## MARKED

Written by

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EXT. Forest - DAWN

A forest in Winter. The landscape is caked in thick, white snow as more falls in a flurry silently and gently.

Fire.

Boots, trudging in the snow. A sheriff's badge pinned to a fur lined coat. A man's mouth and nose, his breath heavy, and visible with every step he takes.

A lone cabin engulfed in raging flames.

A colorful beaded belt on the waist of a woman laying on the ground, accompanied by the sound of a child crying.

A man with a sheriff's badge on his heart approaches through the trees, with purpose and worry. The writhing orange glow of the blaze almost washes him and the scene around him completely, say for one shadow cascading over him. He stops, looking on with shock and terror, but not at the fire, but at what lays in between the cabin and himself.

A Native American child no older than 10. She's on the ground, holding and sobbing over a woman's corpse. The child's jet black hair is a mess, blood is everywhere, especially her mouth and hands. She's wrapped in a cloak-like fur pelt. Their clothes underneath look severely torn to shreds, but show enough flesh revealing what looks like a black, star-shaped birthmark in the center of their sternum.

The child's dark, small, curled up frame is practically in silhouette from the light emitting from roaring fire consuming the cabin just a few feet behind her. The blood around her starkly contrasts against the bright, white snow. The sound of the child's cries bleed into the sound of a train whistle.

EXT. TRAIN STATION - DAY

TEXAS. Years Later.

INT. TRAIN STATION- CONTINUOUS - DAY

A grand facility; Greek inspired architecture, the size is massive enough to house train platforms indoors. A large clock face lies directly above its main entrance. Patrons, employees, trains come and go.

A newspaper, dated June 24th, 1886, headline reads: "Wolf of the West Strikes Again! Entire West Bound Convoy Massacred." Only Daughter, Sybil Danning Survives To Tell the Tale" The Paper is tussled in the arm of a young man

DAVID(20); a pale, tall, mousy, young man with dark hair, and hazel eyes hidden behind dark rimmed spectacles. His attire appears suited for a banker or a desk job from the city. His overstuffed luggage and satchel are his only companions. He runs like mad to catch an outgoing train but to no avail. He looks up in defeat and sighs.

David reaches in pocket, pulls out a silver pocket watch. Engraved on the lid is a phrase in Hebrew. Inside holds a small photo of two women; one is middle aged in a dark dress, the other a young girl no older than 14, he closes it.

CUT TO:

David makes his way through the busy station, encumbered by his luggage. A man in a long dark duster slams into him. He falls to the ground, his stuff scatters around him. His glasses slide across the floor and bump against someone's boots.

DUSTER MAN

Watch it!

Duster man walks away. David feels for his glasses. A feminine hand beats him to it, she hands them out to him.

WOMAN'S VOICE(O.S.)

Looking for these?

David barely makes out the shape of his glasses being held out before him.

DAVID

Oh. Yes. Thank y

He puts them on. POV From the ground up: boots, dark pants, colorful beaded belt, a tan hide jacket over a toned, muscular but feminine frame. Long, jet-black hair in a loose braid, a face. Her features and clothes imply she is of Native American heritage, either 19 or 20 years old.

WOMAN

See something you like?

DAVID

W..what?

WOMAN

Can you see better now?

DAVID

Oh. Yes! Yes, much better, thank you!

As David gets up, his silver pocket watch falls out of his breast pocket and pops open on impact. He's a mess. The Woman takes notice of the bystanders looking judgmentally or smirk smugly at David's situation.

WOMAN

Here, let me help.

She squats down, straightens and hands his loose notes to him, and he packs it back into the satchel. She sees his pocket watch on the ground, takes it, looks at the pictures inside, her fingers trace the faces in the photo.

DAVID

Please give that back.

She hands it to him. She then takes notice of the occult and supernatural pictures and symbols on his books, and picks one up.

WOMAN

Interesting reading choices.

DAVID

Oh that? That's all... It's work related.

He picks up other book, puts it away.

WOMAN

What do you do exactly?

DAVTD

I'm a scientist... of sorts.

WOMAN

Why would a "scientist of sorts" be all the way out here?

DAVID

I'm trying to compile vital material for my research.

WINNONA

Research. Right. Since when are things like-

Flips open the book she's holding.

WINNONA (CONT'D)

"The Anatomy of Dragons" a legitimate field of study?

DAVID

All "legitimate" fields of science started out as something believed preposterous or impossible. The only way that ever changed were determined, brilliant minds willing to challenge and disprove what's been accepted. Or at least be daring enough to question and explore.

WOMAN

So you're a "Daring Scientist of sorts" that thinks dragons are real?

DAVID

No. I think there is far more out there than just dragons...I know, I sound crazy.

WOMAN

You're right.

DAVID

I am?

WOMAN

You do sound crazy.

DAVID

I can live with being crazy for now I suppose. Sane never made the world better anyways

He rises, holds his hand out to her, she gets up on her own.

WOMAN

So are you okay now Mr. Daring Scientist?

DAVID

Actually, I missed my train so I'm a bit stranded. Was trying to find my way to the ticket line, wherever that is-

WOMAN

It's just up the way, can't miss it.

DAVID

Thank you Miss..?

WINNONA

Winnona.

DAVID

Winnona, huh? Winnona...

WINNONA

Something wrong with my name?

DAVID

No. I just never heard that name before. It's very pretty.

WINNONA

Pretty?

DAVID

Yes.

WINNONA

You're definitely not from around here.

DAVID

It's that obvious?

WINNONA

You're way too nice, not to mention talkative.

DAVID

Is that a bad thing?

WINNONA

No. Just suspicious.

DAVID

Why?

WINNONA

Out here, you're either cruel or dead. And you aren't a corpse.

DAVID

That can't be the case for everyone out here, can it?

WINNONA

Being kind to people in these parts means one of two things, either you will get you picked clean and left for dead in less than a week. Or you got a motive.

DAVID

Then, I'll have the last laugh. I got nothing worth taking. Except knowledge, but that's priceless. And as for motive, well my only motive

WINNONA

Everyone?

DAVID

Everyone.

WINNONA

You can see how that's a stupid way to live right?

DAVTD

Is that why you don't travel with anyone else?

WINNONA

I never said I was alone.

DAVID

You didn't have to though.

WINNONA

I don't take kindly to nosey men.

DAVID

I think "healthy curiosity" is a better term for it.

WINNONA

Whatever you call it, there's nothing to be curious about. I hope whatever you're looking for out there, you are careful find it.

She turns to leave.

DAVID

Wait-, would you like to keep me company in line... I mean, if you don't have somewhere to be this very moment?

WINNONA

You want "Me" to keep "You" company?

DAVID

Yes.

WINNONA

Why?

DAVID

Is it so strange that I want to get to know you?

People look on judgmentally.

WINNONA

Aren't you or afraid I'll "scalp" you or something?

DAVID

Well, even if you were, it'd be stupid to try in a place like this, and you don't look stupid.

She laughs

DAVID (CONT'D)

What's so funny?

WINNONA

You sure are a strange one.

DAVID

Is that bad?

WINNONA

Not sure. But I don't hate it.

DAVID

So, is that a "yes"?

WINNONA

I don't even know you.

He puts out his hand for her to hand shake.

DAVID

Hello Miss Winnona, I'm David Kessler. It's lovely to know you.

She is incredulous, then cautiously reaches to shake, but freezes. Everything slows down.

Black hats, crooked smiles, rough, weathered hands reveal a guns in holsters beneath clothing.

In a matter of seconds Winnona sweeps David up like a damsel and speeds inhumanly fast to the shadows of a corridor. She drops him like a sack of potatoes behind a stray luggage cart and some crates. Time reverts back to normal-BANG BANG. People scream. BANG-BANG.

A heist has begun. A group of men, made of about 15 are led by the man in the duster that pushed David, his name, LELAND BLACKWATER(30s). He's A man, with a gun in hand and a face that's seen and caused a lot of violence. Some men shoot in the air to corral people that flee for the exits.

An older man in a white cowboy hat(40s-50s), tries to escape but it's too late to escape now. Employees hiding at their stations or anyone left on idle trains at gun point. Hostages panic as the men circle in around them like cattle in the heart of the station. The hostages make panicked noises.

A man's hand grips his holstered gun. A scoundrel's smile beneath the shadow of a old dark leather hat. A loud male voice howls loudly enough to gather everyone's attention.

DUSTER MAN

I would appreciate it if everyone would kindly shut the hell up.

The hostages stifle themselves. He puts his gun away.

DUSTER MAN (CONT'D)

That's better. Now, I hate to be so brash folks but, to be fair; talkin' over a man with somethin' to say just shows a plain lack of etiquette.

(to his men)

Boys.

Men move out, all armed, cocked and ready to fire at the first person who tries something stupid.

DUSTER MAN (O.S.) (CONT'D) The law ain't commin! My boys have blocked all the exits to anyone who'd even try to think of running off to end the party early.

CLETUS (O.S.)

This here's Leland Blackwater!
Ya'll might know him better as the "Wolf of The West."

Winnona sneers at the revelation as David's eyes widen. Hostages murmur, then go quiet.

CLETUS (O.S.) (CONT'D) So ya'll better play nice or end up like everyone else who's crossed'em.

A large man stands guard at the main entrance, as nine other men watch the perimeter. Five others stand scattered amongst the hostages.

LELAND BLACKWATER

Now, you all are gonna take any money or valuables on your person and toss'em to the floor. Then, my men will appropriate'em from ya. Now, if anyone here's decidin' to get greedy. Or wanst to play "hero," well, my men ain't afraid to fill you fulla lead or hell, there's worse things than getting shot folks.

