil witch!

UNDERTAKER COBB
Abner! You have one more daughter!
Please shut your damn mouth, and help
us kill this, thing! Or I will be the
one to cremate your dead body! I'm
wasting more of my damn energy
arguing with you!

Once again the courtyard erupts into a gruesome battlefield.
Ice-nadoes spin into the courtyard. Spears soar through the
parameter, spiked ice balls enter at rapid speeds tearing
off branches and heads. Freezing sharp winds nearly close
the eyes of whining men.

REVEREND WOOLRICH
I can see the creature's green eyes!

Sounds of suffering engulf the churchyard.

ABNER DYER

Well, shoot the eyes out of its head!

Shots keep exploding into the crisp air.

UNDERTAKER COBB

Yes, don't forget Abner's two daughters are dead!

The Gruel breaks off a fingernail and casts it to the ground producing clouds of ash. High pitch noises emulate from within, as giant ants maneuver into the courtyard.

Frenzied men deplorably defend themselves against ominous insects painfully stinging them, shredding limbs from their bodies, and eating them alive. Every available weapon is utilized to repel the ferocious insects as they subdue the weary men.

Abner extends his rifle and squeezes the trigger. A shot is released from his vintage weapon and races towards the Gruel. The bullet collides with an eel, severing its head. Emotional shockwaves explode out of the Gruel.

The yard is strewn with dead men and ants. A man manipulates his way to the Gruel and hurls glowing embers on him, causing severe agony. Weeping uncontrollably, the Gruel and eels flee, as he secures the dead eel in his large arms.

ABNER DYER

This battle is ours! Next time we pound spikes into his eyes and tear his heart from his chest and I will cook it over an open fire!

Men scurry the yard in fear.

UNDERTAKER COBB

We, sir, have triumphed over nothing! The beasts will return.

The dead ant's bodies disintegrate and their glowing remains drift in the direction in which the creatures fled.

REVEREND WOOLRICH

Abner, please control your emotions!

Abner whips his rifle at the Reverend, bouncing it off his arm and neck, causing blood to flow.

Abner collapses. The Reverend holding his injured arm, kneels down, picks up Abner's rifle, walks over towards Abner, bends his knees, and consoles him.

Cont'd

Cobb spits on the ground.

UNDERTAKER COBB
I would not nurture that selfish
fool! Let him wallow in his misery.
His emotional distress will kill us
all, somehow ... I feel it!

REVEREND WOOLRICH
We will get through this, Mr. Cobb.

The remaining wounded succumb to injuries. Ice spears remain
embedded in the church, fracturing the frame from pressure
of the freezing weapon.

JETHRO DOGGETT
Whom among us is left to fight?

PHOEBE UNDERHILL
Apparently, few of us remain!

Everyone examines the dead and wounded.

UNDERTAKER COBB
We must be on the lookout. We know
the creatures feel pain. One eel is
dead. Let us find rest and strength.
The creatures will return.

A depressed expression befalls many.

UNDERTAKER COBB (cont'd)
Prepare the weapons we know are most
effective against the creatures. We
shall cremate the dead as we pray
over them. And that includes Deborah,
Abner ... Now!

Abner reluctantly surrenders Deborah's discoloring body for
cremation, as him and Abigail crumble in grief.

UNDERTAKER COBB (cont'd)
I guess I was born to cremate bodies.

PHOEBE UNDERHILL
Why do you say that?

UNDERTAKER COBB
I enjoy it!

CUT TO:

INT. DAY - THREE DAYS LATER - CHURCH MEETING

PHOEBE UNDERHILL
My sister lives alone. I must go to
her. She may be killed next!

Everyone objects.

ABNER DYER
No, Phoebe! You will be placing both
yourself and your sister in danger.
We do not know where the creatures
are at this time!

PHOEBE UNDERHILL
Abner! I am not one of your
daughters!

Abner throws his rifle down.

UNDERTAKER COBB
Abner, she knows the risks involved.
Let her go.

Abner shakes his head in disbelief.

UNDERTAKER COBB (cont'd)
Phoebe, take weapons with you.

CUT TO:

INT. SAME DAY - PHOEBE'S SISTER MARGARET'S HOUSE.

Phoebe is frightfully packing her sister's things into a few
bags as Margaret watches.

MARGARET
I wasn't expecting you, Phoebe. Why
must we go to the village now, and
why are you carrying weapons?

PHOEBE UNDERHILL
Do as I say Margaret, please! Take
only what you need! Let's go!

MARGARET
You are troubling me, Phoebe! I am
nervous. Tell me more!

Phoebe fills a few bottles. She packs supplies they will
need as well.

Cont'd

 PHOEBE UNDERHILL
Stop acting like a fool, and let's
get out of here!

The two ladies conquer a lengthy journey without haste. The impact vibrations of heavy footsteps rumble the ground.

 GRUEL
Are you my mother?

Phoebe quickly searches her surroundings.

 MARGARET
Why are you crying, Phoebe?

A substantial wind slams Phoebe to the ground. Margaret kneels to her aid. Footsteps stomp towards Margaret's back. She turns with her mouth gaped open. She is slammed aside, struggling to help Phoebe.

The Gruel mercilessly devours Phoebe, as she is heaved on the icy ground. Margaret helplessly witnesses the defeat of her sister.

 GRUEL
Are you my mother?

Nervously he extends a photograph to Margaret.

 MARGARET
No, I am not your mother, nor do I
ever wish to be!

Margaret spits on the photograph. He viciously conquers and beats Margaret to near death. He forcefully tosses Margaret onto her chest, and roughly violates her.

The two eels eat her eyes, then sting Margaret's head, slowly dissolving her face around her skull.

 GRUEL
We have lost our brown Eel. Eat to
satisfy your memory of our friend.

 BLUE EEL
Yes, Master. We shall gnaw on her
tender flesh and organs.

The Gruel watches them ravish Margaret's remains.

CUT TO:

EXT. DAY - THE NEXT DAY - UNDERTAKER'S YARD

The undertaker is cleaning his yard.

STRANGER

Good day, sir! You are the town undertaker?

UNDERTAKER COBB

Yes, I am! Can I help you gentlemen?

Nervously unveiling the wagon, Cobb beholds the mangled bodies of Phoebe, and her sister Margaret.

UNDERTAKER COBB (cont'd)

Good God! As I feared. Quickly gentlemen, assist me in transmitting these butchered bodies into the furnace. Thank you!

The two men respond to Cobb's request.

STRANGER

Sir. What are the strange bluish fluids on the women?

Cobb can only offer emotions. The men depart without saying another word.

UNDERTAKER COBB

I know I won't die. I don't care if these folk die around me. I want to live! I will act like I am helping, and I will be, to my benefit! Then I will choose my wife from those who are no longer here to be a husband. Maybe even a few wives!

He peers into the furnace, spitting on the bodies.

UNDERTAKER COBB (cont'd)

I'll cremate this entire damn town if that's what it takes for me to live with a beautiful woman.

The undertaker finishes cleaning his yard and burning debris. He stops at times to drink some bourbon and eat a few sandwiches. He falls asleep on his brown hammock. A dog wakes him up by licking his hand. He feeds the dog and then stretches for the sky.

CUT TO:

INT. DAY - ANNE PRATT'S HOME - FLASH-FORWARD 1895

Anne recuperates from a night of intimate trance. Swollen eyes reveal a life of excessive suffering. Praying aloud, Anne humbles herself.

ANNE PRATT

Dear Lord, my behavior is fitting for punishment. Please forgive my son. He deserves healing! I pray his victims will elude his fury. Have my sins contributed to his demise? Punish me! What mother would not cry and pray for her child? Please release him, in Jesus' name, amen!

CUT TO:

EXT. DAY - FOREST - FLASH-BACK 1845

The Gruel and eels mourn their friend.

GRUEL

My mother's torment stings my bones though insects were devouring my marrow. When will healing and rest be our companions? How many tears will bathe these disgraced eyes? A friend we have lost. This loss erodes my heart. The brewing of vengeance stirs my soul!

Opening some vessels, he sprinkles powders, oils, on the dead eel, it glows and disintegrates into bluish ash.

GRUEL (cont'd)

Tens of thousands of moons have set on my damned life. Since being apart, I only hearken my mother's voice in the bedlam of my eternal memory. The identical memory which harbors the beasts who murdered my family.

He fights against flowing feelings.

GRUEL (cont'd)

Have mercy on her? What crimes has she committed? I am the fugitive who eludes men and justice. Punish me!

CUT TO:

INT. DAY - ABNER'S HOUSE

Abner paces the floor scratching his head and talking to Cobb.

ABNER DYER

This worn diary reports Doctor Coddington in 1625, had inspected a wagon of mutilated frozen bodies, brought to his office by frenzied townsfolk.

Abner circles the room.

ABNER DYER (cont'd)

The doctor also dictates mystifying beings murdering a family, all but one son and the mother. His scribble handwriting outlines a large snowy beast, who ravaged the family, fleeing with snakes in his arms.

Abner turns to Cobb.

