

THE HELLFIRE CLUB

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INT. CAVERN - NIGHT

ROBERT MURPHY, 40, inebriated, rests his head upon his shoulder as his eyes struggle to stay open. He sits upon a CHAIR in the dimly lit cavern. The walls extend more than 40 feet.

CU ROBERT - SIGIL OF LUCIFER, UPON HIS FOREHEAD AND CHEEKS.

FRANCIS DASHWOOD, 35, wearing a WHITE MASK with a BLACK CLOAK over his head and body, begins to jam a BOTTLE of BRANDY down Roberts' mouth.

FRANCIS
Drink! It's good for the soul and
ours.
(howls)

Roberts chokes on the liquid and vomits on his SHIRT and PANTS. Francis holds up the BOTTLE.

FRANCIS (cont'd)
Do you know how expensive this is?
(laughs)

Francis pours the remaining of the BOTTLE over Robert's head.

CU ROBERT - HIS HEAD ROLLS TO THE CEILING AND THEN SHARPLY DROPS TO HIS CHEST.

PHILIP (O.S.)
(shouts)
Let there be light!

Francis, holding a BURNING TORCH, sets FIRE to Robert's SHIRT and the FLAMES quickly engulf his body. The CAMERA PANS out as 20 OBSERVERS wearing WHITE MASKS and BLACK CLOAKS move closer to Robert as his body begins to violently shake.

The CAMERA PANS into a Large RED CHAIR standing behind the OBSERVERS.

EXT. LONDON SLUM - AFTERNOON

We read a subtitle on the top of the screen.

"London 1818"

CU ARTIST'S HAND - DRAWS THE FACE OF A DECEASED 12yr OLD GIRL, IN A NOTEBOOK.

SIMON LUTTRELL, 22, tall, slim, brown hair, wearing disheveled CLOTHING, walks by a MOTHER, 35, dirty, sitting in a CHAIR as she wears her Sunday best, her deceased DAUGHTER, 12, pale, sits next to her, her head leans against her Mother's shoulder.

CU DAUGHTER - PALE, EYES OPEN.

MARGARET LUTTRELL, 23, slim, wearing disheveled CLOTHING, pushes on her brown hair, which is tied up. She has one arm locked with Simon's as an ARTIST, 30, continues to draw the pair.

ROSIE (O.S.)
Could that not be done inside?

Simon turns back and lightly smiles at ROSIE EDWARDS, 19, beautiful, wearing disheveled CLOTHING, whose arm is locked with JAMES EVANS, 28, tall, broad-shouldered, who also wears disheveled CLOTHES.

James reads from a NEWSPAPER.

SIMON
Not enough light Rosie.

Simon waves his hand at the BRICK buildings on either side of the dirty pathway as they continue to walk. James passes the NEWSPAPER to Simon who begins to read.

JAMES
It seems not only the plague is taking the children.

SIMON
Runaways?

James shrugs. Simon crumples the PAPER and throws it. A CHILD, 10, wearing a PAPER GUY FAWKES MASK tugs on Simon's sleeve.

CHILD
Remember, remember the 5th of November the gunpowder treason and plot.

SIMON
200 hundred years later and we still celebrate Fawkes' failure.

Simon pulls a PENNY from his pocket. He smiles and hands over the PENNY to the child.

MARGARET

(stern)

An excuse for the peasants to drink and play with fire.

The child runs off.

SIMON

True... Though he was a villain at least he is remembered.

MARGARET

Not to fret Simon, I'm sure we'll be remembered.

SIMON

If you say so cousin.

MARGARET

I do! I've heard the stories but to see these slums with my own eyes.

Margaret shrugs Simon.

MARGARET (cont'd)

It's an adventure! Come Simon.

Margaret stops as does Simon and places a hand to Simon's lips trying to form a smile.

SIMON

Alright, alright, I'm just a little sluggish today.

MARGARET

Still not sleeping well?

SIMON

Ah, a few hours here and there.

MARGARET

Surely we could find you a remedy, opium?

SIMON

It helps to fall asleep, not stay asleep.

Margaret places a hand to Simon's cheek.

MARGARET

You poor boy, good to have me here then. I'll look after ya.

SIMON

Sure, I believe the other way around. Keep those eyes attentive.

SUDDENLY -

A hand grabs onto Margaret's shirt, causing her to spin around. A MAN, 40, dirty, sitting against a BRICK wall lets go of her shirt.

MAN

Some coin for an old man?

SIMON

(stern)

I said we must be alert.

James and Rosie stand behind Simon as Margaret moves closer to the Man.

JAMES

All good here?

Margaret waves her hand in the air.

MARGARET

Not to worry gentlemen, this man just needs a lending hand.

Margaret places a hand into her TROUSER pocket.

MAN

(smiles)

God bless your heart Missus.

ROSIE -

ROSIE

(annoyed)

This filth doesn't deserve a thing.

RETURN TO MARGARET -

stands inches from the Man.

MARGARET

Come girl, surely he deserves something.

SUDDENLY -

Margaret pulls out a KNIFE and slashes at the Man's face drawing BLOOD. He throws his arms up in defense as she continues to slash away.

Simon pulls on Margaret's free arm.

SIMON

Enough!

Margaret, wild-eyed, stops as the Man slumps to the ground, whimpering with terror.

SIMON (cont'd)

I think you had your fill of amusement today.

MARGARET

(smiles)

I love London!

SIMON

Come on, time to go.

Simon pulls on Margaret's arm and hastily walks from the Man.

ROSIE

(excited)

She's a wild one!

Rosie and James follow Simon.

LITTLE BOYS -

6 and 7 begin to rifle through the Man's pockets.

EXT. SEVEN STARS PUB/COBBLE STONE WALKWAY - EVENING

A well-dressed couple stares and snickers at Simon and Margaret as they walk towards the PUB. Simon pulls out a POCKET WATCH and stares upon it as Margaret sends an evil stare towards the Couple.

SIMON

Ah, don't have time to change.

MARGARET

Change for what?

SIMON
I've been summoned by the Duke of
Wharton and Sir Dashwood.

MARGARET
Duke of Wharton, married?

SIMON
Yes.

MARGARET
How about this Sir Dashwood,
attractive?

SIMON
Too old and married.

Simon stops walking and points to the Seven Stars Pub, which stands before them. Two PLAIN-GLASS WINDOWS lay between BRICK and MORTAR at either side of the entrance DOOR, while seven small STARS lay above the entrance.

