

Son Of Darkness Episode 02
The Marked Children

Written by

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EXT.THE WOODS - NIGHT.

The HOWLING OF WOLVES dominates the night, blending with the whistling wind – like a savage safari hidden in the dark.

Tall trees surround them. Darkness swallows everything.

MARIA drags SAID through the forest with great effort. Blood stains her hands. Her breathing is fast, panicked.

She scans the shadows, lost between fear and confusion.

MARIA
(breathless, furious)
Said... what did you do?

SAID, barely conscious, forces a weak smile. Even now – he jokes.

SAID
(weak, sarcastic)
I committed a terrible sin...I slept
with a beautiful woman... more
beautiful than you... and I didn't
use protection.

Maria stops abruptly and hits his chest lightly, furious.

MARIA
Shut up, you idiot!
You're supposed to be wounded!

SAID
(wincing, smiling)
Then you should treat the wounded
better...

She pulls him harder, nearly losing her balance as she drags him toward her car.

Blood drips from his wound, staining the ground.

Said grows weaker. His voice fades into a broken whisper.

SAID (CONT'D)
(whispering)
If Jack finds out now...it's over.

Maria freezes.

She turns to him, fear and anger burning in her eyes.

MARIA
(shaking, furious)
A child is missing, Said!
What are you hiding?!

Said slowly lifts his head. For the first time "no jokes.

His eyes turn dark. Ancient.

SAID
(low, chilling)
This town is older than the church
and far hungrier.

The wolves howl again.

EXT. VILLAGE STREET - DAWN

The morning light is pale, gray. Fog still hangs between the houses.

Police cars are parked along the street. Their blue and red lights rotate slowly.

VILLAGE RESIDENTS gather in small groups. Pale faces. Whispered conversations.

A woman grips her child too tightly. An old man watches silently.

Fear... is spreading.

EXT. NEAR THE FOREST - MORNING

Yellow police tape surrounds an area near the forest.

Two officers take photos of the ground - Footprints, distorted by the rain.

JACK stands behind the tape. Watching. Silent.

OFFICER #1
(low)
We didn't find any clear evidence,
sir.
It's as if the child... vanished.

Jack doesn't respond.

His eyes remain fixed on the forest.

EXT. CROWD - CONTINUOUS

Among the villagers

WOMAN #1

(whispering)

They say the child didn't scream...As
if he left willingly.

MAN #1

That's impossible.
Children don't go out at night.

OLD WOMAN

(trembling)

Unless something called him..

A heavy silence falls.

Everyone looks at her.

EXT. POLICE CARS - MORNING

MARIA stands beside a patrol car, holding a folder. Trying to
stay composed - her eyes exhausted.

She notices a small child drawing on the ground with a stick.

Maria approaches.

She looks down Her body stiffens.

The child is drawing a strange symbol.

MARIA

(under her breath)

No...

The child looks up at her, innocent.

CHILD

Is it pretty?

Maria doesn't answer.

EXT. VILLAGE STREET - MOMENTS LATER

Jack approaches Maria.

He looks at the drawing.

Stares at it for a long moment.

JACK
(calm, heavy)
Where did he see this?

MARIA
(confused)
I don't know...He said he just... drew
it.

Jack looks around.

The people. The children. The forest.

Something is very wrong.

EXT. CROWD - CONTINUOUS

A man suddenly shouts.

MAN #2
(angry)
Why aren't you telling us the
truth?!
Is there a killer among us?!

Voices rise.

WOMAN #2
My children won't leave the house
anymore!

MAN #3
This town is cursed!

Police officers try to calm the crowd.

Fear turns into panic.

EXT. VILLAGE STREET - WIDE SHOT

Jack stands in the middle of it all. Alone... surrounded.

He looks at the frightened faces.

Then back to the forest.

JACK
(low, to himself)
This isn't just fear...It's
awakening.

The camera pulls back.

The small village looks trapped in fog.

A distant wolf howl echoes – faint, unsettling.

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - NIGHT

Cold white light washes over the room.

The steady BEEP... BEEP... of medical monitors fills the silence—regular... unsettling.