UNDERTAKER COBB

This explains why our foe asked your daughters if they were his mother.

Reality strikes Abner's face.

ABNER DYER

These creatures have existed and been killing for centuries!

UNDERTAKER COBB

Yes! It's crucial we devise a strategy to defeat the beast.

Abner sits down with the journal on his lap.

ABNER DYER

How do we accomplish such a feat?

Cobb rubs his chin.

UNDERTAKER COBB

We try to get as close as possible and attack with no mercy. It is either that or this entire country side could be destroyed!

CUT TO:

INT. THE SAME NIGHT - ABNER'S HOME

During dinner, Abner presents the chilling news to his wife Abigail. She sits and listens with an aching heart. He struggles to find the right words. Grief overpowers them both as he tries to console and inform her.

ABNER DYER

These creatures have existed for centuries, my dairy reports. I love you, Abigail. You have been a lovely bride. I will defend you with my life. I will not fail to help you.

Abigail holds Abner's face with one hand.

ABIGAIL DYER

Nor I fail to defend you, Abner.

CUT TO:

INT. DAY - CHURCH - TWO WEEKS LATER

The replete church swells with frightened men and women.

JETHRO DOGGETT

Has any news been reported regarding the creatures?

Alarmed voices ripple the crowded hall as discouragement consumes the hustling house of worship.

ABNER DYER

It should be I who kills this murdering menace from hell!

A group of outraged men withhold Abner and discharge him from church. Looking out the windows, they see he's landed face-first in animal urine. Abner's rage spirals as he stampedes back into the overcrowded room.

Immediately he is overpowered and his weapons stripped from him. He is forced to sit in a wobbly chair.

ABNER DYER (cont'd)

You insensitive bastards! Have you no remorse for a bereaved father?

The Undertaker shares the news with the town regarding the lifespan of the creatures. The church folks are silenced, and sit slowly, hanging their heads, gazing at one another.

Cont'd

JETHRO DOGGETT

How do we defeat a being who's
existed more than two centuries? We
are fighting a losing battle!

Abner points his finger at Jethro.

ABNER DYER

Remain calm! The creature we face
now, was a boy two hundred years ago.
His name is Isaac. It is believed his
mother, Anne, also exists somewhere
in the eternal dimensions of time.

REVEREND WOOLRICH

Since we are mobilized in the Lord's
house, let us pray for intervention,
strength, understanding, and victory.
Afterwards, let us rest for the
unforeseen challenges ahead.

Long, heartfelt prayers consume the sanctuary.

CUT TO:

INT. DAY - ANNE PRATT'S HOME - FLASH-FORWARD 1895

Anne answers the door.

ANNE PRATT

Yes, may I help you?

Overpowering Anne, four men haul her exerting body into her
home! Throwing her on the garnished bed, one man rests on
her chest, while another silences her shrieking voice with a
rag. Slapping her face he gains her full attention.

LEADER OF GANG

Listen here, whore! You are going to
pleasure us, and you are going to
enjoy it! Or we will beat you to
death! Do you understand me, bitch?

Anne nods her head.

LEADER OF GANG (cont'd)

I will pull all your damn teeth out
if you anger me! Listen and do!

CUT TO:

EXT. NIGHT - GRUEL YR 1845

GRUEL

The anguish my mother endures drills through to my soul. Men violently intrude her sacred body. Her transgressors will mistakenly wonder our path and we shall greet them with retribution for their deeds!

The Blue Eel slithers to his chest, peering in his eyes.

BLUE EEL

We must seek revenge upon all men. We need to eliminate mankind. Show them no mercy, as they showed your mother!

GRUEL

Men will suffer the loss of their eyes and organs shall be frozen while brains are liquefied. And that will not be enough torture to gratify my thirst for vengeance!

The Green Eel interweaves with the Blue Eel.

GREEN EEL

These diabolical creatures kill one another over money and sex. Why should we care about killing them for any reason? They will try to kill us one day, so we need to destroy them!

The Gruel secures them both.

GRUEL

My mother suffers due to their sins and I will poison their offspring and burn their cattle alive. I shall cut off their food source and we can watch them starve to death.

The eels express pleasure in his words of vengeance.

GRUEL (cont'd)

Have no illusions, revenge will satisfy deeper than honey and milk.

The Gruel caresses their long sticky bodies. Snow from the trees lands on them as their bodies steam.

CUT TO:

INT. DAY - ANNE PRATT'S HOME - FLASH-FORWARD 1895

William pounds on the splintery door rattling oxidizing hinges, and shaking the decaying wood cabin.

WILLIAM TOWER
Anne, it's William, are you home?
Open this door now!

William strenuously enters the cabin. Hearing rumblings from the bedroom, he releases his pistol and slowly enters.

WILLIAM TOWER (cont'd)
Who the hell tied you to the bed? You
pissed the sheets. This is not a
fucken barn!

A sign above the bed reads ... "We enjoyed her in every way we could!" William yanks the rag out from Anne's mouth.

ANNE PRATT
William, four men raped me! One man
whipped my privates with a belt!

WILLIAM TOWER
Good! After messing my sheets, you
deserve it, Anne! I also hear you
insulted my business associates.

William slowly raises the horse belt. He rams the rag down her throat, clutching her hair, banging her head into the puffed pillows as he violates Anne.

WILLIAM TOWER (cont'd)
Next time Anne, I get angry! You be a
good whore for now on!

He spits on her face, then William releases her from the rusty and noisy shackles.

ANNE PRATT
Leave me be! I hate you!

William smacks Anne a few times. He violently pulls her hair and spits on her again. He holds her body down as he disgraces her more.

WILLIAM TOWER
You love me, Anne! Remember that!

CUT TO:

INT. NIGHT - ABNER'S HOME - FLASH-BACKWARD 1845

Abner adores his rifle, as though it were his beloved Abigail. Abigail immerses herself into Judith's side, sharing a worn blanket. The Gruel and eels infiltrate the reinforced home eluding slumping men.

One eel cleverly guides the rifle from Abner's clutches, while the other slithers into his hands. Powder and grass are sprinkled over Judith. Levitating out of bed, she disappears with the Gruel into a distant room. Gracefully she is positioned upon blankets of fur, permitting him to salivate over her young figure.

GRUEL

I am undeserving of such ripe fruit.

Passionate kissing of her chest leads him on a journey below her innocent navel.

GRUEL (cont'd)

Bees toils diligently to produce such nectar worthy of man's appetite.

Judith slumbers peacefully before him.

GRUEL (cont'd)

This is a youthful delicacy all men forget with age.

He floats above the bed and marvels at Judith. The room is consumed by cold as windows crackle. Slowly he descends upon Judith with delightful consumption.

GRUEL (cont'd)

I can have mercy on you, or I can deliver an unforgiving death to you. I would be however depriving myself of rewards if I kill you! I have suffered enough.

The Green Eel enters the room.

GREEN EEL

Master. Pulverize her! We are starving for eyes and organs.

The Gruel pets the eel and sets it down on the floor.

GRUEL

Soon, you shall eat heartily.

CUT TO:

INT. DAY - ANNE PRATT'S HOME - FLASH-FORWARD 1895

Anne, is shrouded in a colorful blanket applying oils and creams to her persecuted body.

ANNE PRATT

Dear Lord, please forgive me of my sins. It is I who am guilty, not my son. I long to hear his childlike voice. A lonesome mother lifts up her prayers to you.

She dries her face with the back of her hand.

ANNE PRATT (cont'd)

For God so loved the world, He gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in Him, shall not perish, but have everlasting life.

Her sore eyes pan the ceiling at length.

ANNE PRATT (cont'd)

This is the promise I hold for my son. He is, innocently guilty.

A faint voice within the room, startles Anne. She whips around her body though in pain, and turns about to see who is there.

BEING

Anne, Anne ... You have all you need with you now, to retrieve your son.

She reaches for a nearby weapon.

BEING (cont'd)

Anne, you can bring forth Isaac to be with you once again.

She holds her hand to her forehead, then her neck.

BEING (cont'd)

You are not sick, Anne.

ANNE PRATT

Wh-who, is speaking to me? How d-do you know my name?

Silence for a moment.

ANNE PRATT (cont'd)

Hello, hello?

The knife blade melts to a puddle of steel by her body. She slowly looks around the room.

BEING

Anne, you have the creature's lariat.
Transfer the lariat to the center of
the room Anne, now.

Anne curiously obeys the voice.

BEING (cont'd)

Listen carefully to me, Anne!

Anne remains still.

ANNE PRATT

Whe-Where are you?

She lays the lariat next to her on the floor.

BEING

I haven't much time. Do not fear me.
Listen carefully and I will help you.

Anne nods her head, staring about the room.

BEING (cont'd)

On the lariat are five liquids.
White, orange, yellow, brown, and
green. There are three black powders
of various shades. The vessels
withholding hair, belong to you and
Isaac.

Anne studies the lariat.