MARGARET
We are to meet them, here?

SIMON
No Margaret, I am to meet them here.

Simon turns around as James and Rosie come walking behind him.

SIMON (cont'd)
James, would you see that my cousin
has a safe journey back to the
estate.

JAMES
Of course.

James walks closer to Margaret and extends his arm and bridges it.

MARGARET
This is not fair, I don't want this
evening to end.

SIMON
It hasn't, when you are back, pour
James and Rosie a drink.

Margaret begins to sulk. Simon puts a hand on Margaret's shoulder.

SIMON (cont'd)

I'm sorry Margaret, it is only I that has been called upon. You know I truly appreciate your Father sending you here and you must know there are still many adventures awaiting us.

MARGARET

Smooth one you are. Have your secret meeting then.

Margaret loops her arm through James'.

MARGARET (cont'd)

Shall we have some drinks then?!

Rosie loops her arm through Margaret's free arm.

ROSIE

Yes please, I wish to learn about you.

MARGARET

Oh, and I you beauty.

Margaret leans into Rosie's ear and whispers. Rosie begins to giggle as the three of them begin to walk away from the Pub. Simon and James nod heads at one another.

SIMON

Have a good time.

Margaret turns back.

MARGARET

We shall.

Margaret smiles and lowers her head and stares at James and Rosie's backsides.

Simon sighs and turns around and walks towards the entrance Door. He takes a deep breathe and then reaches for the Door.

EXT. SLUM PATHWAY - DAY

Child wearing (Guy Fawkes) MASK skips along when she sees a shiny PENNY. She bends over and picks up the PENNY.

SUDDENLY - A HAND WRAPS AROUND HER MOUTH. ANOTHER HAND GRABS HER WAIST AND LIFTS HER OFF HER FEET.

INT. SEVEN STARS PUB - EVENING

PHILIP WHARTON, 30, average build, slicked back brown hair, dressed in expensive CLOTHING, sits at a TABLE at the back of the Pub surveying the establishment. He slowly drinks from a CUP.

The Pub is illuminated by CANDLES on TABLES as well as CANDLES perched along the walls.

FRANCIS DASHWOOD, 38, tall, broad-shouldered also dressed in fine CLOTHING, sits upright and kindly stares at the BARMAID.

BARMAID -

23, pretty, brown hair tied back, wearing a DRESS. She slides a CUP to a MAN, 50, sitting on a BAR-STOOL before the BAR. Two MEN also sit on BARS-TOOLS along the BAR.

RETURN TO PHILIP AND FRANCIS -

A BOTTLE sits on the TABLE as does two CUPS before Francis.

PHILIP
No drink tonight?

FRANCIS
Not yet, after we've talked to the lad, I'll let the beast loose.

PHILIP
Honestly someone should write stories about you.

FRANCIS
(giggles)
We wouldn't want our secrets out would we?

PHILIP
(smiles)
Only to the right people.

FRANCIS
Fuck it.

Francis grabs the BOTTLE and starts to pour.

SUDDENLY -

A CHAIR is pulled back from the TABLE and Francis jumps to his feet with the BOTTLE over his shoulder ready to strike.

FRANCIS'S P.O.V. -

Simon with his hands to his shoulders and palms out.

SIMON
Sorry gentlemen, thought you saw me
coming.

RETURN TO SCENE -

PHILIP
Good for you, Sir Francis has a clear
head.

FRANCIS
I'm done with that!

Francis begins to wave his hand in a patting motion and
takes a long pull from the BOTTLE.

PHILIP
Sit, sit Sir Luttrell.

Simon begins to slowly sit in the CHAIR as Francis places a
CUP before him.

SIMON
Simon, please.

FRANCIS
Drink?

SIMON
Please, that would be kind of you.

Francis pours into the CUPS and sits.

FRANCIS
Manners, manners are important
wouldn't you agree Simon.

SIMON
I do, thank you.

Francis smiles and quickly drinks from his CUP.

FRANCIS
I'll give it to the French, they make
a most wonderful brandy.

Francis begins to pour another Cup as Philip smirks.

PHILIP

I hope you didn't get over dressed
for us.

Simon looks down upon his Clothing.

BAR -

A well dressed MAN#1, 30, tall, heavysset, nudges another
MAN#2, 25, average build, also well dressed to look at
Simon.

RETURN TO SIMON -

SIMON

Sorry, my cousin had wished to visit
our slums.

FRANCIS

Slumming it ugh?! Good times.

SIMON

She had read about them, so off we
went.

FRANCIS

Well if she ever wants another visit
I'm your man.

Francis takes a pull from his CUP.

SIMON

I think it best if she...

PHILIP

(interrupting)

We'll have a discussion of that
another time.

Philip looks over at Francis.

FRANCIS

Right, first Philip and I would like
to offer our condolences on the
passing of your parents.

PHILIP

Yes, what has it been six months now?

SIMON

Seven and there still has been no
justice for their murders.

Francis's fist slams the TABLE.

FRANCIS
Bastards what has become of this
country!

SIMON
You two knew my Father right?

PHILIP
We did, and know that we have pressed
the Justices of the Peace to resolve
this atrocity.

Francis gulps down his drink and begins to pour again from
the BOTTLE.

FRANCIS
Your Father was a most honorable man,
a loyal man.

Philip looks over at Francis.

FRANCIS (cont'd)
He truly cared for you and your
Mother.

PHILIP
Yes, he had a strong business sense
and very good knack at creating
wealth.

SIMON
Thank you for the kind words, I know
I was blessed to have him as a
Father. Though I do believe his
greatest accomplishment was
convincing my Mother to take his
hand.

PHILIP
I only had the privilege of talking
to her a few times.

FRANCIS
A site to be seen she was. I guess
you got your looks from her, hey!

Francis slaps Simon's shoulder.

QUICK FLASHBACK -

CU ELIZABETH LUTTRELL, 40, LIGHT BROWN HAIR - A BELT IS PLACED AROUND HER NECK, FEAR SURROUNDS HER FACE.

RETURN TO SCENE.

SIMON

The way we found them, it has scarred my mind.

PHILIP

How could it not.

Francis smiles towards the Barmaid.

BARMAID - smiles towards Francis.

RETURN TO SIMON -

PHILIP (cont'd)

You must be wondering why we've asked for you to come today.

