

DARK ASCENDANTS

V 1.0

Written by

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EXT. LONDON STREET - NIGHT - VISION POV

Darkness.

DANIEL (V.O.)

I had another nightmare.

Darkness slowly fades into a hazy POV vision of a cobbled street.

The POV view is shifted upwards as the sound of heavy breathing emanates from the source of the vision. Raspy breathing.

The outline of old, Victorian era housing lit by several street lights can be seen.

Faintly illuminated under one of the lights are two figures in the distance, both of whom are lying still on the ground.

The source of the vision slowly walks towards the two figures.

As it nears, the figures become more visible.

Two FEMALE VICTIMS (20's), both with throats slit from ear to ear.

The perspective shifts to the hand of the vision bearer, who is holding a curved knife, covered in blood.

DANIEL (V.O.)

I was terrified.

INT. DANIEL'S APARTMENT - DANIEL'S BEDROOM - MORNING

Modern day London.

DANIEL (27), an adolescent man, with thick locks of hair and an stubbled face sits up in bed quickly.

He breaths are laboured as he leans forward for support, drenched in sweat.

After some moments of composure, he turns to grab his phone and checks the time.

ON PHONE SCREEN:

**8:36pm**

BACK TO SCENE:

Daniel quickly jumps out of bed.

INT. DOCTOR TOMKINS OFFICE - DAY

Daniel sits opposite his male Therapist, DOCTOR TOMKINS (55), in a small and cramped office.

On his desk lays a plaque labelled "DOCTOR TOMKINS, Professional Psychiatrist".

Doctor Tomkins holds a notebook and pen in his hands.

DOCTOR TOMKINS

How are things with Elena? Have you both spoken recently about Chris-

Daniel shrugs, almost emotionless.

DANIEL

She came by to drop the last of her things this morning.

Doctor Tomkins flashes Daniel a sympathetic look.

DOCTOR TOMKINS

And, how did that make you feel?

INT. DANIEL'S APARTMENT - LOUNGE - MORNING

Daniel stares from his lounge window at ELENA (23), an alluring looking woman, who has tired eyes, reminiscent of Daniel's own.

Elena takes one last look at Daniel in the window, flashes a fake smile, then gets into a car, before driving off.

Daniel continues to stare, completely broken.

DOCTOR TOMKINS (V.O)

Daniel...Daniel?

INT. DOCTOR TOMKINS OFFICE - DAY

Daniel snaps out of his trance to meet eyes with Tomkins.

DOCTOR TOMKINS

How did it make you feel?

DANIEL

Not great, Doctor.

Doctor Tomkins nods, and writes down some notes in his book.

DOCTOR TOMKINS

Elena, is she still living-

DANIEL

In my family mansion. Yes. It's all hers now. Everything is settled.

DOCTOR TOMKINS

And you're okay with that?

Daniel nods.

DANIEL

Too many bad memories there, anyway.

Doctor Tomkins clears his throat and flicks to the next page.

DOCTOR TOMKINS

And how is work going?

DANIEL

Okay, I guess.

DOCTOR TOMKINS

Well, your job is quite a demanding one. Is "okay" enough for you to function in the role?

Daniel laughs under his breath.

DANIEL

You're questioning my journalism skills?

DOCTOR TOMKINS

Not at all. I just want to know your opinion.

Daniel shakes his head slowly.

DANIEL

My job is the only thing keeping me sane right now. So "okay" is enough, yes.

Doctor Tomkins nods.

DOCTOR TOMKINS

Let's go back to what you told me about your nightmare. I believe that you're under a significant amount of stress right now, Daniel. And that this stress is causing you to inhabit what we in the medical field call "vivid dreams". Are you familiar with the term?

Daniel shakes his head.

DOCTOR TOMKINS (CONT'D)

It's when your dreams feel real, as you described. I believe that the stress that you're undergoing is causing them.

DANIEL

Any advice?

DOCTOR TOMKINS

Yes, actually. I recommend putting yourself out there and speaking to others. It's a scientifically proven fact that engaging in conversation with friends, family members and even strangers can boost your mental health and reduce stress levels.

Doctor Tomkins flashes a warm smile but Daniel inhales loudly.

DANIEL

Well, that's great advice. But...I don't have anyone else.

DOCTOR TOMKINS

You should try and speak to Elena too. Even if it's for a small check up. You went through something together. Ignoring each other won't change that. Okay?

EXT. NEWSPAPER BUREAU - MORNING

Daniel walks towards the front entrance of a large skyscraper.

A large sign is positioned above the doors...

ON SIGN:

**The London Chronicle - London's number 1 news source!**

BACK TO SCENE:

INT. DANIEL'S OFFICE - LATER

Daniel sits at his desk, in a cosy office of his own.

He scrolls on his computer, whilst checking printed records on his desk.

The sound of LAUGHTER can be heard from outside the office.

As Daniel looks up, he spots a group of CO-WORKERS grouped together as they walk past.

Daniel looks down, saddened.

Suddenly, his phone starts to ring...

ON PHONE SCREEN:

**UNKNOWN NUMBER**

BACK TO SCENE:

Daniel declines the call, then gets back to work.

INT. DANIEL'S APARTMENT - LOUNGE - EVENING

Daniel sits back into his armchair, a glass of whiskey in one hand, and a framed picture in the other.

An electric fireplace rages on behind him.

He takes a swig of the whiskey as he looks upon the picture's image.

ON PICTURE:

**We see the top of the photo, which contains Daniel, his arm wrapped around Elena. Both are smiling.**

BACK TO SCENE:

INTERCUT WITH:

BEGIN FLASHBACK:

INT. HARPER MANSION - LOUNGE - DAY

Daniel sits in a different armchair, his face pale and cold. His hair soaked.

Elena sits opposite, in a similar state, crying.

Both are dressed in smart black attire.

Outside, a storm rages on.

DANIEL

Elena...

Elena continues crying.

DANIEL (CONT'D)

Elena, talk to me.

(beat)

Elena, please-

ELENA

I can't do this. I-I-can't do this-

DANIEL

Yes you can. We both can. We're going to get through this, together.



ELENA

No.

Elena looks up to meet Daniel's eyes.

ELENA (CONT'D)

I mean I can't do this...with you.

Daniel screws up his face, perplexed.

DANIEL

What do you mean?

ELENA

I mean what I said.

(beat)

Today made me realise I can't. It's too hard, Daniel. It's too hard.

DANIEL

What about today made you realise that? I thought this would bring us closer-

Elena stands up, running her hands through her hair.

ELENA

Closer? You thought-

Elena lets out a laugh.

Daniel takes another sip of the whiskey, tears now beginning to well in his eyes.

Daniel stands up too, slowly.

DANIEL

I thought what, Elena?

Daniel inspects the photo closer.

ON PICTURE:

To the bottom of the photo, a small child, CHRISTOPHER (7), stands between the two, smiling wide.

BACK TO SCENE:

ELENA

You thought that Christopher's funeral would bring us closer? Is that why you've been holding out on me the past few months?

Daniel nears Elena.

DANIEL

What the hell are you talking about?

ELENA

Since he became ill, you've buried yourself in work, you've been drinking every day and you've barely said a word to me! You're a mess, Daniel! You don't listen to Doctor Tomkins's advice and you don't help yourself. And you thought that suddenly that would change after today? Are you even listening to yourself?!

DANIEL

Elena, I'm sorry-

Daniel nears even closer, but Elena moves back two steps.

ELENA

Don't. Don't come any closer.

Daniel starts to tear up.

DANIEL

Elena-

ELENA

I want you to leave. Tonight.

END INTERCUT:

INT. DANIEL'S APARTMENT - LOUNGE - EVENING

Daniel places the photo down, as tears stream down his face.

He reaches across to pour some whiskey into a glass, but suddenly stops.

After a few seconds of sobbing, he lets out a scream of frustration and throws the glass against the wall, which smashes on impact.

He starts downing from the bottle, taking large gulps.

Outside, a storm is also raging in the present.

FADE TO BLACK.

INT. HARPER MANSION - VARIOUS ROOMS - VISION POV

The vision opens from darkness as the bearer walks through various, dark lit rooms of the Harper mansion.

The bearer stops beside a bed, where a young BOY (8) is lying, fast asleep.

The bearer then looks up at towards a mirror, and nears.

As it does, the faint outline of a dark hooded figure appears, and in the corner of the frame, a curved knife appears.

INT. DANIEL'S APARTMENT - LOUNGE - MORNING

A loud BUZZING of the door buzzer immediately startles Daniel awake.

He sits up in his chair, and immediately grabs his head in pain.

His feet knock the bottle of whiskey on the floor, which is now empty.

The BUZZING continues, and Daniel struggles to maintain balance as he approaches his front door.

Daniel places a finger on the intercom button and clears his throat.

DANIEL

(groggy)

He-Hello?

MAN (V.O)

Hi. Letter for a Mr Harper. Signed delivery.

DANIEL

Uh, sure. I'll be right down.

INT. DANIEL'S APARTMENT - FRONT ENTRANCE - CONTINUOUS

Daniel opens the door up, shielding his eyes as the sunlight blinds him.

After a few seconds, he regains full vision.

MAN (O.S)

Rough night, cousin?

Into view, steps SEBASTIAN (30), a well dressed and groomed man, with a look of mystery about him.

DANIEL

Sebastian? Oh my God, what are you doing here?

SEBASTIAN

Well, I tried calling you...about a thousand times.

DANIEL

That was you? Sorry, I don't-I don't answer unknown calls.

Sebastian flashes a nonchalant hand wave.

SEBASTIAN

Don't sweat it. We're family. It's just good to see you again. It's been a long time, innit?

Daniel nods, almost unsure.

DANIEL

Look, I'd love to invite you in, but right now isn't a good time-

SEBASTIAN

Oh, do you have guests over? Or a lady guest?

DANIEL

No...nothing like that. It's just...um, the apartment is in a state right now. I wouldn't want your first impressions to be-

SEBASTIAN

Daniel, I don't care if it looks like a bleeding pig sty in there. I came here to see you.