BEING (cont'd)

Bind them all together. Cast them
into the air. Scream out Isaac's name
as you launch the mixture. This will
cause a portal to form, connecting
the two dimensions. Then, you will be
able to see your son.

She empties the lariat.

ANNE PRATT

How do I bring Isaac to me?

Silence within the room. The cabin shakes. Anne is nervous.
The floor boards rattle beneath her. She tightly grips the
lariat.

BEING

You must advance within the portal and connect to Isaac physically. The longer you attempt contact with him, your body will infuse with affliction. You have an opportunity of fifteen earthly minutes to rescue him. After which, you will never recover Isaac, and he will be damned forever!

Anne shakes her head a few times.

ANNE PRATT

No! I cannot lose him!

BEING

Isaac suffers in the year 1845, fifty years behind you. Once he is with you, you must become naked, and embrace him. This action will break the curse ... and, end his life!

BEING (cont'd)

The curse began this way, it must end this way, Anne. Then Isaac will die!

Anne shoots up from a squat.

ANNE PRATT

End his life? I want to save my child. I do not wish to destroy him!

A ghostly mist appears before Anne.

ANNE PRATT (cont'd)

For more than two centuries I have been separated from him. My tears have filled canyons. I suffer for us both. How can I bring him forth, only to kill him? What cure is this for us? This is more penalty!

BEING

There is no other way. Your failure to destroy your son, will cause you both to travel through eternity with unforgiving torture. Once Isaac is destroyed, you will die a natural death in years to come.

Anne exudes frustration.

ANNE PRATT

What cure is this for me? I grieve
now without him. Then I endure
killing him. From there, I languish a
long miserable existence without him
again. This is not a cure!

The apparition fades before Anne.

BEING

My time with you erodes. Do as I
instruct you, and peace is yours.

The voice is silenced.

ANNE PRATT

What form of rescue is this, that I a
mother, must engage in the awful
process of death to my only son?

CUT TO:

INT. NIGHT - ABNER'S HOME - FLASH-BACKWARD 1845

The Gruel sinks his face deeply into Judith's.

GRUEL

Silence! Are you my, mother?

He nervously extends a photo to Judith. Her hands frost
while examining the photograph.

JUDITH

Must I be your mother for you to
spare my life, Isaac?

The large Gruel retreats off of Judith.

GRUEL

You know my name!

His emotions cover his icy face.

JUDITH

I gave you your name!

His black tears fall on the bed linens and turn into tiny
spiders that crawl back up him and into his eyes, and
dissolve. Judith attempts to crush the scurrying spiders but
they don't die.

She repeats without success.

GRUEL

You can see I am burdened with a curse so horrible not even hell welcomes it.

JUDITH

My name was Anne. Our family was murdered by creatures like you. Now, take me, and I'm yours.

Judith exposes her hypnotic flesh as his famished eyes consume his savage lusts. While thrusting Judith's silky body, she pulls herself up around his immense shoulders, and whispers in his frigid ears.

JUDITH (cont'd)

Isaac, in the other room, lies a woman ... Kill her!

Abruptly, he withdraws from Judith's chest.

GRUEL

Why must I kill her? Please cure us now, and forever!

Judith shakes her head with an evil grin.

JUDITH

Destroy her now Isaac, or you will lose me forever! She will lie to you Isaac. She will separate us for all eternity. She is evil, Isaac. You must stop her, now!

The Gruel looks towards the door leading into the other room. Then he hangs his head.

JUDITH (cont'd)

Go, kill her now, Isaac! Return to me, and pour out your frustrations and anger into my womb. Obey me, Isaac! Kill the bitch!

Dissolving through a wall, he rests one eel at Abigail's exposed throat. Abigail awakes choking and gagging. Restrained by their might, both peer into her fading life. The eel stings her face turning it powdery, then eats out one of her eyes.

Returning to the room where Deborah is, the Gruel plunges into her while her eyes examine the darkened room, and her satisfying sighs fuel Isaac's locomotive passions.

Cont'd

JUDITH (cont'd)
You must flee Isaac! Abner will
awake. He will find the woman dead.

GRUEL
Then I will kill Abner too!

JUDITH
He and other revengeful men will
attempt to kill you!

A pause from the Gruel. Abner's horrified cry for help
ricochets through the somber household!

JUDITH (cont'd)
Flee, Isaac, return in two weeks. I
will cure us both then. Go now, run.
You must, or we will suffer forever!

The door crashes open with armed men flooding Judith's
bedroom! Gunshots awaken all! Screams and hisses echo the
silent halls.

ABNER DYER
Oh Judith, Judith! Thank you dear
God! Judith, you are alive! I was
fearful for you.

Judith appears surprised.

JUDITH
Father, I'm well.

Abner breaks down before Judith.

ABNER DYER
Judith, the creature has killed your
beloved mother.

Judith embraces Abner, suppressing her guilty expression.

UNDERTAKER COBB
Abner, allow Judith rest. We must
investigate the area. Be prepared for
confrontation, gentlemen.

As the men depart, Judith creeps into the room where her
mother lies dead. Smirking at her, Judith brushes her hair
back. One eyelid sinks into the socket. Abigail's face
dissolves before Judith as she watches in wonder.

JUDITH

I am without remorse for you mother.
The creature would have claimed my,
life ... so I sacrificed yours. Anyway,
I am fair and younger. The creature
will offer me centuries of life. I
hunger for the pleasures of his
lusts. I thirst for every ounce of
ecstasy this manly beast wills upon
me as his slave.

Judith continues to be captivated by the gruesome
transformation of her mother's body.

JUDITH (cont'd)

Anyway ... it appears we won't have
to burn you tonight.

Judith returns to the other room and drifts off peacefully
as the frazzled men return. After removing Abigail's body
from the house, Abner hunkers by Judith's thawing bed with
his cascading emotions.

ABNER DYER

I swear, I will gain revenge upon
this creature. He has stolen my life
from me. I will not rest until I am
cutting his heart from his chest as
he bellows for mercy, and shall
receive none from me.

Cobb enters the room quietly.

UNDERTAKER COBB

Abner, what shall we do with
Abigail's remains? Her body is as
powder and crumbles as we try to lift
her. What do you wish us to do?

Abner kneeling, cannot contain his emotions as Judith
slumbers peacefully before the men.

ABNER DYER

However you see fit to dispose of
her. Please pray over her. I will
join you later.

Cobb pats Abner's back and leaves the room. Abner notices
little spiders crawling the floor and melting before him. He
touches where they melt and his finger tips burn. Quickly he
cleans his hands.

CUT TO:

EXT. THE NEXT NIGHT - FOREST

The creatures blend in with winter's landscape.

GRUEL

The sun and moon shall never evade me again, as I secure my mother's side. The centuries have not poached her flowing beauty, and her years are few. Though shame brews justifiably within us, as the curse demonstrates its unrelenting power over us both.

The winds whip through the icy forest tumbling trees.

GREEN EEL

Master, the humans are very deceitful. Death is a mercy for them. Yet, it is all we have. Are we to no longer relish in the thirst of murder upon mankind?

A black owl lands near the Gruel.

GRUEL

These sins have never been cause for rejoicing! Each innocent face lingers just before my memory. The cure is my freedom from this hell I never asked for, or deserved.

The eels move close to the Owl. The Gruel places them both behind himself and away from the Owl.

GRUEL (cont'd)

Nature has mercy on me by allowing the creature to rest in my worries.

The Owl spends a few more minutes on the Gruel's arm and then flies off.

GREEN EEL

We could have eaten that thing.

The Gruel levitates with the Eels to a nearby spot where a horse has died. Places the smiling eels down on the carcass, they begin to chew out it's eyes and organs.

GRUEL

I have given you dinner. Now you may rest, for our battles ensue soon.

CUT TO:

INT. DAY - ANNE PRATT'S HOME - FLASH-FORWARD 1895

At dusk Anne cautiously unbolts the weathered door for William. He strolls in curiously about the house. Setting tea for him, she places money on the table, and offers him fresh cookies.

WILLIAM TOWER

Ah, this is the Anne I know! Today I am proud of you! You earned a lot of money for me.

Anne sits down at the table, looking at her hands.

ANNE PRATT

I always obey you, William. My body has been abused by others.

William raises his hand, and Anne kneels before him.

WILLIAM TOWER

Very well done, Anne! Using your mouth and tongue for something more productive than complaining is very good indeed!

Standing on her feet, Anne chugs warm tea. Wiping her mouth, she incinerates William with a hateful gaze. William Carries Anne into the bedroom dropping her on the mattress.

WILLIAM TOWER (cont'd)

Now let's see what we have here.

Anne undresses herself.

WILLIAM TOWER (cont'd)

Your body has healed Anne. This is good! Use it to earn me money. You cannot expect to turn a dollar when you are hideous. I need you beautiful. Don't disappoint me!

William slides his pistol into Anne, setting the hammer.

WILLIAM TOWER (cont'd)

I'm pleased we understand one another, Anne.

With a sinister wink, William departs.

