SCRIPT TITLE

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FADE IN:

INT. CHURCH-NIGHT

A priest walks through the hallway of a modern day church. His pace shows worry, and concern.

The lights flicker in the church.

A closer look on the priest, FATHER DAVID JAMES, (48), he's concerned by the flickering lights.

Pounding on the door can be heard, and James goes to the door.

The priest goes over to the door with a quick pace.

The doors open to reveal MAX WALKER (29), and ZOE WALKER (28), in Max's arms is their young daughter MIKAELA (5), who is very tired with red puffy eyes.

MAX

(nod)

Father James.

ZOE

Thank you so much for seeing us in such short notice!

JAMES

Anything for your daughter's eternal soul!

The Walkers lay their daughter on the pew.

MAX

Are you sure she'll be safe here?

JAMES

The servants of the devil cannot enter God's House.

Max nods in understanding as James examines Mikaela.

JAMES (CONT'D) She doesn't seem like she's possessed.

ZOE

Mikaela hasn't been possessed.

Zoe looks to Max, fearfully.

MAX

The demon only torments her in physical ways.

JAMES

Ah.

(beat)

That's normal for demonic attacks. What's not normal is that there's nothing possessing her.

James closes his eyes, hands motioning over Mikaela, who looks very freaked out by the whole experience.

MIKAELA

Daddy?

Max takes Mikaela's hand.

MAX

(comforting)

I'm here. I'm not going to let anything happen to you.

MIKAELA

(tears welling up)

I'm scared!

Zoe goes over to Mikaela.

ZOE

Don't be scared, Father James is here to help!

James stops, and looks at the parents.

JAMES

There is no ghost in Mikaela, but I did find something interesting about her.

MAX

Interesting?

ZOE

Interesting in what way?

JAMES

Interesting in the way that I know why the demon chose your daughter.

Mikaela sits up on the pew.

JAMES (CONT'D)

Mikaela has a rare type of psychic power that harms only demons.

Both Max and Zoe are surprised by this.

MAX

Is that why the demon is focusing on her?

JAMES

It's likely. The ability to project positive energy is found in only 1 in 20 psychics.

MAX

Wait, are you telling me that my daughter's a psychic?

JAMES

And it looks like she'll be a powerful one.

Zoe looks at her scared daughter.

ZOE

What do we do?

James looks apologetic about what he's going to say.

JAMES

It's not going to be easy, but Mikaela's going to need to have an extensive training regimen up until puberty.

MAX

What about the demon that's antagonizing my daughter?!

JAMES

I could help with that.

The lights go out.

James looks toward the entrance.

The entrance is silent.

And then sudden pounding.

Mikaela jumps into her father's protective arms.

MAX

(scared brave)
Didn't you say that the demon
couldn't get us?

JAMES

I said that it can't step inside a House of God.

James marches toward the pounding door, crucifex in hand.

As he approaches the door, he scoops up some holy water from the holy water font.

James opens the door, and throws the holy water.

Right in the face of the demon.

The demon howls in rage and pain. James holds up his crucifix as a shield against evil.

JAMES (CONT'D)

In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, I command you to depart this place! Leave this child alone as she is under the protection of God's good grace.

The demon laughs.

DEMON

I'll leave. But I want you to know that I will be back, and the next time I come back, she will know fear and anguish as she never knew before I take her!

The demon disappears in a black fog.

James makes certain that the demon is gone, and closes the door.

JAMES

There is not much I can do for you, but I can help you prepare for the demon's return.

Mikaela stares at the priest in wonder.

MIKAELA

Are you a superhero?

JAMES

No, my dear child, I am simply a servant of God and humanity.

James smiles gently at Mikaela.

JAMES (CONT'D)

And my job for now, is to help you.

INT. MIKAELA'S APARTMENT-AFTERNOON

MIKAELA (24) enters her apartment, she has a backpack filled with books. She passes SAM, 25, her roommate and childhood friend.

CAPTION

Nineteen years later.

SAM

How's classes treating you?

MIKAELA

Uqh!

SAM

That bad?

MIKAELA

Still behind!

Mikaela heads directly toward her room.

Sam has something to tell her, but realizes that it's a bad idea to tell her now.

SAM

Good luck!

MIKAELA

Thanks!

And Mikaela shuts her door.

INT. MIKAELA'S APARTMENT-BEDROOM-AFTERNOON

Mikaela throws her bag on her bed, and looks over at her desk, and there's a number of papers which are in the B range, but because they're late, they've been marked down in grade.

(sighs)

How long am I going to torture myself with this?

Mikaela shoves the bag off the bed, and lays down on it.

She looks at the desk with late papers.

Mikaela's eyes begin to fight her tiredness.

The eyes grow heavier.

And heavier.

And Mikaela falls asleep.

INT. MIKAELA'S APARTMENT-BEDROOM-EVENING

Knocking on the door wakes Mikaela up. She's alarmed by how dark it is now, and looks at her phone.

MIKAELA

Ah, shit! It's 8 already?

The knocking continues.

MIKAELA (CONT'D)

Come in!

Sam enters the room.

SAM

We got the call to go in tonight.

MIKAELA

Where at?

SAM

Johnson Elementary School.

MIKAELA

That's across town!

(beat)

What time does Peterson need us at?

SAM

Midnight.

Mikaela sighs with relief.

MTKAETA

Alright, cool.

Sam has something else on his mind.

MIKAELA (CONT'D)

You have something on your mind, don't you Sam?

SAM

Yeah, remember Austin?

There's a not very happy look on Mikaela's face.

MIKAELA

I do, what about him?

SAM

He wants to have a gettogether next week at his cabin.

MIKAELA

Is he still dating Jessica?

SAM

I didn't ask.

Mikaela gets out of her bed, and goes for her dresser.

MIKAELA

I'll think about it.

SAM

Ela, I think it'll do you a lot of good to take something off.

MIKAELA

I'll. Think. About. It.

Sam nods his understanding, and leaves the room.

Mikaela goes to her dresser to get dressed for the work day, but she stops, and thinks twice.

MIKAELA (CONT'D)

It might be a slim chance of failure, but I should really practice...

Closing her eyes, and taking in a deep breath, a bright aura surrounds Mikaela as she tilts her head toward the right. The aura holds for a moment, strong...

...and then it collapses.

Mikaela opens her eyes, disappointed.

MIKAELA (CONT'D)

It's okay...

(takes deep breath)

...it's okay, I was only distracted by school...

Mikaela closes her eyes, and tries again.

Tilt of the head, deep breath in, and boom! The aura appears again.

This time the aura grows around her, and it fills the room with light.

Mikaela opens her eyes, smiling at her putting up the aura.

SAM

(off-screen)

So, how long were you able to keep it up for?

INT. MIKAELA'S CAR-MIDNIGHT

The interior of Mikaela's car is the set-up of a 2000s era mid-sized car. Sam is in the passenger seat, and Mikaela is driving, wearing a blazer, t-shirt, and a nice pair of pants, the way Mikaela sees herself as a professional.

MIKAELA

An hour or so.

SAM

You need to recharge or anything.

MIKAELA

Nah, a good hour or so of rest is good enough to deal with the power drain.

SAM

Cool.

Sam spots something.

SAM (CONT'D)

We're here!

Mikaela turns the wheel.

EXT. JOHNSON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL-MIDNIGHT

Mikaela pulls into the school's parking lot, and goes to MICHAEL PETERSON, 46, standing next to his car, an old station wagon. He waves down Mikaela and Sam over to him.

Mikaela parks next to Peterson's car.

MIKAELA

Hi, Mr. Peterson.

PETERSON

Good evenig, Mikaela. Sam.

Peterson goes over to his car's trunk.

PETERSON (CONT'D)

There's a demon in the old elementary school, one that's been located in the gym.

Mikaela rolled her eyes.

MIKAELA

It's always the gym!

PETERSON

They know you're in town, so they're going to need to be somewhere they can fight back.

MIKAELA

I still have a bruise on my right thigh because of the last one!

SAM

Maybe you should take it easy this time, Ela.

MIKAELA

I'm good.

Peterson rolls his eyes as he pulls out the iron box.