(beat)

I know what happened. I'm sorry. Really sorry.

Daniel rubs his tired eyes.

SEBASTIAN (CONT'D)

I thought you could use a friendly face again. If you really want me to leave, then I will-

DANIEL

No, it's-it's okay. Come in.

Daniel gestures for Sebastian to follow him in.

INT. DANIEL'S APARTMENT - LOUNGE - CONTINUOUS

Daniel leads Sebastian into the lounge.

He lays his eyes upon the various empty bottles of alcohol around the apartment, along with the fragments of scattered glass and rubbish.

Daniel clears his throat and gestures for Sebastian to sit down on the sofa.

DANIEL

Would you like a drink?

Sebastian picks up one of the empty bottles.

SEBASTIAN

Are there any left?

Sebastian laughs but Daniel remains straight faced.

SEBASTIAN (CONT'D)

I'm just taking the piss, mate.  
Yeah, I'll have a drink please.  
Whatever you're having.

Daniel nods and walks over to start pouring a drink...

BEGIN FLASHBACK:

INT. HARPER MANSION - DANIEL'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

A child's bedroom, decorated with posters on the wall of several action movie stars.

YOUNG DANIEL (12) sleeps soundly under his bedsheets.

Suddenly, the bedroom door slowly creaks open.

Daniel opens his eyes slowly, and slowly sits up in his bed.

The door is now wide open, but no one is in sight.

The sudden sound of the creaking floorboard makes Daniel hold his breath.

YOUNG SEBASTIAN (15) jumps up from on the floor and onto Daniel's bed, causing him to scream.

Daniel hits Sebastian with his pillow several times.

YOUNG DANIEL

What the hell, Sebastian?! You  
scared the life out of me!

Sebastian starts to laugh, and so too does Daniel.

YOUNG SEBASTIAN

I got you good, cousin.

Sebastian takes a seat beside Daniel on the bed.

YOUNG DANIEL

What are you doing up so late?

Sebastian grins.

YOUNG SEBASTIAN

I can't tell you.

YOUNG DANIEL

What do you mean?

YOUNG SEBASTIAN

Let's just say that after tonight,  
everything will change. I won't be  
a boy anymore. I'll be a man.

Daniel scoffs.

DANIEL

Okay, sure. You, a man?

Sebastian punches Daniel's arm and slowly walks towards the  
door.

YOUNG SEBASTIAN

You wait, cousin. You just wait...

END FLASHBACK:

INT. DANIEL'S APARTMENT - LOUNGE - CONTINUOUS

Daniel sits in his armchair, opposite Sebastian on the sofa.

The room is quiet for a few moments.

DANIEL

How did you even find me,  
Sebastian?

Sebastian takes a sip of his drink.

SEBASTIAN

I came to the old estate first. Saw  
your wife-I mean ex wife.

Daniel straightens in his chair.

DANIEL

You saw Elena? How-  
(beat)  
How is she?



SEBASTIAN

Yeah, she looked well. I told her that we were family and she invited me in. She told me everything that happened, Daniel. I-well I knew then that I definitely had to come and see you then.

Daniel takes a big swig of whiskey, clutching his head.

SEBASTIAN (CONT'D)

Why didn't you invite me to the funeral, mate?

DANIEL

We didn't invite anyone. She doesn't really speak to her family and well, ours...

Daniel's mind drifts off for a moment.

BEGIN FLASHBACK:

INT. HARPER MANSION - DANIEL'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Young Daniel lays in his bed, still tucked under his sheets.

The sudden faint sound of muffled screams can be heard.

Daniel's eyes open.

MAN (O.S.)

Get your hands off me!

Daniel sits up, and moves over to the door silently yet with pace.

He peeks in through the crack to see MAN quickly escorted through a hallway by TWO MEN.

MAN (O.S) (CONT'D)

You can get remove me! But not the  
stain you've left on this family.  
The blood you've spilled. You've  
all spilled!

The man's voice drifts off into the distance.

Suddenly, the door opens, and a female figure's shadow looms  
over Daniel's small frame.

WOMAN (O.S.)

Daniel. Where is Sebastian?

(beat)

Daniel, answer me...ANSWER ME!

END FLASHBACK:

INT. DANIEL'S APARTMENT - BATHROOM - NIGHT

Daniel splashes cold water on his face.

Music can be heard booming from outside the room.

He stares at himself for a few seconds, before composing  
himself with a deep breath and leaving.

INT. DANIEL'S APARTMENT - LOUNGE - CONTINUOUS

Daniel and Sebastian are mid way through the card game  
"bullshit".

Both are slightly intoxicated as music blasts through the  
speakers.

SEBASTIAN

I call a six on you.

Daniel eyes the card, then Sebastian carefully.

DANIEL

Bullshit.

Sebastian flips over a card to reveal a six of diamonds.

SEBASTIAN

That's the final card. Drink up!

Sebastian begins to pound his fists on the table as he chants...

SEBASTIAN (CONT'D)

We...like to drink with Daniel. Cuz  
Daniel is our mate! And when we  
drink with Daniel, he gets it down  
in eight, seven, six, five, four-

Daniel begins chugging a full glass of alcohol.

SEBASTIAN (CONT'D)

-three, two, one!

Daniel finishes the glass and places it onto the table.

SEBASTIAN (CONT'D)

Woo! Brilliant.

Daniel laughs as he lights up a cigarette and takes a drag.

Sebastian leans over and turns the music down to a lower volume.

SEBASTIAN (CONT'D)

You can definitely put it away.  
I've only had four drinks and I  
already feel ready for bed.

Daniel takes another drag and laughs.

DANIEL

Bed...ha! I don't remember the last time I slept properly in one of those.

SEBASTIAN

Couldn't have been easy. Going through what you have.

Daniel nods.

DANIEL

I get these nightmares occasionally. I tried talking to my therapist about them but...I don't know.

Daniel trails off his sentence.

SEBASTIAN

Nightmares?

DANIEL

Forget it.

Sebastian sits up in his chair, intrigued.

SEBASTIAN

No, come on. I said I'm here to help. Give me something so I can try.

Daniel shakes his head dismissively, but Sebastian keeps his gaze focused on him.

After yet another drag, he sighs.

DANIEL

My therapist thinks it's down to stress. He calls them vivid dreams.

Sebastian gets up and turns the volume down on the speakers.

SEBASTIAN

And what are these vivid dreams  
about?

Daniel shrugs.

DANIEL

It depends. But every single one  
has something in common. I'm  
looking through the eyes of  
someone. Or something.

SEBASTIAN

Something?

DANIEL

I think it's a man. Sometimes I  
catch a glimpse of him in the  
mirror. I have no control over his  
body. But sometimes he stops to  
look at himself...or a part of  
himself.

SEBASTIAN

And?

DANIEL

He's dressed in black.

QUICK FLASH:

**The female figure who looms above Young Daniel...Daniel looks  
up to see a figure dressed in a black robe, with a hood  
covering their face.**

**WOMAN**

**Daniel. Where is Sebastian?**

BACK TO SCENE:

Sebastian is sat on the edge of his seat.

Daniel suddenly clutches his head in pain.

DANIEL

Ah...another migraine. I...I better be off to bed. These only get worse after they start and I've got work tomorrow morning.

Sebastian nods, somewhat disappointed.

SEBASTIAN

Oh, okay. Should I get going, or-

DANIEL

No, you can stay. Please, you've been drinking. Have the guest room. First door on the right.

Sebastian nods.

SEBASTIAN

Thanks, cousin. Here let me give you my phone number, in case I don't catch you in the morning.

Sebastian types a number into Daniel's phone, then walks out of the room.

Daniel finishes his drink and rubs his temples.

QUICK FLASH:

**The female figure has a curved knife in their hand.**

BACK TO SCENE:

INT. NEWSPAPER BUREAU - EVENING

Daniel sits at his desk, typing away monotonously.

He suddenly stops and clenches his head.

Again, he witnesses a GROUP of workers walking together, laughing and smiling.

After some consideration, he quickly gets up and walks outside his office, raising his hand in the air.

DANIEL

Hey! Guys, wait up. I'll come too-

The workers ignore him or just don't hear him as they exit the building

Daniel sighs, and walks back into his office, shoulders slouched and ego hurt.

He slumps himself back into his chair.

He removes his phone from his pocket and hovers over Elena's name on his phone.

MAN (O.S)

Hey, let's go to the pub!

WOMAN (O.S)

Yeah, okay!

The voice of one of the workers can be heard from outside can be heard as Daniel contemplates the words.

After a few seconds, he swipes and then places the phone to his ear.

DANIEL

Hey, you free?

INT. TAVERN PUB - LATER

Daniel and Sebastian sit in a booth, drinking two large beers from Stein double pint glasses.

SEBASTIAN

Were these glasses really this big  
when our Father's drank from them?

DANIEL

I think so. I'm starting to realise  
why they always left at least half  
of it.

The pair laugh.

SEBASTIAN

It's been a long time since I last  
stepped foot in here.

(beat)

This is nice. The place hasn't  
changed one bit since we were kids.

Daniel nods, and takes a sip which covers his bottom lip in  
beer foam.

He takes another large gulp, then wipes it.

SEBASTIAN (CONT'D)

Headache gone?

DANIEL

For now. Listen, I have to know.  
What even happened to you,  
Sebastian? We would spend every  
weekend together as kids. Every  
single one. We must have pranked  
Nanny Lucy over one hundred  
different times.

Sebastian lets out a laugh.

SEBASTIAN

That poor woman.



DANIEL

Where did you suddenly go that night?

SEBASTIAN

They never told you?

DANIEL

Not a thing.

Sebastian takes a large swig of his drink.

SEBASTIAN

My father was incredibly sick in the head before he died. He made some decisions that...well, let's just say that they didn't leave me in the best position.

DANIEL

Like what?

SEBASTIAN

Like sending me to the other side of the country to live with another family.