A henchman takes his post around the perimeter. As he moves toward the mouth of corridor where they are hiding. Winnona's nose and ears twitch. She holds David tight in their hiding place, her hand over his mouth. The henchman walks into view at the entrance and seems he's about to investigate further.

BANG. A woman screams.

The henchman leaves, the pair sneak as close as they can to the edge of the shadows to see what's happening.

Someone's shot an old man, who dies in his WIFE's arms. She is pried off him and crawls back in the crowd of hostages. The man in the white hat looks on with hard eyes and gritted teeth as two men drag the body away, then loot his wedding ring as other men collect more valuables from the crowd. The Hostages on the floor look away or look on in horror.

Leland sees a YOUNG MOTHER and son. He approaches, she keeps her head low, holding her son tight.

LELAND BLACKWATER (CONT'D) Well, what's a pretty thing like you doing here?

He draws closer, Her eyes on the floor full of fear.

David looks on and is unnerved at him approaching the young mother.

LELAND BLACKWATER (CONT'D)

Hey now missy, it's proper manners to answer a question. What, you raised in a barn or somethin'?

Leland's face comes close to her's, shakes his head in mock disappointment.

LELAND BLACKWATER (CONT'D)

I guess yer just a sow then.

His men laugh and hoot, egging Leland on. He takes out gun.

LELAND BLACKWATER (CONT'D)

Now, this here must be yer piglet.

Presses gun against the boy's head.

David sees where this is going and he shoots up silently. Makes his way to the mouth of the corridor. Winnona tries to grab hold but misses him, she is visibly pissed.

LELAND BLACKWATER (CONT'D)

Don't have much use for those I'm afraid.

YOUNG MOTHER

PLEASE, NO!

LELAND BLACKWATER

Too late to start using manners now darlin'.

Leland's finger is about to squeeze trigger.

DAVID (O.S.)

EXCUSE ME!

Everyone stops and looks at David who approaches them, his hands in the air. Everything has gone uncomfortably quiet.

DAVID (CONT'D)

Please that's not needed gentlemen, I'm unarmed! Here-

David takes out his silver pocket watch from his satchel and drops it to the ground. He uses his foot to push and slide it to Leland.

DAVID (CONT'D)

A gift of good will for you. It's pure silver too. See for yourself!

Leland holsters pistol, pushes the kid off, the two rejoin the hostages as Leland picks up the watch. He bites down on the outside, looks impressed and tucks it away in his pocket. Leland gestures his men to stand down, they obey.

LELAND BLACKWATER

Ok stranger, you got my attention. Who're you?

DAVID

Ah, yes, well...You're the "Wolf of The West" correct?

Silence.

DAVID (CONT'D)

Of course it is.. Uh, my name is DAVID and-

LELAND BLACKWATER

"Kessler" eh? You one of them "HE-brews?"

DAVID

Is that a problem?

LELAND BLACKWATER

Being a Jew is the least of your problems right now kid.

DAVID

I assure you sir, I am here to offer you a vital and lucrative service!

LELAND BLACKWATER

Are you now?

Winnona stealthily creeps around the station perimeter.

DAVID (O.S.)

May I ask, how do you keep track of all your "earnings"?

She approaches a henchman from behind who's attention is on David. David keeps Leland and his men's attention on him.

LELAND BLACKWATER

What kind'a question is that?

DAVID

Surely a "legend" like you has much of his attention taken from being a leader.

(MORE)

DAVID (CONT'D)

But How can you keep track of all that and your total income? Keep the numbers straight?

Henchman 1 lies on the floor, unclear if dead or unconscious

DAVID (O.S.) (CONT'D)

Do you have an accountant sir? Or an appraiser for things like fine clothes, horses or even pocket watches?

LELAND BLACKWATER (O.S.)

No. Never needed one before. Why start now?

Winnona creeps behind henchman 2, drags him away, moves on.

DAVID (O.S.)

Im only saying, you could be losing money. Not because you are lacking in intelligence-

Mountain man's suspicious but his attention goes back to David. She moves ahead to take out the next man.

DAVID (O.S.) (CONT'D)

Rather, because you just do not have the resources keep the numbers in order yourself.

LELAND BLACKWATER (O.S.)

Quit flappin your gums and get to the point!

David sees the woman along the perimeter, as he tries to keep eye contact with Leland.

DAVID

Yes, of course sir! I am an... accountant from New York City.

She sneaks up behind man number 5 and swipes him away to the shadows.

DAVID (CONT'D)

It would be an honor... no a privilege, if you would consider using me to oversee your assets.

She quickly moves on to number 6. Leland is none the wiser.

DAVID (CONT'D)

I could make sure you're earnings are safe and save you even more money in the process.

She takes down Men 7 and 8 simultaneously, moves on.

LELAND BLACKWATER

What makes you think I'd trust some Jew from New York City with MY money?

DAVID

Sir, I have no family nor friends. I got nothing give or lose here today but my life. At the very least you can trust that. Why would anyone risk their lives unless the benefits greatly outweighed the risk?

Meanwhile, Winnona approaches the big man. A fly buzzes his nose, he swats it, it flies away drawing his attention behind, sees Winnona. She flashes a smile and waves at him before she jerks for her gun, mountain man tries to stop her.

BANG. THUD.

Leland turns to see what the ruckus is. The hostages get restless.

LELAND BLACKWATER

Nobody moves unless they want to meet their maker here and now!

Leland looks around, his men around the perimeter are gone, glares at David.

LELAND BLACKWATER (CONT'D)

Sure is funny friend. You show up, then a commotion starts, and now my boys gon' missin.

DAVID

Yeah... sure is.

LELAND BLACKWATER

Yeah. Real. Damn. Hilarious.

Three men go investigate. Now only two men, Cletus and Leland remain. Leland takes his gun back out, points at David.

LELAND BLACKWATER (CONT'D)

On your knees.

DAVID

You don't think I have anything to do with-

Leland fires gun in the air.

LELAND BLACKWATER

I said ON YOUR KNEES!

David obeys. Leland comes towards him, gun in hand and ready to fire.

LELAND BLACKWATER (CONT'D)

I think I'll have to decline your offer Kessler.

A deafening wolf's howl roars through the station. Leland stops, looks at Cletus, who's just as dumbfounded. BANG, Cletus takes a bullet through the leg, falls. The last two men raise their guns. BANG-BANG. Their guns are shot out of their hands. BANG-BANG. Each take a bullet to the leg and go down.

DAVID

(to hostages)

Run!

They all scatter at once. Leland takes out a second gun, ready to open fire on anyone he can. He's chooses the old man in the white hat

DAVID (CONT'D)

NO!

David gets Leland to the ground, bites his wrist hard enough to draw blood, and makes him drop his gun. The man in the white hat uses this chance to escape. Leland uses his uninjured hand to grab David's collar, then David punches his eye hard and gets free and runs. Leland gets up right after, grabs his gun, aims, cocks, fires. His injuries to his eye and wrist throw off his aim, and misses. David runs to the train platforms. Leland fires again and grazes his arm. David winces but keeps moving. Leland gives chase.

David swings himself up to a train caboose platform, flings the car door open, runs through the car. Leland fires and shoots out windows, stopping David from going further.

David climbs and jumps out of the window on the other side of the car. Leland runs around the caboose but does not see David who's actually crawling under the train.

All hostages have fled, only he and David remain. Leland treads carefully, his eyes scanning, ears listening.

David's pant leg gets caught on a crooked railroad spike he jerks to get it free, his glasses fall off and break apart.

Leland stops, he runs towards the source of the sound. He bends down, points his gun.

LELAND BLACKWATER

Get out here boy.

David gets his pant leg free and slowly gets out, stands up, and feels the wall of the train car for stability. His vision is blurred, his eyes are squinting.

Leland grabs the collar of his shirt, head-butts David in the face, his nose bleeds.

LELAND BLACKWATER (CONT'D)

YOU.

Slams head to floor.

LELAND BLACKWATER (CONT'D)

RUINED.

Kicks kidneys.

LELAND BLACKWATER (CONT'D)

EVERYTHING!

Kicks ribs.

David moans, coughs up some blood. Leland stands over David. Looks at his gun, scowls.

LELAND BLACKWATER (CONT'D)

You ain't worth the lead

Leland throws his pistol to by his feet, then he straddles David and lowers himself to pin him to the ground.

LELAND BLACKWATER (CONT'D)

I want to feel you die.

He wraps his hands around David's throat, squeezes hard. David starts to fade in Leland's grasp, unable to fight back.

WOMAN'S VOICE (O.S.)

Hey "Wolf"!

Leland stops, turns. Winnona reveals herself.

WTNNONA

Let the man go or else.

LELAND BLACKWATER

"Or else" what?

She stands with a pistol in hand, the smoke from it's barrel dissipates.

LELAND BLACKWATER (CONT'D)

Or else I'll get mad.

WINNONA

That mouse isn't the one who took you and your gang for a ride today.

He gets up and off David, takes several strides towards her. His stature towers hers.

LELAND BLACKWATER

Would that honor belong to you then, "savage?"

WINNONA

I suggest you stand down or else.

LELAND BLACKWATER

"Else" what, exactly? If I counted right, you wasted your ammo on my boys.

He smirks, looks Winnona up and down, sees his gun on the floor behind her, and moves in closer.

LELAND BLACKWATER (CONT'D)

For an Injun, you're a perty little thing.

He sniffs her hair.

