

DEEP HOLLOW (PILOT)

Written by

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FADE IN:

EXT. ABOVE THE TOWN OF DEEP HOLLOW - DAY

An eagle circles in the sky. It flies over a small town with more trees than houses. Finally, it flies off screen as it passes over a sign which reads, "Welcome to Deep Hollow. Population 8,645."

EXT. SUBURB STREETS - DAY

A dark blue Mercedes sedan drives down streets lined with decorative trees in front of upper-middle class houses with manicured lawns.

A postman waves to a person on his route. A young boy passes by him on a bike and chucks a newspaper. A dog barks at the boy from behind a white picket fence.

EXT. RIDGEWAY PREPARATORY SCHOOL COURTYARD - DAY

The Mercedes rolls to a stop in front of the school. A pair of black dress shoes step out of the car and onto the sidewalk. They twist and then begin walking forward. DANE KING, 16, steps out into view.

He is tall, with neatly-groomed black hair, and is dressed in the same uniform other students in the courtyard are wearing. He slowly surveys his surroundings with piercing blue eyes.

Two FEMALE STUDENTS point at him.

STUDENT 1  
(Whispered)  
Is that the new guy?

STUDENT 2  
(Whispered)  
Yeah, he's cute.

Dane pulls out his phone and looks at the notes app. The note says "Meeting in Room 117." He walks into the school.

INT. RIDGEWAY PREPARATORY SCHOOL HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Dane glances down at his phone again once inside and then up at the nearest door. 111. He keeps walking. 113. 115. 119. He stops, looks at his phone again, and then turns around...

...and crashes directly into CLAIRE LUCAS (16), a pretty girl with her blonde hair braided and tucked under a baseball cap. Her armful of books dump onto the ground.

DANE

Oh, gosh, I'm so sorry. Here, let me help.

Dane and Claire both kneel down to pick up her books. Dane picks up a copy of *Paradise Lost*.

DANE (CONT'D)

Are you are a poetry fan?

Claire snatches back the book and stands up.

CLAIRE

No. Watch where you're going next time.

She brushes past him.

DANE

Wait! Do you know where Room 117 is?

CLAIRE

You didn't walk far enough.

She turns around and walks away. Dane shakes his head and walks past 119 to find 117.

INT. RIDGEWAY PREPARATORY SCHOOL OFFICES - CONTINUOUS

He walks inside and up to the SECRETARY's desk.

SECRETARY

Can I help you, young man?

DANE

Yes, I'm here to see Principal Willard.

SECRETARY

Name?

DANE

Dane. Dane King.

The secretary picks up the phone on her desk.

SECRETARY

Dane King is here to see you.

(beat)

Yes, I'll send him in.

She puts down the receiver and gestures with a pen toward another door. Dane waves and walks into the principal's office.

INT. PRINCIPAL WILLARD'S OFFICE - DAY

JAMES WILLARD, a gruff, bald man in a button-down looks up and takes off his reading glasses.

PRINCIPAL WILLARD

Have a seat.

Dane sits down in one of the arm chairs across from Willard's desk. The principal pulls out a file and briefly glances over it.

PRINCIPAL WILLARD (CONT'D)

Mr. King...

DANE

You can call me Dane.

PRINCIPAL WILLARD

Mr. King.

(beat)

Your academic record is exemplary...

DANE

Thank you sir, I...

Willard holds up a hand.

PRINCIPAL WILLARD

But, you have a tendency to get into trouble.

DANE

I'm not sure that's fair.

PRINCIPAL WILLARD

You were suspended three times in one year for fighting.

Dane shrugs.

DANE

I guess I'm just a passionate guy.

PRINCIPAL WILLARD

Such passion will not be tolerated at my academy. The only reason you are here is because of your 4.0 GPA and because your grandfather practically owns this academy...

DANE

My grandfather does own this school.

PRINCIPAL WILLARD

Nevertheless, I am putting you on a very short leash here. You are not to be getting into fights while on academy grounds. Am I understood?

Dane nods.

PRINCIPAL WILLARD (CONT'D)

Now there are a few things I need to go over with you before you get to class. First, because here at Ridgeway Preparatory School, we focus on the body as well as the mind, all students are required to participate in a sport of some kind. You have two weeks to choose. I understand you play basketball.

DANE

Yes sir, center guard.

PRINCIPAL WILLARD

Good. We could use one of those, but you are free to choose another sport. Second, all students must keep at least a 3.5 GPA. Do you think you can handle that?

DANE

Yes sir.

PRINCIPAL WILLARD

Lastly, all students are required to complete 20 hours of documented community service per semester.

Willard stands up, and Dane takes his cue to do the same.

PRINCIPAL WILLARD (CONT'D)

Mr. King, welcome to our academy. Follow our code of conduct, and I trust you'll do well.

They shake hands.

DANE

Understood sir. Now, if you'll  
excuse me, my first class starts in  
three minutes.

Principal Willard gestures toward the door.

PRINCIPAL WILLARD

And Mr. King, I wanted to say that  
I knew your parents. They were good  
people.

EXT. DANE'S CALIFORNIA HOUSE - NIGHT

A slightly YOUNGER DANE (13) is embraced by his terrified-  
looking mother, CATHERINE (40).

She places something in his hands, and pushes him away,  
mouthing something we can't hear.

EXT. CALIFORNIA STREET - NIGHT

Down the street, Younger Dane turns around in time to see the  
roof of his house blow off in a bright green explosion.

He collapses to his knees, tears forming in his eyes.

INT. PRINCIPAL WILLARD'S OFFICE - DAY

Dane nods and walks out the door.

DANE

Yeah, they were.

INT. RIDGEWAY PREPARATORY SCHOOL HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Dane shuts the door to room 117 behind him and breathes a  
sigh of relief. HAYDEN ADAIR, who is leaning against the wall  
outside the room, pipes up in a thick Irish brogue.

HAYDEN

Oi there, mate!

Dane jumps, startled.

DANE

Oh, hi, I didn't see you there.

HAYDEN  
That was the idea.

He holds out a hand, which Dane takes.

HAYDEN (CONT'D)  
Hayden Adair. Captain of the soccer  
team and designated school playboy.

DANE  
Nice to meet you. Dane King. New  
guy.

HAYDEN  
Oh, I know who ya are. From  
California, right? Whole school's  
been buzzing about you.

DANE  
Really. Can't imagine why. I'm  
nothing special.

Hayden claps an arm around Dane's shoulders. They start  
walking forward.