CUT TO:

EXT. NIGHT - BOSTON MA - FLASH-BACKWARD 1845

Fleeing a home decorated in wealth, three young woman lay in frozen cocoons. Gunshots and frantic voices alarm the privileged community. Nearly invisible, the creatures escape the chaotic neighborhood entering an eerie forested area.

Two watchful men discreetly rummage the perimeter of the forest in pursuit of the monsters. The Gruel, stretching for a man, fastens him by his head, plundering his shadow, hurling it into the another man.

The two shadows viciously scuffle. The men's bodies scream horribly as the eels burrow into their eye sockets with ravenous appetites, while worms spew from their trembling foaming mouths.

The eels snap their tails projecting venomous scales into nearby men. Collapsing, gurgling, blue worms spew from their damaged skulls.

GREEN EEL

This is what all humanity deserves.

BLUE EEL

We feast well tonight!

Other armed men arrive at the forest. Ice-nados, spiked snowballs, hair spears, pierce frail bodies, crushing the determined men. Imposing ants stampede and consume humans. Glowing arrows plunge the Gruel's chilly frame.

GRUEL

We must flee this battle. Another time shall be ours to be victorious over these murderers.

BLUE EEL

Master, please carry these dead men with us so we may continue our feast upon their retched flesh.

The Gruel looses another eel and flees the area.

BLUE EEL (cont'd)

Master, our dinner!

Gun shots and cannon fire echo into the forest.

GRUEL

Hunger will not evade you!

CUT TO:

EXT. THE SAME NIGHT - FOREST

Creeping within the darkened woods the silent Gruel painstakingly pours powders and oils on the dead eel, helplessly contemplating his beloved ally glowing and crumbling at his monstrous feet.

GRUEL

You are all I have now! This is a fatal blow to our hearts.

BLUE EEL

Master, we can still destroy the men.

The Gruel rubs his giant icy hand over the ashes of the eel.

GRUEL

I am captive to this curse! No reprieve has been granted. These foolish men have no understanding. Now my mother is in their custody. I determine now, men will suffer generations of poisonous seeds!

GRUEL (cont'd)

Their women shall incubate parasites, forbidding them offspring! The men shall go limp through the years. They will lose their desire for breeding and produce only frustration and anger as a miserable companion.

The eel blows away in the powerful winds.

BLUE EEL

Shall we exit this realm and return to our own?

The Gruel stands on the remains of the eel.

GRUEL

I cannot do without my mother. Now I must wait for her. If I am to die, it will be defending her!

The Gruel's legs glow as the ashes of the dead eel enter his frozen body.

BLUE EEL

Let us soon feast on the weak!

CUT TO:

INT. NIGHT - TWO NIGHTS LATER - ASHWINI'S HOUSE

Ashwini melts beneath a rainbow of blankets as slumber overtakes her. Later she rises, focusing at the foot of the bed. Gripping the blankets she whips the corner to one side.

Meow.

Shrugging with a smile, Ashwini kneels to rest the playful cat in the hall.

ASHWINI PATEL
How on earth, kitty, did you manage
to get in my bedroom!

Later Ashwini awakes to a bright room. She feels again the movement of something at her feet. She laughs and pulls back the blankets.

ASHWINI PATEL (cont'd)
How did you manage this time to enter
my room, you naughty kitty?

BLUE EEL
He let me in!

The eel points to the Gruel in the corner of the room.

GRUEL
You have been chosen to die!

Abruptly the Gruel severs Ashwini's shadow from her. Struggling furiously he savagely rapes her shadow as Ashwini experiences the connections upon her bed.

Digging into her shadow's face, he rams the wiggling silhouette inside the blazing wood stove, securing the faded iron prison, as unimaginable screams emit from within.

ASHWINI'S SHADOW
Help me! Save me from this furnace!

Ruggedly the Gruel strips Ashwini. Elevating her up, he slams her on her chest and violently bulls her from behind, while she ambitiously attempts dislodging the thick wooden bed rails, while fighting against painful thrusts.

GRUEL
You shall suffer as my mother
suffers!

The eel curls and smiles.

BLUE EEL
Kill her master, now! Kill her
please! She needs to die!

Ashwini lays lifeless.

GRUEL
Slide into her! Immerse her memory of
us in her eternal sleep. Feast upon
her eyes!

Men and metal clash with Ashwini's front door.

CALEB BEECHER
Good morning, Ashwini! Hello, dear
lady! We have entered your home!
Hello, hello!

The eel is alert to the sound of voices.

BLUE EEL
Master, men are here!

Climbing the shabby stairs men yield to large footprints
seared into the creaky floor leading to her bedroom. Cobb
adheres to the glittery doorknob.

The men burst through the door to find the draped windows
open and flapping against the log walls.

UNDERTAKER COBB
What in God's name happened here?

A mess of human flesh lies on the bed.

REVEREND WOOLRICH
We need to pray for help, gentlemen!
We do not have in our earthly
possession any weapons or defense
against such sinister powers able to
reduce a human to this!

Ashwini's head explodes into a powdery cloud. Her body
liquefies across her draped bed. Her bones crackle and snap,
projecting splinters of marrow at the men.

CALEB BEECHER
This is madness! Where are her eyes?
She has been utterly vanquished!

The men pull out pieces of her bone from their flesh.

Cont'd

A tortured voice bellows from the rusty iron inferno.
Desperate scratching from the inner cast immobilizes them.

ABNER DYER

Wh - who wants to open the stove?

Cobb hesitantly unlatches the durable bolt. A chilling sluggish creek reveals a scalding hand and forearm. Lurking from the smoldering coffin emerges a scorched silhouette.

ASHWINI'S SHADOW

Help me, find my eyes, my eyes, where
are my eyes? Who has my eyes?

The shadow lands upon Caleb and begins gouging his eyes. The men fight off the shadow. Leaping upon the bed, the glowing shadow lands upon Ashwini's remains, transforming the corpse into ferocious spiders which attack the men, who ultimately destroy the insects with fire.

UNDERTAKER COBB

We must search for and destroy this
bastard! What we witnessed today is
beyond comprehension. This creature
needs to fucken die today!

The men reach their human limits of endurance.

UNDERTAKER COBB (cont'd)

Gather your arms, anything that
kills! We assemble at the church. Set
up shifts. Prayer and hope are our
greatest allies now!

The bewildered men look about the room.

CALEB BEECHER

What do we do about all this mess?

Then men pause.

UNDERTAKE COBB

We will remove the cat, and then set
fire to this house and burn
everything in it. We can take no
chances with this horror.

The men agree, then exit the house setting it ablaze.

CUT TO:

EXT. NIGHT - THE CHURCH COURTYARD

Men fortify the wintry landscape.

GRUEL

Men patiently hunker surrounding this church where my mother is prisoner. This curse must end! Forgiveness of sins needs to be ours. I deserve to be transformed into a mortal man.

Bonfires are ignited as men place steel arrows in the blazing fire.

BLUE EEL

Be clear master! We must display no mercy on the wicked men. Shredding their flesh and snapping their bones, devouring their organs is what they deserve! Pulverize the women as well. Children will not escape our wrath!

GRUEL

I struggle with humanity, being one!

A horrible scream chews into the hearts of the fearful. An ice spear ruptures the brain from a man's skull. Clouds of gunpowder stain the white church. Weapon flashes ignite positions, providing the Gruel with precise targets.

Blizzard winds, ice spears, spiked snowballs, monstrous ants, black wasps, encroach the courtyard. Limbs and organs litter the church yard. Men are whipped about from eye sockets by powerful mandibles, as wasps sting the brains of corroding skulls.

Snapping a man's neck, he pilfers his shadow and whips it at a woman, pummeling her. The man's shadow tears out the woman's shadow, shamelessly raping it. Ants pull out tongues and wasps enter the throats of gagging men.

A crowd struggles to separate the embraced shadows as the male shadow extracts a multi-point spear from a metal rack, thrusting it deep into the voluptuous chest of the female shadow ... then lifting her high, as men fire upon the shadows, liquefying them.

Scalding arrows land inside the Gruel pitching him about. The eel catapults its scales sending wiggling bodies into seizures upon the hard ground.

The vicious battle moves into the crowded church.

Cont'd

Ants and wasps penetrate the chaotic church prolonging vicious combat. The agonizing weeping and screeching of living beings, echo the long halls.

Parts of the Gruel's ghostly body shatter as his large frame absorbs the onslaught of radiating impacts. Projecting a circular ice wall the Gruel abducts a ravishing woman and flees the congested church.

UNDERTAKER COBB

Gather up the dead! Cast them into the furnaces immediately. There cannot be a hint of disease!

JETHRO DOGGETT

You love to burn things, hey, Cobb?

UNDERTAKER COBB

Jethro, maybe I'll burn you next!

The dead are dragged to the ovens.

CUT TO:

EXT. THE SAME NIGHT - FOREST

The Gruel snickers at the woman.

GRUEL

Silence, and I shall spare your life.
Where is Judith?

The woman gazes at the eel and Gruel.

WOMAN

There are numerous named Judith. I have yet to see all in the church. Return me to the church and I shall look for her!