PETERSON

You know the routine, go in, try to trap the demon in the iron box.

Peterson opens the box, and there's holy water inside.

PETERSON (CONT'D)

If something happens to Mikaela, then there's holy water as back up.

Mikaela and Sam takes a couple bottles of holy water.

MIKAELA

Thanks, but are you certain that we'll need it?

PETERSON

(shrugs)

Sometimes the psychic power will fail you at the most inconvenient moment.

Sam nods.

SAM

Got it.

Mikaela looks over at the elementary school.

MIKAELA

Do we know anything about the demon?

SAM

Just that it likes hurting little kids.

MIKAELA

No mercy then.

Sam has the iron box in hand.

SAM

I have the box.

MIKAELA

We'll see you on the other side, Mr. Peterson.

PETERSON

God speed.

Mikaela and Sam enter the elementary school.

INT. JOHNSON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL-MIDNIGHT

Mikaela and Sam are in the school. Mikaela has a flashlight, shining the way for Sam.

SAM

Let's see how this goes.

Hopefully better than Brewers.

SAM

(grinning)

Oh, yeah. I remember when that ball hit you in the face.

Sam finds it amusing, while Mikaela doesn't.

MIKAELA

(rolling her eyes)

Let's focus on the job at hand.

SAM

Right, right.

The two continue on in the dark hallway. Mikaela soon feels strange without the conversation.

MIKAELA

How's the cabin?

SAM

Hm?

MIKAELA

Austin's cabin.

SAM

Really nice, got a harbor and everything on Lake Michigan.

MIKAELA

Huh. Then maybe I should go.

The sound of bouncing balls can be heard.

SAM

So much for that conversation.

Mikaela and Sam quietly make their way over toward where the balls could be heard.

One rolls out of a room that's marked "Gym"

MIKAELA

Found our demon.

INT. JOHNSON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL-GYM-MIDNIGHT

The demon is causing the balls to jump around the gym, a minefield of sorts.

Mikaela can be seen concentrating, then her expression changes to normal.

MIKAELA

Shield of positivity activated.

A sharp roar of demonic rage echoes through the school.

EXT. JOHNSON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL-MIDNIGHT

Reaction shot of Peterson, concerned.

INT. JOHNSON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL-GYM-MIDNIGHT

The balls are being thrown at Mikaela and Sam.

The demon is retreating into the gym's closet.

MIKAELA

Great, he's trapped himself in the clos-Oof!

A ball hits her in the chest.

The number of balls going at them have decreased.

SAM

At least it's cutting off his range of effectiveness.

Mikaela nods.

MIKAELA

All we need to do is get the demon out of there.

There's an idea floating in Mikaela's head.

Sam doesn't like it.

SAM

What do you have in mind?

MIKAELA

Sam doesn't like the idea.

SAM

It's too risky.

MIKAELA

Got any other ideas?

Sam shakes his head.

MIKAELA (CONT'D)

(disappointed)

Damn.

(beat)

Wish me luck.

SAM

Ela, wait...!

It's too late as Mikaela pulls out her holy water bottle, and goes in.

The demon is pushed back by Mikaela's positive energy.

The energy burns the demon as Mikaela approaches.

Which stops when Mikaela switches off the barrier with a brief side tilt, and the burning stops.

The demon is uncertain about this, it carefully reaches out. It finds that he's not harmed by it.

However it is harmed when it tries to lunge at Mikaela, and it's hit by a squirt of holy water.

Mikaela carefully moves to the right, circling the demon, and applying a careful dosage of holy water, and stops.

The demon is about to lunge again.

Mikaela grins.

And closes her eyes.

The demon is blasted with positive energy, causing it to turn and run toward the exit.

Where Sam is waiting.

The demon lets out a roar as it reaches the proximity for the iron box to suck it into the eternal prison. The demon has a physical struggle with the box.

And then it stops.

Mikaela approaches Sam with another tilt of her head, turning off the barrier.

MIKAELA

See? I told you it would work!

SAM

One of the few times where you were right.

Mikaela rolls her eyes.

EXT. ELEMENTARY SCHOOL-NIGHT

Mikaela and Sam approach Peterson with the iron box in hand.

SAM

We have the demon, as the job demanded.

PETERSON

Excellent work!

Sam places the box in the car's trunk, and closes the door to it as Peterson hands Mikaela two checks.

PETERSON (CONT'D)

The two of you make an excellent team.

MIKAELA

It's the reason why we're still working together.

PETERSON

Well, until next time!

Peterson goes to his car.

Sam approaches Mikaela, she gives him his check.

MIKAELA

I think I'm ready for a vacation...

SAM

I'll let Austin know we're going.

The two walk to Mikaela's car, they get in the car.

EXT. CABIN-AFTERNOON

The two get out of the car, and they are at the cabin. A cabin built on an elevated lake side where it looks like a single story building, but the stairs going down shows that it's a multi-level building.

Mikaela breathes in the lake air, her clothing reflects the seventy degree Fahrenheit temperature.

MIKAELA

It's so beautiful!

Sam has his baggage in hand.

SAM

That it is...

(beat)

...I remember coming here as a kid every summer.

MIKAELA

(regarding cabin)

You came here?

SAM

No! My parents couldn't afford a place like this!

The sound of a hammer hitting a nail starts up. Mikaela looks toward the origin of the sound.

MIKAELA

Is that...?

SAM

You're kidding me!

As Mikaela and Sam approach the guy hammering away, the camera follows them at an angle that obscures the man for now.

MIKAELA

Yeah, it's him.

The camera reveals AUSTIN THOMAS, 23, a well off young man who doesn't look suited to doing his own repair work. He's working on a fence.

SAM

Austin!

Austin's attention is now on Sam and Mikaela.

AUSTIN

Sam! Ela! It's so good to see both of you again!

Austin and Sam give each other brotherly hugs, while he gives a half hug to Mikaela.

SAM

Same to you! What's going on? Did someone vandalize the cabin?

AUSTIN

This? Nah, probably some kids rough housing like we used to.

MIKAELA

So, it looks like a car accident when you two rough house? (beat)

I'm getting someone else to mediate things if you two get into a fight.

Austin laughs at the joke.

AUSTIN

Still as funny as ever, Ela.

MIKAELA

It's good to see you, Austin. (beat, concerned)

Jessica around?

AUSTIN

(oblivious)

Yes, she should be in the harbor.

MIKAELA

(visibly relieved)

Ah, good.

Mikaela's expression changes from relieved to pain as she gets a painful reminder of what she's holding in.

MIKAELA (CONT'D)

Where's the bathroom? I just remembered that I've been holding it in for the past twenty minutes!

AUSTIN

First door on the right of the family room.

MTKAETA

Thanks!

Mikaela rushes inside the cabin.

Austin and Sam are watching her as she runs.

INT. CABIN-FAMILY ROOM-AFTERNOON

Mikaela exits the bathroom with a relieved smile.

Sitting on the couch is JACOB SMITH, 25, and EMILY JACOBSON, 24. They're both facing Mikaela.

JACOB

Hey Mikaela!

EMILY

Been a while, Ela.

MIKAELA

Hi, yeah, it's been how many years since I last saw you both?

EMILY

At least a year and half since Jacob's graduation.

MIKAELA

I heard it's been an eventful year and a half.

Emily blushes, and Jacob smiled toward his girlfriend, who shows off her engagement ring with an impressively big diamond..

EMILY

Yes, it has been.

MIKAELA

(inspecting the ring)
Wow, Jake, I'm impressed. How were
you able to afford it?

JACOB

My job pays pretty well, staff writer on the Night Show.

MIKAELA

So that's why it stopped being funny.

They all laugh.

JACOB

Yeah, yeah.

(beat)

So, when are you and Sam going to tie the knot?

MIKAELA

(confused)

Huh?

JACOB

You and Sam, you two aren't together?

MIKAELA

Not in the way you're thinking of.

Jacob is embarrassed by his mistake.

JACOB

I'm sorry, but Jessica made it sound like you were.

MIKAELA

Did she now?

EMILY

You haven't heard how the rooms were going to be arranged?

Mikaela shakes her head.