SIMON

I was hoping it had something to do with my parents.

PHILIP

In a way it does, just not in the way I believe you were hoping. It is because your Father was such a forward thinking man a loyal man as Francis has said. We would like to invite you to one of our gatherings.

SIMON

Gatherings?

Philip nudges Francis whose attention is still focused towards the Barmaid and nods his head towards Simon.

FRANCIS

Sorry, my eyes are easily distracted by the finer sex. Once I smell their blossom's perfume though.

Francis tilts his head and breathes in through his nose.

PHILIP

(smirks)

I was speaking of our gatherings.

FRANCIS

Gatherings.

(MORE)

FRANCIS (cont'd)

(beat/smiles)

They're one hell of a time. Only a few are invited laddie, and those that come are movers and shakers, people of influence.

SIMON

Could they help with justice for my parents.

FRANCIS

They could.

Francis takes another pull from his CUP.

PHILIP

Though I would not press too hard.

(beat)

Well not at first, people come to escape the daily pressures of life. Though we do grow bonds with one another, those bonds could surely help outside of the gatherings.

FRANCIS

It's a wondrous occasion, one with no moral code Simon, where we can truly be ourselves and talk and act as we wish.

SIMON

Sounds most intriguing, I would be honored to attend.

Francis and Philip smile at one another.

PHILIP

Splendid, though you must remember Simon, after the night is done, it is like it never happened, you were never there.

SIMON

Never there?

FRANCIS

Keep your fucking mouth shut and enjoy yourself!

SIMON

(smiles)

Will do.

The three Men laugh, Francis begins to pour liquid into the Men's CUPS. Philip holds up his CUP.

PHILIP
To our circle strengthening with
Simon.

FRANCIS
I'll drink to that.

The three Men raise their CUPS and drink.

INT. SIMON'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Simon asleep in BED. The moon's SPOTLIGHT SHINES through a WINDOW. WALLPAPER and PICTURES cover the walls.

The SOUND of TICKING is HEARD (O.S.). A PENDULUM WALL CLOCK hangs from a wall and a CHIME is HEARD.

CU WALL CLOCK - HANDS READ 3:13.

Simon is awakened by the SOUND of the CHIME. He sits up and looks around the room.

SUDDENLY -

A SHADOW quickly passes through the room hiding behind a STANDING MIRROR.

SIMON
Margaret? Come now, this is no time
for games.

Simon pushes the BED COVERINGS off and stands.

SIMON (cont'd)
Margaret?

Simon slowly walks towards the MIRROR.

WOMEN (O.S)
(quietly)
Beware boy.

Simon turns around to see nothing unusual. He turns to face the MIRROR.

SUDDENLY -

Two FEMALE HANDS reach out from the MIRROR and grab Simon, pulling him closer.

SIMON

Ah...

Simon tries to fight off the HANDS as they pull him closer to the MIRROR.

CU MIRROR - A PALE, ROTTING, FEMALE FACE WITH AN OPEN MOUTH SCREAMS.

SIMON (cont'd)
(yells)

INT. SIMON'S BEDROOM - DAY

The SOUND of a CHIME is HEARD (O.S.). Simon sits bolt right up in his BED as SUNLIGHT shines through the WINDOW. He looks at the WALL CLOCK.

CU WALL CLOCK - ARMS READ 9:13.

SIMON

After 9?

Simon wipes SWEAT off his brow and looks at his side TABLE.

CU SIDE-TABLE - OPIUM PIPE, LIGHTER AND OPIUM POWDER.

SIMON (cont'd)
You worked too well last night.

EXT. COURTYARD - DAY

Simon and James are fencing. The large STONE HOUSE surrounds them. They wear WHITE CLOTHING with WHITE MASKS and WHITE PADDED JACKETS as the duel goes back and forth.

Their SWORDS strike each other at the same time.

SIMON

It seems we're both dead James.

Simon takes off his HELMET displaying his damp hair. James removes his HELMET.

JAMES

Aye, Simon you've improved immensely these past years.

SIMON

With a teacher like you how could I not.

JAMES
 (smirks)
 True.

Simon laughs.

MARGARET (O.S.)
 (loudly)
 Simon.

Margaret rushes onto the Courtyard holding an ENVELOPE.

MARGARET
 A message has arrived for you.

Margaret nods and smiles at James who smirks and winks. She hands the ENVELOPE to Simon.

SIMON
 Urgent is it?

MARGARET
 I won't know?

Simon waves the ENVELOPE.

CU ENVELOPE - SEAL IS BROKEN.

MARGARET (cont'd)
 Must of been the carrier.

Simon pulls a PAPER from the ENVELOPE and begins to read.

MARGARET (cont'd)
 Sir Francis right?

SIMON
 How would you know that?

MARGARET
 (sarcastic)
 His seal.

SIMON
 Yes, you are educated in who the elites of this land are, aren't you?

MARGARET
 But of course Simon, though I know you are a capable man, Father did send me to watch your back. For power comes to those that hold knowledge.

Margaret lightly slaps Simon's face and begins to walk away.

MARGARET (cont'd)
You should get cleaned up. We are to
be his quest later tonight.

SIMON
We?

MARGARET
(yells)
Keep reading.

Simon looks down at the PAPER.

SIMON
I'll have to keep a close eye on my
dear cousin.

James smirks towards Simon.

SIMON (cont'd)
And you should too.

James looks at Margaret.

JAMES
(smiles)
I am.

EXT. FRANCIS'S ESTATE - NIGHT

Simon's arm is bridged with Margaret's as they walk towards
the large STONE ESTATE, beautiful GARDENS run against the
PATHWAY.

James rides off guiding a HORSE and CARRIAGE.

MARGARET
Kind of Sir Francis to invite me.
Though I did wonder how he knew I was
here?

SIMON
I mentioned you the other day.

MARGARET
You know it could never work for us
Simon we're cousins.

Simon stops.

SIMON
I know, but you are all I ever think
about. Run away with me.

Margaret is confused.

SIMON (cont'd)
(laughs)
I can also play your games.

QUICK CUT -

INT. FRANCIS'S ESTATE/HALLWAY - NIGHT

CU LADY#1 - SCARED.

Lady#1, 23, pretty, brunette and naked runs along checkered
tile flooring.

CU FRANCIS - PANTING, WILD-EYED.

RETURN TO SCENE -

Margaret shoves Simon.