DANIEL

Are you saying-

SEBASTIAN

(sharp)

I was placed onto an adoption register. Sent away, like I had suddenly become a disease to the family. Like some fucking-

Sebastian composes himself as he realises several CUSTOMERS are starting to look over.

Daniel shakes his head, in disbelief.

Sebastian looks on, anguish and pain in his eyes.

SEBASTIAN (CONT'D)

My mother didn't even try and stop them from sending me away. She didn't care, you know.

(under his breath)

Bitch.

DANIEL

Sebastian, I'm so sorry. If I had known, I would have visited, but I didn't even know where to start.

Sebastian shakes his head and smiles, his expression of anguish fading.

SEBASTIAN

Hey, you weren't to know. Right now, let's just focus on the present. I'm glad I found you again, cousin. And I want you to know that I'm here to help you through whatever shit you're going through. If you'll let me, mate.

Daniel nods with gratitude and the pair clink their glasses.

SEBASTIAN (CONT'D)

All this talk of being kids...you just reminded me. How you described your nightmare. It sounded familiar at the time. I've been racking my noggin trying to think of it all day. I think I know.

Daniel leans in, his interest piqued.

DANIEL

And? What is it?

SEBASTIAN

Let me ask you a question first.  
Does the figure hold a curved  
knife?

Daniel's eyes widen.

BEGIN FLASHBACK:

INT. HARPER MANSION - DANIEL'S FATHER'S OFFICE - EVENING

Young Daniel stares up at a painting on the wall, which is  
hidden from the audience's view.

INTERCUT WITH:

INT. DANIEL'S APARTMENT - STORAGE ROOM - NIGHT

Daniel pulls a light cord, and a small storage room  
illuminates with light.

Inside, are endless boxes, all taped shut.

Young Sebastian approaches Daniel, and punches him on the  
shoulder playfully.

YOUNG DANIEL

Ow! What was that for?

YOUNG SEBASTIAN

Just messing with you. What are you  
gawking at?

Daniel scours the boxes until he finds one labelled  
"Paintings".

Daniel pulls the box out.

INT. DANIEL'S APARTMENT - LOUNGE - CONTINUOUS

Daniel places the box in the room, and begins to cut the tape with a knife.

As he pulls the box open, a row of goosebumps appear across his arm.

Daniel flicks through the paintings inside as Sebastian lingers over his shoulder.

SEBASTIAN

Stop. It's that one.

Daniel lifts the painting out and holds it in front of him.

ON PAINTING:

**A dark dressed, hooded figure, holding a curved knife in it's right hand. The entirety of the painting's background is black, but for a slight illumination of light surrounding the figure.**

BACK TO SCENE:

The painting is now in view in the flashback, as both Young Daniel and Young Sebastian stare at it.

YOUNG SEBASTIAN

It's beautiful, isn't it?

YOUNG DANIEL

It's creepy.

YOUNG SEBASTIAN

You just don't understand the meaning behind it. You're too young.

YOUNG DANIEL

Well, what does it mean?

DANIEL'S FATHER (O.S.)

Daniel, Sebastian? What did I tell  
you boys about going into my  
office!

YOUNG SEBASTIAN

Ask your father in a few years.  
He'll know.

END INTERCUT:

Daniel places the painting up on the wall and steps back to  
analyse it.

Within seconds, part of his previous nightmare flashes in his  
mind.

SEBASTIAN

Do you remember now?

DANIEL

Yeah...this hung on the wall of my  
father's office. I completely  
forgot about it.

SEBASTIAN

Good job that I'm here then.

Sebastian places his hand on Daniel's shoulder, which seems  
to snap Daniel out of his trance.

SEBASTIAN (CONT'D)

Mind if I stay over again, cousin?  
That alcohol has hit me like a  
freight train. Tavern special, eh?

DANIEL

Uh, yeah. Sure.

SEBASTIAN

Thanks. Night.

Sebastian walks out of the room as Daniel turns to reface the painting.

FADE TO:

INT. DANIEL'S APARTMENT - LOUNGE - EARLY MORNING

Daniel continues to stare at the painting, now from the position of the armchair, which he has placed directly in front of to face it.

A small lamp has been placed on a table beside the painting to light it.

He focuses his eyes on the figure's sleeves, where the faint outline of the curved knife design can be sign embroidered on the side.

QUICK FLASH:

**A POV shot as the bearer walks through an interior towards a WOMAN (20's) on the ground.**

BACK TO SCENE:

Daniel grabs his head in pain.

He quickly raises from his chair and walks over towards the painting, holding onto it's frame.

DANIEL

What are you trying to show me...?

QUICK FLASH:

**The POV shot continues as the bearer grabs the woman by the hair and begins to slit her throat with the curved knife.**

BACK TO SCENE:

Daniel throws his hands to his head, grunting in pain.

After several seconds of agony, he throws the painting onto the ground and begins to stomp his feet deep into it, tearing the canvas.

After a few moments, the visions stop, and Daniel falls back onto the wall, breathing heavy.

INT. DANIEL'S APARTMENT - DANIEL'S BEDROOM - MORNING

The sound of MUSIC startles Daniel awake.

He opens his eyes and looks around the room.

DANIEL

(groggy)

Seb-Sebastian?

INT. DANIEL'S APARTMENT - LOUNGE - CONTINUOUS

Daniel wonders into his lounge, hungover and looking worse for wear.

Sebastian is sat on the sofa, watching television.

He spoons a lump of cereal into his mouth.

DANIEL

Sebastian?

Sebastian turns his head quickly to make eye contact with Daniel.

SEBASTIAN

Cousin! How are you? I feel rough, this morning, I won't lie, mate.

DANIEL

Can you turn that down? My head's killing me.

Sebastian presses a button on the remote.

Daniel looks down at where the painting was on the floor.

DANIEL (CONT'D)

You cleaned up already? You didn't  
have to do that.

SEBASTIAN

If by clean up, you mean hung it  
back on the wall, then yeah.

DANIEL

Why would you hang it back up? It's  
completely wrecked-

Daniel looks around to see that the painting is hung back on  
the wall, completely repaired.

His face drains of colour.

DANIEL (CONT'D)

You...you repaired it.

SEBASTIAN

What are you talking about? I just  
hung it back on the wall, Daniel.  
It must have fallen off in the  
night.

Daniel shakes his head, unconvinced.

DANIEL

No...no, no, no.

Daniel quickly makes his way towards the television, and  
switches it off.

SEBASTIAN

What's going on?



DANIEL

I destroyed that painting last night! I threw it on the ground and I destroyed it!

SEBASTIAN

You're not making sense-

DANIEL

I stomped my foot into it several times. I broke the glass frame, and I tore the canvas. And I'm to believe that you found the painting on the ground, completely repaired, and then just hung it back on the wall? Do you think I'm fucking stupid, Sebastian? I'm a journalist and it's my job to piece things together. And this, it isn't fucking adding up!

Sebastian raises his hands in the air.

SEBASTIAN

Woah! Calm down, mate. I'm telling you the truth. I found that painting, like that, on the ground.

Daniel places his hands on his head as he paces the room.

DANIEL

It-it doesn't make any sense.

SEBASTIAN

Are you sure that you smashed the painting-

DANIEL

Yes, I'm fucking sure, Sebastian, I-

Daniel takes a moment to breathe.

DANIEL (CONT'D)

I'm sure...I think...I think I'm  
losing my mind.

INT. DANIEL'S APARTMENT - KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

Daniel sits at the breakfast table, while Sebastian pours a cup of coffee.

Sebastian places the mug down on the table, in front of Daniel, then takes a seat himself.

SEBASTIAN

Here you go. Sober yourself up a bit.

DANIEL

Thanks.

Daniel takes a small sip, burning his mouth.

SEBASTIAN

If what you're saying is true...and, I'm not calling you a liar...

Daniel frowns.

SEBASTIAN (CONT'D)

...then, you're suggesting that this painting is...what, cursed?

DANIEL

These nightmares that I have, they aren't just nightmares. I see things...through the eyes of the figure in the painting. They get stronger when I'm looking at it.

SEBASTIAN

You have these visions when you're  
looking at it?

Daniel nods.

DANIEL

I have them while I'm awake, yeah.

SEBASTIAN

And you think-

DANIEL

I think this painting has cursed  
me. I think it's cursed my family.  
More importantly, I think it's  
trying to show me something.

(beat)

I just don't know what.

Sebastian takes a sip of his own coffee.

SEBASTIAN

Daniel, this sounds crazy-

DANIEL

I know it does.

SEBASTIAN

So what do you want to do? Sell it?  
Burn it? Or will it just come back-

DANIEL

I'm serious, Sebastian.

Sebastian nods.

SEBASTIAN

I'm sorry. Go on.

DANIEL

I need to know what this painting  
is and how it can be destroyed.

INT. DANIEL'S APARTMENT - DANIEL'S BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

Daniel lays out the painting on his bed, and carefully  
removes the frame.

He hands it to Sebastian, who rotates the frame and inspects.

Daniel slowly takes the canvas out and turns it over.

In the bottom corner, a small signature catches his eyes.

ON CANVAS CORNER:

**R.I.S.E**

BACK TO SCENE:

INT. DANIEL'S APARTMENT - LOUNGE - CONTINUOUS

Daniel searches rapidly on his home computer as he searches  
for answers...

INTERCUT WITH:

QUICK CUTS ON COMPUTER SCREEN:

- Daniel searches R.I.S.E into his search engine, and scrolls  
through, finding nothing of relevance.

- He searches R.I.S.E Painting/artist but nothing of interest  
is shown.

- Getting aggravated, he searches R.I.S.E. Harper Estate. One  
result shows up. A blog post on an obscure blog site. Over  
ten years old.

END QUICK CUTS:

ON COMPUTER SCREEN:

**Daniel clicks on the site, and reads the heading: "I infiltrated a society named R.I.S.E - no one believes me."**

**Scrolling down, he reads out the bulk of the text.**

DANIEL

I infiltrated a secret society, but  
no one believes me....

(beat)

Sebastian, come here, quickly!

Sebastian hurries to Daniel's side.