MIKAELA

No.

VOICE

Then why don't I show you?

Mikaela looks toward her left.

JESSICA WARD, 24, elegant and beautiful, she stares at Mikaela.

MIKAELA

(nervous)

S-sure.

Jacob and Emily know better than to get involved.

JESSICA

Then follow me.

Mikaela gets up from the couch, and nods toward Jacob and Emily.

We'll talk later.

With a turnaround to show Mikaela's nervousness about where Jessica could lead her.

JESSICA

This is a nice place, isn't it?

MIKAELA

Sure is. Wouldn't mind owning a place like this one day.

JESSICA

Maybe you will. One day.

Jessica leads Mikaela to the room next to the bathroom.

JESSICA (CONT'D)

Anyway, I think yoù'll like the arrangements we set up for you.

MIKAELA

Oh?

Jessica opens the door.

JESSICA

Mhm!

And the two enter the room.

INT. CABIN-BEDROOM-AFTERNOON.

The bedroom is a sparsely decorated guestroom, which was a single bed with a dresser.

Emphasis on single bed in Mikaela's view.

MIKAELA

A single bed?

JESSICA

Three rooms, three couples.

Mikaela frowned.

MIKAELA

You guys know that Sam and I aren't dating, right?

JESSICA

Really? I heard otherwise.

Yeah, plus...

On the bed.

MIKAELA (CONT'D)

...that bed's no good for couples to sleep on!

JESSICA

That's a good way for the two of you to get even closer!

Mikaela rolls her eyes.

MIKAELA

How...never mind...

Jessica smiles at Mikaela.

JESSICA

If you aren't able to, you can always make adjustments. I won't mind.

Mikaela looks around the room, looking for somewhere else to sleep on.

MTKAETA

Thanks.

As Mikaela looking around, she remembers something.

MIKAELA (CONT'D)

So, Jessica, how's the salon doing?

Jessica glares at Mikaela, and looks like she's going to strike her.

But Jessica decides to just turn and walk out.

MIKAELA (CONT'D)

(to herself)

Guess I struck a nerve.

EXT. CABIN-HARBOR-AFTERNOON

Mikaela is dipping her feet in the harbor lake as Sam approaches her.

SAM

Heard you got into it with Jessica.

Yeah.

Mikaela looks up at Sam, who stands next to her on the deck.

MIKAELA (CONT'D)

By the way, did you know that we're dating?

Sam chuckled.

SAM

Who would believe that?

MIKAELA

Our friends, apparently.

Sam shrugs.

SAM

I wouldn't let it trouble you, Ela.

MIKAELA

I'm not.

(beat)

The problem is that there's a problem with Jessica.

SAM

Makes you wish that you worked on more of the psychic powers, huh?

MIKAELA

(grin)

Yeah.

(grin drops)

If I did, I wouldn't have a powerful weapon against demons.

SAM

Right, forgot about that.

Mikaela gets herself up.

MIKAELA

Well, we only have one last thing to decide before we go in...

Mischievous grin forms on her face, which Sam recognizes all too well.

MIKAELA (CONT'D)

...who gets the bed?

SAM

Obviously you.

MIKAELA

Are you certain about that? It'll only push the rumors of us dating.

SAM

I think our banter contributes more to it than something that can be fixed by a closed door.

Mikaela laughs, almost forgetting about the unfolded drama with Jessica.

Austin approaches the two, with Jacob and Emily not far behind him.

AUSTIN

Hey, we're all going to the beach, a nice secluded spot and we'll be there until close, it's a nice day for a bonfire.

(beat, toward Mikaela)
Jessica's only going to be at the bonfire.

Sam looks at Mikaela.

SAM

Ela?

MIKAELA

Sounds good after along drive.

AUSTIN

We're leaving in a half an hour.

MIKAELA

That's more than enough time to change, see you then!

Mikaela heads inside, while Sam and Austin continue their conversation.

EXT. LAKE MICHIGAN BEACH-AFTERNOON

The beach was quiet as Austin advertised as there were only a few people at the beach who were not part of Austin's group, and those were just walking the beachline.

Mikaela laid on the beach with a book on parapsychology, studying for a class.

She's wearing a bikini, deciding that it's a good time for Mikaela to rectify her sunless lifestyle.

AUSTIN

Studying while on the beach?

MIKAELA

Believe it or not, the Master's program is demanding.

AUSTIN

I believe it, it's why I stopped after I got my bachelor's.

Mikaela flips herself to sitting up.

MIKAELA

I quess I'm a masochist.

AUSTIN

(chuckle)

That much I could guess.

MIKAELA

So, what's on your mind?

Austin's smile drops, which Mikaela keeps her expression neutral as she's since learned not to expect anything good once the smile drops.

AUSTIN

I want to apologize for Jess.

MIKAELA

Austin, you don't have to.

AUSTIN

I do, I don't know why she's acting this way toward you, but I know you don't deserve it.

MIKAELA

The not deserving part is right...

(beat)

...but I do understand why she's angry.

Austin looks genuinely confused, like he's about to hear something for the first time.

AUSTIN

Oh?

Don't you remember those rumors from when you and Jessica first started dating?

AUSTIN

(shaking head)

No.

MIKAELA

(sigh)

You and I were rumored to be screwing each other behind her back.

AUSTIN

No!

MIKAELA

Yes.

(beat)

It's something that I didn't understand at the time, but I've been reading up on psychic powers.

Mikaela holds up the book, and the cover is revealed 'The Psychic Manual'.

MIKAELA (CONT'D)

Turns out that there are some passive abilities that causes a psychic to open a connection with another person.

(beat)

Back then it was you and Sam.

Austin seems confused by this.

AUSTIN

So, rumors were started about us because of this connection created by a psychic ability?

MIKAELA

Yeah.

Austin strokes his chin.

AUSTIN

I'll talk to Jessica, see her side of the story.

Mikaela looks disturbed by this for a second, but masks that with a smile.

Yeah, you should.

(beat)

Maybe now so I can get some studying done!

They both laugh, and Austin gets the hint and gets up.

AUSTIN

All right, I'll leave you alone!

MIKAELA

See you at the bonfire!

Austin waves as he walks away.

Mikaela flips again so that she can have a comfortable reading position.

She begins to twitch, and feels like she needs to get up and walk around.

MIKAELA (CONT'D)

(softly)

Damn it!

Mikaela closes the book, places it in her bag, and she walks away from her towel.

EXT. LAKE MICHIGAN BEACH-AFTERNOON

Mikaela is walking the promenade of the beach, just walking for the sake of walking. It's a pleasant walk, and there's an ongoing smile as she's walking.

MIKAELA

I wonder how much it costs to live around here.

(shudders)

Probably a lot more than I can afford!

Mikaela approaches the bathroom.

And she notices someone she recognizes.

MIKAELA (CONT'D)

(to herself)

Wait, is that...?

A middle aged man in a janitor's uniform is pushing a mop bucket out of the men's bathroom.

Mikaela clearly recognizes him, and approaches him. The janitor is facing away from her.

MIKAELA (CONT'D)

Excuse me, are you Jason Roberts?

ROBERTS

(turning)

Yes? Who wants to know?

Roberts sees Mikaela and recognizes her.

ROBERTS (CONT'D)

Mikaela Walker, isn't it?

MIKAELA

Indeed! What are you doing here?

ROBERTS

Haven't you heard? I retired to live out here.

MIKAELA

No, I mean what are you doing here as a janitor?

(beat)

Did you run out of money?

ROBERTS

(laughing)

No, have you seen the places around here? Do you think I could live out here as a janitor alone?

MIKAELA

Then why are you a janitor?

ROBERTS

I felt like it, I guess.

MIKAELA

Felt like it?

ROBERTS

(nodding)

I've always been a paranormal investigator, started when psychics were incredibly rare. Now that I'm retired, I've been wondering about the entry level jobs I never had to do.

(confused)

That makes sense, I guess.

ROBERTS

You never had a entry level job, have you?

MIKAELA

No, my special ability has been dubbed as one that I'll never see unemployment in the paranormal field.

ROBERTS

I see. I suggest you do it sometime, it's centers you in a certain way.