HAYDEN  
We don't get a lot of new people,  
'round here. That in itself is  
special enough for the losers here.

DANE  
Glad I can provide some  
entertainment.

The school bell rings. Other STUDENTS in the hall stop  
conversations and move toward their classes

HAYDEN  
What's your first class?

Dane pulls out his phone again.

DANE  
Biology.

HAYDEN  
Brilliant! That's my first class  
too. Come on. I'll show you the  
way. The numbers in here are a bit  
odd.

INT. SCIENCE LAB - CONTINUOUS

Dane and Hayden find seats next to each other in the middle of the room. The science room looks like an average high school science lab with beakers and vials on racks, biology and chemistry related posters hung on the walls, and a hamster in a cage by the window.

KENNETH SMITH (43), the biology teacher, comes in and writes his name on the board. He turns to face the class.

SMITH

Hello class. I hope you all had a wonderful summer and are ready to begin learning again.

A few GROANS from the class. Smith smiles and notices Dane.

SMITH (CONT'D)

It seems we have a new student. Come up here and introduce yourself.

Dane looks to Hayden who gestures for him to do it. Dane gets up and walks to the front of the classroom.

SMITH (CONT'D)

Tell us about yourself.

Dane faces the classroom and GULPS. He notices Claire sitting near the back, reading.

DANE

My name is Dane. I just moved here about a week ago from San Francisco. I like basketball...

Dane looks toward Mr. Smith nervously.

SMITH

Keep going.

DANE

I'm not sure what else to say.

SMITH

Well, what's the most exciting thing that ever happened to you?

DANE

Well...



EXT. WOODS - DAY

Dane runs through thick shrubs and close trees. He has a cut above his eye.

Something big and furry runs past him. He takes off after it.

INT. WAREHOUSE - NIGHT

A pale VAMPIRE turns around, bearing its fangs. Dane shoots an arrow from a crossbow into the creature.

INT. DANE'S OLD SCHOOL HALLWAY - NIGHT

Dane swings a bloody knife through the air at something unseen.

INT. SCIENCE LAB - DAY

Dane is still standing in front of the class. He blinks.

DANE  
I broke my leg rock climbing once.

SMITH  
Exciting. And painful. You can sit down now.

Dane goes and sits down next to Hayden.

SMITH (CONT'D)  
Now, class, let me tell you what we'll be covering this year...

Smith CONTINUES in the background. Dane leans over to Hayden.

DANE  
They aren't going to force me to do that in every class are they?

HAYDEN  
Probably.

Dane looks around at the other students. On the other side of the room, LESLIE ADAMS (16), a girl with her hair in a stylish hairdo and a little too much makeup on, winks and waves at him. He gives a little wave back.

Smith suddenly stops speaking and looks back behind Dane.

SMITH

Ms. Lucas, can you please remove your cap? For the tenth time.

Dane's eyes find Claire sitting at the back of the room. She glances at him and then pulls off the cap.

Smith continues TALKING, and Hayden nudges Dane.

HAYDEN

Psst. You might want to take notes.

DANE

It's the first day of classes.

Dane realizes that most of the students are already following Hayden's advise.

HAYDEN

Welcome to Ridgeway.

Dane pulls out a notebook and starts taking notes.

INT. RIDGEWAY CAFETERIA - DAY

The cafeteria is much nicer than a usual high school cafeteria, with two floors and an outdoor patio.

Dane and Hayden stand next to each other in the line for lunch.

DANE

I can't believe we already have homework in English.

HAYDEN

You have Kirsch?

Dane nods.

HAYDEN (CONT'D)

Yeah, she's a big fan of self-important, soul-seeking essays.

They move up in line. The lunch lady hands Dane and Hayden their food on a tray.

DANE

Wow. This beats the heck out of public school food.

Hayden picks up the turkey leg on his plate and takes a bite out of it.

HAYDEN  
Lunch is by far the best thing  
about this place.

Leslie Adams walks by in a pack of other pretty GIRLS. Hayden  
ogles them shamelessly.

Leslie sneers back. A few of the other girls smile and wave.

HAYDEN (CONT'D)  
Other than the lasses of course.

Dane and Hayden sit down at an empty table.

DANE  
Where are you from, if you don't  
mind my asking? Scotland?

Hayden's face sours.

HAYDEN  
Ireland.

DANE  
Oh, sorry. You get that a lot?

HAYDEN  
You have no idea.

DANE  
So what's your story?

HAYDEN  
Not too long. My dad ended up in  
some trouble in Ireland, so he  
decided that we might do better in  
the land of the free. I was 10 when  
we moved, and we've lived in Deep  
Hollow since then.

Dane takes a drink.

DANE  
So what do I need to know to  
survive here?

Hayden grins.

HAYDEN  
You came to the right man. First,  
look around.

Dane does. Other students congregate throughout the cafeteria  
in small groups.

HAYDEN (CONT'D)  
You might think there are different  
groups out there, but you'd be  
wrong. There are actually two.

Hayden holds up his index finger.

HAYDEN (CONT'D)  
The rich.

His middle finger joins the index.

HAYDEN (CONT'D)  
And the smart. Everyone here either  
bought their way in or they're on  
scholarship. And the majority  
bought in.

DANE  
Let me guess, even here, money  
equals popularity?

HAYDEN  
You guessed it, mate. The more  
money you have, the more people  
want to be your friend.

Dane points to Leslie.

DANE  
I take it she's loaded.

HAYDEN  
She's got a trust fund the size of  
the Atlantic.

DANE  
What about you?

Hayden takes another chomp out of his turkey leg.

HAYDEN  
Scholarship. Apparently I'm some  
sort of genius.

Dane raises an eyebrow.

A FLIRTY GIRL walks by and waves at Hayden.

FLIRTY GIRL  
Hi, Hayden.

Hayden waves back and blows an exaggerated kiss.

Dane leans forward.

DANE  
I thought you said the scholarship  
kids weren't popular.

HAYDEN  
Doesn't count for me.

DANE  
Why not?

HAYDEN  
I'm foreign! Gives me automatic  
cool points. The ladies here are  
suckers for the accent.

Dane laughs and shakes his head. Something catches his eye.

Claire Lucas walks in and up to the lunch counter. She nods  
to the lunch lady and then walked off with her food. She goes  
to sit in a corner by herself.

Hayden snaps his fingers in front of Dane's face.

DANE  
What?

Hayden follows where Dane's line of sight had been.

HAYDEN  
Don't even think about it.

DANE  
What are you talking about?