SEBASTIAN

What?

DANIEL

Look at this...this man, user name  
TimLeon45. He claims that he  
infiltrated a society. He's vague  
with the details but it took place  
at a large estate.

SEBASTIAN

You don't think-

DANIEL

He even references Rise. According  
to him, it's an acronym. "Riches  
Inherited through Successive Eras".

Sebastian takes a closer look at the screen, and squints his eyes as he reads the text.

SEBASTIAN

He says that he witnessed a  
murder..? But, he hasn't mentioned  
the painting anywhere.

DANIEL

No. But he mentions items-

SEBASTIAN

Blimey. He's getting a bunch of stick in the comments too. I've only seen that swear word used twice online before.

DANIEL

This is all too familiar and it's giving me the creeps.

Daniel shakes his head unconvincingly.

DANIEL (CONT'D)

Maybe I shouldn't send him a message. Seems like the site is ancient, anyway. Could be a dead end?

Sebastian leans over and moves Daniel's hand on the mouse slowly towards the message button.

SEBASTIAN

No, you should message him, cousin. It's the only lead you have right now. See what he has to say.

DANIEL

Yeah, okay. You're right.

Sebastian nods, pats Daniel on the shoulder, then walks into the next room.

SEBASTIAN

I'll keep going with the search.

**Daniel hovers over the message button for several seconds, before finally clicking on it.**

END INTERCUT:

Daniel suddenly grabs his head in pain.

QUICK FLASH:

**A quick image of an antique chalice flashes in Daniel's mind.**

BACK TO SCENE:

CUT TO:

INT. HARPER MANSION - LOUNGE - SAME TIME

Elena carries a heavy box into the room before dropping it softly onto the floor.

She opens the box which is marked "antiquities" and pulls out several wrapped items.

One of the items, a chalice, has come loose from the wrapping.

Elena inspects the chalice.

On the other side, the initials of R.I.S.E can be seen engraved into the metal.

Her phone suddenly begins to RING, and she places the chalice down and answers.

ELENA

Hello?

INTERCUT WITH:

INT. DOCTOR TOMKINS OFFICE - SAME TIME

Doctor Tomkins holds his phone to his ear with one hand and a pen against paper in the other.

DOCTOR TOMKINS

Hi Elena, it's Doctor Tomkins.

Elena closes her eyes.

ELENA

Oh...hi. How are you?

DOCTOR TOMKINS

I'm fine, thank you. Yourself?

ELENA

Just doing some redecorating.  
Daniel was never fond of all the  
antiques. I liked them so...they're  
going up for display.

DOCTOR TOMKINS

Good. I'm glad that you're keeping  
busy. I haven't seen you in a  
while, Elena.

ELENA

I've been meaning to book another  
appointment. Is that what you're  
calling me about?

DOCTOR TOMKINS

I'm actually calling regarding  
Daniel. Has he contacted you at  
all?

Elena frowns.

ELENA

No, why?



DOCTOR TOMKINS

In my last session with Daniel, I suggested that he make a conscious effort to contact those around him, and make an effort to engage in social interactions with others. He seems to be under the impression that besides you and I, he doesn't have anyone else to engage with.

ELENA

Well, he hasn't contacted me.

DOCTOR TOMKINS

I feared as much.

ELENA

Is he...is he okay?

DOCTOR TOMKINS

Unfortunately, since your divorce, I can't legally disclose any...personal information regarding Daniel's mental state of mind. However, I can recommend one thing.

ELENA

You're asking me to call him, aren't you?

DOCTOR TOMKINS

Only if you would like to.

ELENA

Then he's not okay.

Elena rubs her eyes.

END INTERCUT:

BEGIN FLASHBACK:

INT. HARPER MANSION - CHRISTOPHER BEDROOM - MORNING

Elena sits opposite CHRISTOPHER (7) on the bedroom floor, as he plays with some toy cars and a large stuffed teddy bear.

Christopher has a tube attached to his nose, which runs down towards his shirt pocket.

Elena strokes Christopher's head, smiling warmly at her son.

Daniel stands in the doorway, also smiling as Elena turns to make eye contact with him.

Christopher suddenly begins to cough, and Elena quickly passes him some water.

Elena turns back around, but Daniel has vanished.

Elena looks down saddened.

INT. HARPER MANSION - DANIEL'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

Elena opens the door and peeks in, knocking twice.

ELENA

Hey.

Daniel types away at his computer, his attention focused on the screen.

DANIEL

Hey. What's up?

ELENA

Where'd you go?

Daniel continues typing.

DANIEL

I didn't go anywhere. I'm right here.

ELENA

You know what I mean.

Daniel continues typing, which begins to form an irritated expression on Elena's face.

ELENA (CONT'D)

Daniel?

Daniel stops typing, and turns to face Elena, nodding.

Elena looks down the hallway, then walks into the office, slowly closing the door behind her.

ELENA (CONT'D)

I want us to talk.

DANIEL

Talk about...?

ELENA

Don't play dumb with me.

Daniel stares blank faced.

ELENA (CONT'D)

You're making me say it? Okay. The fact that our son is dying from cancer.

Daniel rolls his eyes and turns back around, continuing to type.

DANIEL

We can talk about it another time. Right now, I've got a deadline to finish. Due tomorrow.

Elena scoffs, shaking her head in disbelief.

ELENA

I can't believe you sometimes.

She quickly walks out of the office, and slams the door shut causing Daniel to jump and lose his typing rhythm.

Daniel takes a deep breath in, as tears start to form in his eyes.

Elena stands against the door on the other side, holding her hand to her mouth to muffle her own tears.

CHRISTOPHER (O.S.)

Mommy?

Christopher stands in the hallway, staring at Elena.

Elena quickly composes herself, then walks over to Christopher.

ELENA

Hi hunny. Let's go back to the  
bedroom and play?

Elena places her arm around Christopher and guides him towards his bedroom.

END FLASHBACK:

INT. DANIEL'S APARTMENT - LOUNGE - EVENING

Daniel is still sat at his computer.

He stares at his computer screen, almost motionless.

Sebastian sits to the side of him, scrolling on his laptop.

He looks up to see Daniel, and drifts off into thought...

QUICK FLASHES:

**Young Sebastian hides in a cupboard, hidden in darkness. He stares through the small crack which shows faint vision of the hallway.**

BACK TO SCENE:

A stray tear begins to fall down Sebastian's cheek.

QUICK FLASHES:

**The cupboard door suddenly opens, and Sebastian is pulled out of the cupboard screaming.**

BACK TO SCENE:

SEBASTIAN

Are you going to stare at it all day?

Daniel doesn't react.

SEBASTIAN (CONT'D)

Daniel?

Daniel continues staring.

Sebastian's face creases up with frustration, and he pushes him in the shoulder.

SEBASTIAN (CONT'D)

Hey! Answer me!

Daniel snaps out of his trance.

DANIEL

Huh?

Sebastian's expression returns to a more relaxed state and he smiles.

SEBASTIAN

Jesus, you had me worried there for a minute, cousin. You looked out of it. There's only so many times you can read the same message. Just send what you have.

Daniel ponders on the screen for some more time.

SEBASTIAN (CONT'D)

Daniel. Send it.

Daniel continues to ponder.

Sebastian suddenly grabs the mouse and clicks on send for him.

DANIEL

Sebastian-

SEBASTIAN

There. It's done now.

Daniel rubs his eyes.

SEBASTIAN (CONT'D)

So, what's next?

DANIEL

Um...I was thinking we could hit the library. Maybe there's a book on-

Daniel's phone suddenly RINGS.

Daniel answers.

DANIEL (CONT'D)

Hello?

(beat)

Elena?

(MORE)

DANIEL (CONT'D)

(beat)

Oh. Okay.

(beat)

You're outside?

Daniel looks outside his window to see Elena stood by the doorway, waving up at him.

INT. BAR - NIGHT

Daniel and Elena sit opposite each other in a booth.

The bar is a small one, occupied by no more than ten people.

Daniel takes a sip of a beer, whilst Elena sips on a glass of water.

She eyes Daniel with a discouraging look as he takes more sips.

ELENA

How have you been?

Daniel shrugs.

DANIEL

I'm good. Really good.

ELENA

Really good?

DANIEL

Yeah. Thanks for sending Sebastian my way. Without him, I would have never found the painting.

ELENA

You're welcome. He seemed like he really wanted to see you.

(MORE)

ELENA (CONT'D)

(beat)

Wait, what painting?

Daniel takes more sips, then smiles.

He reaches his hands across to hold hers.

DANIEL

I know why things have so tough for us, Elena. Why it all happened the way it did.

Elena shoots Daniel a pair of hopeful eyes.

ELENA

You do?

DANIEL

Yeah...everything bad that happened...I know why we couldn't work through it.

Elena begins to tear up.

ELENA

Really? Oh my God.

Elena wipes her eyes with her hand and grips Daniel's tightly.

ELENA (CONT'D)

This is progress, Daniel.

Daniel grips her hand back.

DANIEL

It was the painting.

Elena's hopeful look turns to one of doubt.

ELENA

The painting?



DANIEL

The one that hung in my father's office. Now, I know this going to sound crazy, but, just stay with me. Please.

Elena nods slowly.

DANIEL (CONT'D)

These nightmares that I've been having...they're related to the painting...I know it. I broke it and then it repaired itself. It's cursed our family, Elena. And me and Sebastian are going to do whatever we can to destroy it-

ELENA

Oh God...

Elena moves her hands away from Daniel quickly.

DANIEL

What?

ELENA

I can't-I really can't believe this...You're doing it again, aren't you?

Daniel stares, confused.

ELENA (CONT'D)

You do this all the time, Daniel. You deflect and you bury yourself into something else, like your work. Over and over. Avoiding the real issues at hand.

DANIEL

But this is real, Elena. I swear to you-

ELENA

What's real is that I was told by Doctor Tomkins to come and see you because he's worried about you Daniel. Really worried.

DANIEL

You didn't come here...to see me?