MIKAELA

What way would that be?

ROBERTS

It's hard to explain. It's something you'll need to experience yourself.

MIKAELA

I'll keep that in mind.

ROBERTS

So, you and that Sam guy start dating yet?

MIKAELA

No, people always talk about it, but we had a conversation about it.

ROBERTS

Did you bring it up, or did he?

MIKAELA

He did, actually. He was pursuing a young woman at the time, and he thought I was harboring feelings for him.

ROBERTS

Did you?

MIKAELA

No, he's always been a brother to me, so I encouraged him to pursue this woman.

ROBERTS

How did that turn out?

MIKAELA

They broke up two weeks after. He was staying until I found a new roommate, and she broke it off with him because people accused her of being the other woman.

ROBERTS

Ouch.

MIKAELA

Yeah. I'm surprised that he still wants to be roommates.

(beat, sadly)
I'm poison to his relationships.

ROBERTS

Nah, it's just that people don't understand friendships anymore.

Mikaela and Roberts share a laugh over it.

MIKAELA

Social media and modern entertainment is to be blamed for that.

ROBERTS

Wasn't like that in my time, but I guess people are so wired to their electronics that they can no longer accurately read body language.

MIKAELA

Yeah.

ROBERTS

Despite wondering if you two were finally dating, I think now that you and Sam share a special type of platonic relationship that is stronger than a romantic one.

MIKAELA

Hm...maybe.

Mikaela notices the red in the distance as the sun going down.

MIKAELA (CONT'D)

I should go now, it was good seeing you again!

ROBERTS

Same.

Roberts pulls out a notepad, and wrote something down in it. He rips off the piece of paper, and handed it to Mikaela.

ROBERTS (CONT'D)

My number, next time you're up here, don't be a stranger.

MIKAELA

I'll send you a text later with my name.

ROBERTS

Sounds good.

Roberts goes back to work as Mikaela walks back to the beach.

EXT. LAKE MICHIGAN BEACH-EVENING

The bonfire was a brilliant beacon in the darkness as Mikaela and her friends huddled around it. Jacob had a marshmallow roasting over the fire. Emily was looking concerned that he would burn himself, and Austin was having a friendly chat with Sam.

JESSICA

(off-screen)

I hope I didn't miss anything!

Mikaela turned toward Jessica, as did the others. The young woman wore a beach appropriate dress that stood out among the beachgoers who wore simple shorts, and open shirts.

AUSTIN

You look stunning, Jess!

Austin went with Jessica and they approached Mikaela.

Mikaela feels like a cornered animal, especially with Jessica coming her way.

JESSICA

Mikaela, I'm sorry for how I was acting earlier.

(disbelief)

I'm sorry, what?

JESSICA

Austin called me about your side of th situation, and I'm deeply sorry for the way I treated you.

MIKAELA

In love with the perfect guy, and some bitch comes along and the rumor mill makes wild claims.

Jessica looks as though she's going to burst out laughing, but she keeps it in.

JESSICA

Right, so no hard feelings?

MIKAELA

None at all.

JESSICA

Great. Well, I'll see you later.

MIKAELA

See ya.

Austin and Jessica walk away as Sam approaches Mikaela.

SAM

That was weird.

MIKAELA

Yeah, I didn't think hearing my side of the story would change anything.

SAM

Guess it does. Remind me to do that the next time the rumor mill ruins another relationship.

MIKAELA

(frowning)

Not funny.

Sam shrugs, as Mikaela turns away from him.

SAM

Sorry.

Feeling a bit hotter than she should, Mikaela walks out toward the lake, breathing in the freshwater air.

JACOB

You and Jessica friends now?

MIKAELA

Maybe, you might want to keep your distance, it seems like any guy near me gets dragged into a dating scandal.

Jacob laughs it off.

JACOB

Not a chance! Besides, all that would do is spice up my relationship with Emily!

Mikaela rolls her eyes in response, and goes back to the bonfire for a beer.

Something catches Mikaela's eye, and she stares directly at it.

It was a shapeless form in the darkness, something that called for her.

Something evil.

And Mikaela felt drawn to it for some reason unknown to her.

VOICE

Mikaaaaela...

Despite how evil the thing felt, Mikaela felt only warmth to it.

VOICE (CONT'D)

....Mikaaaaaelaaaa...

Onward Mikaela walked away from the bonfire, and toward the darkness.

SAM

(off-screen)

Hey Ela! Snap out of it!

Mikaela was pulled out of the trance.

Huh?

Mikaela saw Sam holding onto her arm, they were both pretty far from the bonfire.

SAM

What's going on? I thought the unspoken rule was to never run off on your own on a dark night like this?

Shaking her head, Mikaela gives Sam an apologetic look.

MIKAELA

Sorry Sam, guess I'm not feeling it tonight.

SAM

"Feeling it"? Do you think I'm giving you a performance review?

MIKAELA

Sorry again, but I think your grip is cutting off circulation in my arm.

Sam lets go of Mikaela arm, and she rubs the area he grabbed.

SAM

Sorry Ela, but you spooked me when you left, it was like you were under someone else's control.

Mikaela shrugged.

MIKAELA

Maybe I was? Maybe I just created something in my head to drag me away from the bonfire.

SAM

(worried)

Ela, I think it's time we went back to the cabin.

MIKAELA

Why?

SAM

We've been up since seven in the morning, you drove for three hours, and now you've been at the beach for nearly five hours.

Mikaela looks at Sam, about to say something, then falls over, tiredly.

MIKAELA

I think you may have a point.

Sam holds out his hand.

Mikaela takes it.

And Sam pulls her up, Mikaela attempts to walk, but she trips into Sam.

MIKAELA (CONT'D)

(mumbling)

Sorry.

Sam shakes his head as Mikaela carefully stands.

SAM

Are you going to be able to walk on your own?

MIKAELA

Yeah, I think I'm good.

With a careful on Mikaela, Sam lets go of her.

SAM

Something going on?

MIKAELA

I don't know...

(softly)

... maybe it's a demonic attack.

Sam frowns as Mikaela looks down.

SAM

Are you certain?

MIKAELA

I saw something...

Mikaela looks toward where she saw the shapeless being.

It's gone now.

MIKAELA (CONT'D)

...it's gone now...

Sam shivers in response to Mikaela's comment.

SAM

All right, Ela, maybe we shouldn't stray too far from the group.

Mikaela looks toward the bonfire.

Everyone is having fun chatting, and drinking.

MIKAELA

That would be a good idea.

Sam and Mikaela make their way back to the bonfire.

INT.CABIN-BEDROOM-NOON

Light poured through the bedroom's window, touching upon Mikaela's sleeping form.

On Mikaela's face, a twitch of the nose, her eyes fluttered open as the sun shined into them, and she sat up in the bed, tiredly rubbing them.

Almost instantly after rubbing her eyes, Mikaela went to her phone to check the time.

MIKAELA

Almost noon...

Mikaela looked out the window, a beautifully clear day.

MIKAELA (CONT'D)

Half the day gone ...

She ripped the sheets off her body, and pulled on a robe, closing it as Mikaela stumbled to the door.

INT. CABIN-KITCHEN-NOON

As Mikaela enters the kitchen she's greeted by a cheery Sam, who is ready to go out.

SAM

Morning sleeping beauty!

Mikaela winces from Sam's good cheer.

MIKAELA

Why are you so cheery?

SAM

Because I've been awake for the past three hours and being productive.

Mikaela looks around, no one's around.

MIKAELA

Where's everyone else?

SAM

Austin and Jessica are at the beach, Emily is on the harbor, and Jacob is still out from his hangover.

MIKAELA

That was quick.

SAM

I've had time to see everyone today.

A giant yawn interrupts Mikaela before she's able to ask any more questions. The two look toward the left to see Jacob walking toward them.

SAM (CONT'D)

Morning Jake.

MIKAELA

Hey Jake, are you even alive?

JACOB

Ha. Ha. Very funny.

Jacob grabs one of the chairs at the table, pulls it out, and sits. He looks **very** hungover.

MIKAELA

I'm serious, you look like you hit the point it should kill you, and ran straight through.