LELAND BLACKWATER (CONT'D (CONT'D)

Tell me darlin', You afraid of the "Big, Bad, Wolf"?

Winnona smirks. Drops gun.

WINNONA

That's funny.

She's gone, then appears from behind.

WINNONA (CONT'D)

I should ask you the same thing.

She lifts him over her head, then throws him like a rag doll several feet away. She goes toward him.

Winnona with one hand grabs Leland by the neck and hold him above her, his legs dangle.

David sits up despite his great pain and barely able to see what is happening around him. He feels the floor around him, then his hand touches Leland's gun.

Leland struggles to breath in Winnona's grasp. His eyes water, his face is turning different colors.

WINNONA (CONT'D)

Isn't fun when you're the helpless one is it?

She drops him. He coughs and wheezes like a dying fish and attempts to crawl away.

WINNONA (CONT'D)

No.

She lunges at Leland then straddles him, he tries to break free, Her eyes focused and hungry, her eyes glow like hellish embers, her teeth barred and sharper like an animal's.

WINNONA (CONT'D)

I want to feel you die.

Leland grabs a chunk of dirt and sediment and smushes it into her eyes. She yells in pain, Leland shoves her off him and gets up, sees a blunt piece of scrap wood and takes it, bashes her in the back of the head. She falls down on her face and groans. He grabs her by the top of her hair, and throws her down so she lands on her back. He puts his boot over her throat and pushes down.

DAVID (O.S.)

Let her go!

David is on his feet but clearly struggling, he holds Leland's gun in his shaking hand.

LELAND BLACKWATER

I don't think yer in a position to negotiate.

DAVID

I have the gun

LELAND BLACKWATER

Well I have the girl, and you only have one shot left in that chamber and bad eyesight. Can you guarantee you can hit me in one shot before I crush her pretty windpipe under my boot?

Beat.

LELAND BLACKWATER (CONT'D)

Then lets make a trade. I will let her live... If you shoot yourself in the head.

DAVID

What?!

LELAND BLACKWATER

Your life, for hers.

DAVID

If I do, How do I know you will keep your word?

LELAND BLACKWATER

You don't.

He is drawing the gun to his head, his breathing becomes harsher. Winnona looks at David in shock and anger and like a viper, grabs hold of Leland's ankle and snaps it like a twig. He screams and topples to the ground. She gets up and goes to David, he falls on her for support.

WINNONA

You are a damn fool!

MALE VOICE (O.S.)

FEDERAL MARSHAL! EVERYONE FREEZE

The sheriff, 3 deputies, and 2 U.S. Federal Marshals TRAVIS CRABTREE(50) and JACK CRAVEN(28) bust in, all guns in hand, ready to fire. Travis Crabtree was the old man in the white hat this whole time.

TRAVIS CRABTREE

Leland Blackwater, under the authority of the United States Federal Marshal's Office you are under arrest.

Leland groans and writhes in pain.

TRAVIS CRABTREE (CONT'D)

That'll be enough of that now.

(to men)

Move in, and lets get a stretcher in here.

The authorities all move in, and surround the perimeter.

DAVID

(To Winnona)
You're safe.

WINNONA

I'm safe? How could you think of shooting yourself you fool?!

DAVID

I wasn't, that was your gun. It only had that one bullet left, and I used it earlier. Even if there were, I-

David faints, Winnona catches him in her arms. He isn't breathing. She almost panics, then a calm comes over her. She bites her palm at the base of her thumb and breaks the skin. She opens his mouth squeezes her blood into it. She watches intently.

WINNONA

I hope you're worth all this.

INT. TRAIN STATION - LATER.

David's eyes slowly regains consciousness. He is under a blanket on the floor in the ticket office of the train station, his head rests on a pile of clothing taken from left behind luggage. He turns his head, Winnona is sitting right next to him. She looks back at him.

WINNONA

Welcome back.

He tries to get up, winces.

WINNONA (CONT'D)

Easy, now.

David's shirt's half open, his torso and head are wrapped in bandages. She helps him sit up.

DAVID

When did ..?

WINNONA

A Doctor fixed you while you were under.

DAVID

Did he fix my spectacles too? Cause I've never seen clearer-

He feels his face, nothing is there. He looks at Winnona in confusion, he opens his mouth to speak

JACK CRAVEN (O.S.)

Well now!

Jack Craven swaggers into the room. Craven's charm and confidence match his archetypal Wild Western hero looks; Rugged, good looking, tall, square-jawed and adventure is his middle name. This is slightly offset by his government attire, accented by a rose pinned in his lapel.

A PHOTOGRAPHER carries a large camera and tripod in tow of Jack, sets up for a photo op.

JACK CRAVEN (CONT'D)

The other valiant hero is back to the world of the living!

Puts out his hand for David to shake, David doesn't return it.

JACK CRAVEN (CONT'D)

"DAVID" was it?

DAVID

Yes... uh... who are you?

Jack shows badge.

JACK CRAVEN

United States Federal Deputy Marshal "Jack Craven" at your service, sir.

David shakes Jack's hand

DAVID

Blackwater's dead?

JACK CRAVEN

Not quite, won't be walking for a while though.

David looks genuinely relieved.

JACK CRAVEN (CONT'D)

Not the killing type?

DAVID

No. Never had to be.

JACK CRAVEN

Well, all that aside, thanks to you and your little squaw here-

WINNONA

I'm NOT his "Squaw"!

JACK CRAVEN

Blackwater's men will face swift justice 'fore the week's out.

TRAVIS CRABTREE (O.S.)

You briefed' em yet, Jack? Or you too busy having a sewing circle?

JACK CRAVEN

Right. May I introduce you both to U.S. Federal Marshal Travis Crabtree.

Crabtree looks like a Kurt Russel/Jeff Bridges type of man; grizzled and worn from many years of living and being an arm of the law. Crabtree glares at Winnona and she at him. As if they almost know each other, but she looks away from him.

JACK CRAVEN (CONT'D)

Well, higher-ups back East want all and any details about what happened today.

TRAVIS CRABTREE

Glad to find you are of sound mind and relative good health Mr. Kessler.

David feels his pockets he looks pale.

WINNONA

What's wrong?

DAVID

My watch. I gave it to Blackwater.

TRAVIS CRABTREE

Anything on that man's person or his men is now evidence and considered property of the government I'm afraid.

WINNONA

Figures you'd take their spoils. Lawmen always do.

TRAVIS CRABTREE

I wouldn't act so high and mighty Miss. Seems like Mr. Blackwater had an awful lot to say about you before he passed out from the pain.

WINNONA

Did he?

TRAVIS CRABTREE

If I had my way I'd have you arrested and put on that train in chains with Blackwater.

WINNONA

Now that'd be a laugh and a half to see you try.

TRAVIS CRABTREE

If you prefer, we can always take your little friend instead. He's become pretty involved in this whole affair. Maybe he's in on the whole debacle. You along with'em little lady.

DAVID

What?!

TRAVIS CRABTREE

I bet you two were tired of cow towing to Mr. Blackwater and to throw off suspicion, you two decide to play "hero".

DAVID

That's ridiculous

JACK CRAVEN

Now listen, you two helped take out one of the nation's most wanted outlaws and then-some today.

Travis takes some tobacco and a piece of cigarette paper from his pocket, puts it on the paper.

JACK CRAVEN (O.S.) (CONT'D) With you being key witnesses to what actually happened the government wants answers, you got'm so it's in your best interest if you came with us peacefully.

Licks the edges of paper. Rolls it.

JACK CRAVEN (O.S.) (CONT'D) We're escorting you two in a reserved train car, for your protection, to our headquarters in Cascade, Texas.

Puts cigarette in mouth.

WINNONA (O.S.)

I won't go.

Takes out match, strikes it, lights cigarette.

DAVID (O.S.)

You can't expect us to drop everything and go half-way cross the state just to-

Takes a drag, exhales.

TRAVIS CRABTREE

Listen, you two.

All look to Crabtree.

TRAVIS CRABTREE (CONT'D)

Either you two come with us willingly, or we put you both in cuffs and drag you there under obstruction of justice. If you try to run, I'll make you wanted criminals. So just be good children and get on the train quietly because frankly, neither of you don't have a say in the matter regardless.

He takes another drag, exhales smoke, looks at Winnona. They exchange glares of suspicion, and anger.

TRAVIS CRABTREE (CONT'D)

Jack, make sure Blackwater gets mended, cuffed'n loaded on the train once the local boys clean up the scene. Oh, and see to it our "escorts" get on the train as well.

JACK CRAVEN

Sir, yes sir

TRAIN WHISTLE.

Close up of Cigarette on ground. Crabtree's foot crushes it, walks off. It lies still upon the floor

TRAIN WHISTLE BLOWS.

EXT. WILDERNESS - DUSK

The train speeds through a massive forest. Dark clouds gather swiftly in the sky. Rain may come soon, or worse.

INT. TRAIN CAR - CONTINUOUS

Winnona watches out the window. She's pensive, her leg bounces up and down on it's own, she stares out the window as if she's waiting for something. Across sits David, his frustration too builds and is just as palpable as Winnona's.

Jack and Crabtree sit at the other end of the car together. Crabtree glares at the back of Winnona's head. Travis fiddles with the rose in his lapel.

Rainfall comes, masks the uneasy quiet.

Jack gets up, obnoxiously yawns and stretches his arms out.

JACK CRAVEN

I could stand to eat right now. Want anything Travis?

TRAVIS CRABTREE

Whiskey.

Travis, hat over his eyes, slumped back in his seat.