SAID lies in the hospital bed, half-sitting, propped against a pillow. An IV line in his arm. A rough bandage wraps his chest.

He holds a lit cigarette between his fingers. Smoke curls slowly toward the ceiling.

Across from him sits SISI on a wooden chair— calm... far too comfortable.

A long silence.

SISI

(with a faint smile)

You haven't changed.
Even on the edge of death... still
smoking.

SAID

(dry, exhausted)

Doctors say smoking kills.
But we both know... death doesn't
need a cigarette to find us.

Sisi leans forward slightly.

SISI

I thought you'd grown smarter than
this.
That you'd learned how to
disappear... how to survive.

Said inhales deeply, winces in pain.

SAID

I've survived enough.
More than I ever should have.

A look passes between them— a heavy, unspoken history.

SISI
(calm, dangerous)
No one truly survives, Said.
We only... delay the reckoning.

SAID
(meets his gaze)
So what are you here for?
To check on me... or to make sure I
don't talk?

Sisi smiles. He neither denies nor confirms.

SISI
I'm here because I worry.
The world is small... and loud noises
attract attention.

SAID
(bitter)
I'm not making noise anymore.
I'm just... tired.

Sisi rises halfway, then sits back down. His voice drops.

SISI
That kind of tiredness...can awaken
things we worked hard to keep
asleep.

Said crushes the cigarette into a glass of water beside him.

SAID
Some things...should stay asleep.

Silence.

Then— The door opens.

MARIA and JACK enter.

Maria freezes when she sees SISI. Something about him feels wrong.

Jack locks eyes with him instantly.

Tension thickens the air.

Sisi slowly stands, straightens his coat.

He looks at Said with an easy smile— as if nothing is wrong.

SISI
Seems my visit is over.
(to Said)
I should go now.
Said... I'll see you around.

A final look— a warning disguised as kindness.

Sisi passes Jack without stopping... and exits the room.

The door closes.

A heavy silence remains.

Maria turns to Said.

MARIA
(low, sharp)
Who was that man?

Said slowly leans back, avoiding her eyes.

SAID
(calm)
A ghost from the past...one that
should have stayed buried.

Jack stares at the closed door.

JACK
(cold)
The past doesn't visit
hospitals...unless the present is in
danger.

The camera holds on Said's face—eyes filled with guilt... and fear.

EXT. VILLAGE OUTSKIRTS - NIGHT

The forest looms beyond the village, a black mass against the moonlight. JACK walks slowly along the muddy path, his flashlight piercing shadows. His face is tense, thoughts racing.

A CRISP CRUNCH beneath his boot makes him stop. He kneels, examining the ground. Footprints — small, hurried. And then... something darker: a smear of blood. His eyes narrow.

JACK
(whispering, to himself)
This isn't just fear..

He touches the blood carefully, hesitation in every movement. His hands are steady, but his mind is sharp. A realization hits him.

JACK (CONT'D)
(low, firm)
I can't ignore this.

He stands. Decision hardens on his face.

JACK (CONT'D)
I'll follow it... even if it kills
me.

Camera pulls back. Jack walks toward the forest. The howl of wolves is distant, yet closer than before.

EXT. NEAR THE FOREST - EARLY MORNING

The sun barely rises. Rain has left the ground wet, footprints now partially erased. Maria and Jack arrive at a secluded clearing, police tape flapping in the wind.

MARIA's eyes widen. Something is caught in the mud. She kneels, brushing the leaves aside. A small jewel-encrusted locket, smeared with blood.

MARIA
(quiet, shocked)
This... this belongs to him.

JACK crouches beside her, taking in the significance. His jaw tightens.

JACK
First concrete evidence... against
Said.

He stands, scanning the forest line. A storm of thoughts passes through his eyes.

MARIA
(uneasy)
If this gets out... it could destroy
everything.

JACK doesn't answer immediately. He pulls out his phone, snapping a photo of the locket. A plan begins forming.

JACK
(low, decisive)
No more shadows. It ends here.

Jack and Maria stand near the muddy clearing. The bloodied locket lies on the ground between them. Fog curls around the trees.