Jacob rolls his eyes.

JACOB

"What doesn't kill you only makes you..."

(forgetful beat)

...you know, that thing...

Mikaela groans loudly while Sam shakes his head.

Sorry, that was over how badly you killed your gut.

Jacob looks as though he doesn't know what to say.

With a demented look, Jacob starts laughing.

JACOB

That's pretty good!

Sam pours a glass of water, hands it to Mikaela, who hands it to Jacob.

SAM

Some water for that hangover!

JACOB

Thanks.

Jacob sips the glass.

JACOB (CONT'D)

So, what are you two doing today?

SAM

I'm heading to town to do some grocery shopping, I was thinking about making something for all of us.

(beat)

Either of you need anything?

Jacob shakes his head.

JACOB

I'm good.

Mikaela nods.

MIKAELA

Could you buy some salt?

Both Jacob and Sam look at Mikaela with "you're weird" expressions.

SAM

Salt?

MIKAELA

Yeah, I wanted something salty the other day, but didn't want to use any of the boxes in the cabin.

Sure, no problem.

JACOB

You're weird.

Mikaela waves off Jacob.

MIKAELA

(impish smile)

I know you are, but what am I?

Jacob groans.

Mikaela turns toward the bedroom door while Sam leaves the kitchen.

MIKAELA (CONT'D)

I should really get ready for the day.

SAM

And I should go before it's too late to start the cooking.

The two leave the kitchen, leaving Jacob to nurse his glass of water.

EXT. CABIN-HARBOR-AFTERNOON

On the harbor, Mikaela walks along the wooden deck, wearing a bikini bottom and a t-shirt. While she seems at peace with the world, the distracted frown she wears shows how uneasy she feels.

Especially with the possible demonic attack.

Mikaela stops, and kneels on the deck.

MIKAELA

Something's going on here...something terrible...

EXT. LAKE

From beneath the water, something is watching Mikaela as she sits on the deck, and lowers her feet into the water.

BACK TO SCENE

With her feet in the water, Mikaela looks around the harbor. There was something about the harbor that gave her an uneasy feeling of dread.

And something grabbed Mikaela's foot.

With a surprised yelp, Mikaela jumped up.

And landed in the lake.

Mikaela splashed around, feeling something grab onto her.

MIKAELA (CONT'D)

Help! JAKE! EMILY!

Four times Mikaela was pulled under the lake, and by the time she was pulled for a fifth, Emily ran onto the deck, and grabbed Mikaela by the arm.

EMILY

Mikaela?!

MIKAELA

HELP!

Jacob came running, though slower due to his hangover, and helped Emily pull Mikaela up.

JACOB

We gotcha!

The two lay Mikaela down as she continued to struggle against whatever was puling her down.

EMILY

Mikaela? What happened to you?

MIKAELA

Something grabbed me! Grabbed me and tried to drown me!

Jacob looked over where they pulled Mikaela out of.

JACOB

There's nothing down here!

MIKAELA

That's not possible! I swear I felt something grab my leg!

Jacob lays on the ground, and reaches for the water.

His hand goes in.

And he searches underneath the water.

Mikaela watches with trepidation as Jacob continues to search.

And he pulls out his hand completely safe.

JACOB

Well, whatever it was moved off.

EMILY

Maybe you just caught your leg on something?

Mikaela sees something off in the distance, and it terrifies her.

However, whatever she saw went away as the fear leaves Mikaela.

MIKAELA

Yeah, maybe I did.

Mikaela stands up, and looks down at the spot where she almost drowned.

On Mikaela who is not afraid, but angry.

EXT. BEACH-AFTERNOON

Now wearing a summer outfit, Mikaela is searching for Roberts. Including sunglasses to hide just how scared she is.

Mikaela's trying to keep up the idea that she's in control, and just looking to have a good time.

Eventually Mikaela finds Roberts at a trash can, pulling out a bag and dumping it into his cart.

MIKAELA

(as calm as she can) Hey there Mr. Roberts!

Roberts looked toward Mikaela's direction as he replaced the bag in the trash can.

ROBERTS

What can I do for you, Ms. Walker?

MIKAELA

I have a pest problem.

Roberts raises an eyebrow toward her.

ROBERTS

(amused)

Ms. Walker, it sounds like you need to call an exterminator, not a retired paranormal investigator.

MIKAELA

Paranormal pests.

ROBERTS

Ahhh...then I have to ask why two professional paranormal investigators like you and Mr. Isascs would need the aid of said retired paranormal investigator?

MIKAELA

It wouldn't help to have a veteran watching our backs, or if we miss something.

Roberts strokes his chin.

ROBERTS

What's going on?

MIKAELA

Something's been stalking me.

(beat)

Something demonic.

Roberts frowns toward Mikaela.

ROBERTS

Demonic? What kind of shit did the two of you step in?

MIKAELA

It might be one I stepped in nineteen years ago.

A tear rolls down Mikaela's cheek, the traumatic memory hiting her.

Roberts notices the tear.

ROBERTS

I see. However I don't think I can help you unless there's hard evidence that I'm needed as the guidelines require.

I see.

(beat)

And I suppose that Sam and I will be facing the consequences of such a violation?

Roberts nodded.

MIKAELA (CONT'D)

Damn.

Mikaela is trying to keep herself standing.

This is something that Roberts notices, and places a hand on Mikaela's shoulder for a comfort.

ROBERTS

You have my number, if you're able to get a picture of the creature, then I should be able to help.

MIKAELA

Got it.

ROBERTS

Are you going to be all right?

MIKAELA

Yeah, I should be.

(beat)

I still have my power to protect me.

Roberts gets the message.

ROBERTS

I see, then I hope you get that picture and send it to me, pronto. If we're done here, there are some garbage bags that need to be changed.

MIKAELA

Yeah, I say wer are for now.

ROBERTS

(nods)

Ms. Walker.

Roberts rolls the trash cart away from Mikaela as she's thinking about her current problems.

EXT. FOREST-EVENING

Mikaela is walking home on a dirt trail. She's not happy with how things turned out. Even more so that it's now getting dark.

MIKAELA

Shit! I knew I should've brought Jake or Emily along!

Mikaela continues down the dirt trail.

MIKAELA (CONT'D)

But...I gues I would have put them at risk too...

The evening light changes to the darkness of night almost instantaneously.

And Mikaela recognizes all of this.

MIKAELA (CONT'D)

Oh...shit!

Mikaela takes off running.

Initially she ran down the dirt trail.

But in her panic, Mikalea runs off the dirt trail, hoping for a straight path to the cabin.

VOICE

Mikaaaaeeeellllaaaaa...

Mikaela puts her hands over her ears to keep the voice out of her ears.

VOICE (CONT'D)

Mikaaaaeeeellllaaaaa...

It doesn't work.

Running faster and with her ears uncovered, Mikaela heads further into the woods.

VOICE (CONT'D)

Mikaaaaeeeellllaaaaa...

MIKAELA

What the hell do you want from me?!

Something makes Mikaela stop dead in her track.

And we see the naked body of a young woman hanging from a thick tree branch, with her hands tied to the branch. The woman isn't moving.

MIKAELA (CONT'D)

Oh god...

WOMAN

Help meee....

The camera rotates around the woman.

Slowly around her thighs.

Around her stomach.

Heads up from there...

...to reveal Mikaela's face.

OTHER MIKAELA

Help me...

Mikaela turns, and bolts from the site, the image seared into her mind as she is now in full blown panic mode.

MIKAELA

Shit! Shit! Shit! SHIT!!!

Mikaela is running through the forest, alone.

EXT. CABIN-NIGHT

The cabin, there's a police car on the driveway with the sirens flashing.

Emily and Sam are talking to the police. Both of them are visibly distraught.

EMILY

...and that was when Jake took off after it!

POLICE

Ma'am, we couldn't find anything to indicate the creature you described.

PARTNER

No track, not even footprints from your boyfriend chasing it.

THE FOREST BORDER

On the other side, Mikaela comes out of the forest, exhausted, out of breath, and dirty from a number of falls. After she takes a moment to catch her breath, Mikaela notices the flashing lights of the police.