JACK CRAVEN

Okay... Anything to "eat" though?

TRAVIS CRABTREE

You heard me.

JACK CRAVEN

Fair enough. Would the "wolf slayers" care for any food?

THUNDER.

DAVID

I'm not hungry, thank you.

JACK CRAVEN

(to Winnona)

What about you?

THUNDER.

JACK CRAVEN (CONT'D)

Alright then.

Leaves.

David has his book out and opened but cannot focus, his eyes keep going back from his book to Winnona. She seems like she doesn't notice him doing this.

WINNONA

Something bothering you?

DAVID

You can say that.

WINNONA

Is it because they wouldn't give back your watch?

DAVID

Partially, yes.

WINNONA

Don't blame you, It looked expensive.

DAVID

That isn't the reason it matters to me... It was my father's. He left it to me before he disappeared.

WINNONA

What? Why would you have used it as leverage?

DAVID

It was all I could think to use to save everyone.

She looks borderline angry, then touches her beaded belt and holds back.

WINNONA

I'm sorry. It must feel like losing him again.

She looks out the window, her gaze softer, wistful, and melancholy.

DAVID

If it means that I was able to help, then my father would be okay with it. I still have my memories and my life.

WINNONA

why on earth did someone like you even come out here?

DAVTD

I mentioned before I'm a scientist. Only I research what some would call an "unorthodox" field of study.

WINNONA

"Unorthodox?"

DAVID

I study the supernatural. My father did as well.

WINNONA

So you study monsters?

DAVID

In a way, but instead of hunting I prefer to document and study. However there's another reason I've come here.

WINNONA

And that is?

DAVID

My father came out to the West a year ago on an expedition to find and document creatures that lie out in the West. I was supposed to help him once I graduated University. He sent me letters, and notes telling of all sorts of discoveries... but along the way, he vanished.

(MORE)

DAVID (CONT'D)

So I came to find him, and continue his research.

WINNONA

You sound absolutely mad.

DAVID

I imagine so.

WINNONA

How do you even know any of that stuff exists?

DAVTD

Because I've seen it. I think you know more about it then you let on.

WINNONA

I have no idea what you-

DAVID

I'm not an idiot or crazy Winnona. I saw you, I saw how fast you moved and how strong you are. It isn't possible for any human to move like that.

WINNONA

You don't know anything.

DAVID

I know I always needed spectacles before I met you. I know you got shot at point blank range, yet you only appear to have minor injuries. I know, you are more than you say you are.

WINNONA

What if I told you I'm a killer, would you think me worthy of redemption then?

DAVID

I...

WINNONA

You just wanna use me.

DAVID

That's not true!

WINNONA

Then why?!

DAVID

You saved my life, you saved so many other lives when you could have easily left us behind. You may not be a saint, but you are not evil or bad.. and also because you are my friend.

Beat

WINNONA

I am done playing this game with you.

DAVID

Game?

WINNONA

I am NOT your friend. As for what you think I am, its just you being a delusional fool and I am done playing along with your fantasies. I'm sure your father was even more of a crazy lune than you are. Probably why he's gone! No wonder your mother kicked you out!

Beat

WINNONA (CONT'D)

Once we finish our business in Cascade, we go our separate ways.

Winnona gets up and goes to leave.

TRAVIS CRABTREE

Where do you think you're going?

WINNONA

To get some air.

TRAVIS CRABTREE

Now hold on-

WINNONA

If you don't like it, stop me.

Beat. She opens car door, leaves, slams it shut behind her.

TRAVIS CRABTREE

Hey, Kessler!

David turns to Crabtree who gestures him to come over. He takes his satchel and sits before Crabtree. David's books stick out of his satchel.

TRAVIS CRABTREE (CONT'D)

You aren't an accountant from New York like you told Blackwater?

DAVID

Far from it. To tell the truth, I'm terrible with numbers-

TRAVIS CRABTREE

Then what are you exactly Kessler?

DAVID

My true profession is something like a... scientist.

TRAVIS CRABTREE

Tell me how this demonic literature correlates with science then?

DAVID

You wouldn't be interested in-

TRAVIS CRABTREE

Try me.

DAVID

Do you believe in monsters Marshal? Like the ones we hear about in stories? Well, I am trying to find proof they exist.

TRAVIS CRABTREE

Most would tell you this is the venture of a mad man or a fool.

DAVID

That may be, but I know my work has merit and I know that I AM right.

TRAVIS CRABTREE

I think you know more then you let on.

DAVID

Like what?

TRAVIS CRABTREE

Like the fact Blackwater isn't the real Wolf of the West.

DAVTD

You don't say?

TRAVIS CRABTREE

Don't be cute with me son.

DAVID

Why would I lie?

TRAVIS CRABTREE

Don't bullshit a federal officer boy. I heard yer conversation. But even before that, I knew she was not an ordinary woman.

DAVID

How could you possibly know-

TRAVIS CRABTREE

I knew her mother, before she was murdered by her daughter in the Colorado wilderness ten years ago. Long before I became a Federal Marshal...

I/E. FLASHBACK - COLORADO WILDERNESS 10 YEARS AGO - MORNING

A black horse is tethered to a tree away from the site, a man's footprints trail in the snow towards a fire burning in the distance.

TRAVIS CRABTREE (V.O.)

I was a sheriff of a fur trading encampment not too far off from the area. Children from other camps and caravans went missing and blame fell to a young Injun woman who lived alone in the woods with her daughter. I never paid any mind to the rumors, she never did anything to anybody. I went to make sure it was not a wild burn while a posse was getting put together

A younger Travis Crabtree, the scene from the very beginning only from his perspective. The young child sobs over the corpse of a woman who looks similar in facial features and wears the same beaded belt as Winnona does in the present. This child is Winnona and the body is her mother.

He takes a step forward and a twig snaps.

She turns and faces Crabtree. She's a deer in headlights. He slowly approaches and almost gets close enough to touch her.

Four other men arrive horse back; A blonde man, a brunette man, a red headed man in their late 20s, and a teenage boy in his mid teens. The blonde man yells to the teenager to go fetch more men to help put out the fire.

The teen boy leaves. The redhead clocks Crabtree in the back of the head hard enough to make him go down. Then he steals Crabtree's cuffs and fastens them on his ankles and takes his gun and gives it to the blonde man who puts it in the back of his pants.

Winnona crouches over her mother's corpse shaking her head and cries as the blonde man comes forward. He takes her by the arm and pulls her away, Winnona screams and shrieks.

Winnona, with one hand grabs and squeezes his wrist tight and his bones crunch, he screams in agony as the gun falls out of his pants to the ground.

Crabtree crawls towards the gun slowly.

Winnona scurries back to her mother's side. The redheaded man and the brunette man come at her with lassos in hand. They both lasso her neck and pull her back. She is gasping for air, her hand reaches for her mother.

Crabtree almost gets the gun. The blonde sees and kicks his ribs. Blondie picks it up with his good arm, his other hand is limp and swollen.

They all stand before the burning cabin. The men with the ropes pull in opposite directions to fix Winnona in place, the man with the gun cocks the trigger.

Her eyes glow bright gold, her pupils dilate. Her screams devolve into a deafening wolf's howl. Crabtree and the men cover their ears in pain. She whips her body forward to the left, flinging the brunette man into the blonde man, they fall to the ground like bowling pins. Her pelt cloak shifts and reveals a birth mark on her chest. The mark is a giant black star, Crabtree sees it. Winnona shifts the cloak back where it was covering her mark.

The Redhead desperately tries to pull her down with his lasso, she turns to him. She looks demonic with the blazing cabin burning behind her as she grips her end of the rope and pulls herself towards him. He screams, runs for his horse.

She charges on all fours like, her cloak pelt makes her look even more like an animal the way she moves in it.

She leaps onto his back, her hands and feet have claws now, she sinks them into his flesh to get a foothold. She rips the side of his throat out. He dies on his feet, collapses on the ground, his blood spreads and stains the snow beneath him.

She turns to the brunette man who's sobbing as he crawls away on his belly into the forest. She grabs him by the back of the head and throws him like a rag doll into a tree, killing him instantly. She turns and finds the blonde man unconscious in the snow in front of the cabin.

She puts her foot over his throat and pushes down. He wakes up and sees Winnona's face. It's now like that of an animal, her glowing golden eyes coldly look down on him as smoke and embers from the fire wafts behind her.

TRAVIS CRABTREE (O.S.)

STOP!

She turns, sees Crabtree, still on the ground watching.

TRAVIS CRABTREE (CONT'D)
Please, stop! He- he won't hurt you anymore. Please, just stop...

She approaches, her face has reverted back to its original state.

WINNONA

I'm... I'm so sorry.

Tears fall down her cheeks.

TRAVIS CRABTREE
It... it'll be okay. You will be okay.

WINNONA

What will happen to mamma?

TRAVIS CRABTREE

I'll make sure she has a proper grave... I promise. I just need to get out of these cuffs.

She looks at the cuffs, bends over.

He flinches, she breaks the chain linking the cuffs between his ankles, he strains to get to his feet, but succeeds.

WINNONA

Promise you won't lose her.

TRAVIS CRABTREE

I promise.

She turns and goes back to her mother's corpse.

Men shout in the distance, taking Crabtree's attention he turns his back to her for just a moment. He turns back, Winnona is gone, the blood soaked pelt has been left behind. Winnona's mother's belt has been taken off of her body.

The teenager and the men following him arrive on the scene looking on the carnage in horror. Crabtree sees tracks in the snow where Winnona stood, they start as human foot prints then they morph into wolf tracks as they go deeper into the woods.