HAYDEN  
You're looking at Prison Girl. If  
you want to fit in here, don't.

DANE  
Prison Girl?

Hayden waves his hand dismissively.

HAYDEN  
Long story. Point is, being around  
her is social suicide.

DANE  
That seems a little harsh.

HAYDEN

It's not. She's weird. Sit's in the back of every class reading, but still knows the answer to every question. Doesn't talk much, especially not to guys.

Dane glances back at her. She looks up from her food, and he looks away.

DANE

No guys? Is she...?

Hayden shrugs.

HAYDEN

I don't know what team she bats for.

(beat)

Or if she bats at all.

DANE

Alright, I get it. Stay away.

Dane looks at his watch and then around at the room.

Hayden's phone beeps. He looks down at the text from a person Hayden has designated as "Council A\*\*wipe." The text reads, "Did you find him?"

Hayden texts back, "Affirmative."

A second later, the next text comes. "Introduce yourself."

HAYDEN

Hey, Dane, I have to tell you something.

Dane's phone starts buzzing now. Dane glances down at it. He starts to stand up.

DANE

Hang on, man. I have to take this.

Dane walks out of the cafeteria and down the hall a bit. He puts the phone to his ear.

DANE (CONT'D)

Grandpa. What?

ERNST (O.S.)

(filtered)

Have you found your contact.

Dane rubs his face and starts to pace.

DANE

No. I was told he'd find me at lunch, but I don't think he has yet. Would've been nice if they'd told me his name.

ERNST (O.S.)

(filtered)

Alright. Hang tight. If you don't find him today, I'll contact the Council.

DANE

Good. Bye.

ERNST (O.S.)

(filtered)

Wait, Dane. How has your day been?

Dane stops.

DANE

No offense, Grandpa, but I don't think we're at the small chat phase yet.

Dane frowns and sniffs the air.

DANE (CONT'D)

I gotta go. I smell something.

ERNST (O.S.)

(filtered)

Smell? Are you alright, Dane?

Dane walks down the hallway, sniffing.

DANE

I'm fine. I really gotta go. This isn't good.

Dane hangs up and pauses in the middle of the hallway. He glances behind him. No one there.

He looks around him slowly. Then he freezes.

A puddle of blood seeps from under the door of a classroom. Dane moves toward it slowly.

He WHISPERS something in Latin. Beside him, a glowing golden portal opens. He reaches inside and pulls out a knife and then dismissed the portal with a wave.

He pushes open the already ajar door and then inches his way around the door frame so he can see inside.

He grimaces.

DANE (CONT'D)

Not again.

BLACKOUT.

INT. POLICE STATION - DAY

ERNST KOENIG walks into the police station and hurries over to Dane. SHERIFF PARKER is standing next to Dane, who looks dejected.

ERNST

Dane, are you alright?

Parker steps in front of Dane.

SHERIFF PARKER

Mr. Koenig, Dane has been through a trauma. Be gentle with him.

Ernst throws a suspicious glance Dane's way. Dane shrugs.

ERNST

What happened?

SHERIFF PARKER

We're not sure yet, sir, but we do know that Dane discovered a body that has been identified as the school's biology teacher.

ERNST

Kenneth. That's horrible. He was a good man. Can I take my grandson now?

SHERIFF PARKER

Yes. We're done now. We'll call if we have any more questions.

Dane stands, and Ernst puts his arm over his shoulder. They begin walking out.

ERNST

Thank you, Sheriff.



INT. BLUE MERCEDES - DAY

In the back seat of the Mercedes, Dane relaxes.

ERNST  
Is that what really happened?

DANE  
Pretty much, actually. I discovered  
the body and then called the cops.

Ernst leans back in his seat.

ERNST  
And the whole scared/innocent  
little boy act?

DANE  
My usual. Something like that would  
mess up a normal kid. Gotta look  
normal.

Ernst nods.

ERNST  
Do you think this is something up  
your alley?

DANE  
Dude's heart was ripped out. I'm  
going to go with probably.

ERNST  
You should look into it tonight.

DANE  
You know, you're probably the only  
grandparent in the world that  
actually encourages his charge to  
sneak out at night.

ERNST  
It's not sneaking out if I let you  
do it.

Dane shifts awkwardly and looks out the window.

ERNST (CONT'D)  
It's your job, and I'm trying to  
get used to it. I don't want to  
lose you like I lost your father.

DANE  
Thanks, Gramps.  
(beat)  
Hey can we just have quiet for a  
bit. I have an essay to think  
about.

ERNST  
Sure. That's fine. I'm just trying  
to get to know you better.

DANE  
Funny that you never had any  
interest when Mom and Dad were  
alive.

Ernst opens his mouth and then closes it again. He looks out  
the window and away from Dane.

EXT. ABOVE THE MERCEDES - EVENING

The Mercedes winds down the road.

INT. DANE'S ROOM - NIGHT

Dane's room is as immaculately clean as he is well-groomed.  
The only clutter is a pile of books on his desk, but even  
those are neatly stacked.

Dane sits at his desk in front of a window. Outside is inky  
blackness. Inside, only the desk lamp and Dane's laptop  
provide light.

Dane cracks his stiff neck. He sits back in his chair and  
stares at the blinking cursor on the screen.

The Word document that sits open is titled "What Made Me Who  
I Am." The rest of the document is blank.

Dane rubs his eyes.

INT. DANE'S CALIFORNIA BEDROOM - NIGHT

Dane's mother wakes him up. She has black hair and blue eyes,  
just like him. The Younger Dane seen in the earlier flashback  
rolls over, bleary-eyed.

DANE  
Mom?

CATHERINE KING  
Get up honey.

A crash sounds in the distance. Dane sits up quickly.

DANE  
What's going on.

CATHERINE KING  
No time. Get downstairs. Get out of  
the house.

Younger Dane stands up quickly. His mother ushers him down  
the stairs.

EXT. DANE'S CALIFORNIA HOUSE - NIGHT

Dane's mother pushes him out the front door.

HANK KING (O.S.)  
Catherine!

Younger Dane starts to run back into the house. His mother  
catches him.

DANE  
Dad!

CATHERINE KING  
Look at me, Dane.

She grabs his face in both of her hands. Dane's eyes fix on  
hers. She lets go of his face and puts a piece of paper into  
his hands

CATHERINE KOENIG  
Go this address. Get help. Do not  
come back here. No matter what, do  
you understand?

HANK KING (O.S.)  
Catherine! Now!

Catherine wraps her son in a hug.