MIKAELA

Oh hell...

Mikaela takes off again toward the cabin.

BACK TO SCENE

Meanwhile the police are packing up.

POLICE

Call in a paranormal investigator, this is work for them to take care of.

SAM

(under his breath)
And here I thought that the police
were the ultimate authority for law
and order...

Mikaela approaches the two, concerned.

MIKAELA

What's going on? What's happening?

SAM

Jake's missing.

MIKAELA

What? How?

Emily comes up to Mikaela, angry.

EMILY

You were right, Mikaela, I think something yanked you into the lake, because whatever did that to you took Jake!

MIKAELA

And you think I had something to do with it?

EMILY

No, but I do think that if you weren't here, everyone would have a nice dinner inside, instead of being worried about Jake!

Mikaela sighs as she realizes that she has the same thoughts as Emily, that they would be better off without her.

MIKAELA

(softly)

I agree.

The statement difuses Emily's anger by a little bit, replacing it with angry confusion.

EMILY

Huh?

MIKAELA

You're right, I'm at fault here. If I wasn't here, you all would be so much more better off.

For a moment, Emily's anger intensifies as though she thinks that Mikaela's making fun of her.

But the moment Mikaela looks into Emily's eyes, she can see the immense pain in the psychic's eyes. And even though Emily wants to hurt Mikaela, she doesn't. Instead Emily turns away from Mikaela in anger.

EMILY

You're damn right we'd be better off.

(softens)

But, why?

MIKAELA

Almost twenty years ago a demon attacked me. I think he came back to try to take me away.

Sam looks away, he knows this story, and it's one that he hoped that wouldn't have a sequel.

SAM

Emily, I was friends with Ela back then, I remember how she looke whenever I saw her. Tired, no energy, and always afraid.

Emily goes to the porch and sits in one of the chairs.

EMILY

So what do we do now?

MIKAELA

We wait, and hope no one else gets taken before I get evidence over to our retired p.i. friend to help us out.

Emily looks around surrounding.

EMILY

Where's Austin and Jessica?

Sam looks around, as does Mikaela. The drama that unfolded made them forget that their friends aren't with them.

SAM

They weren't here when I got back. (to Emily)

Were they here at all today?

Emily shakes her head.

EMILY

No, they were at the beach. (beat)

Didn't you run into them at all while you were there, Mikaela?

MIKAELA

No, but there were so many people there that I'd suspect something was up if I ran into them.

Mikaela looks to Sam.

MIKAELA (CONT'D)

Something's not right here.

SAM

Nothing's right about this.

Sam finally notices Mikaela's dirty clothes.

SAM (CONT'D)

What happened to you?

This gives Sam a haunted look from Mikaela.

MIKAELA

We'll talk about that later. (to Emily)

(MORE)

MIKAELA (CONT'D)

Where did you and Jake see the creature?

EMILY

I'll show you.

Mikaela follows Emily as she walks toward the backyard.

Which Mikaela recognized where Emily was leading them.

EMILY (CONT'D)

It was here.

MIKAELA

I remember this place, it was where Austin was repairing the fence...

Mikaela goes over to where she remembers Austin was working. She searches the fence, and finds two serpent symbols across from one another.

MIKAELA (CONT'D)

It came from here, didn't it?

EMILY

Maybe? I didn't see where it came from.

MIKAELA

Only one way to find out...

Mikaela waves a hand over the symbols. They begin to glow, and a portal opens in place of the area between the symbols.

SAM

We have an answer at least.

MIKAELA

Yup.

As Mikaela puts her arm up, Sam approaches her with alarm.

SAM

Ela, what are you doing?

MIKAELA

One of us will have to go in to find Jake.

SAM

Why you?

Mikaela smiled sheepishly.

Because only one of us can project a positive energy barrier.

Emily also approaches Mikaela.

EMILY

I need to come with you.

MIKAELA

No, you need to stay here. I'm not certain if I can protect you on the other side. Stay here.

(to Sam)

Restrain her if you have to.

Emily has her mouth open in shock, as Sam looks at her with a determined look.

SAM

Don't try it, Ela and I are specialists.

Mikaela takes a picture of the portal, and stands for a moment to send the picture to both Sam and Roberts.

MIKAELA

I'm sending you Roberts' number in case he doesn't see my text.

SAM

Got it.

The portal, imposing and dangerous.

Mikaela, determined, but scared. She takes a deep breath, and steps through the portal.

EXT. DEMON REALM

Through the portal, Mikaela finds herself in a demonic hellscape, the trees are twisted, the sky is a sickly green color with a black sun overhead. Instead of a cabin, Mikaela finds herself in front of a hovel of darkness, damaged beyond repair with black mold lining the entrance of the place.

MIKAELA

Creepy.

VOICE

You've come to me, Mikaela Walker.

Mikaela looks around, but she sees nothing other than what she has already seen.

MIKAELA

Is that you, old fiend? Come to get me nineteen years after you failed?

VOICE

You should have come with me, Mikaela. If you had, your friends wouldn't suffer so much.

MIKAELA

Where's Jake? What have you done with him?

VOICE

Mr. Smith is simply a guest of mine.

MIKAELA

Why don't you prove it? I want to see him.

VOICE

It wouldn't be fun if I did what you commanded me to do.

That comment gave Mikaela an idea.

MIKAELA

If I were able to command you, wouldn't it be fair to give me a hint to your name?

The sounds of hundreds of demons laughing fills the environment.

VOICE

Very well. I'll give you your hint, and send you on your way.

(beat)

I am what you wish on others, but never yourself.

Mikaela frowns.

MIKAELA

That's my hint...

Before Mikaela knew it, the realm disappeared.

EXT. THE CABIN-NIGHT

...replaced by the mortal realm.

MIKAELA

...a freakin' riddle?!

Mikaela looks around.

No one's there, not even Sam.

MIKAELA (CONT'D)

Where'd everyone go?

Mikaela heads off to investigate the cabin for her friends.

INT. CABIN-FAMILY ROOM-NIGHT

Mikaela carefully walks through the entrance of the cabin.

MIKAELA

Sam? Emily? Where are you guys?

She closes the door, and looks around.

MIKAELA (CONT'D)

Gone.

There's a moment that Mikaela stands, looking around the cabin.

Behind her, a door opens quietly.

MIKAELA (CONT'D)

Damn, it looks like I'm on my own...

Austin silently closes in on Mikaela.

Until Mikaela notices him.

MIKAELA (CONT'D)

Austin? Why are...

Austin charges at her.

Mikaela is too slow to react.

MIKAELA (CONT'D)

Ack!

She falls and hits her head on the table.

INT. CABIN-BASEMENT-EARLY MORNING

Mikaala wakes up chained to the basement wall. Her clothes are gone, much to her horror she's been made to resemble the vision she had in the forest.

There's a few things that Mikaela can see in the dimly lit basement, among them were the keys to the chains.

Mikaela attempts to go for them, trying to get them with her foot.

The attempt fails.

Again Mikaela tries, and again Mikaela fails.

The keys are just beyond her reach.

MIKAELA

Oh come on! You're kidding me with this horror movie cliche bullshit!

The sound of footsteps descending down stairs can be heard.

Mikaela looks over at the light coming from the stairs.

The lights turn on.

It's Austin and Jessica.

MIKAELA (CONT'D)

Who are you? Really, I mean.

AUSTIN

Just a couple of humble servants following their master's will.

JESSICA

We were once serial killers, killed by cops back in '89, we impressed your demon friend well enough to become his servants.

MIKAELA

What are you going to do now? Kill me?

Both Austin and Jessica laugh.

AUSTIN

Kill you? Our master has given his permission to keep you as our pet until we find your friend Sam.

Mikaela attempts to keep her relief from showing, but failed.

JESSICA

Ahhh...close to that one aren't you?

AUSTIN

Guess we'll be done soon enough here.

MIKAELA

What are you planning to do?

Austin and Jessica head back upstairs.

AUSTIN

We plan on capturing him, nothing more.

JESSICA

Maybe we'll have some fun after we do.

The light is turned off, leaving Mikaela in the dark.