INT. TRAIN CAR - PRESENT

DAVID

Why are you telling me this Marshal?

TRAVIS CRABTREE

You're probably the only man crazy enough to believe it, other than Jack that is.

DAVID

So you think she's been the one killing all these people for all these years? That she's the actual Wolf of the West?

TRAVIS CRABTREE

Every time there's been a "Wolf" attack, a woman of her description has been sighted. It's clear that night was only the beginning of a bloodlust that wouldn't be quenched.

DAVID

So you didn't take us on this train to for interrogation, but to lock her away?

Nods.

DAVID (CONT'D)

Why am I here then?

TRAVIS CRABTREE

You are insurance that she stays put till we get her to headquarters.

DAVID

You're so sure she'd put herself at risk for me?

TRAVIS CRABTREE
She wouldn't stay for her own
mother. She stayed with you though.

DAVID

I think you have the wrong one Marshal. If it weren't for her, all those people would have died.

TRAVIS CRABTREE
People HAVE died because of her.
She's hero, she's a monster.

DAVTD

I think you've been so obsessed with finding her for so long, you've been blinded to the truth.

TRAVIS CRABTREE
You think you know better after spending one day with her?

DAVID

Then why let her go all those years ago?

TRAVIS CRABTREE

I was a foolish younger man who made a choice out of sentimentality.

DAVID

No, you knew she defended herself and you knew there was more to her mother's death than what you found.

TRAVIS CRABTREE

Im out of youth, sentiment and patience. I'm fixing the mess I made now. If you get in my way, you'll go in a cell along with her-

They march to the train car door, Crabtree opens it. There is smoke pouring out the sides of the train car ahead of them.

TRAVIS CRABTREE (CONT'D)

What in God's name-?

DAVID

We got to get in there!

INT. TRAIN CAR B - CONTINUOUS

The door swings open they go inside, shielding their eyes from the smoke and bright light of the flames .

All the seats are on fire, the aisle in the center is untouched for the moment. They see the blood on the floor and then see Winnona and Jack on the other end of the car.

Winnona stands across from Jack. Blood trickles from her temple and from her thigh. She holds Jack's gun in her hand and points it at him, then shoots him in the chest. He falls to the ground.

TRAVIS CRABTREE

JACK!!

Winnona looks at David and Travis in surprise, then at the smoking gun in her hand and her eyes widen in realization.

WINNONA

Aw Dammit-

TRAVIS CRABTREE

I'll kill you!

He pulls out his pistol, cocks and squeezes the trigger. David rushes him.

DAVID

STOP!

The shot flies past her ear and ricochets off the wall, into someplace else. Travis shoves David back and accidentally closes the car door behind them. Travis then walks through and loads his gun as the car is filled with flames and smoke.

Winnona tries to open the car door but the heat has melted the handle and it's harder for even her to get out. The heat and smoke overwhelm Travis and falls to the floor.

DAVID (CONT'D)

MARSHAL!

David goes to try and pick him up but his injuries from earlier hinder him, then he gets dizzy as well. She kicks the door but to no avail.

DAVID (CONT'D)

Winnona!

Winnona turns. David looks at her with pleading eyes as he tries to get Crabtree up. The flames get closer and closer.

She turns her back on him and kicks the door again but it's just not working. Winnona is coughs and wobbles. The sound of fire blazing and Winnona kicking the door over and over and harder and harder.

Winnona coughs profusely and is getting weaker. David's kneeled beside Crabtree trying to get him up but fails. He slowly succumbs to smoke inhalation as a short wall of fire builds between them and Winnona. She falls to her knees and about ready to give up.

She looks at the windows and the storm raging outside, then at Jack's gun on the floor beside her. She rips part her other sleeve off and wraps it around her hand to pick it up.

WINNONA

David! Can you hear me?!

He hazily lifts his head.

DAVID

Yes!

WINNONA

Listen! Take the old man's gun and throw it into the fire when I throw mine! We have to do it both at the same time!

David sees Crabtree's gun. He touches it, winces because it's searing hot to the touch. He takes his jacket off and uses it to protect his hand, then picks the gun back up.

WINNONA (CONT'D)

On three... One! Two! THREE!

They toss them into the fire.

Winnona speeds over and knocks David to the ground on top of Travis to shield them. Winnona and David are face to face, and very close. Then, the guns explode.

A shower of shrapnel rips and ricochets throughout the car and Winnona is struck several times.

Sounds of glass breaking, metal clinking and clanking ring in their ears. The barrage of shrapnel makes holes in the car walls and breaks the windows open. The smoke escapes the windows as torrential rain flies in from outside and extinguishes the flames.

DAVID

Winnona?! Please say something!

WINNONA

In a moment... my attention is being taken by the shrapnel in my everywhere.

Winnona drags herself off David and Travis, lies herself face down on the floor beside them. David gets up.

WINNONA (CONT'D)

Check the old man.

He checks Crabtree, rolls him on his back. He puts his fingers on his neck and feels a pulse and sighs in relief.

Winnona lies on the floor in pain, she is covered in injuries and blood pools out of and around her.

DAVID

Dear God Winnona you're bleeding terribly!

WINNONA

I've noticed.

DAVID

How are you even alive!?

WINNONA

I drink milk and eat my vegetables every day.

DAVID

You think this is a joke?

WINNONA

Yeah, a hilarious one-

Moans in pain.

DAVID

Hold on, I'll see if there's a Doctor in any of the other cars-

WINNONA

You won't.

DAVID

What do you mean "I won't"?

WINNONA

Everyone is dead, David.

DAVID

What?!

He sees blood dripping from under Winnona's coat to the floor and everywhere else.

DAVID (CONT'D)

Winnona, is there something I can... I don't really have experience with wounds like this-

WINNONA

Just help me to my feet.

He helps her up, she then props her-self on one of the charred seats. She breaths and groans in pain, then the shrapnel and glass pop out of her injuries to the floor. Once they are all out she pants in relief.

DAVID

Extraordinary.

WINNONA

That's one way to put it. How's the old man?

He bends over Crabtree, puts his ear on his heart. He sighs in relief.

DAVID

He's alive at least.

Beat.

DAVID (CONT'D)

You saved our lives.

WINNONA

For now.

DAVID

Whatever's happening isn't over is it?

Beat.

WINNONA

I can handle it.

DAVTD

Sure. I can see you have the whole situation under control.

WINNONA

Sarcasm is unbecoming of you.

DAVID

Look, you may not want to admit it but I can see you want to save us. I know something unnatural is going on and I can help you. We can help each other but you have to tell me everything, or we will all die here tonight.

WINNONA

I will try.

DAVID

So you aren't human?

WINNONA

Half is, the rest not so much.

DAVID

You have a blackstar birthmark?

WINNONA

Did Crabtree tell you?

He nods.

WINNONA (CONT'D)

Damn, jabbering old man.

DAVID

So you do remember him?

She nods.

DAVID (CONT'D)

You knew he was the whole bringing us for questioning was a ruse

WINNONA

T did.

DAVID

Then why come... why stay? You could've left anytime? Why didn't you just leave us to burn to death?

While you were out cold I healed your eyes, and most of your injuries with my blood and that bonds us. I am compelled to stay near and protect you now.

DAVID

Why did you shoot Jack?

Travis' eyes open. He sees a large piece of glass beside him and stealthy grabs it. He gets up.

DAVID (CONT'D)

Marshal-

Coughs and spits.

DAVID (CONT'D)

Winnona saved us.

TRAVIS CRABTREE

And?

Crabtree approaches Winnona.

TRAVIS CRABTREE (CONT'D)

She killed Jack or did you forget?

He slashes the top of her blouse exposing the Black Star on her chest.

DAVID

What are you doing!?

Winnona clasps the torn area of her shirt closed. Crabtree flashes to the image of a blood covered child in the snow with the same mark in the same place as Winnona. Flash back to the present. David pushes Crabtree back.

TRAVIS CRABTREE

That mark proves she's a monster and a murderer David!

David looks at her, she can't look at him.

DAVID

There's more to this than you realize Marshal-

TRAVIS CRABTREE

Are you insane or just blind?! What does she have to do until you see her for what she is!? People have died! Jack died tonight because of her!

WINNONA

These people dying is just because of "me" Crabtree? YOU insisted on taking us on this damned train! These people's blood is on your hands as well as mine!

Travis clenches the glass in his hand and bleeds.

TRAVIS CRABTREE

You shut your damn mouth or I swear to God I'll...

He raises his hand to stab her.

WINNONA

Please, make it between the eyes if you want me to stay down for good!

David gets in between him and Winnona.

TRAVIS CRABTREE

Get out of the way.

DAVID

No... Not until you lower your hand Marshal.

TRAVIS CRABTREE

I will cut you down like a dog!

DAVID

Then do it. If you want to kill her, you will have to kill an innocent man as well.

WINNONA

David stop! I am the reason all these people are dead... so please get out of the way.

DAVID

No.

Will you stop trying to die so damn hard! Everything else is hard enough without trying to look out for your self sacrificing ass!

DAVID

I won't!

DAVID (CONT'D)

I'm so tired David. I'm tired of people around me dying, so tired of running, tired of everything. So let Crabtree do me and the world a favor and end it.

DAVID (CONT'D)

I'm sorry... I know I'm being foolish and selfish for standing here. I know you said you are not my friend... but I am yours; and as your friend I will not just stand back and let you get stabbed in the brain.

TRAVIS CRABTREE

"Winnona" look me in the eyes and speak truthfully. Are you the one behind the Wolf of the West murders?