The Blue Eel slithers to the Gruel's ear.

BLUE EEL

No master, men will be waiting. They will try to destroy us! Strip her of all dignity and self-worth. Punish her fragile figure, master!

The Gruel contemplates the eel's sinister suggestion.

Cont'd

WOMAN

Why do you listen to this slimy
serpent? Have you no sense of your
own? Are you a man?

The Gruel rips part of her ear.

WOMAN (cont'd)

No, no! Return me to the church! I
will help you! I will help you, I
plead with you! I will satisfy you!

The eel bites her on the lips.

BLUE EEL

Kill the bitch, now, Please! I want
to eat her lying eyes!

Shredding her clothes the Gruel secures a long lariat to her
neck and levitates her to a frozen tree branch. Gasping for
breath, unable to speak, the woman plummets from the
decaying green branch, jolting about. Swaying in the raw air
her eyes are slowly chewed by the giggling eel.

The Gruel has her shadow pinned down on its chest, while he
invades her defiant silhouette upon snowy grounds.

WOMAN'S SHADOW

Let me go, let me go! That hurts me,
that hurts me, take it out now!

The Gruel pours a shiny liquid on the shadow, setting her
ablaze ... the eel and Gruel marvel at her suffering!

BLUE EEL

I love this form of play, master!

The Gruel smiles at the eel.

GRUEL

You have suffered a lot. This is
surely what she deserves.

They both leave the area and head deep into the forest.

WOMAN'S SHADOW

Why did you burn me? I wanted to
live! You killed my body, and now me!
Fucken bastards! Death to you both!

CUT TO:

EXT. NIGHT - THREE NIGHTS LATER - CHURCH YARD

Concentrating near the fortified church, suspense inundates every weary soul.

UNDERTAKER COBB

The woman hijacked from us is all but dead, I'm certain. Gather all you can carry. Every body, any weapon, food, water, clothing, blankets, everything we must have.

Three days elapse without conflict. Inside the church everyone is moving about, and deeply concerned.

JUDITH

I am a damn prisoner within this church! Release me now, father, I command you! This creature will bring no harm to me. Release me now!

ABNER DYER

Damn it, Judith, you will cease with your selfish complaints. You have lost your mother and your sisters. I need your cooperation!

Judith stands in frustration staring at Abner.

The crowded church waits for the next words.

JUDITH

And should you fail in killing this creature, should he return time and time again. How many years am I to be fastened beneath this aging sanctuary, suffocating under the stench of rotting bird nests and intimidated by creeping insects which never rest?

Abner's frustrations erupt. Dropping his weapons, he takes control of Judith, bending her over he publicly disciplines her before allowing her to fall to the floor disgraced.

JUDITH (cont'd)

You bastard! How dare you scold me so! I will scratch out your damn eyes, should you abuse me again!

The crowd reacts to Judith's reaction.

CUT TO:

INT. DAY - ANNE PRATT'S HOME - FLASH-FORWARD 1895

Anne sips her tea, pondering.

ANNE PRATT

My willingness to perfect this procedure is daunting. Isaac is being lured into a snare ... by his own mother! If only I could perish, and my son be cured. This is not justice, only unspeakable torment!

A flushed William stumbles at Anne's home. A rattling door frame and demanding voice alarms her! She is aware of his condition.

WILLIAM TOWER

Open this door you worthless bitch! Again I am short income because of your insolence! When I find you, Anne ... I'm going to avenge my lost wages, upon your body!

A tirade of searching leaves William empty-handed. Vomiting, he washes his mouth and staggers outside. Soon, Anne appears from within the walls. She meticulously observes William's horse in the floral garden. Anne is lashed upon the kitchen floor, her head knocking over a wicker chair.

WILLIAM TOWER (cont'd)

Wherever you were, Anne, that was a good hiding place.

William pulls at her lips. Lugging her into the bedroom he throws her on the bed, then sits on her chest, locking onto a mass of her flowing hair, then tying her to the bed.

WILLIAM TOWER (cont'd)

Please me, bitch! Or I'll bash your pretty head against this headboard!

Anne surrenders to his brutal demands.

WILLIAM TOWER (cont'd)

Do it right, Bitch! Unless you want your stomach filled with gasoline!

William gets up and slams her on her chest.

ANNE PRATT

That hurts! No, why there!

Anne fights to turn over on her back.

Cont'd

Securing Anne to the bed, William removes an iron plate and hot water from the stove. A sinister caress prepares Anne for more punishment.

William slowly saturates Anne while peering into her eyes, pressing the hot plate onto her many unforgiving times! Anne passes out from the torture. William writes a note. Untying her, he leaves the house after eating a sandwich.

Later Anne recovers slowly, finding a note lying on her scalded body. "It's my money you bitch! Be out in three days, or I really get mad!" Anne holds her head tightly.

ANNE PRATT (cont'd)

How will I survive to bring Isaac to me? These beatings slowly exhaust my will! All I want is my precious son, my only family who is left.

After struggling to urinate and move her bowels, Anne rests on the bed, applying oils and creams.

ANNE PRATT (cont'd)

Dear Lord, please give me the strength I need to overcome these obstacles, so I may return my only remaining child, back from the void, and to his beloved mother, and end this curse. I love my child! Amen.

Anne falls to the floor on her side.

BEING

Anne! Anne!

The house rumbles. Anne awakes to see the specter.

ANNE PRATT

You have returned. Have you seen the punishment my body endures?

BEING

In my realm there is no need for sex. Nor is there violence or death. Concentrate on Isaac. You only have one opportunity.

The being disappears as Anne cries herself to sleep.

CUT TO:

EXT. DAY - CHURCH YARD - FLASH-BACKWARD 1845

An impregnable fortress surrounds the church courtyard. The uncontrollable elements and persistent soaring emotions take a punishing toll on the burdened men. A woman's scream ignites concern. A spiked snowball has infiltrated the swarming church yard and dislodged half of her skull.

A contentious battle ensues for hours between man and beasts. The final eel is hit by a flaming arrow. The Gruel flees into the forest. A ferocious and powerful roar shakes the ground knocking over trees and men.

COBB

Let us cremate our fallen friends.
The creature will return, but next
time he will be alone. We die without
a fight, we die with a fight!

One week passes without incident.

CALEB BEECHER

Is it possible we destroyed the
creature in the last battle?

COBB

Unlikely, but possible. We have been
here before. I sense the beast will
return to unleash its rage.

A neighbor approaches Caleb.

NICHOLAS

Caleb, I am a virgin. I have never
known a woman. I should not have to
shamefully die as a man, without
first loving a woman beneath my manly
prowess. It would be quite
embarrassing, I should say.

Caleb listens with a sympathetic ear.

CALEB BEECHER

There is Lucy. I offer you my last
coins. Go, and inform her I sent you
for relations. Return when you
exhaust her ... just don't tire,
yourself. You need to fight!

Nicholas is humbled. He is slow to take the money from Caleb. He looks around to see if anyone is watching. He blocks the view of others with his body.

Cont'd

NICHOLAS

Hh-how can I ever thank you, Caleb?

CALEB BEECHER

Return with the zeal of an angel who battles for unworthy men. Seek her now, before I decide to enjoy Lucy's tender womb!

Nicholas exits with the excitement of a child.

REVEREND WOOLRICH

Spiritual powers do exist within the universe. This must be the explanation we encounter! Pray now, ask for forgiveness of sins!

A large prayer group forms.

COBB

Please listen. Brace yourselves for the wickedest of storms. I am convinced we have not endured the last of this beast. He thirsts for women and is capable of murder without regret. Make your peace with your creator here in the courtyard ... while time permits!

ABNER DYER

I desire the beast attack me so he and I can battle for all eternity without rest. Gauging my focus and emotions solely on him, and releasing my mind from this daily torment of a grieving parent.

Cobb tips his hat towards Abner.

REVEREND WOOLRICH

Powerful words, Abner. No parent would refuse your request. Shall we hold a service inside now as well?

All agree! A number of days pass. Much discussion around town fills the busy streets. The skies have been an odd purple and green. The town folk are scared this is a bad sign. Others find comfort in corn mash.

INT. DAY - CHURCH

Intruding the church unnoticed the Gruel infiltrates the service camouflaging easily into the pale cobblestone fireplace. A worn plank in the middle of the floor rises as a woman crawls into the sanctuary. The Gruel stares with a piercing appetite.

ABNER DYER

Place more wood on the fire, the temperature is dropping!

A man stacks five thick logs on the fire.

JUDITH

Father, must I be a bond servant?

ABNER DYER

Judith, must we revisit this unpleasant discussion? Your mother and sisters are dead because of this insidious creature. I refuse him the opportunity to destroy you as well!

Neighbors stand and listen.

JUDITH

I shall sacrifice myself to the beast, therefore ensuring you can kill it, and be free!

Dragging Judith by the hair, Abner opens the latch door.

JUDITH (cont'd)

I am a prisoner to both the creature and my father! I declare I do not know which is worse!

Abner pushes her into the hole.