VOICE

Your friends are all going to be mine.

MIKAELA

You again. Do you have anything to say other than cryptic cliche lines?

There's something in the air that hovers around her.

It laughs.

VOICE

Defiant to the end, aren't you?

MIKAELA

Some say it's my defining trait.

VOICE

Even when afraid?

MIKAELA

I was weaned off of my fear of demons at a young age.

VOICE

What about me?

Mikaela is quiet.

MIKAELA

(mask slips)

We have a past.

The mist hovers around Mikaela, who is showing a bit of fear.

VOICE

A past? No, you never lost your fear of demons. Controlled? Yes, but that fear would only come out when you meet the one you're truly scared of.

As quickly as the mask slipped, Mikaela recovered it.

MIKAELA

There are things that you forget.

VOICE

Oh?

Mikaela tilts her head, and a bright flash of energy shows the creature, a dark humanoid mist, and it roars in pain.

MIKAELA

That I can do that.

(beat)

You thought I was beaten down to the point that I'd let you do whatever you wanted.

The creature is still in pain as it heads up the stairs.

VOICE

One day you will be in a vulnerable position where I can take your soul!

The creature disappears from view.

Mikaela is alone in the basement.

The sound of footsteps could be heard overhead, they sound like they're frantic, and there's doors opening.

The lights are flipped back on, and Mikaela didn't look toward the stairs, afraid that she'll find the killers with Sam as their prisoner as well, while there was only one set of footsteps, Mikaela wasn't certain how much of her hearing could be trusted after the encounter with the demon.

What did they do to you Ela?

Mikaela couldn't contain her surprise.

MIKAELA

Sam! Where were you?

SAM

Outside, in the trees.

Mikaela looks toward the keys.

MIKAELA

I'll laugh later, quickly! Get the keys!

Sam grabs the keys, and moves to unlock the chains.

Mikaela covered her breasts with her freed arm, and waited for Sam to unlock her other arm, and legs.

MIKAELA (CONT'D)

Thanks.

A red-faced Sam looks away from his friend.

SAM

Let's get you some clothes.

MIKAELA

Sure, but why don't you go ahead? I can't have you behind me looking down.

The two leave the basement, though they do it cautiously.

INT. CABIN-FAMILY ROOM-MORNING

Sam waits outside of their room as Mikaela dressed.

MIKAELA

I do have something that could help us immensely.

SAM

What is it?

MIKAELA

When I was in the demon realm, I managed to get a hint to what the demon's name is.

Hm...

Mikaela opens the door, which she emerged with a more energized step.

MIKAELA

"I am something you wish on others, but never yourself."
(beat)

Got any idea what that means?

Sam shakes his head.

SAM

Not entirely. A pest perhaps?

MIKAELA

Very funny. (beat)

I think they took my phone, do you think you could look up possible names for me?

SAM

Sure, I'll start now.

Sam pulls out his phone to start his searching as Mikaela looks out the front door.

MIKAELA

Did Roberts come?

Sam shook his head.

SAM

No, he hasn't come yet.

MIKAELA

Well, at least he's still an option for help, could you call him for me?

SAM

Sure.

Mikaela is about to walk away, but she remembered something about Sam's town excursion.

MIKAELA

Sam, do you have the salt you bought from town?

Yes, it's in the pantry...

MIKAELA

Good, Austin and Jessica were possessed, let's salt all entry points.

Sam approaches Mikaela.

SAM

Good idea.

The two head for the kitchen.

INT. CABIN-KITCHEN-MORNING

They grab the salt for the pantry, a box for each of them.

Mikaela salts the back door, spreading a line from frame to frame in the door.

INT. CABIN-BEDROOM-MORNING

Sam is in the bedroom, lining the windows in the same way as Mikaela with the door.

INT. CABIN-BELOWGROUND FLOOR-MORNING

Mikaela's lining the door to the harbor, and then the windows.

INT. CABIN-BASEMENT-MORNING

Sam lines the small windows in the basement, from the height of the windows, it's no easy task as he's standing on a chair to reach them.

INT. CABIN-FAMILY ROOM-NOON

Mikaela and Sam are sitting on the couch.

MIKAELA

Have you tried any latin words for death, injury, or sickness?

For death, there's Mors and Mortis, though based on how you describe the demon, I'm not certain if they apply.

MIKAELA

Noted, how about the others?

SAM

There's too many to pick from on that front, but I'd definitely rule out Injuria, since you said the demon sounded male.

Mikaela notices the all the words for injury.

MIKAELA

Wow, I see what you mean. Well, how about sickness?

SAM

There's another list of words you can use, but I'm not seeing anything that could be used as a name.

Ringing could be heard from the below them.

MIKAELA

It couldn't be...

The two of them look under the couch.

And there's Mikaela's phone.

SAM

Maybe they didn't know what it was?

MIKAELA

(pulling it out)

Probably, they did say they were executed in '89.

The ringing stopped as soon as Mikaela held it up to answer. She checks the number.

MIKAELA (CONT'D)

It's Roberts.

Mikaela presses on the Call button.

SAM

Sounds like they didn't get him.

Or they don't know about him.

SAM

Also possible.

The phone connects.

ROBERTS

Hello, Mikaela.

MIKAELA

Hi, did you get my text?

ROBERTS

Yes, and I'm right outside.

Mikaela and Sam go straight to the front door.

And Roberts is walking directly to the cabin.

MIKAELA

I'm very happy to see you!

ROBERTS

I see that the pest came out of hiding.

Roberts points at a portal in the backyard fence of the cabin.

Sam is checking on his phone again.

MIKAELA

Yeah, the pest is really giving us problems.

ROBERTS

What's the plan?

MIKAELA

Well...

Roberts frowns as Mikaela and Sam look at each other.

SAM

...it's more like a quarter of a plan.

ROBERTS

What do you have so far?

SAM

A riddle.

ROBERTS

A riddle?

MIKAELA

"I am what you wish on others, but not yourself."

(beat)

That's the hint the demon gave me when I asked for his name.

ROBERTS

Hmmm...do you have any names?

SAM

I managed to find some possible names.

(beat)

Speaking of, how about Pestis? It means pestilence.

MIKAELA

Some of them have potential, but others not so much.

(beat)

I don't think that would be his name.

Roberts notices the salt lining the doors.

ROBERTS

Well, let's head inside, you did take the time to ghost proof the cabin.

MIKAELA

The obvious thing to do when the demon has ghost minions.

ROBERTS

Have they possessed anyone?

SAM

Our friends, Austin and Jessica.

ROBERTS

I see.

The trio walk in the cabin's entrance, carefully stepping over the salt.

INT. CABIN-FAMILY ROOM-AFTERNOON

Roberts is sitting in a chair, while Sam and Mikaela are on the couch.

ROBERTS

Is your plan to figure out the demon's name and command it to return your friends?

MIKAELA

And leave me alone forever, but yeah, that's the plan.

ROBERTS

I'd be careful about that. Sometimes knowing the demon's name will bind it to you no matter what you tell it to do.

MIKAELA

(frowning)

I wasn't aware of that.

ROBERTS

It's rare, but it happens.

MIKAELA

How rare?

ROBERTS

Maybe 1 in 200.

SAM

That's not bad.

MIKAELA

It doesn't sound bad, but...

Mikaela goes over to a window with a view of the portal

MIKAELA (CONT'D)

...do I want to risk it? My soul will likely be with it forever, the one thing that I really don't want.

Sam approaches Mikaela, and places a comforting hand on her shoulder.

SAM

Ela, you need to do this. It's not going to leave you alone unless you do something about it.

Mikaela just stares at the portal.

MIKAELA

Damned if I do, damned if I don't...

ROBERTS

The third option is to continue honing your power with positive energy.

MIKAELA

Yeah, but the problem is that it also means that I need to protect my friends and family now.

(near tears)

It's not going to stop until it has me!

Mikaela turns away from the portal, tears still forming in her eyes, but her expression shows that she'll do whatever it took to get rid of this threat, and this demon.

MIKAELA (CONT'D)

(determined)

I need to do this.