MARGARET
Let's go.

SIMON
I had you cousin, I had you.

Margaret smirks and knocks on the front door. A Lady's
SCREAM is HEARD (O.S.).

FRANCIS (O.S.)
(loudly)
Come back here girl!
(laughs)
I haven't finished your lesson.

The Lady's LAUGHTER is HEARD, (O.S.). Simon pulls out his
POCKET-WATCH.

SIMON
Is this the right time?

MARGARET
Of course it is.

Margaret bangs on the door. The door slowly opens.
Francis, naked with a BOTTLE in his hand, leans against the
door frame.

FRANCIS
Sir Simon! And this lovely creature
must be your cousin.

Simon and Margaret look at one another.

SIMON
Have we come at a bad time?

FRANCIS
No such thing as a bad time when the
wife and children are away.

Francis pulls Simon into the estate, Margaret follows.

INT. FRANCIS'S ESTATE - NIGHT

They walk along the hallway into a large room.

FRANCIS
Isn't that right girls.

Two LADIES, 23, 25, naked and holding CRYSTAL GLASSES sit on a COUCH. A large CHANDELIER hangs from the ceiling and PAINTINGS cover the walls, two CHAIRS are placed close to the COUCH.

The two Ladies smile and drink. Francis grabs a ROBE that hangs over one of the CHAIRS.

FRANCIS (cont'd)
Imports. Usually I like them from
Spain but these two lovely's are from
France.

Francis takes a pull from the BOTTLE and places it on a TABLE and slips his ROBE on.

MARGARET
Beautiful estate.

FRANCIS
Not as fine as your Fathers I've
heard.

Francis walks towards Lady#1 and whispers in her ear. She smiles and the two Ladies stand. Francis slaps Lady#2 buttocks. She walks towards Simon and caresses his face and kisses him.

Simon is surprised.

FRANCIS (cont'd)
She likes you.

The two Ladies exit the room.

FRANCIS (cont'd)
Sit, sit.

Francis grabs the BOTTLE from the TABLE. Margaret irritated wipes the COUCH and sits as does Simon.

FRANCIS (cont'd)
Drink anyone?

SIMON
No thank you, Sir Francis.

FRANCIS
A proper gentlemen you are.

Francis ruffles Simon's hair.

MARGARET
I'll take one.

Francis walks to a CABINET and pulls out two GLASSES and pours. He hands a GLASS to Margaret.

FRANCIS
Everyone shall drink tonight.

Simon half smiles as Francis hands over the GLASS and sits in a CHAIR.

FRANCIS (cont'd)
Forgive me, I get a little carried away when the missus leaves. I send her and the children to her Mother's, at least once a month. It's great for the marriage!

MARGARET
When the cat is away the mice will play.

FRANCIS
(intense)
Yes, but I am the cat and have let the mice leave so I may tear up some doves.

Francis takes a pull.

MARGARET
I'm sure you will.

Margaret drinks.

SIMON
Sir Francis, though we are honored to
be your guests was there any
particular reason for the invite?

FRANCIS
Right to the point, as your Father
was. Bless his soul.
(beat)
Tonight shall be your first
gathering. If you do wish.

Simon glances at Margaret. Francis and Margaret smile at
one another.

SIMON
Margaret as well?

MARGARET
Truth be told cousin, I am already a
member.

Francis puts an arm around Margaret and kisses her cheek.

FRANCIS
Don't be upset with her. First we
had to see if you could be silent and
now you know we are everywhere.

Francis excited bangs on the CHAIR.

FRANCIS (cont'd)
We meet tonight! Underneath my home.
(smiles)

Simon looks suspiciously at Margaret.

INT. CAVERN - NIGHT

Lady#1 wears a TOGA as she carries a TRAY of hors d'oeuvres
through a CROWD of 30 PEOPLE also wearing TOGAS.

Simon and Margaret enter the cave wearing TOGAS.

MARGARET
Did I tell you I love London?

Simon looks around the cavern in bewilderment.

SIMON

You did cousin, though you didn't inform me of being a member. We're family.

MARGARET

We are. Again I am here for you Simon, but I have to tell you, our family has much invested here.

Margaret waves her hand around the cavern.

MARGARET (cont'd)

We have built our channels throughout Britain, Ireland and soon America. Father says we are to be the unseen hand, pushing the world where we see fit.

SIMON

Much has been kept from me.

Simon stares at the center of the cave. A MALE, 30 and FEMALE, 30 are having sex on top of a circular BED.

MARGARET

You'll come to learn more cousin. I think I'll have a closer look.

Margaret moves towards the BED and takes a GLASS of WINE off a TRAY being served by Lady#2.

SUDDENLY -

A hand grasps Simon's shoulder from behind.

PHILIP (O.S.)

Sir Simon!

Simon turns around to see Philip smiling.

SIMON

Ah, your Grace.

PHILIP

Your first night.

SIMON

It is.

Philip throws his arm over Simon's shoulder.

PHILIP
Did Sir Francis tell you what we're
celebrating tonight?

SIMON
He didn't.

PHILIP
Always surprises with him. The
Lupercalia fest, an old Roman
tradition. Celebrating health and
fertility as you can see.

Philip points to the BED.

SIMON
It's quite the view.

PHILIP
(laughs)
Tonight is a modest event.

MARGARET -

kneels beside the BED watching and drinking.

RETURN TO SIMON -

Philip points to WORDS over top the entrance of the cave.

PHILIP (cont'd)
Fais ce que tu voudrais.

SIMON
Do as you will.

PHILIP
Very good Simon. For that is our
motto, for man does not need to kneel
and ask God for blessing. We are
creators.

SIMON
With imagination and hard work
anything is possible.

PHILIP
Your Father taught you well.

Simon nods.

PHILIP (cont'd)
 Though some would hold us back with
 foolish rules and try to starve our
 desires.

Philip places his arms wide.

PHILIP (cont'd)
 And that is why we come here, to do
 as thy will. Look at our good Bishop
 Richard over there he is not holding
 back his desires.

BISHOP RICHARD, 55, SLIM, GRAY HAIR -

leans against the cave, his hands are upon the head of
 Lady#1 kneeling before him.

CU RICHARD BISHOP - SMILING.

BACK TO SIMON -

SIMON
 Surprised to see him here.