JACK (CONT'D)
(quiet, controlled)
This isn't a mistake, Maria. Said...
he's deeper in this than we
thought.

MARIA
(tense, anxious)
I know. I saw it myself. That
locket... the boy... It all points to
him.

JACK
(firm, low)
He's hiding something. Something
deadly. And every minute we wait...
it grows.

Maria clenches her fists, struggling with fear and frustration.

MARIA
We can't wait for him to slip
through our fingers. He's already
played us once. He could disappear
again.

Jack kneels, inspecting the locket briefly, then looks at Maria, eyes cold and determined.

JACK
Then we move. Tonight, if we have
to. Said can't be allowed to stay
free. Not after what he's done.

MARIA
(voice breaking slightly)
And if he fights back? If this...
this escalates?

Jack stands, looming over the clearing. His gaze pierces hers.

JACK
Then we finish it. We don't
hesitate. He's a threat... to the
boy, to the village... to everything.

Maria swallows hard, nodding. Her fear mixes with resolve.

MARIA
(low, firm)
Then we arrest him. No excuses. No
delays.

Jack nods, his jaw tight, every muscle coiled with resolve.

JACK
No mercy. No second chances. This
ends with him.. behind bars.

The wind whistles through the trees. Blood and fog mingle
with the dawn. Both of them look toward the forest, knowing
the hunt has begun.

INT. SECRET MEETING ROOM - NIGHT

Dim lights flicker in a large, sparsely furnished hall.
Shadows of ancient symbols stretch across the walls. SISI
sits at the head of a long wooden table, flanked by members
of the secretive sect. Candles illuminate their serious,
almost reverent faces.

SISI
(calm, commanding)
He's awake. The wound was only the
beginning. Said's secrets are
unraveling... and the boy's
disappearance accelerates the
reckoning.

A YOUNG MEMBER shifts nervously.

YOUNG MEMBER
Should we intervene? Or... let Jack
and Maria handle him?

SISI leans forward, eyes glinting.

SISI
Let them stumble in the dark... But
prepare. The forest isn't patient.
Neither are we.

He rises, walking slowly among them. His coat brushes the
floor. The group exchanges uneasy glances.

SISI (CONT'D)
The hospital was a reminder. Every
move matters. Every whisper counts.
The past will not remain buried
forever.

He stops at the window, looking toward the faint lights of the village.

SISI (CONT'D)
They think they see the danger... but
the danger sees them. Always.

A beat. Silence. Then Sisi turns sharply, walking out into the night. The members remain, shadows clinging to their faces, waiting, listening, tense.

INT. HOSPITAL PARKING LOT - NIGHT

Rain slicks the asphalt. Fog clings low to the ground. MARIA leans against a patrol car, arms crossed, the folder with evidence in her hands. JACK paces nearby, eyes scanning the empty lot and the darkened hospital windows.

MARIA
(low, tense)
He's in there, Jack. Hurt, but
alive. And he knows we're onto him.

JACK
(firm, controlled)
That locket... it's enough to hold
him. We can't leave him alone
another second.

Maria shifts uncomfortably, glancing toward the hospital entrance.

MARIA
And if he realizes we're coming for
him? He'll vanish again... or worse,
cover his tracks even deeper.

Jack stops pacing, his eyes narrowing. He crouches slightly to inspect the evidence again, careful not to let anyone see.

JACK
(low, heavy)
Then we corner him. Not tonight,
not yet... but very soon. We build
our case first. Make it airtight.
The boy, the locket... everything
he's done.

Maria nods, biting her lip.

MARIA
(quiet, resolute)
We have to move fast.
(MORE)

MARIA (CONT'D)
The longer he stays here... the more
dangerous he becomes.

Jack stands, voice hard, decision made.

JACK
We alert the police. Keep him
contained in the hospital. No
visitors, no walks. He can't slip
through the cracks.

MARIA
And if he resists?

Jack meets her gaze, unflinching.

JACK
Then we handle it. We're not
leaving until he's behind bars.
He's a threat... to the boy, to the
village... to everyone who crosses
his path.

A distant ambulance siren wails. Rain taps against the
windshield. They exchange a grim look, knowing the storm is
only beginning.