ABNER DYER

Better you be a prisoner to life, than to death!

JUDITH

Isn't it my life to choose, Father? Haven't we traveled the seas to be free? In what manner is this freedom?

Abner begins closing the door on her. She fights to keep it opened and tries to climb back out. All the while the Gruel stands close by and observes them all.

Cont'd

ABNER DYER

The creature seeks its mother,
Judith. It thrives on females. After
it learns of a woman not being its
mother ... it kills the woman by a form
of rape so deeply sinister, the women
cannot be identified.
So no, it's not your life or body to
sacrifice so foolishly!

The men all laugh at Judith.

JUDITH

You men would all submerge your
manhood deep into me if I invited
you! Don't play innocent! You would
leave your wives to relish my flesh!

Judith disappears beneath the floor.

UNDERTAKER COBB

She is under great stress now.

The Gruel vanishes without conflict.

CUT TO:

INT. DAY - ANNE PRATT'S HOME - FLASH-FORWARD 1895

Anne paces the room while speaking aloud.

ANNE PRATT

I must deliver Isaac to myself,
regardless of outcome. I am unable to
earn now. This enslaving duty has not
been my choice, please forgive me?
Those repulsive creatures cheated my
son of his boyhood life, now I his
mother must deprive him of life!

She sips from a wine bottle.

ANNE PRATT (cont'd)

A moment's gentle embrace, a tender
press of my lips against his cheek
will comfort me for all eternity!
I will meet him again.

CUT TO:

EXT. NIGHT - FOREST/CHURCH - FLASH-BACKWARD 1845

The Gruel digs up graves of early settlers and piles the corpses on a huge fire, burning them all.

GRUEL

How well I know these vast and secluded forests. Memory does not deny my actions here. The heavens have witnessed my abominations, and I am guilty before them.

GRUEL (cont'd)

The voices of each woman who never knew childbearing infest these woodlands and haunt my ears. Each pathway I am accompanied by their spiritual existence, screaming and scratching at me with hatred, weeping over their stolen lives.

GRUEL (cont'd)

This curse I both fight to fuel, and struggle to extinguish. With every violation I commit upon helpless women, I deprive them of their most sacred attribute as a woman.

GRUEL (cont'd)

Rest, I have never known you.
Peace, you too are a stranger to me.
Misery, I call you by first name.
Death, you are my shadow.

The creatures of the earth surround the Gruel. The moonlight dims on him, as he launches hair spears into the skies as they disintegrate in space and fall to the earth as black worms, landing upon every home, street and person.

UNDERTAKER COBB

What is this new horror we face with biting worms covering our people and causing aching boils to appear?

ABNER DYER

The beast is the cause of this I am sure. But how do we stop it?

The two men watch as worms fall from the skies. They stand under doorways in order to not be afflicted. They helplessly watch as people cry out and suffer in pain.

CUT TO:

INT. NIGHT -THE SAME NIGHT - CHURCH SANCTUARY

The church is packed with people hurting and scared.

UNDERTAKER COBB

Never before have I slept in fear and
lived in uncertainty. I must be
honest, gentleman, I do not wish to
perish to this beast, and his wicked
ways of haunting and punishing us.

The tall church doors explode open as bone-chilling winds
and glowing ants intrude. Ice spears split clothes apart and
spray others with blood. Men instinctively charge the Gruel
with knives, steaming embers and salts, gunshots ignite
within the heavily guarded church.

JUDITH

Here, I am Isaac. Rescue me, my love!

The sudden scent of betrayal squeezes Abner's heart as he
and many others stand in shock to Judith's words. The
massive Gruel and Judith lock in the center of the chaotic
room, secure by ice walls.

ABNER DYER

Hold your fire! Don't shoot my
daughter, my only remaining daughter!

UNDERTAKER COBB

Fire on the beast now!

Within the safety of the ice walls, Judith reveals her
beauty for the creature to admire.

JUDITH

Relish in my youth, Isaac!

Abner tries to break the ice walls with a hammer.

ABNER DYER

Judith, have you gone mad? This is
not a mere man. He will kill you!

The Gruel whisks away Judith from the gruesome scene
unfolding in the panicked sanctuary. Weary man scramble
after them into the courtyard.

ABNER DYER (cont'd)

Don't shoot, you fools! You will kill
my daughter!

Pandemonium ensues.

Cont'd

Every weapon the Gruel has is exercised in defending him and his beloved Judith. Within the ice wall the Gruel fastens his large cloak around Judith's hourglass figure, bending her over, staring into Abner's sinking eyes.

ABNER DYER (cont'd)
 You bastard! I will castrate you! I
 will cut you with no mercy. I will
 dig out your eyes and burn your
 heart! I will beat you even after a
 thousand deaths!

Judith clutches the Gruel's strong arms, guiding his thrusts, while smirking at Abner's defeated expressions.

UNDERTAKER COBB
 I think something is dreadfully wrong
 here, Abner!

The strenuous efforts of men begin deteriorating the thick clear ice walls.

ABNER DYER
 I will not permit her to die your
 way! I, her father, shall relinquish
 her life to eternity!

The creature leaks bluish fluids as he is seriously wounded. Judith's eyes reflect the roaring seas while her sighs of pleasure chew upon her father's heart. The burning sting of an ant surrenders Caleb to the insect's powerful and crippling venom.

UNDERTAKER COBB
 Caleb, hang on!

Crawling out from Caleb's head are tiny devouring ants!

UNDERTAKER COBB (cont'd)
 We cannot help him now!

JETHRO DOGGETT
 Good God, man! He is our friend, Mr.
 Cobb. We cannot desert him!

UNDERTAKER COBB
 Look at our friend, Jethro? Do you
 recognize him? No! He's dead!

Multi-colored rays of light flow from eerie clouds smothering the men.

Cont'd

ABNER DYER

Don't kill my daughter! Save her now!
She must not be sentenced to a
gruesome eternity with this lustful
beast.

ABNER DYER (cont'd)

Judith, sweetheart, don't leave me!
Please, I have lost everyone! There
is no promise with this demon from
hell! I am all alone! I love you!

The menacing ants shoot into space and liquefy! The clear
skies roar, splitting the moon in two! A woman's voice
speaks from the opening clouds hovering in the courtyard,
dumbfounding the overwhelmed men.

ANNE PRATT

Isaac, Isaac, Isaac!

A beautiful woman appears within the mysterious clouds. Long
white hair drapes her narrow shoulders as her gaze consumes
the Gruel.

ANNE PRATT (cont'd)

Isaac, Isaac, Isaac, I am your
mother. Look at me, my son!

The Gruel firmly grasps Judith while confusingly staring at
the portal and the Woman within.

ANNE PRATT (cont'd)

I am your mother, Isaac! My name is
Anne Pratt. Our family was
slaughtered by creatures who looked
like you! Come to me, my son, and I
will heal you of your burdens.

JUDITH

No, Issac, I am your mother! This
woman is a witch and means to harm
you, my love!

ABNER DYER

Judith, you are my daughter! You are
not the mother of this hideous
monster! It can have no mother. Such
a repulsive appearance cannot exist
from a human birth.

All conflict has stopped.

Cont'd

The Gruel's condemnation turns to Judith's guilty face with an indicting stare!

ANNE PRATT

Isaac, your youngest sister was the last to be killed by the creatures in our home.

GRUEL

You betrayed me! You begged me to slay your own mother to save your selfish miserable life! It seems you have befallen a curse far more evil than mine.

ANNE PRATT

Leave them behind, Isaac! Enter into the portal now so I may help cure you from your curse.

ABNER DYER

No, Anne, your son has brought about many deaths in this town. I lost my wife and two daughters to your evil son. He must be destroyed by our hands. He is not worthy of a cure!

The Gruel forcefully separates from Judith.

ANNE PRATT

My son shall be cured! I do not care about your losses!

Abner shoots at Anne in the portal, but there is no harm to her. He tries a few more times. Anne reaches through the brightening portal to touch Isaac.

GRUEL

The blood of your mother rests upon your hands. You are far more sinister than I. My seed in you shall die!

Judith stands condemned in her silence. The Gruel roars mightily! Reaching for his hair he lodges a serrated spear at Judith, riveting into her rib cage, forcing her backwards into an old leaning tree.

Abner runs to help Judith. He is crying badly as others try to help him. The Gruel is moving into the portal. Shots are fired but miss him. He is quickly disappearing.

Cont'd

ABNER DYER

No, not my only family!

Trying to dislodge Judith from the tree, Abner anxiously turns and begins firing at the Gruel! Ice walls secure a path to his true mother! Anne's arm begins smoldering.

ANNE PRATT

Come now, Isaac, enter into the portal, we haven't much time!

Before being consumed by the portal, the Gruel looks back on the shattered lives he abandoned, throwing a dark object at Judith's deceased body, it cracks upon the wintry ground, bursting into insects stinging her flesh.

Abner tries with others to brush off the insects. Frantic gunshots aimed at the portal are in vain, as Isaac has entered and the portal begins closing.