ELENA

No. I came because I'm worried about you too. And now, I wish I hadn't have come because them worries were warranted.

Elena gets up to leave.

DANIEL

Where are you going?

ELENA

I'm glad Sebastian is with you. But he should stop encouraging what you're doing. It's not healthy.

Elena walks down towards the exit.

DANIEL

It's real Elena. It's real!

Daniel looks on, saddened as Elena moves out of sight.

DANIEL (CONT'D)

(to himself)

It's real.

Daniel grips his head once again.

QUICK FLASH:

**A vision of another antiquity, a large vase.**

BACK TO SCENE:

Daniel quickly gets out of the booth and stumbles out of the bar.

INT. HARPER MANSION - CHRISTOPHER'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Elena falls onto her bed, clutching the stuffed teddy bear of Christophers.

She begins to cry heavily.

INT. DANIEL'S APARTMENT - DANIEL'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Daniel falls onto his bed, and clutches his pillow, holding a bottle of whiskey.

After several moments, he leans over to throw up in the bin.

Meanwhile, unbeknownst to Daniel, a dark hooded figure stands in the doorway, staring in Daniels direction.

INT. DANIEL'S APARTMENT - DANIEL'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Daniel squirms and shifts in his bed violently, sweating all over.

INTERCUT WITH:

EXT. DARK ALLEYWAY - NIGHT

A darkened alleyway with just the one street illuminating the view.

Two figures, FIGURE #1 and FIGURE #2, donned in black hooded clothing, suddenly step into the light.

Daniel shifts in his bed once more, his breathing laboured.

Footsteps approach the two figures as FIGURE #3, also donned in black, approaches.

Figure #3 stops less than a metre away from the two and stands, staring.

FIGURE #1

Why did you want to meet here?

Figure #3 remains silent.

FIGURE #2

We brought what you requested,  
brother.

Figure #3 steps forward, and holds his hand out.

Figure #2 unveils an antique pendant from under their cloak and hands it over to Figure #3. The inscription of R.I.S.E Is engraved on the side.

Daniel holds his head, in pain.

Figure #3 inspects it, then nods.

FIGURE #2 (CONT'D)

Brother?

Figure #1 and #2 exchange glances for a moment.

Figure #3 suddenly removes a curved knife from his sleeve and pierces it into Figure #2's throat.

Figure #1 falls back against the wall, terrified.

FIGURE #1

Who are you? What do you want?!

Figure #3 slowly removes his mask and hood to reveal his face.

FIGURE #1 (CONT'D)

No...you...it can't be, you were-

FIGURE #3

Take off your mask.

Figure #1 slowly takes off their mask, to reveal a middle aged woman's face.

Tears slowly roll down her face.

FIGURE #1

Why are you doing this?

FIGURE #3

You saw me cry...and you did nothing. I'm returning the favour.

Figure #3 impales his knife into Figure #1's throat, and, after several seconds of struggling, she dies.

As the blood drips down her sleeve, the outline of the embroidered curved knife can be seen.

Figure #3 turns around to reveal his face...Sebastian.

SEBASTIAN

Goodbye mother.

END INTERCUT:

Daniel gasps, struggling for air.

INT. WHITCHURCH - NIGHT - VISION POV

The streets and houses of 1900's London are engulfed in a bright hue.

INTERCUT WITH:

EXT./INT. HARPER MANSION - VARIOUS ROOMS - NIGHT

Elena steps out of her car and walks through the gravel towards the mansion.

She shivers as the cold air hits her skin.

The hazy effect of the vision surrounding the vision is unbearably bright at first, but it suddenly shifts into a more stable image.

Surrounding the vision bearer, hundreds and hundreds of houses are engulfed in flames.

Elena steps into the kitchen and takes out some pans from the kitchen cupboard.

She walks towards the gas stove.

PEOPLE run through the streets, screaming in complete terror.

FIREMEN try to extinguish the flames with barrels of water, but to no avail.

The vision bearer looks around for a moment, towards a small street sign, which reads...

ON SIGN:

**WHITCHURCH, NOTTING HILL**

BACK TO SCENE:

Elena turns on the gas stove, and the flame ignites the ring.

END INTERCUT:

INT. DANIEL'S APARTMENT - DANIEL'S BEDROOM - MORNING

Daniel sits up, and looks around hastily.

The light shines in brightly through his curtains and the sound of music can be heard from the lounge. Morning.

Daniel quickly exits his bed and makes for the lounge.

INT. DANIEL'S APARTMENT - LOUNGE - CONTINUOUS

Daniel storms in, looking around frantically.

DANIEL

Have you seen my phone?

SEBASTIAN

Good morning to you too.

DANIEL

I need my phone.

SEBASTIAN

What for?

Daniel rummages around the room, and finally finds it, hidden underneath a pile of magazines.

SEBASTIAN (CONT'D)

Daniel, who are you calling?

Daniel dials three times and places the phone to his ear as he waits for the ring.

SEBASTIAN (CONT'D)

Daniel?!

DANIEL

The authorities. I had another vision. This one was so much more real. I think a crime is going to happen. Hundreds of people's lives could be in danger Sebastian-

Sebastian quickly rises from his chair and snatches his phone from the grasp of Daniel.

DANIEL (CONT'D)

What are you doing, give it back-

SEBASTIAN

Listen to me.

Sebastian hangs the phone up quickly.

DANIEL

Sebastian-

SEBASTIAN

Listen! What are you doing, Daniel?! If you call the authorities, telling them that you believe a mass murder is going to happen because of your vision, they're going to lock you up!

DANIEL

The people need to know! Elena-she-she lives on the street it showed me. It's exactly where the estate is built!

SEBASTIAN

They'll send you to a mental facility if you tell them this, Daniel. They will.

DANIEL

These visions are trying to tell me that Elena is in danger. I need to protect her!

Daniel reaches for the phone, but Sebastian pulls it away.



SEBASTIAN

You're divorced, cousin! Elena  
doesn't need your protection,  
anymore. You need to realise that!

Daniel's expression suddenly drops after Sebastian's reality  
check.

Sebastian notices the change and clears his throat.

SEBASTIAN (CONT'D)

Mate...I shouldn't have said that.  
I overstepped my boundaries. But  
listen to me...nothing is going to  
happen. Okay?

Sebastian places his arms on Daniel's shoulders.

SEBASTIAN (CONT'D)

You feel warm. Really warm. Maybe  
you're coming down with something.

Sebastian tries to touch Daniel's forehead but he shrugs him  
off.

DANIEL

You think I'm crazy don't you? Just  
like Elena does!

SEBASTIAN

I never said that-

DANIEL

But you're thinking it.

Sebastian takes a deep breath.

SEBASTIAN

I think that once you've called  
them...there's no going back.

(MORE)

SEBASTIAN (CONT'D)

You've just woken up from a nightmare, you're rattled. I'm just asking you to calm down for a minute. Think about this rationally.

Daniel ponders Sebastian's words.

SEBASTIAN (CONT'D)

Do you want to talk about last night?

DANIEL

No. You think you're all right. But you're not. I'm right. And I'm going to prove it. I don't care what it takes.

Sebastian looks on with annoyance, as Daniel paces away.

INT. HARPER MANSION - LOUNGE - DAY

Elena sifts through more boxes of packed items. Inside, she finds a box containing black hooded uniforms...

She pulls the bag out to see that it's been ripped open.

Elena begins to dial a number on her phone, but stops.

After several moments, she hangs up.

INT. DANIEL'S APARTMENT - LOUNGE - DAY

Daniel types away on his home computer, desperately searching for answers.

ON COMPUTER:

Search results for Great Fire of London. He zooms in on a piece of text that reveals the fire took place in Whitchurch, the same location from the dream.

BACK TO SCENE:

DOCTOR TOMKINS (V.O.)

How are you getting on, Daniel?

INT. DOCTOR TOMKINS OFFICE - DAY

Daniel sits opposite Doctor Tomkins, looking worse for wear.

DANIEL

I'm fine.

DOCTOR TOMKINS

Well, with all due respect, you don't look fine. Are you eating well?

INT. DANIEL'S APARTMENT - LOUNGE - EVENING

Daniel is still sat at his computer, typing.

He suddenly stops, grabbing his stomach in pain.

After some moments, he returns with a large bag of crisps.

INT. DOCTOR TOMKINS OFFICE - DAY

Daniel barely elicits a response.

DANIEL

I am.

DOCTOR TOMKINS

Have you started to try and control your drinking limit as we discussed a while back? Or attended any of the meetings I set up for you?

INT. DANIEL'S APARTMENT - LOUNGE - DAY

Daniel is still sat in front of his computer, as he takes several shots of whiskey. After a few moments, he throws up into a bin beside him.

Sebastian moves over to help him.

DANIEL

I'm fine!  
(beat)  
I'm fine.

Sebastian looks concerned as he backs away.

INT. DOCTOR TOMKINS OFFICE - DAY

Daniel still fails to make eye contact with Doctor Tomkins.

DANIEL

Sure.

DOCTOR TOMKINS

And what about your sleep schedule?  
How are the nightmares?

Daniel suddenly looks up at Doctor Tomkins.

QUICK CUT FLASH MONTAGE:

- The vision of the two girls lying on the ground, throats slit.

- The vision of the girl by pulled by her hair and her throat slit as she's lifted.

- The fire of London, with all it's trapped and running civilians, each one screaming.

END QUICK CUT MONTAGE:

Daniel swallows hard.

DOCTOR TOMKINS (CONT'D)

They're still there, aren't they?  
You can lie to me about the other  
things as much as you wish, Daniel.  
But these nightmares...you can't  
lie about them. Your mind won't let  
you. They've become a part of you  
now. You need to stay strong and  
vigilant if you're going to  
overcome this. The first steps are  
your own. You need to begin eating  
healthier, stop drinking  
immediately and attend one of the  
sessions that I've booked for you-

Doctor Tomkins voice drifts off into a monotonous drone as Daniel zones out.

INT. DANIEL'S APARTMENT - LOUNGE - NIGHT

Daniel stares at the computer screen, transfixed by the bright allure.