Both Sam and Roberts have their respective opinions. Sam's is that he'll support her no matter what, but there's some reservations about the idea.

Roberts is more practical, he doesn't really have a dog in this fight, there's no real reason that he's here other than he's bored, and he wants to be a paranormal investigator again.

MIKAELA (CONT'D)

(to Roberts)

Bring any toys with you?

ROBERTS

(grin)

Thought you'd never ask.

EXT. CABIN-AFTERNOON

The trio are at Roberts' car now, with his trunk open.

ROBERTS

I wasn't able to take any of the fancy high tech stuff with me when I retired, but the basics are always good.

He pulls out two iron poles, which he hands both to Mikaela, and she gives one to Sam.

ROBERTS (CONT'D)

Nothing stings ghosts more than a good ole iron, especially when they try to attack you with their non-corporeal form.

Four small bottles labeled holy water.

ROBERTS (CONT'D)

You each get two, holy water is the bane of a demon's existence, and hurts as much as your positive energy.

MIKAELA

Thankfully they're more effective in the demon's realm. I was cut off from my ability while I was in there.

SAM

(concerned)

You didn't tell me that.

MIKAELA

(shrug)

It didn't seem important at the time.

"Saints preserve me!" look from Sam, he's not happy about this, but it's not the first time this has happened.

ROBERTS

Are we done with the lovers quarrel?

Both Sam and Mikaela nodded.

ROBERTS (CONT'D)

Good, now let's get back inside.

And Roberts slams the trunk shut.

INT. CABIN-FAMILY ROOM-AFTERNOON

The three of them go over the houseplans on the family room table.

Roberts has a pencil in hand, and circling the parts of the house, and marking off the fence with the demon portal.

ROBERTS

Since we don't have an army of the undead converging on us, I'm going to assume that we're dealing with a lesser demon.

MIKAELA

(nodding somberly)
Indeed. Just two minions.

SAM

And two decades ago it had no minions, so it's possible we're dealing with one that was recently promoted to its current standing.

ROBERTS

I agree. So, what we can do is once we find out its name, Mikaela will go through the portal and confront it, get it to free your friends, and leave Mikaela alone forever.

MIKAELA

When you put it that way, it's easier said than done.

Roberts looks up at Mikaela with a grin.

ROBERTS

Aren't most plans that way?

MIKAELA

Touche.

SAM

So, you're going to get to the portal before the sun goes down, and that's when the demon's power is at its weakest?

MIKAELA

Hopefully, most lesser demons are only powerful at night. The plan all relies on the demon having an equal amount of power in its realm.

SAM

But, wouldn't the demon keep its power as we're entering it realm, rather than it entering ours? ROBERTS

That is true, but there's a small window where both realms converge, and the demon has no power during the convergence.

SAM

That's convenient, when is the convergence?

Mikaela looks at the clock, it reads 4:15.

MIKAELA

In less than four hours.

SAM

How long is the convergence?

ROBERTS

A half an hour.

Sam shrugs.

SAM

If you think this can work, let's do it.

EXT. CABIN-EVENING

Mikaela walks through the backyard of the cabin, she's keeping a watchful eye around the yard for the demon's minions.

AUSTIN

Well, well! The pet's escaped!

Austin approaches Mikaela from the right.

JESSICA

How should we punish her?

And Jessica from the left.

AUSTIN

We can't punish her the way we did our previous pets, the master will be furious if she dies.

If there's any remnants of Austin and Jessica in the two of you, I hope you're able to push them out of your bodies!

Suddenly Austin falls to the ground, as does Jessica. They spasm around on the ground.

A shocked Mikaela approaches Austin, and looks over his unconcious form.

Austin grabs Mikaela's arm, and pulls her down to him, his ear to his mouth.

AUSTIN

You're not going anywhere if you discovered the master's name!

MIKAELA

Let go of me!

Mikaela produces the iron pole from her belt, and smacks Austin.

Austin lets out a loud ghoulish scream.

As Jessica gets up from her feigned unconsciousness. Behind her, Sam is charging at her.

JESSICA

Chris!

She's taken out by Sam, who hits her with his iron pole. She crumples down with Sam holding the pole down at her.

SAM

Not today!

Mikaela nudges Austin's body, but it doesn't move.

ROBERTS

Don't forget you're on a time limit, Mikaela! Don't blow it!

MIKAELA

Got it!

Mikaela charges toward the portal. The ghost of one of the serial killers attempts to stop her.

With a wave of the pole, she bats it aside.

And Mikaela jumps through the portal as the second strikes.

EXT. DEMON REALM

Mikaela lands in the demon realm. There's a moment of disorientation and Mikaela stops for a minute.

MIKAELA

Here I am!

Looking around, Mikaela starts walking.

MIKAELA (CONT'D)

Come and get me you ugly bastard!

A dark mist begins forming around Mikaela. They close in on the young woman, but they never touch her.

Then they shot away from her, and began combining with one another.

Until a demon formed from it.

DEMON

I see you decided to join us, Mikaela.

MIKAELA

Not to join you, but to subjugate you.

The demon started laugh, it was disturbingly high pitched.

DEMON

This should be interesting! (beat)

You have three tries!

MIKAELA

Not so much for you, Injuria!

Nothing, the demon still grinned, its sharp fangs resembled stalactites and stalagmites found in caves.

DEMON

Close, but try again!

MIKAELA

Mors?

DEMON

Nope! One last attempt!

Mikaela tries to think, there was one thing that Mikaela kept on referring to the demon.

(echoing)

Paranormal pests.

ROBERTS

(echoing)

I see that the pest came out of hiding.

SAM

(echoing)

Speaking of, how about Pestis? It means pestilence.

Realization hits Mikaela as there was a reason for the constant reference to the demon as a pest.

MIKAELA

You sure you want to give me that last try?

DEMON

Souls are that much better when they think they have a chance.

MIKAELA

I imagine you would, Pestis!

The demon isn't happy.

DEMON

Where did you hear that name?

MIKAELA

A guess, because you are not something I'd wish on anyone else.

The demon growls as it bows its head toward Mikaela.

DEMON

What is your command, mistress?

Mikaela smiles.

EXT. THE CABIN-NIGHT

Mikaela exits the portal, and she does so with a sense of renewed freedom.

Both Austin and Jessica look as though they've regained their senses.

AUSTIN

What's going on?

SAM

You've been possessed, but you're going to be all right.

JESSICA

What are you doing here?

(beat)

Why are we at your parents cabin, Austin?

Sam notices Mikaela, and goes to her.

SAM

You did it! Austin and Jessica are all right!

MIKAELA

What about Jake and Emily?

ROBERTS

(off screen)

They're all right, in a way of looking at it.

Mikaela and Sam look to their right, and see Roberts with Jacob and Emily looking terrified down to their bones.

Both Mikaela and Sam react with horror at what happened to their friends.

ROBERTS (CONT'D)

I suspect that they're going to need therapy for the trauma they went through in the demon realm.

MIKAELA

(softly)

I see...

Mikaela goes over to the two, and they pull away from her, frightened.

MIKAELA (CONT'D)

I hope Jake has good insurance for this...

Turning toward Roberts, Mikaela gives him a hug.

ROBERTS

(surprised)

What is this?!

A hug, it's the least I could give you for coming out of retirement to help us!

ROBERTS

That's not the reaction I expected, but...it'll do.

Mikaela pulled away.

ROBERTS (CONT'D)

So, what happened?

MIKAELA

I figured out the demon's name, and now I'm free of its curse.

ROBERTS

Free, huh?

Roberts begins to walk away from Mikaela, and Sam who went to Mikaela's side as Roberts walked away.

There is a disturbed look on Mikaela's face.

SAM

Something up?

MIKAELA

No, nothing.

SAM

Thinking that the demon is now bound to you as feared?

MIKAELA

Perhaps, but I think it might be too soon to tell.

Mikaela turned toward Sam, a big smile was on her face, one that Sam thought he'd never see.

MIKAELA (CONT'D)

For now, I'm free.

For a moment, the camera stays on Mikaela and Sam as they go over to Roberts, Austin, and Jessica as they tend to the traumatized Jake and Emily.

FADE TO BLACK.