CATHERINE KING  
I love you. We both do. Now run.  
Go!

Dane turns around and starts sprinting down the sidewalk.

EXT. CALIFORNIA STREET - NIGHT

Down the street, something makes Younger Dane stop. He turns back around.

A beam of green energy blows the roof off of his house and shoots high into the clouds. A second later, the entire house explodes.

He drops to his knees, slack jawed and crying.

INT. DANE'S ROOM - NIGHT

Dane shakes his head and closes the laptop. He pulls on a light jacket and heads out.

Through the window, the Mercedes is seen driving away.

EXT. RIDGE PREPARATORY SCHOOL BACK ENTRANCE - NIGHT

Dane steps out of the Mercedes and sneaks toward the back entrance of the school. He looks around.

Finding no one, he walks up to the doors. He pulls out a lock picking kit and kneels in front of the door handle.

Then he looks at it more closely. He stands and uses two fingers to push the door open.

Dane glances over his shoulder one last time. He walks into the school slowly.

INT. RIDGE PREPARATORY HALLWAY - NIGHT

Dane closes the door quietly behind him. He stands still and sniffs the air. He blinks and his eyes are suddenly back-lit with a golden light, giving him night vision.

He moves forward, letting his nose guide him back to the classroom where he found the body.

INT. SCIENCE LAB - NIGHT

Dane stands in the doorway of the room. On the floor in front of him is a tape outline of the teacher's body is left on the floor with a puddle of dried blood. Dane kneels down to look at it.

He dips a finger in the blood and holds it up to his nose. He sniffs and then wipes his finger on the carpet. He glances around the room.

Under the teacher's desk, something red sticks out. Dane gets up and walks over to it.

DANE

What do we have here?

Dane picks up a piece of fabric with a the crest of Ridgeway Prep stitched into it. Blood soaks the edge of the fabric.

A sudden THUMPING makes Dane whirl around.

In the doorway, a silhouette is seen escaping.

Dane jumps up and runs after it.

INT. RIDGE PREPARATORY HALLWAY - NIGHT

Dane comes skidding out of the classroom and hurries after his target.

The person makes a hard right turn into a classroom.

INT. RIDGEWAY PREP CLASSROOM - NIGHT

Dane BURSTS through the door of the classroom. He pauses a moment, BREATHING hard and see no one. Then he notices the open window.

Out the window, the silhouette is running towards the football field.

Dane runs toward the window and vaults out of it.

EXT. RIDGEWAY FOOTBALL FIELD - NIGHT

Dane sprints to catch the silhouette. The guy runs faster, but Dane gains on him. Now that he's closer, we can see that he's wearing a hoodie with a similar symbol from the fabric Dane found on the hood.

Dane reaches out and grabs the guy from on the shoulder, bringing him to the ground.

The guy tumbles to a stop with Dane on top of him. Dane pulls off the hood...

And reveals the face of Hayden, eyes lit up with the same golden light that Dane has.

DANE

Hayden?

Dane gets off of him.

DANE (CONT'D)

You're a Dragon Knight?

Hayden stands up and dusts himself off.

HAYDEN

I was trying to tell you that earlier. But then you discovered Mr. Smith.

DANE

Right. So you're here to investigate then?

HAYDEN

Yeah. I haven't found anything yet.

DANE

I might have.

Dane pulls the piece of fabric from his pocket and hands it to Hayden. Hayden looks at it a moment and then pulls his hood around to look at it.

HAYDEN

I think we have a match.

DANE

So what? It's a student?

HAYDEN

That's my guess.

Hayden hands the fabric back to Dane.

DANE

What's our next move?

HAYDEN

First off, you go home and call up the Dragon Council. Let them know you met me so they'll stop harassing me about it.

DANE

Okay. How about we meet up at lunch tomorrow and make a plan then.

Dane holds out his hand. Hayden takes it.

HAYDEN

Nice to finally be introduced properly, mate.

INT. DANE'S HOUSE FOYER - NIGHT

Dane comes into his house. He rubs his eyes and hangs his keys on a wall hook next to several other sets of car keys.

Dane stumbles forward tiredly. He looks up and frowns.

DANE

You don't have to wait up for me.

INT. DANE'S HOUSE LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Ernst is sitting in an armchair reading a book. He glances over his glasses as Dane enters.

ERNST

I'm not. Just a little light reading before bed.

DANE

At 3am? (beat) Good night, grandpa.

Ernst closes the book and sets it aside.

INT. DANE'S ROOM - NIGHT

Dane takes off his shirt and falls into his bed. He glances over at his night stand.

A framed photo of a young version of him and his parents looking very happy. Dane smiles at the picture and turns over to go to sleep.

INT. RIDGEWAY CAFETERIA - DAY

A lunch tray comes down on a table. Hayden is revealed and sits down next to Dane, who looks tired.

HAYDEN

You get any sleep, mate?

DANE

Not really. But I got a question.

Hayden shoves an entire dinner roll into his mouth.

HAYDEN

(muffled)

Go ahead.

DANE

What's up with this assignment?

HAYDEN

What do you mean?

DANE

I thought this was supposed to be a chill assignment. Get me away from California.

HAYDEN

What happened in Cali?

(beat)

Never mind. Not the point. The point is, Deep Hollow was plenty calm. Until about three months ago.

DANE

What happened?

HAYDEN

I don't really know. Everything just suddenly went bloody off its nut. Demons, witches, imps, just everywhere.

DANE

Why wasn't I told about this?

HAYDEN

Because the Dragon Council won't admit it. They think I'm "exaggerating." Can't imagine why.

DANE

Yeah...

Dane looks around as Claire walks into the cafeteria. The hood from her school hoodie is missing.

Hayden snaps his fingers in front of Dane's face.



HAYDEN  
Hey, didn't I tell you she's social  
suicide?

DANE  
No, look.

Hayden looks.

HAYDEN  
What am I supposed to be looking  
at?

DANE  
The hood. It's missing.

HAYDEN  
Bloody hell. Well, I guess I  
shouldn't be surprised.

DANE  
Why?

HAYDEN  
Rumor is her da is in prison for  
murdering a guy in a robbery gone  
wrong. Guess she's just following  
in his footsteps.

Dane is staring at her as she sits down in the corner by  
herself.

DANE  
Why don't we go over there and get  
to know her. For the investigation.

HAYDEN  
For the investigation.

Dane gets up first and Hayden follows suit.

Dane sits down at Claire's side, making her jump in surprise.  
She scowls when Hayden sits down after him.

CLAIRE  
Can I help you with something?