WINNONA

I'm not the one who killed those people, but they died because of me...

TRAVIS CRABTREE
The hell is that supposed to mean?

\_\_\_

WINNONA

I want to say more but we have other problems to deal with right now.

TRAVIS CRABTREE

Like what?

WINNONA

Jack Craven.

TRAVIS CRABTREE

Impossible, he's dead.

Then explain where his corpse has gone to...

They all look where Jack's body fell earlier, it's gone.

The train slams to a stop, The screeching of the wheels overpower any other sound. David and Travis are flung forward. Winnona catches them in mid air and holds her ground. The train stops eventually all is quiet except for the storm still raging out side

DAVID

Are we alive?

Travis groans.

WINNONA

We're fine.

TRAVIS CRABTREE

The hell just happened?

DAVID

The train just stopped.

TRAVIS CRABTREE

But how? Everyone else is dead.

WINNONA

It's Jack Craven. Well what used to be Jack Craven.

DAVID

No more enigmas. Just tell us what is going on!

WINNONA

I'll tell you, but we have to get off this train now.

DAVID

Why?

A monstrous shriek echoes from outside.

WTNNONA

That.

END OF PART 1

INT. - CONTINUOUS

INT. - CONTINUOUS

INT. PART 2 - CONTINUOUS

INT. TRAIN CAR A - NIGHT

WINNONA

Once we finish our business in Cascade, we go our separate ways.

Winnona gets up and leaves the train car, slamming the door shut behind her.

EXT. TRAIN CAR DOORS - CONTINUOUS

She stops at the precipice outside the train car door as the rain and wind make a mess of her appearance she crosses to the precipice of the connecting car. Her fist clenches, then punches the wall in front of her and puts a dent into its solid metal exterior.

Her brooding is put on halt as her nostrils flare. She smells something that is not right and its coming from inside the train car. She opens the door.

INT. TRAIN CAR B - CONTINUOUS

Lightning flashes, Winnona enters.

The car would be in almost absolute darkness if it weren't for the lightning outside, its light strobing through the windows. A horrific scene is briefly revealed. The door closes loudly. Winnona pulls out a pack of matches from the inside of her boot and grimaces that theres only two matches left.

She tears off some fabric off her sleeve, breaks a wood leg off from one of the seats, and creates a makeshift torch, then lights it with a match. Thunder rolls.

She holds the torch aloft and illuminates the car in a dull orange glow its not perfectly lit but she can see where she is going now. Winnona finds blood splattered all around the floor from her end of the car to the other. She steps forward.

A child's toy with blood on it lies on the floor. Winnona stops, crouches down and reaches to touch it but stops when she hears a man sighing. Her head whips in the direction of the sound. Lightning flash. A man sits in a seat at the front of the car. She approaches. The torch light reveals a stoic Jack Craven.

WINNONA

Jack?

He sits in a pool of blood in silence, eyes are glazed over until they dart to meet Winnona's gaze.

JACK CRAVEN

They're all gone.

Beat

JACK CRAVEN (CONT'D)

The Passengers. The staff.

WINNONA

You mean they're...?

He nods.

WINNONA (CONT'D)

What happened?

JACK CRAVEN

They were eaten.

WINNONA

By what?

JACK CRAVEN

You should know the answer to that "Blackstar"

WINNONA

What did you just call me?

He stands up.

JACK CRAVEN

You heard me.

Moves closer.

She backs away.

What do you want?

JACK CRAVEN

You ever wondered why you seem to attract misfortune like a magnet?

WINNONA

No.

He thrusts her against the wall to her utter shock. She drops the torch. It rolls on the floor to a chair leg, it catches on fire.

JACK CRAVEN

You're pretty when you lie.

She tries to free herself from his grip but can't.

JACK CRAVEN (CONT'D)

You never wonder why every person you cross paths with ends up dead, or worse?

He unbuttons the top few buttons of her blouse to reveal the mark of the blackstar on her chest.

WINNONA

STOP!

JACK CRAVEN

Ever since you could remember you've known this star marked you as a bringer of death.

The fire is grows and spreads to other seats.

He smiles, fangs grow. His face and hair color changes into that of another man's. Then it morphs back to the face of Jack Craven.

WINNONA

Who are you? What are you?

JACK CRAVEN

Jack Craven and so much more.

WINNONA

That tension I've been feeling since you two approached us. It wasn't the old man, it was you.

JACK CRAVEN

Your kind can sense others like us.

WINNONA

Others? What do you mean "Others"

JACK CRAVEN

You didn't think you were the only creature living in the shadows?

WINNONA

Why are you here?

JACK CRAVEN

I'm here for you "Blackstar"

WINNONA

You... You know what I am?

JACK CRAVEN

Don't you?

Beat.

JACK CRAVEN (CONT'D)

Pity. Not that it makes a difference if you did.

WINNONA

If I'm what you wanted then why kill these people? They did nothing to you.

The fire spreads along the other seats.

JACK CRAVEN

Just the first course.

The fire is grows bigger

WINNONA

You're sick.

JACK CRAVEN

Sure, I've killed plenty. You've killed too though.

WINNONA

Only when I had to. I never wanted to kill anyone-

JACK CRAVEN

Deep down you enjoyed it though. It's what creatures of the dark like us were born to do. So why fight what's in our nature?

Winnona sees Jack's gun in its holster.

WINNONA

Maybe you have a point Jack.

WINNONA (CONT'D)

Some part of me does enjoy it. Yet at the same time, I can't live with it. I'm so torn inside, it's unbearable. I'm so tired...

JACK CRAVEN

Is that so?

WINNONA

I am tired of fighting. I won't fight you Jack.

He releases her. She moves in closer, her hand stealthy reaches for his gun.

WINNONA (CONT'D)

I just want my pain to end.

She quietly cocks the hammer.

WINNONA (CONT'D)

So please, end it.

She exposes her neck to him.

JACK CRAVEN

It'd be my pleasure...

He lowers his head to bite her.

WINNONA

On second thought-

BANG.

WINNONA (CONT'D)

I've never been a quitter before, won't start now.

He stumbles back holding his bleeding belly. Winnona holds a smoking gun.

JACK CRAVEN

So you are a killer... like me.

WINNONA

I am nothing like you.

JACK CRAVEN

No... I didn't kill my mother and played the victim like you did.

WINNONA

You don't know what you're talking about!

JACK CRAVEN

I bet you wake up every morning with the taste of her blood in your mouth.

WINNONA

SHUT YOUR MOUTH!

JACK CRAVEN

And the part that's really sick is that you like the taste-

BANG.

He falls to the ground

TRAVIS CRABTREE (O.S.)

JACK!

She sees Travis Crabtree and David at the other end of the train car, then she realizes how this must look.

CUT TO: BLACK

INT. MONSTROUS SHRIEK - CONTINUOUS

TITLE CARD: MARKED

INT. TRAIN CAR - CONTINUOUS

TRAVIS CRABTREE

The hell was that?

WINNONA

That would be Jack.

DAVID

Marshal, we need to truce until we figure this out. Whatever's happening right now, the only way out is to work together.

Beat.

TRAVIS CRABTREE

Fine.

Winnona nods

DAVID

Jack is behind what's going on?

WINNONA

Yes.

TRAVIS CRABTREE

How?

WINNONA

I can't say for certain but he's not what he seems. He can shift his face and voice, become other people. He's stronger than any man I've ever met and he ate every other person on this train.

TRAVIS CRABTREE

Jesus.

WINNONA

Also, he had fangs.

DAVID

Fangs? You're certain?

She nods

TRAVIS CRABTREE

Kessler?

DAVTD

I heard of a creature like this before in my father's research, but if memory serves I think what we are dealing with is a variant of Vampire.

TRAVIS CRABTREE Vampire? The hell is that?

DAVTD

It is an ancient creature that feeds on blood or in this case whole people. They are strong and hard to kill through normal means.

TRAVIS CRABTREE

Jesus!

WINNONA

But they can be killed?

DAVID

Yes, but if I knew what kind we were up against, it would be easier to narrow down how.

TRAVIS CRABTREE
Why hasn't Jack, or whatever that
thing is come back to attack us
yet? What's it waiting for?

WINNONA

Who knows.

DAVID

Perhaps he needs to heal from that shot to the gut. My father's research says there are different breeds of Vampire from different places with different weaknesses and strengths. Explains why he could go in the sun without turning to ash.

TRAVIS CRABTREE

So we're up a creek without a paddle.

DAVID

Not exactly. There tends to be similar weaknesses amongst their kind. Jack left to get food earlier... there's a kitchen car?

TRAVIS CRABTREE

I guess so, but why-

DAVID

We need to get to that kitchen car. Our salvation may lie there...but it will be difficult with no means of defending ourselves.

TRAVIS CRABTREE

At least we have our...

Travis checks his holster

TRAVIS CRABTREE (CONT'D)

What happened to my gun?!

DAVID

Oh. We uh, we threw it and Winnona's gun into the fire to save us from burning to death.

TRAVIS CRABTREE

Perfect! We got no guns, no way to protect ourselves and we are stuck in the backside of nowhere with no way out without joining the choir invisible.

WINNONA

Sorry, next time I'll just let us burn to death instead.

DAVID

Everyone please! Compose yourselves, you both swore a truce till we made it out of this alive.

Thunder rolls

Travis takes a deep breath and exhales.

TRAVIS CRABTREE

Do you have any ideas?

DAVID

I'm working on it.

TRAVIS CRABTREE

That's a "no"

DAVID

Marshal. Is my pocket watch on this train?