PHILIP
 Don't be, you will see many things
 that will amaze your eyes Simon. But
 then again we were never really here.
 (smirks)

SIMON
 But of course.

Philip leads Simon around the cave nodding at fellow
 MEMBERS. WILLIAM CROCKFORD, 60, slim, gray hair, CANE in
 hand turns around from viewing the BED.

WILLIAM
 Ah, your Grace.

PHILIP
 Hello William.

WILLIAM
 Am I to start my treatment after the
 celebration?

Philip hastily moves towards William.

PHILIP
 (quietly)
 But of course.

WILLIAM
I am not getting any younger. This
bloody back.

William grimaces in pain after touching his lower back.

PHILIP
The pain will be eased soon. Now,
this William is Sir Simon Lutteral.
It is his first gathering as well.

Simon and William shake hands.

WILLIAM
Knew your Father son.

SIMON
Oh, really?

WILLIAM
Though I didn't like seeing him come
through my doors.

PHILIP
William owns the Crockford's
gentleman's club.

SIMON
I see.

WILLIAM
Nothing personal boy, your Father
would just leave with more money than
he came in with.

PHILIP
Not all of us had the same luck.

William places a hand on Philip's shoulder.

WILLIAM
Well, deeds can repay a debt.

CU PHILIP - BLUSHING, CLENCHING JAW.

FRANCIS (O.S.)
(yells)
Time to bring some color to this
celebration!

Francis pulls two GOATS into the cave by LEASHES. SCREAMING
from the GOATS is HEARD. Two Members walk over and take the
LEASHES. Francis kneels before a GOAT.

Lady#1 places a BOWL next to Francis.

FRANCIS
 (smiles)
 We have to slowly work in the
 beginners.

SUDDENLY -

The GOAT SCREAMS.

FRANCIS (cont'd)
 (growls)

Francis stands.

FRANCIS (cont'd)
 (loudly)
 Two new souls shall enter our
 covenant tonight!

Philip pats Simon and William on the back.

PHILIP
 That's you two.

Francis raises his arms and waves towards the two Men. They walk to Francis as the other Members move closer as well. Members HUMMING is HEARD.

FRANCIS
 Fertility is in motion. Now we need
 to drink to his health.

SIMON
 He?

Francis looks over Simon's shoulder and stares at the RED CHAIR.

CU - RED CHAIR.

FRANCIS
 (smiles)
 Another gathering.

Francis puts his hands to his waist and pulls out TWO KNIVES. Handing one to Simon and William. Francis nods his head towards the GOATS.

FRANCIS (cont'd)
 I assume you've slaughtered one
 before?

SIMON

I haven't.

SUDDENLY -

A GOAT SCREAM is HEARD.

William stands over a GOAT with a BLOODIED KNIFE as BLOOD spills from it's neck into a large BOWL.

WILLIAM

I have.

MARGARET -

excitedly hushes Simon to kill the goat.

RETURN TO SIMON -

Francis whispers into Simon's ear.

FRANCIS

There must be blood. The thirst must be quenched.

Simon slowly walks towards the GOAT.

SUDDENLY -

the GOAT SCREAMS.

Simon places the KNIFE under the GOAT'S neck.

CU GOAT - SIMON'S KNIFE SLICES IT'S NECK.

Simon stands motionlessly as the Members HUMMING is HEARD steadily growing LOUDER.

Members pass the BOWLS around and drink. Members cup BLOOD from the BOWLS and throw BLOOD on the COUPLE having sex.

MARGARET -

smiles and throws BLOOD on the COUPLE. Francis picks her up and twirls her in a circle.

RETURN TO SIMON -

stands motionlessly as Philip stands behind him smiling with a hand on his shoulder.

CU SIMON - BLOOD SOAKED LIPS.

INT. SIMON'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

The backside of Rosie is seen straddling Simon as he lays in his BED. The room being illuminated by a single CANDLE on his SIDE-TABLE.

CU ROSIE - SMILING, AROUSED.

Simon turns his head to see a DARK SLENDER FIGURE watching at the side of the BED.

SIMON

Do you...

SUDDENLY -

Rosie's faces turns OLD AND PALE.

ROSIE

Beware!

The SOUND of a CHIME is HEARD.

DREAM ENDS -

Simon sharply awakens. His brow covered in sweat. He looks at his SIDE-TABLE.

CU SIDE-TABLE - PIPE AND OPIUM.

SIMON

Enough of this!

Simon angrily smacks the PIPE and OPIUM to the ground.

EXT. COURTYARD - DAY

CU - SWORD PIERCES JAMES FENCING JACKET.

Simon throws his MASK to the ground, turns from James and violently slashes at the air.

James removes his MASK.

JAMES

Someone is on fire today.

SIMON

You would be too, if you dreamed what I dreamed or drank what I drank last night.

JAMES
Lambs blood can't be so bad.

SIMON
Goat! It was a goat and it wasn't
just that, these people, the cavern,
it's not right. They're so bizarre.

JAMES
Most people with wealth are.

James smiles and points at Simon.

SIMON
Cute.

JAMES
You can sense something, that's good.
They might have the answers you seek
Simon and mine.

SIMON
Yours?

JAMES
Of course. Have you ever doubted my
loyalty?

Simon lowers and shakes his head.

SIMON
You have never given cause to James.
If not for you this burden would be
much harder to carry.

JAMES
Don't forget that when my birthday
comes next month.

SIMON
(smiles)
We'll put on a good show for that
one.

JAMES
I'll hold you too that.

SIMON
Any word of this William Crockford?

JAMES
Aye, started as a fishmonger and
moved his way up in the world.

INT. PUB/GAMBLING DEN - DAY

WILLIAM CROCKFORD, 25, enters the Pub wearing an OVERCOAT. 15 MEN turn their heads in the dark and dirty Den while gambling at a TABLE and drinking at a BAR.

JAMES (O.S.)

It seems he muscled his way into the underworld and hasn't looked back.

William pulls a SWORD from under his OVERCOAT.

EXT. COURTYARD - DAY

JAMES

One of the richest men in London these days. Runs most of the gambling dens in the city among other things I've heard.

INT. PUB/GAMBLING DEN - DAY

CU WILLIAM - BLOOD SMEARED, CRAZED EYES.

William slides his SWORD into his HILT and exits the Pub. Five MEN lay dead and bloodied on the floor while 10 MEN meekly hide.

EXT. COURTYARD - DAY

JAMES

Spends most of days at his private club now.