The bags under his eyes have become large and sagged, sporting a purple hue.

His eyes themselves are bloodshot.

Sebastian places a mug of coffee down his side.

SEBASTIAN

Daniel, I'm going to bed.  
Listen...I...I think I'll be  
heading back home soon. You clearly  
don't want me here...do you?

Daniel doesn't respond, he just continues staring.

SEBASTIAN (CONT'D)

As I thought. Night.

As Sebastian walks away, a notification sound alerts Daniel to the corner of the screen.

He leans forward in his chair and his eyes widen.

ON COMPUTER SCREEN:

**TIMLEON45 HAS MESSAGED YOU**

BACK TO SCENE:

Daniel clicks on the message, and can barely contain his excitement as a wry smile creeps upon his lips.

DANIEL

Sebastian! Sebastian!

Sebastian quickly walks into the room.

SEBASTIAN

What?

Daniel looks up at him and grins.

DANIEL

He replied. He wants to meet.

INT. SEBASTIAN'S CAR (MOVING) - NIGHT

Daniel sits in the passenger seat, whilst Sebastian drives.

SEBASTIAN

I still don't think this is a good idea, Daniel. You don't know who the hell is this man is. He could be dangerous.

DANIEL

I have to know, Sebastian. This man could tell me everything. He could tell me how to destroy it.

Sebastian sighs, concerned.

SEBASTIAN

Look, the only reason I'm driving you here is because you've been drinking, and I didn't want you killing yourself behind the wheel. We're staying for ten minutes max, okay?

DANIEL

We're staying as long as it takes to get all the information.

Daniel's authoritative tone catches Sebastian off guard as he pulls the car into a large patch of gravel.

The headlights of the car focus on a large warehouse in front of them, which is seemingly abandoned.

DANIEL (CONT'D)

You convinced me to message him.  
What did you expect, a video call?

Sebastian eyes the location suspiciously.

SEBASTIAN

I didn't expect this.

DANIEL

Stay in the car. I said I would  
come alone.

SEBASTIAN

You're sure about this? Daniel-

Daniel ignores Sebastian, quickly getting out of the  
passenger side.

He watches as Daniel walks towards the warehouse large double  
doors.

EXT. ABANDONED WAREHOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Daniel lights a cigarette, shivering against the call air.

A sound in the distance startles him, and Daniel turns to  
quickly face a figure approaching.

Daniel clenches his fist, ready to pounce if needed.

The figure steps into view, and we see a clearer view of a  
short, balding man, TIM (47), who throws a hand up to wave.

TIM

Hello?

Daniel composes himself and waves back.

DANIEL

Hi. Tim?

TIM

Daniel?

Daniel nods as Tim approaches.

He extends his hand.



TIM (CONT'D)

Nice to meet you. Sorry, didn't mean to jump up on you like that.

DANIEL

It's fine. Can be never be too careful.

TIM

Sorry about the location too. The outskirts of London are safer than the centre.

There is a moment of silence, before Tim clears his throat.

TIM (CONT'D)

So...you believe me?

DANIEL

I do. I-I thought I was going crazy. Then I saw your post...it's the only thing keeping me sane right now.

Daniel laughs awkwardly.

TIM

So what do you want to know?

DANIEL

Everything. As much as you can tell me.

Tim nods.

TIM

You got a spare?

Tim motions towards the cigarettes, and Daniel nods, handing him one.

Tim lights it, takes a drag and exhales.

TIM (CONT'D)

It was back in the early two thousands. I was in my twenties. The day was really like any other. I was on my way back from class. I studied, you see-Criminology.

Daniel nods, taking another drag.

TIM (CONT'D)

That day, we had finished late. It was the middle of winter, so it got dark much earlier. For some reason, that evening, I took a different route home...

INTERCUT WITH:

BEGIN FLASHBACK: VARIOUS

EXT. LONDON ALLEYWAY - EVENING

YOUNG TIM (23) walks towards the end of an alleyway, dressed in a smart suit and carrying a backpack.

TIM (V.O.)

Then I saw it.

He stops suddenly.

At the end of the alleyway, a HOODED FIGURE slashes at a VICTIM with a knife several times.

Tim immediately hides behind the wall.

The figure looks up for a moment, then quickly jogs off.

DANIEL

Did you go to the police?

Tim shakes his head.

TIM

I followed him.

EXT. HARPER MANSION - NIGHT

Tim watches from a forested area outside the estate, as the hooded figure runs in through the gates.

TIM (V.O.)

I couldn't believe it. I witnessed a murder and now I knew where this person lived. I should have gone to the police. Something about this, it disturbed me...but also fascinated me greatly.

Daniel takes another drag.

DANIEL

This estate you mentioned. Was it in Whitchurch?

Tim nods.

TIM

Why?

DANIEL

Just wondering. Please, continue.

EXT. HARPER MANSION - DAY/EVENING/NIGHT

Tim watches from a perched position, hiding in a tall tree.

He uses binoculars to scout the area.

TIM (V.O.)

I spent a lot of time scouting the estate, hoping to witness one of the hooded figures again. For weeks, there was nothing-

Days, evenings and nights pass, as Tim grows in frustration.

TIM (V.O.)

-until finally there was.

Tim scouts the area with the binoculars and stops to focus on two HOODED FIGURES jogging in through the gate.

EXT. HARPER MANSION -NIGHT

Many HOODED FIGURES all march in unison through the gate.

TIM (V.O.)

Months passed, and I witnessed what I believed were several ritualistic practices.

A group of five all hold an item in the air, an antique, as they lead the marching members.

TIM (V.O.)

Every few months or so, they would perform the same marching ceremony, raising an item into the air, as if...worshipping it.

DANIEL

Was it a painting?

Tim shakes his head.

TIM

They were all antiquities.  
Pendants, chalice's, plates...you  
name it. They would all march  
inside the estate, but obviously, I  
could never get in. That's when I  
had an idea.

INT. TIM'S STUDENT FLAT - BEDROOM - DAY

Tim places several photographs on his bed; images of the  
hooded figures.

He begins to scribble down various designs, and features onto  
paper.

INT. FABRIC AND CLOTHING STORE - DAY

Tim places his sheets of paper on the desk in front of a  
STORE WORKER (30's).

The paper have full detailed designs of the hooded outfits.

As he talks, the store worker nods, and Tim hands her some  
money.

DANIEL

So you paid somebody to create the  
outfit? Clever.

TIM

Thanks. But it was about to be  
followed by the most stupid thing  
I've ever done.

EXT. HARPER MANSION - NIGHT

Tim hides behind a large tree several feet away from the  
gates.

He places the mask over his head and raises the hood.

In the distance, the sound of marching footsteps can be heard, followed by a low humming chant.

TIM (V.O.)

I hadn't heard the chant before. I  
was never close enough.

The figures chant in unison...

HOODED FIGURES

RISE...RISE...RISE...RISE

TIM (V.O.)

In that moment, it all became too  
real. I knew there was no turning  
back once I made it in.

Tim watches as the figures move past him.

Slowly, he moves through the forest, and onto the tarmac  
outside the gate.

The group continues moving, and he mimics their marching as  
he approaches.

Within seconds, he has become part of the group, and marches  
just behind the other members.

He tries to keep his breathing under control as his anxiety  
reaches it's peak.

INT. HARPER MANSION - BASEMENT - CONTINUOUS

Tim follows the figures down the narrow steps into a large  
basement, covered in stone walls.

At the end of the basement, an altar is positioned, which  
contains several antique items.

The group of figures holding the new item, places it beside the others, in a pre-prepared position.

Each figure drops to their knees in a praying position. Tim follows suit.

One figure remains standing, a male THE LEADING FIGURE (30's).

He removes his mask and places it on the ground, before raising his arms in the air.

THE LEADING FIGURE

Everybody. Let us pray.

The figures place their hands together in unison.

THE LEADING FIGURE (CONT'D)

Let us pay homage to some of the sources who have defined our cause.

Let us pay homage to Jack, our great ancestor who killed in the name of progress. Each kill he made, drew residents away from Whitechapel and allowed us to take ownership of these properties, for a cheaper price.

HOODED FIGURES

AMEN!

THE LEADING FIGURE

Let us pay homage to the painting-

The leading figure steps out of the way, to reveal the same painting that Daniel owns.

DANIEL

I'm sorry, did you say a painting?

TIM

Yes, I believe it is the very same one that you mentioned to me.

Daniel looks on, intrigued.

THE LEADING FIGURE

-this magnificent artifact has shown us so many things...it has so often promised us wealth for blood, and it has never misguided us. In the early twentieth century, it told us to start the great fire of London, and what happened? We, one of the few standing construction companies in London, were paid millions to rebuild. Let us pray!

HOODED FIGURES

AMEN!

Tim reluctantly places his hands together in prayer.

TIM

He carried on for a few more minutes. Spoke about the power of the antiquities when being placed together. From what he said, I gathered that they believed the painting showed them what they must do in the future, by showing them the past. The leader was adamant that this was how the family kept their wealth throughout history.

Daniel takes another drag, but the cigarette's light is extinguished.

He throws it on the floor, and rubs it into the ground with his foot.



QUICK FLASH:

**Elena taking the antiquities out of the box.**

BACK TO SCENE:

TIM (CONT'D)

Are you okay? You've gone pale?

Daniel nods.

DANIEL

Please, carry on.

TIM

When he was in the middle of one of  
his prayers-

INT. HARPER MANSION - BASEMENT - NIGHT

Another MALE HOODED FIGURE (30's) removes his mask and  
approaches the altar quickly.

THE LEADING FIGURE

What are you doing? Interrupting a  
prayer like this-

MALE HOODED FIGURE

God will punish me for the things I  
have done. Not the devil which  
lives within our souls!

The male hooded figure reveals a knife from under his sleeve  
and cuts at his wrist.

The blood spurts everywhere, landing on some of the  
antiquities.

Upon contact, the blood begins to burn the items, causing  
them to melt.