TRAVIS CRABTREE

Well... it's actually in my pocket.

He pulls it out of his jacket.

TRAVIS CRABTREE (CONT'D)

I hadn't gotten the chance to file it in evidence properly yet.

Sure.

DAVID

That might be a Godsend! It's made of pure silver!

TRAVIS CRABTREE

So?

DAVID

A common weakness for Vampires is silver!

WINNONA

Better than nothing, but it won't be enough to get us to the dinning car. The door leading to the next car is melted shut.

Winnona looks at the windows on one side of the train and sees a stone wall. She walks to and looks out the window an the other side. The train sits on a mountain side that faces a steep drop to a river at the bottom. The storm rain is flooding the river and the area around it.

WINNONA (CONT'D)

There's a mountain face on one side and a big drop into a flooding river on the other. The only way to get to the next car is going on the roof, and he's waiting out there.

Thunder

WINNONA (CONT'D)

I know what I have to do.

DAVID

You do?

WINNONA

When we are on the roof, you and the old man break for the dining car, I'll distract Jack.

DAVID

Are you crazy? Look how injured you are, you still can't stand on your own feet let alone fight!

WINNONA

I have one more trick up my sleeve.

TRAVIS CRABTREE

Oh no you don't! I still need to take you in!

WINNONA

Marshal Crabtree, I give you my word; if you and David leave this to me and I survive then I shall return and go with you willingly.

TRAVIS CRABTREE

You expect me to trust you?

WINNONA

Only if you want to live to see another sunrise.

TRAVIS CRABTREE

Why would you do this? The kid I get, but why save me?

WINNONA

I never forgot what you did for my mother and how you felt about her. Or what you did for me, so I'm returning the favor. But first-

She takes off her beaded belt, holds it out to Crabtree.

WINNONA (CONT'D)

If I don't make it, bury it wherever it was you put her. Please.

Crabtree takes the belt.

DAVID

I can't let you fight him alone Winnona.

WINNONA

You will "let" me do nothing. I do as I please... You said our salvation is in the dining car, so I am not in this alone, just part of a plan. You make sure you do your part as well.

Winnona goes to one of the broken windows.

WINNONA (CONT'D)

David, you wanted me to tell you what I really am.

(MORE)

WINNONA (CONT'D)

I cannot do that in words, but I will show you this night.

She climbs out, then up to the roof. The boys follow suit.

EXT. TRAIN CAR ROOF - CONTINUOUS

The rain is pouring like crazy, the river below is raging, and the wind howls erratically. Jack stands menacingly atop the roof a few cars ahead. Lightning flashes. Winnona looks to the boys.

WINNONA

Once the fighting starts, you move like hell!

She moves forward.

Jacks face is focused, his eyes are red.

Winnona's eyes glow in the darkness of the storm. Claws grow from her fingertips, her face changes shape, her hair turns white she hunches forward, groaning and growling. Her form begins to grow in size until her clothes shred apart. Instantly white fur grows all over her body. Her form becomes animalistic and on all fours, she becomes a massive white wolf, larger than a full grown horse.

DAVID

My God...

Jack grins and stalks forward.

Winnona the white wolf bares her teeth to Jack and runs toward him, her weight leaves dents where her paws land. They both jump in the air and tackle each other.

TRAVIS CRABTREE

David!

David snaps to it and they run past the brawl. They jump to the roof of the next car. There's four more between them and the engine.

DAVID

Have any idea which one is the dining car?!

TRAVIS CRABTREE

Should be the next one!

They run across the roof, jump onto the roof of the next car. They jump down to go through the Dining car door.

Winnona takes Jack's arm in her jaws, he screams as the sound of his flesh rips and bones snap. His flesh sears and produces smoke/steam. She flings him against the wall of the mountain so hard it makes the surface beneath him crack.

Jack grabs two sharp pieces of debris that splintered off beneath him. Then he climbs like a spider up the mountain wall, leaps in the air and stabs the stone daggers into Winnona's shoulders, she makes a loud painful yelp.

Winnona bucks like a bronco as Jack holds on using his makeshift daggers as handles. She Stands on her hind legs and falls backward on top of him. He kicks her in the spine, she flies forward but lands on her feet

## INT. DINING CAR - SIMULTANEOUSLY

David rushes to the bar and jumps over the counter, he lands on someone, he screams David and Crabtree screams. The person behind the counter is a cowering Leland Blackwater.

DAVTD

BLACKWATER! YOU'RE ALIVE?!

He pulls himself up off the ground, winces a bit putting pressure on his leg. Travis sees something off about him.

LELAND BLACKWATER

Something came and ate everyone! I... crawled here in the chaos. What the hell is going on?!

DAVID

Turns out is a man eating monster. Winnona's keeping him distracted while we hopefully find a way to fight him here.

LELAND BLACKWATER

What can I do?

TRAVIS CRABTREE

You stay put, shut up and let us work.

LELAND BLACKWATER

Come on at least let me in on what you plan to do.

David is scouring through cupboards throwing spices and other kitchen things out on the ground.

DAVID

Marshal, there are flowers in the jars on the tables. Can you tell what they are?

Crabtree walks to the flowers.

TRAVIS CRABTREE

Roses.

DAVID

Perfect! Grab all of them!

Travis takes the few roses in his hand, then walks next to Blackwater. He looks uncomfortable, pale and shifts his weight eyeballing the roses.

TRAVIS CRABTREE

Feelin alright? Not a fan of flowers?

LELAND BLACKWATER

Nah...just uh shook up from all this insanity.

TRAVIS CRABTREE

You must be pretty shook. Cause you're puttin a lot of weight on your broken leg.

Leland looks down then back up to Travis, he rolls his eyes and smiles.

LELAND BLACKWATER

Well, you got me.

Blackwater bares his fangs and jumps at Travis.

DAVID

Crabtree!

Travis punches Blackwater in the head repeatedly.

TRAVIS CRABTREE

Just find what you need! I got this!

LELAND BLACKWATER

God! You smell AMAZING Marshal!

Crabtree uses one arm to keep Blackwater at bay, while his free hand feels around him for something, anything a hand clutches one of the rose blossoms.

DAVID

Time for you to smell the roses instead Blackwater!

Blackwater turns. David smashes the flower down his throat. Blackwater recoils in pain, spasms on the floor gasping for air. A black foam oozes out of his mouth and he stops moving, his eyes glaze over.

TRAVIS CRABTREE

Good riddance.

David looks on in shock, he's never killed anyone before.

DAVID

Thanks kid... David. You saved my life.

David blinks, then helps Crabtree up.

TRAVIS CRABTREE

You okay?

DAVID

I don't know...

TRAVIS CRABTREE

Did you find what we need?

David snaps out of it.

DAVID

Here.

David picks up a small burlap sack. Inside are a dozen small cloves of garlic. David sees a satchel left by someone on the floor, he picks it up and the sack inside, then Crabtree puts the roses in there as well.

TRAVIS CRABTREE

You think it'll be enough.

DAVID

If we are careful, it should be.

TRAVIS CRABTREE

What's the plan?

DAVID

First we will cook something special for Jack, then we'll give him the time.

## EXT. TRAIN CAR ROOF - CONTINUOUS

Both Winnona and Jack are covered in wounds, bruises and blood that gets washed away by the rain. Winnona pants heavily, she struggles to stand. Jack walks toward Winnona, then grabs her by the scruff of her neck and slams her head into the roof of the car hard enough to dent it, then again and again until he busts a hole through the metal haul. She becomes limp, he pulls her up and drops her like a rag doll to his feet.

JACK CRAVEN

After I'm done with you, I'll kill the old man, then your little Jewish mouse.

She growls lowly. There is a black patch of fur shaped like a star in the center of her chest. He kneels over her, he touches the star, he slowly pushes his pointed hand into her flesh.

JACK CRAVEN (CONT'D)

Star marks the spot.

Winnona makes weird sounds with her mouth, Jack leans in. She lets out a howl so loud his ears start to bleed. Jack screams then kicks her in the throat and the sound stops, now she struggles to breath. He kneels down, begins to slowly burrow his fingers into her chest.

DAVID

Time's up Jack!

Jack's head turns and David's silver pocket watch sizzles his face. David locks his arm around Jack's neck as his other hand keeps the watched pressed against his face. Jack screams and writhes on the floor.

DAVID (CONT'D)

Marshal, now pour the garlic juice in his mouth!

Crabtree takes out a bottle of garlic cloves and rose petals in water from the satchel David is wearing.

JACK CRAVEN

Travis, you really gonna kill me?! Wasn't I like a son to you!?

Crabtree stops.

TRAVIS CRABTREE

Everything we've done together was built on lies Jack, or whatever your name is. I'm not doing this cause you lied, I'm doing this cause you're a killer and I'm the law.

David presses the watch harder into Jacks face, forcing him to scream and open his mouth. Crabtree holds the garlic-rose juice over his mouth.

Jack lets out a primal yell and grabs Crabtree and throws him like he was nothing across the roof of several cars, he's seemingly knocked out upon landing.

DAVID

MARSHAL!

Jack pries David's arm from his neck, then grabs the hand holding the pocket watch, making David drop it. Jack holds him in the air by his wrist and lets him down, then he twists David's arm behind him David struggles.

JACK CRAVEN
I'll break your arm if you try to struggle more.

Jack pushes David to face a still struggling to breath Winnona.

DAVID

What did you do to her?!