DANE  
I'm new here, and I'm just trying  
to get to make some friends.

Dane holds out his hand. Claire ignores it and takes a bite  
from her roll. Dane drops his hand.

DANE (CONT'D)  
Anyway. I didn't catch your name  
when I ran into you earlier.

CLAIRE  
It's Claire. And if you don't mind,  
I'm trying to eat in peace.

Dane opens his mouth--

CLAIRE (CONT'D)  
Alone.

HAYDEN  
Look here, this fella's trying to  
be nice.

CLAIRE  
Well, I didn't ask him to.

While Hayden and Claire are staring each other down, the  
school bell RINGS.

Claire stands up and leaves the guys sitting alone.

DANE  
That went well.

HAYDEN  
There's a reason no one likes her.

DANE  
Regardless, we're going to need a  
new plan for finding out more about  
her.

HAYDEN  
It's settled then. Stakeout at her  
place tonight.

Hayden gets up and starts to dump off the trash from his  
tray. Dane starts to chase after him

DANE  
Um, isn't that a little creepy? Two  
dudes in a car watching a chick's  
house?

HAYDEN  
What's creepier, that or making a  
demon or something tear out your  
teacher's heart?

Dane tilts his head to the side to concede the point.

DANE

Fair enough. I'll pick you up at eight. Where's your house?

HAYDEN

No, I'll pick you up. Where we're going, your fancy-pants cars will stick out like a sore thumb.

DANE

Do you even know where I live?

HAYDEN

Of course. You're old Koenig's grandkid. Dude owns half the town. Everyone knows where he lives.

DANE

Right. See you later, then.

INT. RIDGE PREPARATORY HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Dane and Hayden exit the cafeteria. Hayden goes one way, and Dane goes the other.

Dane pauses when he sees Claire standing in the doorway to her classroom staring back at him. When she realizes Dane has spotted her, she quickly goes inside.

Dane shakes his head and keeps walking.

INT. DANE'S HOUSE LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Dane is sitting in a plush arm chair wearing all black. Ernst sits in the arm chair opposite from him, reading a thick novel.

A car horn BEEPS outside, and Dane gets up. Ernst looks up over his reading glasses.

ERNST

That's Hayden Adair?

Dane pauses.

DANE

Yeah.

ERNST

Be careful around him. I've heard he's a bit of a wild card.

DANE  
(sarcastically)  
I'll keep that in mind.

Dane moves toward the front door without another word.

EXT. DANE'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Hayden leans out of a beat-up looking green pickup.

HAYDEN  
Hurry up.

Dane gets in the truck.

INT. HAYDEN'S TRUCK - NIGHT

Dane pokes a rear view mirror ornament shaped like a shamrock.

DANE  
You know where we're going, right?

HAYDEN  
(scoffing)  
Please.

EXT. ABOVE HAYDEN'S CAR - NIGHT

Hayden's truck peels out of Dane's driveway.

EXT. CLAIRE'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Claire's house is a medium-sized two story house squeezed in between other somewhat run-down looking two story houses.

Hayden's truck pulls to an abrupt stop across the street.

INT. HAYDEN'S TRUCK - NIGHT

Hayden turns the truck off. Dane takes his hand off of the safety handle on the roof of the truck. Hayden notices.

HAYDEN  
I'm not that bad.

Dane doesn't say anything.

Hayden pulls out a pair of binoculars from his center console and hands them to Dane.

HAYDEN (CONT'D)  
Here. Keep watch for a sec.

Hayden leans into the back seat.

DANE  
What are you doing?

Hayden comes back with a box full of donuts.

HAYDEN  
Getting donuts. It's not a stakeout  
without donuts.

Hayden opens the box and sets them down between them.

FADE TO:

INT. HAYDEN'S TRUCK

The box of donuts is nearly empty. Dane passes the binoculars to Hayden, whose face is now covered in sugar.

Dane rubs his eyes.

DANE  
I don't think she's going anywhere  
tonight.

HAYDEN  
Hey, come on, these things take  
time.

DANE  
I'm just not sure we're not wasting  
our time.

HAYDEN  
What do you mean?

DANE  
I mean, other than the hoodie  
thing, what reason do we have to  
suspect Claire? What's her motive?

HAYDEN  
She's weird?

Dane glares at him.

HAYDEN (CONT'D)  
Kidding. Sheesh.  
(beat)  
Well, how about this: she's been  
fighting with Mr. Smith since last  
spring.

DANE  
What about?

HAYDEN  
Dunno. But everyone's noticed how  
hostile they are to each other.

Dane glances out the window, lot in thought. He perks up.

DANE  
Look.

EXT. CLAIRE'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Claire's window goes up. She looks around before crawling out  
of the window and onto the tree branch that is conveniently  
within reach.

She carefully drops down and jogs over to an older-model  
sedan. She gets in and drives off.

INT. HAYDEN'S TRUCK - NIGHT

Hayden turns the ignition and starts to follow her.

DANE  
Hey, don't drive so close.

HAYDEN  
You wanna drive?

DANE  
Don't make me answer that.

Hayden rolls his eyes and releases his foot's pressure on the  
gas pedal.

EXT. RIDGE PREPARATORY SCHOOL - NIGHT

Claire's car comes to a stop in front of the school. She gets  
and out and runs around to the side of the building.

A moment later the boys pull in.

INT. HAYDEN'S TRUCK - NIGHT

Hayden and Dane both look outside.

DANE  
What on earth is she doing here?

HAYDEN  
One way to find out.

Hayden gets out of the truck. A moment later, so does Dane.

EXT. RIDGEWAY PREP SIDE ENTRANCE - NIGHT

Dane and Hayden creep toward the door, and Dane realizes it's still open.

DANE  
What is it with you and this girl  
and just leaving door's open?

Hayden ignores him and pushes through the door.

INT. RIDGE PREPARATORY HALLWAY - NIGHT

Hayden and Dane stand in the hallway. They look at each other and then blink, lighting their eyes up.

Dane sniffs the air and then points. Hayden pulls two foot-long knives from a hidden spot on his back.

DANE  
What are you doing?

HAYDEN  
Being prepared.

DANE  
To fight a 120 pound girl? I don't  
smell anything else here.

Hayden reluctantly stows the knives.

Together, they sneak down the hallway.

INT. SCIENCE LAB - NIGHT

In the doorway, Hayden and Dane appear.

The classroom has been cleaned now, and the white tape outline on the floor is gone. There's still a ghost of a bloodstain, though.