## THE LEADING FIGURE

What are you doing, you fool! Grab  
him, now!

Before anyone can react, the male hooded figure stabs the leading figure in the throat, killing him quickly.

## MALE HOODED FIGURE

You'll burn in hell for what you've  
made us do. You all will!

The Male Hooded figure takes out an armed pistol and aims it at several members, killing them instantly.

Finally, two Hooded figures apprehend the man, and drag him out of the basement, as he screams and resists.

END INTERCUT:

Tim takes another drag, then throws his own cigarette onto the ground, before stomping it out.

## TIM

It was a bloodbath. I left as quickly as I could...and I never went back. I was too scared to. Too scared to even go to the police. How would I even begin to explain all that and seem innocent? I'm a...I'm a coward.

Daniel ponders Tim's words, staring into space.

## DANIEL

What did the men who removed their masks look like?

## TIM

The leading figure still had an obscured face. It was hard to tell.

DANIEL

And the other one?

TIM

He looked like-

Tim freezes.

DANIEL

What?

Tim continues to stare behind Daniel, as tears begin to fall down his cheek.

TIM

He uh...he-he-he

Tim appears to stutter, frozen in fear.

DANIEL

What? Tim, what's going on? What did he look like?

TIM

Like-like-like him.

Daniel turns around slowly, shaking.

Before he has a chance to react, a knife impales him in his stomach and a cloth is placed over his face.

Within seconds, his vision fades and he falls to the floor, passing out.

INT. HOSPITAL - PATIENT ROOM - MORNING

Daniel opens his eyes, slowly adjusting to the bright LED lights above him.

He looks around, groggily.

On the left side of the bed, Sebastian sits, eagerly waiting.

SEBASTIAN

Oh thank God, you're awake, cousin.

DANIEL

Where-where am I...?

ELENA (O.S.)

You're in the hospital, Daniel.

Daniel looks across to the right side, to see Elena, also sat.

She smiles warmly at him.

DANIEL

What's...what's going on?

SEBASTIAN

You were attacked, Daniel. By that man from the blog site. Do you not remember?

Daniel shakes his head, then looks down at his flesh wound.

Suddenly, his eyes widen.

DANIEL

No...no it wasn't Tim. It was another man...the hooded figure, he-he-he was there!

Elena reaches over and touches Daniel's hand.

ELENA

No...he wasn't, Daniel.

A DOCTOR (40's) walks into the room, clipboard in hand.

DOCTOR

Ah, Daniel! You're awake. How are you feeling?

DANIEL

I'm...I'm groggy.

DOCTOR

I'm not surprised. Your system was full of alcohol. And your internal organs have been taking a beating the past few weeks. Honestly, I'm surprised that you're as conscious right now as you are.

The Doctor looks across to Elena and Sebastian.

DOCTOR (CONT'D)

Can I speak to him...alone?

The pair nod, then leave the room.

The Doctor sits down beside the bed, and places a stethoscope on his heart.

DOCTOR (CONT'D)

Vitals are good. Still a bit fast, but that's expected.

(beat)

How are you feeling...really?

Daniel sighs.

DANIEL

Really...I feel like shit.

DOCTOR

Look, I didn't want to be too honest in front of your friends. You're lucky to be alive Daniel.

(MORE)

DOCTOR (CONT'D)

Someone attacked you and left you with a flesh wound. Not only that, your body's physical scans indicate that you've been placing your liver and kidneys under a huge amount of stress in recent times. Dangerous levels of stress.

Daniel shakes his head dismissively.

DANIEL

I'm fine, Doctor.

DOCTOR

No, you're not. While you were asleep, we ran some tests. It's not just your kidney's and liver that's suffered. Your brain chemistry is...unusual...to say the least.

DANIEL

What do you mean?

The Doctor pulls up some printed scans and places them in front of Daniel.

DOCTOR

This area of your brain is damaged. The part that keeps you sane.

DANIEL

Prefrontal cortex?

DOCTOR

Right. The tests we ran showed us some things and...we believe that you may be suffering from a mental neurological condition.

DANIEL

What does that mean?

DOCTOR

Elena, Sebastian and even your therapist explained everything to me. You're a sick man right now, Daniel, and you need help. This condition could explain your nightmares. It could explain why you've been acting so irrationally as of late.

DANIEL

So-what? You're guessing that all of this was just in my head. That I really am...what, going crazy?

Daniel laughs.

DOCTOR

Unfortunately, I'm not guessing. I'm telling you. You had a mental breakdown.

DANIEL

I can't believe this-

DOCTOR

Elena has promised that she'll stay with you, and give you all the help you need. But only if you accept it. That's always the first step. Acceptance.

The doctor pats Daniel on the shoulder, then leaves.

Daniel stares into space as tears stream down his cheeks.

INT. HOSPITAL - PATIENT ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Daniel is now sat up in his bed, eating a small meal.

Elena sits beside him.

She laughs as Daniel takes a small bite.

DANIEL

What?

ELENA

You never liked carrots did you?

Daniel laughs too, then clutches his side in pain.

DANIEL

Look, if they were fresh, I  
wouldn't mind. But this hospital  
isn't exactly Michelin star level.

Elena gently pushes the spoon towards Daniel's mouth.

ELENA

Eat. It's good for you. And it'll  
help you recover.

Daniel rolls his eyes and starts to chew.

ELENA (CONT'D)

The Doctor, he made me realise that  
I partly enabled this.

Daniel shakes his head, then swallows another spoonful.

DANIEL

This isn't your fault. This is me.  
All me. I just refused to get help.

ELENA

And I refused to see how much  
losing Christopher-



Elena starts to tear up.

ELENA (CONT'D)

How much that really affected you.

Daniel smiles softly and takes another mouthful.

DANIEL

Okay, let's call it even then.

Elena lets out a laugh, and with it, some mucus.

Daniel hands her a tissue and she blows her nose.

DANIEL (CONT'D)

I'm shouldn't have put you through everything, Elena. Everything that happened afterwards, is my fault. I need to start taking responsibility. I need to stop hiding.

Elena grips Daniel's hand tightly.

INT. SEBASTIAN'S CAR (MOVING) - DAY

Sebastian drives the car, whilst Daniel and Elena sit side by side in the backseat.

Daniel looks out of the window, struggling to focus his eyes, woozy and medicated.

SEBASTIAN

You know, I keep thinking how lucky it was that I came with you, Daniel. Can you imagine if you had driven there yourself. That man could have killed you.

ELENA

We'll be forever grateful that you  
intervened, Sebastian.

Daniel looks across to Sebastian.

DANIEL

You-you intervened?

SEBASTIAN

Oh, of course. No one's really had  
a chance to mention it, I guess.

ELENA

He saved your life, Daniel.

DANIEL

Oh my God, thank you. I-I don't  
know what to say.

SEBASTIAN

You don't say anything. You're  
family. I'm sure you'd do the same  
for me, right?

Sebastian turns around to face Daniel, laughing.

SEBASTIAN (CONT'D)

You would...right?

Daniel's face turns pale as he see's the outline of a dark  
black collar, slightly visible inside his hoodie, the outline  
of a curved knife appearing on the embroidery.

Elena notices Daniel's sudden change.

ELENA

Hey, he's just messing with you,  
Daniel.

On Sebastian's sleeve, a speck of red blood can be seen.

After Sebastian turns around to face the road, Daniel continues to stare at him, now shaking.

ELENA (CONT'D)

What's wrong?

Daniel shakes his head.

DANIEL

Nothing. Just the medication.

EXT. HARPER MANSION - DRIVEWAY - CONTINUOUS

The car pulls into the large estate driveway, and stops.

Daniel slowly steps out of the car, holding his side in pain.

Sebastian steps out last.

SEBASTIAN

You two go ahead. I'm just going to grab something out of the boot.

Daniel nods, and then quickly makes his way towards Elena.

DANIEL

(whispering)

Elena, quick. Into the house.

ELENA

What? What's going on?

INT. HARPER MANSION - HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Daniel guides Elena into the house, then shuts the door, leaving it open just a crack.

ELENA

Daniel, what's the matter?

DANIEL

Something's wrong.

Elena stares, confused.

DANIEL (CONT'D)

It's Sebastian...he's...he's...

ELENA

He's what, Daniel?

DANIEL

He's wearing an outfit. The same one as the figure in the paintin-

Elena places her hands over her eyes.

ELENA

Daniel, we had a heart to heart in the hospital. I thought we were going to try and move past this painting nonsense?

DANIEL

I think Sebastian-

Daniel looks over to the door.

DANIEL (CONT'D)

I think he's the one who stabbed me.

ELENA

Oh my God, no! He saved your life! He brought you to the hospital. Why would he try and kill you?

Daniel places his fingers to his lips.

DANIEL

Please, Elena. Quiet!

Daniel glances back to the door again.

ELENA

You can't turn on one of the people who are trying to help you. Now, I want to help you, Daniel. But don't do this. It's not fair on him-

SEBASTIAN (O.S.)

Fair on who?

Sebastian stands in the doorway, a large sack in his hands.

ELENA

Nothing. Just having a domestic. Ignore us.

Daniel flashes Elena a pleading set of eyes, but she turns away.

She searches through her bag, and takes out a packet of medication.

Turning to face Daniel, she hands him two tablets.

ELENA (CONT'D)

Take them.

DANIEL

Elena.

ELENA

Take them. Please?

After some moments of deliberation, Daniel nods, then goes to take them from her hand.

ELENA (CONT'D)

Promise me that you won't stop taking-

Before Elena can finish her sentence, a blunt object knocks her on the head, sending her sprawling to the floor.

DANIEL

Elena!

Daniel turns to see Sebastian, holding a large metal antique lamp, the blunt object.

Daniel charges at Sebastian, but he dodges out of the way and hits Daniel in the ribs, where the flesh wound is situated.

Daniel falls to the ground, clutching his ribs in pain.

DANIEL (CONT'D)

What the fuck are you doing,  
Sebastian?!

Sebastian hits Daniel in the ribs again, this time with his fist.