JACK CRAVEN

Worry bout yourself kid. Here's what's gonna happen; For making things difficult Winnona, I'll devour your little mouse slowly in front of you and then I'm gonna end you even more slowly and painfully. That'll make things good a square.

Jack pulls David's head to the side to expose his neck, Winnona snarls.

DAVID

It's ok Winnona...It'll be okay...

Jack sinks his fangs into David's neck and after a couple of gulps he winces and groans in pain then vomits blood.

JACK CRAVEN Wha- what did you do to me?!

Winnona gets up, growls at Jack.

DAVID

The bottle was meant to throw you off my scent. I ate all the cloves of garlic and rose petals we didn't use, making my blood poisonous to you. I knew you wouldn't be able to smell both me and the bottle outside in all this rain and other distracting scents.

Winnona is about to lunge at Jack, but stops as Jack grabs David by the neck with one hand, he struggles to breath.

JACK CRAVEN
I underestimated you two but I'm done playing games.

Jack in clear pain drags David by the neck and holds him over edge of the roof. David is passing out from lack of oxygen. The flooded river bank rages below.

JACK CRAVEN (CONT'D)
Now submit or he falls!

She snarls defiantly. Jack, smiles drops him off the roof. Winnona darts to look over the edge and is in shock. She sits, Jack approaches.

She tilts her head back and lets out a howl, different from her previous howls. It is like a powerful yet lonely wind echoing in a deep dark abyss.

Her head turns to Jack, her eyes glow white.

The sound of her howl continues without her. It becomes the sound of the wind itself as it blows up from beneath them, the dark clouds gather and circle above. Jack tries to move but the wind blows so hard against him in every direction, he is trapped.

JACK CRAVEN (CONT'D) This isn't over! Not by a long shot!

The thunder builds above, the clouds flash. A massive lightning bolt strikes Jack for a good five seconds. He is crispy and sparking. The wind blows his body towards the edge and he goes flying into the river and washed away.

Winnona's eyes stop glowing white, the rain fall and storm clouds dissipate, the full moon reveals itself. Winnona sees David's pocket watch, she hangs her head mournfully. Travis limps over, he looks around for David but doesn't see him and realizes what happened looking at Winnona. He goes to put a hand of comfort on her shoulder.

DAVID (O.S.)

HEY!!

They rush to see over the edge.

David dangles from his satchel, the strap is slung on a track plank.

TRAVIS CRABTREE

DAVID! YOU SON-OF-A-BITCH!

Winnona's tail wags and she pants excitedly.

David manages to pull himself back up onto the tracks. Travis gives him a hand back up onto the roof of the train. He gives David a bear hug/head lock

TRAVIS CRABTREE (CONT'D)

I really thought you bit the dust for second there!

DAVID

I'm full of surprises-

BAM

Winnona has changed back into a human, she is fainted face down, covered in injuries and nude.

David goes to her.

WINNONA

You are safe?

DAVID

Just hang on.

TRAVIS CRABTREE

Is she..?

DAVID

We need to get her inside.

David tries to pick her up but is struggles very hard.

shouldn't be that heavy.

Travis gives it a try but he equally has as much trouble.

TRAVIS CRABTREE (CONT'D)

Well damn, now what?

DAVID

We can use your coat as a blanket. It seems the weather has improved, she should be good to rest up here.

Winnona's vision blurs and her consciousness slips away to black.

I/E. DREAM - TIME UNKNOWN

A tall tree top against a pale blue sky. A comforting hum of a woman's voice permeates the background noise. Winnona's mother is caressing someone resting in her lap as she looks off dreamily into the distance.

YOUNG WINNONA (O.S.)

Mama?

Her humming stops. All is unnervingly quiet. Her eyes tear up with blood and the sky turns grey, to black.

WINNONA (O.S.)

MAMA, I- I'M SO SORRY

EXT. TRAIN CAR - MORNING

Winnona's hand is outstretched, she sits upright and is covered in sweat. Crabtree's duster coat is blanketed over her, she processes where she is. She has recovered from the majority of her injuries. Her eyes dart around and does not see David or Crabtree. She gets up and slips the duster onto herself. She hears something beneath her, like logs sawing. She ducks her head over the edge to look into the train car, she sees Crabtree asleep and snoring obnoxiously, still no sign of David.

She gets back up, sniffs the air, then follows the scent.

INT. DINING CAR - CONTINUOUS

David stands before the corpse of Leland Blackwater. Winnona comes in. She approaches him.

DAVID

How are you feeling?

WINNONA

I'm almost healed. Sleep helps me heal faster...why is Blackwater's body here? I thought Jack ate everybody else.

DAVID

Jack turned him into a vampire, I guess he helped Jack slaughter everyone. He was going to kill the Marshal... So I killed him.

WINNONA

Oh.

Beat

WINNONA (CONT'D)

Why don't we go sit on the roof a while?

EXT. DINNING CAR ROOF - CONTINUOUS

Winnona and David sit on the roof of the Dining car. The river is no longer flooded and it is a beautiful morning.

DAVID

When it happened, I felt nothing... everything was so chaotic but now...

WINNONA

Now?

DAVID

I feel a hole in me, deep down... and I don't know whether to vomit or scream or break something. Killing him was so damned easy and I didn't even stop to think-

WINNONA

He was a monster before he was a "monster" David. What else could you have done? Let him kill you and Crabtree?

DAVID

I don't know I... I feel so torn up inside Winnona.

I felt the same way when I killed a person for the first time.

DAVID

Was that person your mother?

WINNONA

...Yes... its too painful to go into but... I was just trying to say that you aren't crazy for feeling the way you feel.

DAVID

Thank you... Winnona, I'm sorry for misjudging you and your actions-

WINNONA

David, you weren't completely right, but you weren't wrong either.

DAVID

What do you mean?

WINNONA

I became blind to how easy it became for me to kill and even more easily it was for me to justify it. Sometimes it is necessary but

Can I ask you some questions?

WINNONA (CONT'D)

Depends on the questions.

DAVID

How did you defeat Jack?

WINNONA

I don't know.

DAVID

You don't know?

WINNONA

When Jack threw you off the train, I lost it, then everything after that is a blank.

DAVID

You've been this way your whole life?

As long as I could remember.

DAVID

Was your mother like you? Could she change?

WINNONA

No, my father was though. He left us when I was very small. My mother never spoke much about him, other than he was from Italy.

DAVTD

So can you only change at night?

WINNONA

I can change anytime I want, I prefer not to though.

DAVID

Why?

WINNONA

When I become a wolf, my mind becomes like water, it can spread out wide or overflow... I lose my myself, like my mind is drifting away. I have to focus very hard to not lose myself to the animal.

DAVID

What would happen then?

WINNONA

I'd never become human again, and I couldn't control what I'd do then.

DAVID

And you have no idea what you are?

She shakes her head.

WINNONA

You're supposed to be the expert, you don't know what I am?

DAVID

Winnona, to be honest I've never heard of anything like you in my father's research. You have aspects of other lore from different regions but you're nothing like I've ever seen.

Aren't you afraid?

DAVID

No. Are you afraid of me?

WINNONA

Please. If anything, I'm afraid for you. You're so reckless and breakable. A terrible combination for someone who doesn't have abilities.

DAVTD

It's nice to know you care so much.

WINNONA

It's troubling to know how little you care for your safety.

DAVID

So since it's established we both care, does this make us friends now?

WINNONA

Don't push it.

DAVID

Come on, tell me why not. After everything that's happened-

WINNONA

I can't have friends okay? Everyoneand I mean EVERYONE I meet dies eventually.

She shows the blackstar on her chest.

WINNONA (CONT'D)

I have been marked for death my whole life. This "thing" on my chest just makes me a walking target for any lowlife or creature seeking power. But... something HAS been following me for the last ten years. Killing people I get close too, or even people who I have necessary conversation with aren't safe.

DAVTD

So this thing that's been following you this whole time- are you saying that's the true wolf of the west?

She nods.

WINNONA

I should have just left you be when I first saw you. You wouldn't have been dragged into this mess-

DAVID

If that's how you really feel then why stay with me? After Blackwater was stopped and I was unconscious? Why stay up until now? Why help me?

WINNONA

Because you were so clearly helpless but you were also so kind. I never met someone who was so kind and sincere and... not many are kind to me, especially at first meeting. I couldn't let that feeling, that kindness die with you. I didn't want it to leave me so soon.

DAVID

You could still stay- If you wanted...

WINNONA

What?

DAVID

Maybe you could come with me? You ccan help me with my research and maybe together we can find out what you really are.

WINNONA

I'm not the "researching" type
David-

DAVID

Then what about...a bodyguard? I could use some muscle.

WINNONA

That's something we can both agree on.

They laugh.

WINNONA (CONT'D)

I made a promise to Crabtree remember? I survive, I go willingly.

DAVID

But what if you didn't have that promise in the way. Would you come with me?

WINNONA

Τ-

Crabtree's footsteps.

DAVID

Marshal?

TRAVIS CRABTREE

We are a ways from civilization. We are going to have to walk from here. Better get moving.

DAVID

To be continued.

They get up. Winnona walks ahead but David hangs back. He's scratching at the bite marks in his neck, they're pulsating and still slightly bleeding.

WINNONA

You alright?

DAVID

Yeah. I'm fine, let's go.

EXT. River Bank - DAY

Jack Craven's charred, corpse floats down the river towards the shore of a riverbank where some kids are playing, causing harmless mischief. One grabs a stick and pokes at the body. Jack's hand grab's the kid's ankle. The other children run away in terror. Jack's fangs flash in a white, sickening smile that pops against his burnt, blackened flesh.

END