MARIA
(low, heavy)
Then let's end this... before it ends
us.

Jack nods. Both glance toward the hospital entrance, shadows
of urgency in their eyes. The hunt has changed—now it's a
race against time, with Said trapped in plain sight.

INT. HOSPITAL CORRIDOR - NIGHT

The corridor is dim, almost empty. Fluorescent lights flicker
softly.

JACK and MARIA walk side by side, tense, focused. Their
footsteps echo.

Suddenly

A CLICK.

The unmistakable sound of a gun being cocked.

They freeze.

From BEHIND them, SAID steps out of the shadows, pale but steady, a PISTOL aimed directly at them. His eyes are calm.. too calm.

SAID
(low, wounded, bitter)
So... is this it?
Have you turned against me because
I'm different?
Or because I'm a stranger among
you?

Jack slowly raises his hands, measured.

JACK
Said... stop.
Why do you always think in terms of
inferiority?
We never made you a stranger.
Everyone loves you here.
(beat)
Even Maria loves you.

Maria snaps her head toward Jack.

MARIA
(Firm. Honest.)
I don't love you, Said.

Said smiles – a cruel, knowing smile.

SAID
No...
You love George.
You listen to him while he breaks
your heart piece by piece.

He turns his gaze to Jack.

SAID (CONT'D)
And you, Jack...A hypocrite.
You think you're a good cop just
because your doubts turned against
me.

JACK
(sharp)
Stop it.

Said steps closer. The gun never wavers.

JACK (CONT'D)
You already know the evidence
points against you.
The child didn't just disappear.

His voice lowers. Darkens.

SAID
The darkness needs a son of its
own.
Just like it once needed me.

Maria's breath catches.

MARIA
What are you talking about, Said?

Said laughs softly – hollow.

SAID
Arresting me won't stop the
disappearances.
It will only begin the cleansing.

Jack stiffens.

SAID (CONT'D)
In the coming days...
They will awaken the god they
worship.

And he demands innocent souls.

A long, suffocating silence.

Slowly... Said lowers the gun.

He places it gently on the floor.

SAID (CONT'D)
I'm done running.

He turns around, extending his hands behind his back.

Jack hesitates – then cuffs him.

The metallic CLICK echoes loudly.

EXT. HOSPITAL ENTRANCE – NIGHT

Said exits first, handcuffed, walking ahead of Jack and
Maria. Rain begins to fall.

Before stepping into the police car, Said stops.

Doesn't turn back.

SAID
Almost casually
Check the forest tomorrow night.
(beat)
You'll find something... useful.

Jack and Maria exchange a look.

Said gets into the car.

The door SLAMS.

The engine starts.

As the car pulls away, the hospital lights flicker once more.

The darkness hasn't left.

EXT. REMOTE FOREST CLEARING - NIGHT

Dense fog swirls around ancient trees. A circle of candles forms a pattern on the wet ground. The flickering flames cast long, dancing shadows.

A low, murmuring chant fills the air - deep, almost hypnotic. The camera never shows faces - only cloaked figures, hands clasped, moving in slow, synchronized motions.

CANDLELIGHT POV - FOCUS ON SYMBOLS

Symbols are drawn in the dirt - circles, triangles, and strange runes. One figure sprinkles a powdery substance over the symbols, smoke rising into the misty night.

The chanting grows louder, more urgent, reverberating through the forest.

SISI (V.O.)
(voice echoing, calm)
The darkness demands... a vessel.
The child is chosen... the path must
awaken.

A faint CRY - not from the figures, but distant, almost drowned in the mist. The chanting halts for a heartbeat. Then resumes.

The camera pans upward. The figures remain anonymous, their movements deliberate, ritualistic, unnerving.

A single candle flickers violently. A shadow moves against the fog – unseen, fleeting.

The chant fades... leaving only the whispers of the forest and the scent of burnt incense.

EXT. FOREST EDGE - NIGHT

Jack moves cautiously, flashlight cutting through dense fog. Rain has turned the path into mud. Footprints – not all human – mar the ground.

JACK
(low, to himself)
This place... it's a warning.