Simon stabs his SWORD to the ground.

SIMON

Shall we place some bets.

JAMES

As long as it's your money.

INT. CROCKFORD'S GENTLEMEN CLUB - DAY

15 well-dressed MEN encircle an oval TABLE and cheer on a GAMBLER, 30, well-dressed, as he rolls DICE within his hand.

GAMBLER

(drunk)

To hit means a new mistress boy's,
otherwise the missus will be feeling
my cock.

The gambler grabs his groin and throws the DICE across the
TABLE.

GAMBLER (cont'd)

Ah, a new mistress it is!

The 15 MEN cheer and smile.

Simon and James walk by the TABLE.

JAMES

Some poor soul will have him on top
of her tonight.

SIMON

I believe he'll have another throw.
One's soul might be spared.

THE GAMBLER -

throws DICE upon the TABLE.

10 of the 15 MEN begin to sign while the Gambler throws his
arms to air.

GAMBLER

Oh, not the wife.

SIMON AND JAMES -

COLIN RADCLIFFE, 35, a giant of a man, SCAR'S across his
eyes, approach Simon and James.

COLIN

Sir Lutrell, Mr. Crockford will see
you know.

Colin places his hand to Jame's chest.

COLIN (cont'd)

Not you.

James sternly stares at Colin.

SIMON

It's alright James. Roll some dice,
have a drink.

Colin removes his hand. James wipes his chest and looks at Simon.

JAMES
(smirks)
As you wish.

Colin turns towards Simon.

COLIN
This way.

JAMES
Oh.

Colin and Simon face James as he moves closer to Colin.

JAMES (cont'd)
One thing, you put a hand on Sir
Luttrell. I'll burn down this
fucking club down with you in it.

CU JAMES - CLENCHES JAW.

Whistling is HEARD from James as he walks toward the gambling table.

Colin frowns.

SIMON
He's very protective of me.

INT. WILLIAM'S OFFICE - NIGHT

Colin and Simon stand before the closed office door.

COLIN
One moment.

Colin is about to place a hand on Simon's shoulder but hesitates.

The office door swings open. Dr. ROBERT BLACK, 50, slim, wearing a SUIT and holding a MEDICAL BAG exits the room.

ROBERT
Hello Colin.

COLIN

Dr. Black.

Colin moves so Robert can exit, he nods at Simon and leaves.

COLIN (cont'd)

Sir Luttrell, Mr. Crockford.

WILLIAM (O.S.)

Send him in please.

Colin waves for Simon to enter.

CROCKFORD'S OFFICE -

Simon enters the office and Colin shuts the door. A large wooden DESK stands near the rear wall with two CHAIRS in front. Stuffed animal HEADS decorate the side walls.

SIMON

Thank you for seeing me Mr. Crockford.

William grimaces.

CU WILLIAM'S FOREARM - BANDAGE.

William rolls down his sleeve and puts on a JACKET.

WILLIAM

Of course now that we are members of what, never was.

SIMON

Quite right.

WILLIAM

Drink?

SIMON

No thank you.

William walks toward a BAR-TABLE.

WILLIAM

Sit, please. Can't recall your Father with a drink either.

Simon sits.

SIMON

A little too early for me. You did recall my Father doing quite well in your club.

WILLIAM

A man who could control his vices and carried intelligence. That was your Father.

William pours a drink and gulps it. He pours another and sits behind the DESK.

SIMON

No cane today? Your back is feeling better?

William holds up his GLASS.

WILLIAM

This helps. But it is feeling better, wise memory you have.

SIMON

Thank you, though I believe there is much I could learn from you.

WILLIAM

How so?

William finishes his drink.

SIMON

You weren't so lucky as I being born into privilege. With your hands and wits is why you sit here today.

WILLIAM

Yes, but add a little madness to that as well.

Simon grabs his GLASS.

SIMON

Another?

William nods. Simon rises and walks to the TABLE-BAR.

WILLIAM

There have been many tales of how I got here... Believe them all.

Simon smiles and pours from a Whiskey BOTTLE.

SIMON
I always enjoy a good story.

WILLIAM
Ah, we'll be seeing more of each other I believe, those tales can wait. Whiskey...

Simon hands the GLASS to William.

WILLIAM (cont'd)
(smirks)
But you knew that.

Simon sits.

SIMON
Mr. Crockford, I don't mean to take to much of your time.

WILLIAM
No worries Son, speak your piece.

William drinks.

INT. CROCKFORD'S GENTLEMEN CLUB - NIGHT

James stands by the TABLE as the Gamble blows into his hands.

JAMES P.O.V -

Dr. Black enters the room and is heading towards the exit door. Loud CHEERING is HEARD and Dr. Black comes to abrupt stop.

RETURN TO SCENE -

Dr. Black walks to the TABLE and stands next to the Gambler as he rolls the DICE. The Gambler throws his arms high as the DEALER, 30, male, wearing a SUIT pulls the Gamblers MONEY towards him.

GAMBLER
Shet!

CU DR. BLACK - SMIRKS.

The Gambler grabs a GLASS off the TABLE and drinks.

DR. BLACK
You should blame your parents for
your addiction.

GAMBLER
What's that?

DR. BLACK
(smiles)
Stick to drinking, harder on the body
but not your pocket book.

GAMBLER
A beating you're looking for?

Dr. Black reaches under his Jacket and produces a FLINTLOCK
REVOLVER and aims it at the Gambler's crotch.

DR. BLACK
Haven't shot it yet. Shall I try?

The Gambler places his hands over his crotch.

GAMBLER
Easy man... I'm only here for a
good-time.

DR. BLACK
Well that was enjoyable for me,
toodles.

Dr. Black heads towards the entrance Door. The Gambler
turns towards James.

GAMBLER
(gulps)
He's an odd creature.

CU JAMES - SUSPICION.

INT. WILLIAM'S OFFICE - NIGHT

SIMON
But before the other night I didn't
even know my Father visited your
establishment.

WILLIAM
And now you want to know if I know
more.

Simon nods.

WILLIAM (cont'd)

It was tragic what happen to your
parents, I'm so sorry for your loss.
(beat)

Powerful forces travel through this
city Sir Simon, do you truly wish to
seek them out.

SIMON

Would you not for your parents?