Dane and Hayden look around the empty room.

HAYDEN  
Where'd she go?

Dane sniffs and walks toward the front of the classroom. He glances up at Hayden and switches off the glow of his eyes. Hayden does the same.

Then, Dane dips down on the other side of the desk.

Claire is sitting balled up underneath the desk. When she sees Dane, she scowls and gets out.

CLAIRE  
You two! What are you doing here!?

HAYDEN  
We could ask you the same thing.

Claire shines a flashlight in front of Hayden's face.

CLAIRE  
What does it look like I'm doing.  
I'm investigating.

DANE  
Well, so are we.

HAYDEN  
I know why we're here, but why do you even care? I thought you hated Mr. Smith.

Claire sits down wearily in a chair.

CLAIRE  
I did. But he was dating my mom. I just want to get her some closure about this whole thing.

DANE  
That explains a lot.

Hayden rolls his eyes.

HAYDEN  
Don't fall for it, Dane. She's lying.



CLAIRE

Excuse me.

DANE

What are you talking about?

HAYDEN

He wasn't dating her mom. He was dating Mrs. Snyder, the history teacher. I caught them making out one day in the teacher's lounge.

CLAIRE

Well, he was over at my house every Tuesday, so I'm not the one lying.

DANE

What if you're both telling the truth?

HAYDEN

Well that doesn't make any sense. That would mean he was dating b-- Ooooooh.

CLAIRE

That bastard! I'm gonna kill him.

DANE

Too late. But at least we have a new suspect.

HAYDEN

Mrs. Snyder?

CLAIRE

Wait, new suspect? Who was--  
(beat)  
You guys are horrible.

DANE

Okay, look, it's not like that. We found a hood that had been torn off of a hoodie, and yours was missing a hood.

Dane pulls the hood out of his pocket and Claire snatches, examines it, and throws it back.

CLAIRE

That's a teacher's hood. See, look. The little phoenix on the bottom of the crest is missing. They didn't add it until 2010.

(MORE)

CLAIRE (CONT'D)

No students have hoodies like this one, including me.

Claire shakes her head as Hayden and Dane curiously reexamine the hood.

HAYDEN

Huh. She's right. Wait, where are you going?

Claire is halfway out the door.

CLAIRE

Where else? I'm going to break into Mrs. Snyder's room.

She exits the room. Dane and Hayden hurry after her.

INT. RIDGE PREPARATORY HALLWAY - NIGHT

Dane and Hayden catch up with her as she walks down the hallway.

DANE

I don't think this is a good idea for you.

HAYDEN

Yeah, you shouldn't be here. This could be really dangerous.

CLAIRE

I can take care of myself.

Dane and Hayden share a look over her head.

They reach the history teacher's door, and Claire kneels down, pulling out a bobby pin and a paper clip.

HAYDEN

Here, let me.

The lock turns and Claire stands up. With a self-satisfied smirk in Hayden's direction, she walks in ahead of the boys.

Dane smiles after her, prompting a whack from Hayden.

INT. HISTORY TEACHER'S ROOM - NIGHT

Hayden wanders toward the side of the class to a big world map. He squints at it.

Dane follows Claire toward the teacher's desk. Claire starts digging through the drawers.

DANE

Looking for something specific.

CLAIRE

I remembered that there was an instance a few weeks ago when there was a note on Mrs. Snyder's desk when we came in. She didn't seem happy when she read it.

DANE

Good memory you've got there.

CLAIRE

It's eidetic.

DANE

Ei--

CLAIRE

Photographic.

DANE

Ah.

HAYDEN (O.S.)

Does Ireland seem too small on this map?

Dane and Claire look up at him and then go back to digging through the drawers without answering.

CLAIRE

Here it is. She crumpled it up.

DANE

Wonder why.

CLAIRE

Probably didn't want students to pull it out of the trash and read it. Lot of nosy losers in this school.

Claire opens the note and quickly reads it. She grins and hands it over to Dane. He glances at it.

DANE

Hayden. Stop your Irish pity party and get over here.

Hayden walks over.

HAYDEN  
This isn't an Irish pity party. Not  
nearly enough Guinness.

Hayden takes the note and reads it. His eyes widen.

HAYDEN (CONT'D)  
Breaking up over a note. How very  
fourth grade.

CLAIRE  
Apparently, they'd been dating for  
a while.

Claire is holding a less crumpled note. Dane looks over her  
shoulder for a moment, and then immediately looks away,  
blushing. Hayden grabs the note and scans it.

HAYDEN  
Well, that's...  
(beat)  
Descriptive.

Claire snatches it back and sticks it with the other note  
back in the desk.

CLAIRE  
I'd say Mrs. Snyder is a little  
more than a *suspect* now, huh?

DANE  
True. We've got motive.

HAYDEN  
A woman scorned.

DANE  
And opportunity.

HAYDEN  
She was at the school when the  
attack happened.

CLAIRE  
All we're missing is the means.

Dane and Hayden glance at each other.

DANE  
Why don't we leave that to the  
police when we call them in the  
morning.

CLAIRE  
And if they don't believe us?

DANE  
Then we'll figure out a way to  
prove it. Tomorrow.

EXT. RIDGEWAY PREPARATORY SCHOOL - NIGHT

Claire, Dane, and Hayden walk out to their cars together.  
They pass by Hayden's truck.

CLAIRE  
Is this your truck? I swear I've  
seen it before.

HAYDEN  
We go to the same school. Anyway,  
see ya tomorrow!

Hayden quickly hurries Dane into the truck. He peels out of  
the driveway, leaving Claire standing alone next to her car.

INT. HAYDEN'S TRUCK - NIGHT

Dane slowly reaches up to the safety handle.

DANE  
I take it we're not waiting until  
tomorrow?

HAYDEN  
Absolutely not. Even if we did tell  
the police, they aren't equipped to  
deal with a demon.

DANE  
I'm not sure it is a demon. They're  
not usually so clean.

HAYDEN  
Fifty bucks says it is.

DANE  
You're on.

EXT. MRS. SNYDER'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Mrs. Snyder's house is a modest-sized one story brick  
building. The lights are all on inside.

Hayden's truck parks across the street.

INT. HAYDEN'S TRUCK - NIGHT

Dane is looking out the window at the house.

DANE

How is it that you know where every  
person in Deep Hollow lives?

Hayden lights his eyes up.

HAYDEN

Stop stalling.

Hayden gets out of the truck. Dane waits a moment, but then he follows.