ABNER DYER

Anne! Your son is a murderer and he deserves no cure and only death!

Abner fires his rifle many times right into the portal but does not hurt them.

ANNE PRATT

I do not care about your losses. I only want to save my son.

Collapsing upon his dead daughter, Abner faints.

REVEREND WOOLRICH

Cover them with blankets, Then we will separate Abner from Judith, later! Allow him some time with the last of his family, even if he is unconscious.

The portal closes completely and vanishes into the colorful and stormy clouds.

JETHRO DOGGETT

But Judith is dead, Reverend!

UNDERTAKER COBB

We can see that, Jethro! Grant them peace for now.

Jethro appears to be very puzzled.

Cont'd

JETHRO DOGGETT

How is there peace when a living man
rests on his dead daughter?

UNDERTAKER COBB

Just do as we request, please Jethro!
Come along, we have bodies to
cremate! I need your help!

Jethro throws up his arms and stares at Abner and Judith.

JETHRO DOGGETT

What of Judith's remains?

UNDERTAKER COBB

Damn you, Jethro! Anymore quarrels
from you, and Judith will be laying
in your bed tonight! Now I need some
damn help, please!

Cobb begins to load bodies onto a cart. The wagon wobbles
with its foul freight as Jethro secures a rag on his face,
bending over a few times before reaching the blazing
furnaces.

UNDERTAKER COBB (cont'd)

Not use to this kind of work, eh,
Jethro? At least I'm not bringing you
here this time, Jethro.

The decaying bodies are laced with liquids and heaved into
the consuming furnaces, stacked upon one another naked.

UNDERTAKER COBB (cont'd)

Throw everything in, even the money,
weapons, all of it, now!

Jethro shovels the belongings into the fire.

UNDERTAKER COBB (cont'd)

Nice of you to obey so easily.

Witnessing the bodies dissolve within the flames, the two
men stop to drink coffee and urinate. Large streams of blood
pour out of the furnace, forming a radiating human figure
before them.

UNDERTAKER COBB (cont'd)

Jethro, look! Get the hell out of
here, now!

Cont'd

The plasma figure attacks both men! Cobb is thrown to one side and the bloody frame pours itself into Jethro's mouth, causing convulsions and fits of hallucinations! Jethro attacks Cobb, trying to kill him. The Reverend arrives and subdues Jethro. Cobb hits Jethro then tosses him into the furnaces and burns him alive, against the opposition of the shaking and confused Reverend.

REVEREND WOOLRICH

What in God's name have you done, Mr. Cobb? You just murdered our friend!

UNDERTAKER COBB

You saw Jethro battling me, Reverend! As we burned the bodies, blood poured out and formed a woman's figure. She tried killing us! She then melted into Jethro's mouth and he proceeded to slaughter me! Thank You for helping me! And if you ever again accuse me of murder, Reverend ... it will be your own!

REVEREND WOOLRICH

I thought I saw three people in a skirmish, that is why I hurried to investigate. Must you be so aggressive, sir?

UNDERTAKER COBB

This creature is best out of our realm and with its mother! I only hope wherever it is, by some means it will be destroyed! And yes, Reverend, I must be aggressive!

The anxious Reverend shovels more coals into the fire as Cobb speaks, even throwing large logs into the blaze frantically.

REVEREND WOOLRICH

I do not want another female exiting the furnace attacking, me!

A comforting pat assures the Reverend, Cobb understands.

UNDERTAKER COBB

Now, Reverend, I think you would have had a difficult time finding a willing husband for that breed of woman, eh?

Cont'd

Cobb pours coffee for the two as they look around.

REVEREND WOOLRICH

You are not to troubled by anything,
are you Mr. Cobb? You pour us coffee,
and peer the landscape as though
nothing has happened. A dead
conscience exists within you!

Cobb extends an unflattering gaze upon the nervous Reverend.
Cobb spits some coffee out at the Reverend!

UNDERTAKER COBB

Anyone having severe contact with the
creatures, eels, or its fluids, we
must not hasten to burn up
immediately ... what do you say?

REVEREND WOOLRICH

There is the young Washington girl.
She is only nine years of age. Though
she came into contact with the
creature, and was cut, I am told. We
need to learn more about this. But we
cannot burn a helpless child!

Cobb looks into his coffee.

UNDERTAKER COBB

I would burn my own mother if it
meant I get to live a long life!

REVEREND WOOLRICH

Mr. Cobb, have we been frightened so
deeply we now seek to murder our own
children of this community?

UNDERTAKER COBB

Not murder, Reverend ... Defense! If
she is truly living with the
creatures fluids in her body ... she
must be incinerated! Soon.

The Reverend places his coffee on an old rotting tree stump.

UNDERTAKER COBB (cont'd)

Don't be so filled with gloom,
Reverend ... it's us, or her. We cannot
risk unthinkable horrors which stem
from her contact with the beast. We
will determine a way to meet her.

Cont'd

The Reverend paces back and forth.

UNDERTAKER COBB (cont'd)
We mustn't repeat our plans,
Reverend!

The Reverend reluctantly nods his head.

CUT TO:

EXT. NIGHT - THE NEXT NIGHT - STREET

The Reverend meets Mrs. Washington and her daughter.

REVEREND WOOLRICH
Good evening, ma'am! Whom do we have
here? Such a pretty girl!

Mrs. Washington looks down at her daughter.

MRS WASHINGTON
Good evening, Reverend. This is my
daughter, Agatha! Is it true,
Reverend ... has the creature left us
now, never to return?

A slight pause in his response.

REVEREND WOOLRICH
We dearly hope so, child! Come, let
me take little Agatha for a party
where others are. Would you like
that, Agatha?

Agatha looks at her mom with a smile.

MRS WASHINGTON
Very well, Reverend! Will you return
her home or shall we come for Agatha?

REVEREND WOOLRICH
Agatha will be escorted home safely,
Mrs. Washington! No need to worry.

Inside Cobb's office.

REVEREND WOOLRICH (cont'd)
Now Mr. Cobb, how do you propose to
examine this darling child and remain
decent gentleman?

Cont'd

Cobb scratches his head and quickly turns to the Reverend.

UNDERTAKER COBB
We simply ask her questions while
feeding her treats!

The men sit Agatha at the table and place a host of sweets
before her to enjoy.

UNDERTAKER COBB (cont'd)
Now, Agatha, tell us about your
encounter with the creature. Here are
delicious chocolates and
strawberries, wild berries and honey!

AGATHA
I like milk and honey too!

Cobb walks to the cold milk.

UNDERTAKER COBB
And you shall have some, my dear!

Agatha takes a few sips of the honey and milk.

AGATHA
The creature was in my house and my
daddy fought it. I was cut a few
times and these blisters formed.

The two men examine the blisters and look at one another.

REVEREND WOOLRICH
Did the creature make you bleed,
Agatha?

She thinks while chewing berries and pie.

AGATHA
Yes, sir! But now I bleed a bluish
fluid, and become cold easily.

The two men stare more deeply into one another.

UNDERTAKER COBB
Okay, dear ... here is more chocolate,
it's very tasty, right?

AGATHA
Yes, sir! Thank You!

Cont'd

Cobb pats her on the head with a sinister smile.

UNDERTAKER COBB
Okay, let's go to the party now. Then
a nice lady will walk you home.

Agatha kneels to respect the gentlemen. After bringing
Agatha to the party the two men return to Cobb's office
close by, and discuss a plan to capture the girl.

UNDERTAKER COBB (cont'd)
Earlier, little Agatha revealed to us
her misfortunes, that will one day be
our troubles.

The Reverend pours himself more coffee.

REVEREND WOOLRICH
Yes, most heartbreaking! What if we
end up wrong, Mr. Cobb?

Cobb rubs his face a few times.

UNDERTAKER COBB
Then I shall depend on your prayers!

CUT TO:

INT. LATER THAT NIGHT - AGATHA'S HOME

The two men leave the home with Agatha sleeping in the
Reverend's arms. They hurriedly make their way back in front
of the furnaces.

UNDERTAKER COBB
Throw her in the fucken furnace, now!

The Reverend shakes his head in disobedience.

UNDERTAKER COBB (cont'd)
Burn the little bitch, now!

Cobb quietly opens the large iron doors with mild squeaking.
Standing back from the intense heat, he looks at the
Reverend and then inside the oven.

REVEREND WOOLRICH
Why me? You do it!

Cobb picks up a branding iron from the stove.

Cont'd

Cobb brings the iron close to the Reverend. He grits his teeth and presses the iron to the Reverend's hand, searing his knuckles. The Reverend continues to hold Agatha.

UNDERTAKER COBB

Do it now, Reverend! Or I will shout to the sleeping you have violated this child by abduction, and the townspeople will hang you!

REVEREND WOOLRICH

You are a diabolical man, sir! The likes of which I shall never relate a gentle good morning to again.

Cobb holds the iron to his eyes. The Reverend steps back.