WILLIAM

Never knew them, got here because I
have no family. Though I did lose a
younger brother years ago. With him
gone no one out there could use them
against me. Having said that, it
would be nice to know someone would
try to avenge my death.

William drinks.

SIMON

Have you heard any whispers between
your walls?

WILLIAM

Gossip always fills the air Sir
Simon. From what I've heard though
it was a designed attack. I couldn't
help you with names, but I've always
encountered these circumstances to be
action of someone who is close,
someone who is within your circle.

William takes a gulp from his GLASS, while Simon ponders.

INT. CROCKFORD'S GENTLEMEN CLUB - DAY

Simon and James stand by the gambling TABLE. Men are
gambling.

JAMES

What of the fellow with the
briefcase?

SIMON

His Doctor I believe. Why?

JAMES

Doctor? Not right in the head that one. Has Mr. Crockford lead us any closer?

SIMON

No, the man can hold his drink.
(ponders)
And I believe I'll have to drink more blood for that.

INT. FRANCIS ESTATE/LARGE ROOM - NIGHT

CU FEMALE LEGS - CROSSED LEGGED SITTING ON A COUCH.

Francis wears a ROBE while dancing with Lady#1 naked. Her body is limp with her head on his shoulder. Francis' arm is looped under her armpit.

FRANCIS

I believe your right. We should have no trouble from Sir Simon. He seems like a swell lad. I see him being a true believe.
(humming)

Francis quickens his pace.

FRANCIS (cont'd)

(whispers)
Sorry love, em I going to fast.

Francis comes to an abrupt stop. Lady#1's head flops from his shoulder.

CU LADY#1 - BLOODY LIP, BLACK EYE. HER NECK BRUISED.

FRANCIS (cont'd)

Your rhythm is shet anyways!

Francis releases Lady#1. Her deceased body falls to the floor.

FRANCIS (cont'd)

I believe it's our turn now.

Francis extends his arm.

CU LADY#2 - MARGRET'S HAND WITH KNIFE IS CRAVING THE SIGIL OF LUCIFER INTO HER FOREHEAD. EYES DILATED.

Margaret turns and smiles while sitting next to Lady#2 sitting motionlessly.

INT. SIMON'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

CU SIMON - EYES CLOSED

SUDDENLY -

CU SIMON - EYES OPEN.

Simon lays in his BED struggling to rise. He slowly turns his head to see Rosie sleeping, he tries to rise.

SUDDENLY -

Simon's head is pushed into his PILLOW, by his Mother, her face pale and rotting with bruising around her neck.

ELIZABETH

Beware my son!

CU SIMON - EYES QUICKLY OPEN.

Simon sits bolt right in his BED. Rosie sleeps as Simon exits breathing heavily. He walks to the Window and looks down into the Courtyard.

COURTYARD -

James sit on a BENCH drinking from a BOTTLE.

RETURN TO SIMON -

He wipes sweat off his brow.

EXT. SLUMS - NIGHT

The back of Robert Black is seen placing a 10yr old BOY tied up and unconscious into the back of a WAGON. Robert turns around showing his face and investigates the area.

EXT. COURTYARD - NIGHT

Simon walks into the Courtyard.

SIMON

Can't sleep James?

James turns and smiles while he takes a pull from a BOTTLE.

JAMES
Haven't tried.

Simon sits and James offers the BOTTLE.

CU JAMES - TIRED GLOSSY EYES.

SIMON
Why not.

Simon takes the BOTTLE and takes a pull and hands it back.

JAMES
Rosie spent the night?

SIMON
(smirks)
She did.

JAMES
Then you should be in your warm bed
not here catching a draft.

Simon wraps his arm around James.

SIMON
She is asleep and my good friend is
not.

JAMES
Aye, are friendship has grown.
Though you didn't much care for your
father returning with me.

SIMON
Thought you were meant to replace me.
Some ruffian from Glasgow who was to
watch my father's back but all along
it was mine.

James takes a pull from the BOTTLE.

JAMES
It feels like I'm in a dream, that
I'm to wake and that night was just a
nightmare.
(beat)
How did I not see their attackers?
They trusted me.

Simon stands and paces.

SIMON
Nothing new from that night has
entered your mind?

QUICK FLASH -

GEORGE LUTRELL, 43, wearing a SUIT, holds Elizabeth a KNIFE
lays a foot away. Elizabeth wears a DRESS while laying in
Georges arms on a COBBLESTONE PATHWAY.

CU ELIZABETH - BRUISING AROUND NECK.

CU GEORGE - BLOOD FLOWS FROM A SLICE ON HIS NECK.

END FLASH -

RETURN TO SCENE -

JAMES
Nothing. Though I do believe your
Mother sensed something. You,
like I must of heard them argue.

SIMON
Yes.

QUICK FLASHBACK -

INT. HALLWAY ESTATE - NIGHT

George hastily puts on his COAT while Elizabeth stands
behind him.

ELIZABETH
(stern)
This isn't you George! It's late,
why must you leave?!

George turns and puts his arms around Elizabeth and kisses
her forehead.

GEORGE
I'll be home soon.

Elizabeth pushes George.

ELIZABETH
Don't you dare lie to me George. You
should know I always find the truth.

Elizabeth storms off.

END OF FLASHBACK.

RETURN TO SCENE -

SIMON

Perhaps my Mother stumbled across something they wanted hidden.

JAMES

She was a feisty one. If she wanted to know a thing she would.

SIMON

And if that is the case these hell-firer's will pay.

INT. CAVERN - NIGHT

Simon wearing a SUIT and a TOP HAT enters alongside Philip who wears similar attire both men carry a WHITE MASK in their hands. 20 MEMBERS mingle in the cavern some wearing their MASKS.

PHILIP

2 hours of education they wish to grant these children. Next they'll try to take away their labor.

SIMON

It seems it will pass. The Clapham sect influence has grown.

PHILIP

We'll see about that! You'll think on it right?

Simon nods.

PHILIP (cont'd)

A small invest for you. We have to keep these mines moving and these children busy.

William enters.

WILLIAM

Gentlemen.

PHILIP

Ah, William.

SIMON
Mr. Crockford.

PHILIP
(smiles)
Your movement has improved. It's
good to know certain people isn't it.

William lowers his head.

WILLIAM
Aye. Though I wish...

PHILIP
(interrupting)
We do not wish.

Philip moves within inches of William.

PHILIP (cont'd)
Some days are shorter for others.
But at least we gave them purpose.