EXT. MRS. SNYDER'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Dane and Hayden sneak across the street and hide in the bushes under the Snyders' porch. Hayden pops up and takes a quick look through the window.

DANE

See anything?

HAYDEN

No. Smell anything?

Dane sniffs and then grimaces.

DANE

Blood. Follow me.

Dane moves around to the side of the house with Hayden close behind.

Dane pauses underneath of a side window. Then he pops up. He scowls and taps Hayden to join him.

INT. MRS. SNYDER'S HOUSE LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

MR. SNYDER, a paunchy man in his fifties, lies dead with a hole in his chest.

EXT. MRS. SNYDER'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Hayden SUCKS IN air between his teeth.

HAYDEN  
That's Mr. Snyder.

DANE  
She was married?

HAYDEN  
This woman killed two guys, and  
you're surprised she's a cheating  
who--

A GASP comes from behind them. The boys turn around to find a  
horrified Claire.

Claire stumbles back and falls down.

DANE  
Oh, jeez.

HAYDEN  
She can't be here!

To punctuate his point, a woman's SCREAM is heard. Dane and  
Hayden's heads swivel toward the back of the house.

Hayden takes off at a sprint toward the noise. Dane turns  
towards Claire as he moves that way too.

DANE  
Stay here!

EXT. BARN - NIGHT

Hayden is crouching outside of the entrance of a big barn.  
Dane runs up and joins him.

DANE  
Have you seen anything.

HAYDEN  
Not yet.

Dane sniffs.

DANE  
I got a human and something  
(beat)  
Else.

Hayden grins.

HAYDEN  
A demon?

DANE

Only one way to find out.

Dane sneaks into the barn with Hayden following.

INT. BARN - NIGHT

The barn is full of junk and building supplies. Lots of old-fashioned woodworking equipment is hanging on the walls.

Dane and Hayden crouch behind a couple of barrels full of gardening tools.

MRS. SNYDER (O.S.)

That's not fair! There's no one else to kill!

Dane and Hayden look over the top of the barrels.

Across the barn, Mrs. Snyder is cowering in fear of a giant coal black DEMON with massive, sharp horns.

Hayden grins at Dane, who ignores him.

The demon moves toward the teacher. She holds out a pitchfork. The demon swats it aside easily.

DEMON

If that's the case, then our contract is up, and I'm free to kill whoever I want.

The demon pulls his hand to hit Mrs. Snyder.

Dane shakes his head and stands up.

DANE

Hey!

The demon whips around to face Dane. Mrs. Snyder sees Dane.

MRS. SNYDER

Him! Kill him!

Hayden stands up next to Dane.

HAYDEN

You little...

The Demon picks up a wagon.

DANE

Move!



Dane pushes Hayden out of the way as the wagon crashes into the wall above them.

Dane rips off his jacket revealing a t-shirt with two parallel holes cut down the back.

Suddenly, two enormous scaly wings come out of Dane's back.

The demon's face splits to show ugly, rotting, and needle-sharp teeth.

DEMON

A Dragon Knight! I haven't eaten one of those in a while.

The demon runs toward Dane on all fours--

But it's Hayden who slams into him full-force from the side.

When Hayden stands up, he's covered in iridescent scales. The scales begin to fade back to skin.

DANE

Neat trick.

HAYDEN

(annoyed)  
You'd think.

Out of nowhere, the demon whacks Hayden across the room and then turns its attention to Dane.

Dane WHISPERS something, and a small portal opens next to his head. Dane reaches into the portal and pulls out a long knife.

Dane leaps into the air, flaps once, and sails over the demon's head. He slashes at the demon, catching it on the shoulder before landing behind it.

When the demon turns around and starts picking up objects to throw at Dane.

Dane deflects them--

But a tire CRASHES into the wall above Mrs. Snyder, who is cowering a few feet away.

The demon rears up, its throat glowing. Then, it leans forward and blows fire directly at Dane. Dane leaps out of the way and lands next to Hayden, who is just standing up.

DANE

We have to end this!

HAYDEN  
Open a rift!

The two dodge in different directions as a barrel comes down between them and explodes, spraying shrapnel.

DANE  
I can't! Not without Council permission!

HAYDEN  
You can in Deep Hollow. Trust me!

Hayden jumps out of the way of another piece of junk.

Dane looks around at the barn, which is catching fire. In a corner, Mrs. Snyder is unconscious. Dane turns back to Hayden.

DANE  
Get it into an open space!

Hayden grins, rips his t-shirt off, expanding his wings and revealing two long knives cross-strapped to his back, out of the way of his wings.

He flies over the top of the demon. Behind it, he jumps off the ground, grabbing the demon's horns, and flies straight up.

EXT. BARN - NIGHT

Hayden BURSTS through the roof of the barn. He flies the demon to the field in between the barn and the house. He throws the demon to the ground.

Hayden lands hard and tumbles to a stop. He hops up, covered in scales again, and pulls the two knives from their sheathes on his back.

The demon gets up and turned toward Hayden, eyes blazing.

HAYDEN  
(quietly)  
Hurry up, Dane.

Over by the entrance of the barn, Dane emerges with Mrs. Snyder slung over his shoulder. He sets her aside and runs a little way into the field.

He takes a deep breath and starts WHISPERING in Latin. He moves his hand in a circle. A green portal begins to form in front of Dane.

DANE  
(whispers)  
Incredible.

As the portal opens wider, it makes an unearthly HOWLING sound.

Suddenly, the demon stiffens. He whips around to see the portal open. It ROARS!

Hayden flies up behind the demon and flips in mid air to kick it. The demon goes flying toward the portal.

Dane turns around and sees the demon.

DANE (CONT'D)  
Wait!

He tries to jump out of the way, but the demon grabs his ankle.

Now, the demon starts to get sucked into the portal.

DEMON  
If I'm going back, you're coming  
with me!

Dane claws at the ground and tries to flap his wings. But it's too late. The portal sucks the demon in farther, pulling Dane with him. Hayden is seen flying toward them, but he's too far away.

A giant stick CRASHES into on the demon's face. He lets go of Dane and gets sucked in, HOWLING the whole time.

Dane scrambles away and, with a wave, collapses the portal. He stands up slowly and looks to see who saved him.

It's Claire. She shaking and her eyes are wide. She looks between Dane and Hayden, who has just landed.

CLAIRE  
Anyone want to explain to me what  
just happened?

HAYDEN  
Can you put the stick down first?

Claire drops the stick. She looks down to Dane's ankle.

CLAIRE  
You're bleeding.

The skin on Dane's ankle is shredded.