Daniel rolls over, gasping for air.

Sebastian grabs Daniel by the hair, and drags him through the house.

He stops at a door and opens it.

SEBASTIAN

Get down there.

Sebastian throws Daniel down the stairs.

As he hits the bottom, he loses consciousness.

INT. HARPER MANSION - BASEMENT - CONTINUOUS

Slowly, Daniel regains consciousness.

He looks around, to see that he's been tied to a chair.

Sebastian places the antique lamp on the altar at the end of the room, and runs his hands through his hair.

SEBASTIAN

Finally. I can stop the pretending.

Daniel finally catches his breath.

He looks across to see that Elena is sprawled on the ground, still unconscious.

DANIEL

What did you do to her?!

SEBASTIAN

Oh, you're awake. Almost in time for the big show.

DANIEL

Why? Why Sebastian?

Sebastian smiles.

SEBASTIAN

Do you know what these antiquities are, Daniel? Why they're so important?

Daniel remains quiet.

SEBASTIAN (CONT'D)

I know Tim told you a fair amount. But he didn't tell you everything.

Sebastian pulls several more antiques from out of a large sack.

SEBASTIAN (CONT'D)

These are ancient artifacts. There are ten in total. All were scattered around the planet.

(MORE)

SEBASTIAN (CONT'D)

When placed next to the painting  
that you're so fond of...these  
visions, they become...vivid.

Sebastian laughs as he take the last of the antiquities out  
of the sack.

DANIEL

I don't understand why you're doing  
this?

SEBASTIAN

Do you know that it's only us that  
can now see these visions, Daniel?  
Only those with our blood are  
gifted these visions.

DANIEL

Wait-you mean...

SEBASTIAN

I see them too, Daniel. Every day,  
I'm near this painting.

Daniel shakes his head in disbelief.

DANIEL

What do you get out of this?  
Whatever is showing us them  
visions...it isn't human. It's  
evil!

SEBASTIAN

The only thing that's evil...is  
casting your own family aside!

Sebastian begins to place the items next to the painting on  
the alter.



SEBASTIAN (CONT'D)

I didn't tell you the complete  
truth about why I was sent away.

BEGIN FLASHBACK:

INT. HARPER MANSION - BASEMENT - NIGHT

The same night that Tim infiltrated the group.

The leading figure finishes his prayer.

SEBASTIAN (V.O.)

Your father was finishing his  
prayer.

Focus on the leading figure, who is in fact DANIEL'S FATHER.

The male hooded figure runs to the front, slicing his wrist.

SEBASTIAN

And then...my father ruined my  
life.

Focus on male hooded figure, who is in fact SEBASTIAN'S  
FATHER.

As Sebastian's father is dragged away, kicking and screaming,  
the attention turns to a shorter, hooded figure.

A male HOODED FIGURE steps into view and point at him.

HOODED FIGURE

Take the son away too!

The Shorter Hooded figure is revealed to be YOUNG SEBASTIAN.

YOUNG SEBASTIAN

Mother...?

Sebastian looks across at a female hooded figure, SEBASTIAN'S MOTHER, who just stares.

YOUNG SEBASTIAN (CONT'D)

Mommy?

SEBASTIAN'S MOTHER

Sebastian, go with them.

Sebastian looks around terrified.

As the male figure approaches, he sprints away.

END FLASHBACK:

INT. HARPER MANSION - BASEMENT - CONTINUOUS

A stray tear rolls down Sebastian's face.

SEBASTIAN

He ruined any chance I had of being  
in that group...of retaining my  
wealth.

DANIEL

You never deserved that, Seb-

SEBASTIAN

So...I killed them all. Took back  
every artifact I could find.

Daniel eyes Elena as she starts to stir.

DANIEL

You killed our family.

SEBASTIAN

What was left.

DANIEL

You're a murderer.

Sebastian turns and paces towards Daniel with a rage.

SEBASTIAN

I was getting my revenge! I was entitled to that wealth. To these visions! It was my birth right and it taken from me!

DANIEL

Your father did the right thing in the end. Follow after him-

SEBASTIAN

My father was a fucking idiot! He's the reason that I lived in squalor for so long. But no more...today that changes.

Sebastian pulls his hoodie off to reveal the dark garment of R.I.S.E.

He slowly places his hood up and walk over to the alter, placing the final item down.

SEBASTIAN (CONT'D)

Can you feel it, Daniel? The rush...Oh how I've missed it...

Sebastian stands back and raises his arms high, embracing whatever is to come.

Daniel closes his eyes, but it's too late.

The power of the vision begins...

INT. INTERIOR - DAY - VISION POV

An unknown interior, which is almost completely covered in bricks.

The vision is no longer hazy, but crystal clear.

As the vision bearer approaches a SLEEPING WOMAN (30's) on the ground, he suddenly stops, revealing a curved knife.

He quickly snaps at her hair and pulls her up.

Her screams do nothing to deter the attacker and he slices her neck, laughing all the while.

Blood spurts everywhere.

On the ground, on the walls...on the vision bearer.

INT. HARPER MANSION - BASEMENT - CONTINUOUS

Daniel snaps out of the vision, grunting in pain.

He looks up at Sebastian, then at Elena, who is still positioned on the floor.

Sebastian smiles.

DANIEL

No...Sebastian, please. I'm begging you...as my cousin. As my family!

SEBASTIAN

That ship sailed a long time ago...I have to do what it shows me. I am sorry. Truly.

Sebastian raises a curved knife in the air, and Daniel squirms in his seat.

DANIEL

No! No, Sebastian, stop! Please!

Sebastian nears closer to Elena, transfixed.

DANIEL (CONT'D)

Sebastian, for the love of God, no!  
I'm begging you!

As Sebastian nears closer, Daniel pulls relentlessly at his bindings.

Sebastian kneels down and grabs Elena's hair.

Suddenly she wakes up, and lets out a blood curdling scream.

DANIEL (CONT'D)

No!!!

Daniel finally breaks free of his binds and rushes towards Sebastian, knocking him over with brute force.

Sebastian goes hurdling into the alter, knocking several of the items onto the floor.

SEBASTIAN

You idiot! You just don't learn, do you?

Daniel falls to the ground, clutching his ribs in pain.

Sebastian mounts Daniel and hold the knife towards his throat.

Daniel winces in pain as Sebastian places his knee down on his ribs, increasing pressure.

SEBASTIAN (CONT'D)

You don't get it...these  
objects...you can't destroy them.  
And even if you could...you don't  
know how.

Daniel becomes increasingly weaker as the pressure increases even further onto his ribs.

Elena watches on, helpless as she regains consciousness.

Daniel finally reaches down to move Sebastian's knee, leaving his neck exposed.

Daniel quickly moves his other arm to block the knife, and in turn, slices his wrist open.

Daniel squirms in pain as Sebastian lets out a laugh.

Daniel reaches across, grabbing one of the antiquities, the lamp with his bloodied wrist.

The lamp begins to burn, and Sebastian quickly lets go of Daniel.

SEBASTIAN (CONT'D)

No! How did you-

Sebastian quickly throws the sack on the items and stomps it out.

Daniel continues to touch the objects with his bloodied arm, setting them all alight.

As Daniel finally places his wrist over the painting, he watches with a grin as it burns with a red hue.

Sebastian falls to his knees, devastated.

SEBASTIAN (CONT'D)

What have you...what have you done...?

Daniel rushes over to Elena, and the pair embrace.

ELENA

Are you okay?

Daniel nods, although it seems insincere.

Sebastian stares at the items, as tears stream down his cheeks.

SEBASTIAN

Everything that I did...

QUICK CUT FLASH MONTAGE:

- The vision of the two girls lying on the ground, throats slit. The vision starts to become hazier.

- The vision of the girl by pulled by her hair and her throat slit as she's lifted. The vision is blurry and almost concealed.

- The fire of London, with all it's trapped and running civilians, each one screaming. The vision ends with a fade to nothing.

SEBASTIAN (CONT'D)

...It was all for nothing...

Sebastian grabs the knife from the ground and holds it to his throat.

DANIEL

Sebastian, wait!

Sebastian slits his own throat, and bleeds out, as he catches alight with the flames.

Daniel holds Elena close to his chest, as he shields her eyes from the bloodbath.

INT. DOCTOR TOMKINS OFFICE - DAY

Daniel, now looking much more presentable and stable, sits opposite Doctor Tomkins.

DOCTOR TOMKINS

You're looking well today.

DANIEL

Thanks. I'm feeling well. I think.

DOCTOR TOMKINS

It's been six months since the Sebastian incident. Time for our monthly reflection. How has this past month been when compared to others?

Daniel stares into space for a moment, reflecting on his words.

DANIEL

Better...but it's still...it's still...difficult to process.

DOCTOR TOMKINS

That's understandable. But it's good that you can admit that, Daniel.

Doctor Tomkins checks his watch.

DOCTOR TOMKINS (CONT'D)

That's our session done, I'm afraid. Is Elena going to be coming in for her session this week?

Daniel gets up from his seat.

DANIEL

I'll ask her when I'm back home.

As Daniel goes to leave, Doctor Tomkins clears his throat.

DOCTOR TOMKINS

Oh and Daniel...Elena told me that you had been mentioning the paintings and antiquities again recently in general conversation.

(MORE)



DOCTOR TOMKINS (CONT'D)

My advice...don't. You've moved  
past that now. Let it go.

DANIEL

It's not always easy to let things  
go, is it?

DOCTOR TOMKINS

No, it's not.

Daniel nods, then exits the room.

INT. HARPER MANSION - BASEMENT - DAY

Daniel unlocks the key to the door, and walks down the  
basement steps.

He approaches the alter, where a white sheet is placed,  
covering items.

He strips the sheet off, and lets it fall to the floor.

In front of him, all of the antiquities are placed, all of  
which are burned to a degree.

The painting is prominent in the middle, which has it's top  
right corner missing, singed off in the fire.

DANIEL

Where did you come from?

The screen begins to become blurry...then a flash.

FADE TO WHITE:

**THE END.**