WILLIAM
I suppose so.

William puts on his MASK. Simon is preoccupied staring at
the RED CHAIR.

CU - RED CHAIR.

SIMON
What of the chair?

PHILIP
(smiles)
Tonight you will see Simon. Very
soon.

A Male Member wearing a MASK carries a PLATE with 2 GLASSES
and stops before Simon.

PHILIP (cont'd)
Ah, thank you.

Philip takes a GLASS.

PHILIP (cont'd)
And this will help you to see, who
sits there... Drink.

Simon takes a GLASS. Philip gulps down the drink and
returns the GLASS. Simon smells the GLASS and stares.

PHILIP (cont'd)
 It's a blend of two plants we've
 discovery. Don't be shy, drink.

Simon slowly places the GLASS to his lips and gulps. He
 returns the GLASS.

PHILIP (cont'd)
 Good boy.

Philip puts on his MASK.

SIMON
 Bitter but not horrible.

Simon puts on his MASK.

SIMON'S P.O.V. -

Member's begin to encircle the RED CHAIR leaving an opening
 in front of the CHAIR. CHANTING is HEARD from the Members.

RETURN TO SCENE.

Simon looks down upon his hand.

CU SIMON'S HAND - VIBRATING.

CHANTING from the Members has grown LOUDER. A female Member
 wearing a MASK grabs Simon's hand.

MARGARET
 Come cousin, Francis has provided a
 channel.

Simon and Margaret walk into the circle.

SIMON'S P.O.V. -

RED CHAIR, VIBRATING. CAMERA pans to the right, Lady#2
 naked and painted RED stands at the opening of the circle.

CU LADY#2 - SIGIL OF LUCIFER craved into her cheeks and
 forehead. Mouth opens and jaw quickly moves.

LADY#2
 (masculine voice,
 gibberish)

A DAGGER slices Lady#2's throat.

RETURN TO SCENE.

LADY#2 (cont'd)
 (masculine voice)
 Belaunikatu nire aurean.
 (basque)

Members begin to kneel.

CU LADY#2 - Eyes turn black. A dark Masculine face begins to surface from Lady#2's face.

A DARK FIGURE surfaces from Lady#2 as she falls to the ground. The FIGURE walks towards the CHAIR and sits and crosses it's legs.

Members bow their heads. The Figure, vibrating turns it's head and stares at Simon who quickly bows his head.

INT. WILLIAM'S OFFICE - DAY

William sits at his DESK looking down upon his arm. He begins to slowly fold his sleeve. A KNOCK is HEARD O.S.

COLIN (O.S.)
 Dr. Black, Mr. Crockford.

WILLIAM
 Send him in.

The Office Door opens and Dr. Black enters holding a BRIEFCASE.

WILLIAM (cont'd)
 How many today?

DR. BLACK
 4.

Dr. Black walks emotionless towards the DESK and places his BRIEFCASE down and opens it.

CU BRIEFCASE - 4 SYRINGES WITH BLOOD INSIDE.

DR. BLACK (cont'd)
 If you sat next to the host it would be half this amount.

William looking somber rises and continues to fold up his sleeve.

WILLIAM
 I think not.

Dr. Black pulls out a SYRINGE.

WILLIAM (cont'd)
How long must these treatments last?

DR. BLACK
For as long as you wish to feel the effects.

CU WILLIAM - CONCERN.

EXT. STREET/CROCKFORD'S GENTLEMEN'S CLUB - DAY

Dr. Black exits William's Club as HORSE and CARRIAGES travel along the STREET. LONDONERS walk up and down the Street. James leaning against the BUILDING sees Dr. Black exiting and begins to follow.

INT. SEVEN STARS PUB - NIGHT

The Pub is moderately busy as Francis and Philip sit at a corner TABLE at the back.

BARMAID -

fills a CUP from the a TAP at the BAR. She tills her head and smiles at Francis.

RETURN TO PHILIP AND FRANCIS -

Francis smiles and nods his head.

PHILIP
Have you fucked her yet Francis?

FRANCIS
Hmm, only with my eyes.

The Barmaid smiles at Francis.

PHILIP
Yes and she is enjoying it.

FRANCIS
(laughs)
Speaking of pleasures my first treatment with that doctor of yours was fantastic.

PHILIP
I'm pleased to hear it.

FRANCIS
Thou I had it blindfolded and gagged.

PHILIP
Really.

FRANCIS
Placed my back to it as well they are quite young.

Francis drinks from a CUP.

PHILIP
That's a pity. My doctor, Robert seems to believe their fear increases the effect.

FRANCIS
Does he.

Philip cuts MEAT from a PLATE.

PHILIP
Not to worry, I shall inform you for my first treatment commences tonight.

Philip takes a bite.

FRANCIS
How did he bring forth the idea for these blood transfusions?

Francis stabs a FORK and cuts with a KNIFE a bloody STEAK and begins to eat.

PHILIP
Have you not had a vision yet? I thought you would have. Since he has appeared to us I've had many.

Philip extends his arm and rubs his fingers as Francis quickly chews to answer.

PHILIP (cont'd)
He sprinkled a little of his knowledge upon the good doctor. It was our Father's idea not his.

FRANCIS
(annoyed/anger)
Visions... Have you forgotten who founded what is not to be spoken?

Philip grabs Francis' hand.

PHILIP

I do love your passion. Forgive me
of course you have. Truth though
Francis was it not the Luttrell
brothers who created our fine club.

FRANCIS

More Margaret's father,
it was his creation.

PHILIP

Charles?

FRANCIS

Yes Charles, George was his junior.
Sir Charles is a great man, from his
enlightenment we have been able to
gaze upon him in his chair.

PHILIP

I have yet to meet the man he is
quite secretive.

FRANCIS

He does not travel far from
Edinburgh.

PHILIP

Well his enlightenment must of given
him much sorrow learning of his
brother's wife's plan to betray us.

FRANCIS

She was a source of annoyance for
George but his love for her never
dwindled.

PHILIP

And it was the death of them as well.

FRANCIS

But now we have a new Luttrell and
he's turning out to be fine member.

PHILIP

Yes he has.

FRANCIS

Has he contributed to our mines?

PHILIP

(annoyed)

Half the amount I asked.

FRANCIS

Not to worry Philip. We'll need more
members like Simon. For a vision
I've been shown is for our ranks to
grow.