DANE  
I'll be fine. Thanks to you.

CLAIRE  
No problem. It's not everyday a  
girl gets to help kill a...  
(beat)  
Whatever the heck that was.

HAYDEN  
*That* was a demon.

CLAIRE  
Right.

Dane runs over, and quickly moves Mrs. Snyder away from the burning building.

DANE  
(to Claire)  
Look, I'm sure you have a lot of  
questions, but we need to get out  
of here first.

Dane stands up.

DANE (CONT'D)  
Let me drive you home.

CLAIRE  
I can drive myself.

DANE  
In that state?

Claire looks down at her hands, which are still trembling.

CLAIRE  
Fine. Follow me.

Dane, Claire, and Hayden walk toward the road.

CLAIRE (CONT'D)  
What are you two anyway?

DANE  
We're an ancient race of dragon  
people called Dragon Knights.

CLAIRE  
Dragonites? Like the Pokémon?

HAYDEN  
Do we look like Pokémon to you?

Claire shrugs.

INT. CLAIRE'S CAR - NIGHT

Dane pulls to a stop in front of Claire's house.

CLAIRE  
So you guys were made by witches in  
the 7th century?

DANE  
Yes.

CLAIRE  
To get rid of dragons.

DANE  
Correct.

CLAIRE  
But now you fight witches.

DANE  
Among other monsters.

Claire holds her head.

CLAIRE  
This is insane.

DANE  
Do you believe me.

CLAIRE  
If this was any other day, I'd say  
no. But, I saw you fly today, so...

Dane smiles and gets out of the car. He walks around to  
Claire's side and opens the door, and she gets out. Dane  
SHUTS the door, and Claire turns around to SHH him.

CLAIRE (CONT'D)  
Quiet. My mom will kill me if she  
catches me sneaking in.

DANE  
I can fly you up.

CLAIRE  
You're kidding.

Dane holds out his hand. Claire takes it and Dane runs over  
to the spot underneath the tree next to Claire's window.

Dane opens his arms.

DANE  
Hold onto me.

Claire awkwardly wraps her arms around Dane's neck.

DANE (CONT'D)  
Tighter.

Claire squeezes Dane tighter, and then Dane wraps his arms around her waist.

Then his wings materialize and he flaps them once, propelling him and Claire into the air. Claire GASPS.

Dane gently lands on a wide limb. Claire clings onto him for a second before realizing what she's doing. She lets go and turns around to her window.

CLAIRE  
Wow. That was terrifying.

Claire opens the window.

DANE  
It usually is the first time.

CLAIRE  
Am I going to get to do it again?

Dane's smile disappears.

CLAIRE (CONT'D)  
What?

DANE  
Would you want to remember this night?

CLAIRE  
Well, with my memory, I don't have much of a choice.  
(beat)  
But, I mean, yeah. This was amazing. I wouldn't want to go back to not knowing about any of this.

DANE  
Then I'm sorry about this.

Dane quickly reaches out and touches Claire on the forehead, his hand glowing golden. Claire immediately collapses, and Dane catches her.

INT. CLAIRE'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Dane steps over the window sill with Claire in his arms. He sets her down in her bed and pulls the covers over top of her.

He smiles and turns away.

INT. HAYDEN'S TRUCK - NIGHT

Dane gets into the passenger seat. He looks over at Hayden.

HAYDEN  
Did you wipe her mind.

DANE  
Of course I did.

Hayden turns the ignition and starts driving away.

HAYDEN  
You did the right thing, mate. You know it's too dangerous to have her under foot.

DANE  
Yeah, I know.

Dane looks out the window as Hayden drives.

EXT. DANE'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Hayden's truck comes to a stop in front of Dane's mansion.

INT. HAYDEN'S TRUCK - NIGHT

Hayden puts the truck in park.

HAYDEN  
Alright. Pay up.

Dane rolls his eyes and pulls out his wallet.

DANE  
That shouldn't have been a demon. Even for one with a contract, I've never seen one kill so cleanly.

HAYDEN

Maybe demons here are different  
from demons in California. Or  
maybe, Deep Hollow is just weird.

DANE

There's something off about this  
place.

Dane hands the money to Hayden, who immediately begins  
counting it.

HAYDEN

You've got that right.

DANE

Any clue what it is?

HAYDEN

Isn't "witches" usually the answer  
to these kinds of questions?

DANE

Then we'll have to find the coven.

Hayden stuffs the money into his pocket, satisfied. He smirks  
at Dane.

HAYDEN

That we will. We can start first  
thing in the morning. But I need to  
get home now. My da is probably  
still up, worrying.

DANE

Right.

Dane pops the door open.

DANE (CONT'D)

See you tomorrow.

INT. DANE'S HOUSE LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Ernst is reading in the living room when Dane comes in. He  
blinks himself more awake.

ERNST

How did it go? Did you find the bad  
guy?



DANE

Bad girl, actually. One of the teachers at Ridgeway was controlling a demon. We took care of it. I called 911 anonymously to report a domestic disturbance and a fire.

Dane starts to go upstairs.

ERNST

You don't want to tell me anymore?

DANE

Not really.

ERNST

Dane.

(beat)

You can talk to me. You know that, right?

DANE

Could Dad talk to you?

Ernst looks away.

DANE (CONT'D)

Good night, Grandpa.

Ernst watches as Dane goes up the stairs. He sets aside his book and glances over to a picture on the mantle.

A much YOUNGER ERNST stands with arms around a young woman, his WIFE. In front of them, a solemn-looking teenage boy (YOUNG HANK) stands. He looks a lot like Dane, but with green eyes, instead of blue.

Ernst sighs.

EXT. CLAIRE'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Claire's house sits quietly in the dark.

INT. CLAIRE'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Claire lies asleep in her bed. Her face twitches and she scowls in her sleep.

Suddenly, she sits up straight, GASPING.

She looks around her room, blinking. She looks toward the window.

Claire gets up and looks out the window, seeing nothing. She checks the lock and then locks it.

She sits down on the edge of her bed. In a moment, she holds up her hands and looks closely.

CLAIRE  
Splinters?

EXT. BARN - NIGHT

A flash.

Claire swings the big stick into the demon.

A flash.

Hayden flies the demon out of the barn into the field.

INT. MRS. SNYDER'S HOUSE LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

A flash.

Mr. Snyder lies dead in the teacher's house.

INT. CLAIRE'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Claire BREATHES HARD.

CLAIRE  
It wasn't a dream.

BLACKOUT.

END