UNDERTAKER COBB

You bastard, Reverend! Kill the girl now ... Or I kill you both! My life is worth protecting. I am not going to die because a cursed girl has privileges to life, or a self righteous man thinks I should sacrifice my life for a child!

The undertaker prods the sympathetic Reverend with the iron. Weeping, he tires from carrying slumbering Agatha. The abused Reverend throws Agatha into the roaring blaze, slamming the doors secure. They agonize over nightmarish pleas for help which brand their souls with guilt.

UNDERTAKER COBB (cont'd)

Now, we had to do this Reverend. We helped mankind!

Cobb wipes his eyes.

REVEREND WOOLRICH

The Washington family will report Agatha missing.

UNDERTAKER COBB

Reverend, if they become a problem ... We burn them too. This was survival Reverend ... not murder! Now let's return to the church and see how Abner is. Are you willing to die for a monster's curse, Reverend? I'm not!

The Reverend tries to rationalize his guilt.

Cont'd

REVEREND WOOLRICH
 Agatha was a child, a beautiful girl
 child. She had a life.

UNDERTAKER COBB
 A life that would have taken ours!
 Stop being lady-like!

The two men make their way back to church. Cobb finds a pot
 of coffee at a local shop. So he pours himself a coffee,
 cuts a slice of apple pie, and moves on.

REVEREND WOOLRICH
 Sir, you are a deplorable man!

UNDERTAKER COBB
 Why thank you, Reverend. And I am a
 living man because of it!

CUT TO:

INT. DAY - MORNING - CHURCH

The two men arrive at the church. Cobb is eating a sandwich
 and greeting everyone.

UNDERTAKER COBB
 Hello, Abner, my friend!

Abner is wrapped in a blanket.

ABNER DYER
 Where is my Judith?

Cobb stares at the Reverend.

UNDERTAKER COBB
 I don't know. The Reverend and I were
 not here for a day!

ABNER DYER
 Reverend, please pray for me!

Cobb turns to the Reverend.

UNDERTAKER COBB
 Well, Reverend, our friend seeks
 prayer, what are you waiting for?

The Reverend struggles for a reply.

Cont'd

REVEREND WOOLRICH
Of course I will! Yes, I'm doing so
in silence.

CUT TO:

INT. DAY - ANNE PRATT'S HOME - YEAR 1895

Standing before Anne, Isaac's monstrous frame eclipses her petite figure. Emotions consume one another. Gently raising her thin arms, she nervously stretches towards Isaac. Anne begins freezing while embracing her son. Isaac separates from her, causing her to thaw.

GRUEL
I cannot simply hug my mother!

Anne tries to wrap a blanket around him so she can embrace him, but she fails.

ANNE PRATT
I don't care if I freeze, Isaac ... We
are united! My son is before me and
dying in your arms I would relish,
rather to live forever without you!

Isaac wraps the blanket around her and hugs his mother.

GRUEL
What of the cure mother? Release us
from this damning penalty!

ANNE PRATT
Isaac, through these tormenting ages
we have never known death, though its
shawl encapsulates our deeply bruised
souls.

Isaac caresses her hair as the strands turn to ice.

ANNE PRATT (cont'd)
How my sins soil my soul! These
sufferings and mistreatments have
blistered my agonizing heart as I
awaited you, my son!

Isaac steps back a foot, peering down into her flowing eyes. He catches her tears and drops them on the floor. She looks down at the tears scurrying about.

Cont'd

ANNE PRATT (cont'd)
Everything you touch turns to ice or
snow, my son.

GRUEL
Who, mother, has mistreated you?

His powerful voice rattles the cabin.

ANNE PRATT
Men have abused and violated my body
for two hundred years, my son. All
these decades I willingly suffered in
hope of seeing you again.

Rage engulfs him.

ANNE PRATT (cont'd)
It's all over now, son!

A pounding at the front door startles them.

WILLIAM TOWER
Open up, you whore! You owe me money,
you owe me money! You will pay with
your shabby life this time you bitch!
This time I will beat you to death! I
will gouge out your eyes, I will rip
out your tongue! You Owe me, Bitch! I
want my frigging money!

Isaac levitates towards the door.

WILLIAM TOWER (cont'd)
Open the door, whore! You owe me!

Anne courageously dashes towards the shaking door and
screams ...

ANNE PRATT
NO, WILLIAM ... YOU OWE ME!

Anne turns quickly to Isaac.

ANNE PRATT (cont'd)
Isaac: Men are here to hurt your
mommy! Men are here to rape your
mommy! Men are here to kill your
mommy!

Anne whispers while staring at the faded door.

Cont'd

ANNE PRATT (cont'd)
 You owe me, William! And I demand
 reimbursement for my battered body!

Isaac moves his mother aside. He then reaches for a finger.

ANNE PRATT (cont'd)
 They owe me, Issac!

Breaking off a fingernail, the Gruel throws it onto the floor producing monstrous ants. Securing Anne, he motions towards the door, pulling strands of hair as they shape to serrated ice spears. His long bony icicle fingers wrap the bronze doorknob soundly.

The men outside are puzzled and stare at one another as eerie, high-pitched metal voices are heard from inside the cabin. Retreating from the rustic porch, the men cautiously examine the front door.

Thunderously the door collapses outward as giant tinted ants blitz the confounded men. Ice spears ascend rapidly dismantling bodies. Wintry elements umbrella humans as dismembered heads and limbs litter the yard, and legs are ravenously eaten while retreating.

CUT TO:

EXT. DAY - CHURCH YARD - YEAR 1845

The courtyard overflows with celebrating folk. Abner arrives with a blustering wagon. He strategically removes a long object and fastens a stained chair within the powdery snow. Suspicious onlookers analyze Abner's awkward motions.

Abner systematically shrouds the chair and object beneath a menacing covering. Working rapidly beneath its security, he finally reappears. Wiping his brow with his sleeve, he gulps a beverage.

ABNER DYER
 This is the penalty cowards suffer
 for betraying their family!

Withdrawing the covering from the chair, he reveals Judith's decaying corpse. The flabbergasted crowd erupts with objection and harsh words towards Abner. Abner throws snowballs at the crowd. He points his rifle at people and they duck to avoid being shot.

Cont'd

UNDERTAKER COBB

What are you doing, man? Cover up
that girl now! Abner! Stop pointing
that rifle at Judith, she is dead!

Abner intertwines his abscessed hand deep into Judith's frazzled hair, yanking her head backwards. Reaching for his belt line he abstracts a large shimmering dagger. The mortified townspeople increase their oppositions and harsh language towards Abner, pleading with him.

UNDERTAKER COBB (cont'd)

ABNER ... YOU ARE COMPLETELY MAD!

Abner turns towards Cobb.

ABNER DYER

MR. COBB, SIR, DO YOU DESIRE TO JOIN
THIS DISGUSTING DISREPUTABLE WRETCH
OF A WITCH!

Placing the reflecting blade against Judith's neck, he painstakingly slides the blade from left to right ... severing her veins ... enjoying every salivating vindictive moment.

Abner shouts for all to hear.

ABNER DYER (cont'd)

You murdered your mother, my beloved
wife, to save yourself! You aren't
worthy of burial, or burning, not
even being fed to the creatures of
the earth! I only wish I could bring
you back and kill you myself!

Abner steps back from Judith, raising his rifle.

ABNER DYER (cont'd)

WHORE ... MURDERER, WITCH!

Nervously he discharges his weapon, extracting an eye from Judith's dangling head. He is then strenuously overtaken by three men and forced to the crimson snow.

UNDERTAKER COBB

Quickly, pour this into his mouth ...
hold his head up so he doesn't choke.
More, More! Abner remain still, this
will help you!

Abner struggles to get free.

Cont'd

JOHN BAKER

Abner, relax! We are trying to help
you, for God's sake, relax!

Abner manages to elude his captures and darts towards Judith
gripping his rifle, abusing her already desecrated exposed
remains once again.

UNDERTAKER COBB

After him! Whatever it takes!

Overpowered once more, Abner is hoisted further from Judith,
and slammed onto a square wooden table within the chaotic
courtyard. More men hold him down.

JOHN BAKER

Hold his head up now, gentlemen.
Softly, so he doesn't choke.

Another unlabeled bottle overflows a paltry chipped glass as
elixir exudes across Abner's rippling face.

REVEREND WOOLRICH

More, make him drink more! He needs
to be subdued!

A loathsome scream exhumes from Judith's body. A figure
separates from her disgraced structure. Picking up the
stained knife the apparition charges the men with a vengeful
stare and dingy teeth.

JOHN BAKER

What the hell is that thing?

The phantom drives the soiled blade into Abner and then
advances to smite yet another repulsive man and fatally
lacerates his wrinkled grimy neck.

UNDERTAKER COBB

Kill this witch!

An onslaught of gunshots and boiling embers, reduces the
anguishing silhouette to pixels upon the simmering ground,
as the earth blisters with shrilling insects banqueting on
its remnants, while inundated men shudder in terror.

REVEREND WOOLRICH

Give me that fucking bottle now!

The Reverend chugs vigorously. - THE END