His light falls on a tree trunk, where strange symbols are carved – triangles within circles, some bleeding sap that looks like ink.

He kneels, examining them. Each symbol seems deliberate, a language of warning or instruction.

EXT. FOREST - NIGHT - DEEPER

Jack follows the trail. His flashlight illuminates small stone markers in a pattern – some smeared with mud, others with red paint.

He bends to inspect one. A paper folded under a stone. He picks it up.

INSERT - THE PAPER

The handwriting is sharp, deliberate:

"You watch, but you cannot see.

The path will open only when the darkness calls.

Trust is a lie; faith is a chain."

Jack's eyes narrow. He looks around. The forest is quiet, unnervingly quiet.

A twig snaps. Jack spins. Nothing. Just shadows.

Jack continues, noticing patterns carved into trees and stones:

Small circles connected by lines.

Symbols matching those from the clearing.

Pieces of paper hidden in crevices, each with a new cryptic message:

"The child is not lost; he is claimed.

Do not follow blindly.

Those who enter the forest carry their fate."

Jack pauses, his flashlight falling on a small effigy tied to a tree, a crude figure wrapped in cloth. A single candle burns before it.

JACK

(whispering)

This isn't just a game... they're preparing something.

A distant wolf howl echoes – low, menacing. The symbols on the trees almost seem to shift under the light, drawing him deeper into the forest.

Jack reaches a clearing, the fog heavier here. On the ground:

Circles of ash, still warm.

Charred remnants of symbols drawn in soil.

More folded papers, messages written in blood-red ink:

"He who dares follow must know...

The reckoning is coming.

Tonight, the child whispers to the darkness."

Jack clenches his fists. Every message, every symbol, confirms the child's disappearance is tied to a ritual – and the organization is far more organized and dangerous than he imagined.

He shines his flashlight on the trees surrounding the clearing. In the faint light, he notices more symbols carved high, invisible from the ground – as if guiding or warning someone above.

JACK (CONT'D)

(low, determined)

They're leaving breadcrumbs... but I'll find the trail.

The camera pans up to the fog-shrouded canopy, the symbols forming an almost unearthly pattern, hinting at something bigger, ancient, and waiting.

INT. HOLDING CELL - NIGHT

A narrow cell. Cold stone walls. Moonlight slips through a small barred window, painting pale lines across the floor.

SAID sits on the edge of the bed. A cigarette burns slowly between his fingers. Smoke rises, dissolving into the darkness.

He exhales... looks up at the moon.

SAID
(soft, almost poetic)
Funny thing about the moon...
Everyone thinks it watches over us.
(beat)
Truth is... it only reflects what we
hide.

He takes another drag.

SAID (CONT'D)
They blame the darkness for what
happens in this town.
But darkness never takes anything...
It only reveals who's ready to
give.

A distant metal door CLANGS somewhere in the corridor.

Footsteps.

Slow. Controlled.

Said doesn't turn.

The footsteps stop outside his cell.

A KEY slides in. The lock TURNS.

The cell door OPENS.

Silence.

MARIA stands there.

Her face unreadable. Her eyes burning.

Without a word- She steps inside and KISSES him.

Sudden. Deep. Confusing.

Said freezes – then slowly responds.

She pulls back just as abruptly.

Her voice is low. Deadly calm.

MARIA

If I discover you have anything to
do with the kidnappings...
I will kill you myself.

A beat.

Said studies her face. Tries to read her. Fails.

She steps closer.

MARIA (CONT'D)

Now...Take off your clothes.

Said tilts his head, a crooked smile returning to his face –
the old Said.

SAID

(smiling, playful)

Wow...

That escalated quickly. Is this
part of the arrest procedure now?

Maria steps closer. Her tone sharpens.

MARIA

Stop joking.

Said chuckles softly, deliberately slow.

SAID

Come on, Maria...

At least tell me this is about
trust... not curiosity.

She grabs him by the collar, pulling him closer.

MARIA

I said stop.
And hurry.

Said's smile fades just a little.

SAID

You're nervous.

MARIA

Because Jack could come back at any moment.

(beat)

And he must not know about this.

Said studies her face, searching for cracks.

SAID

So this is our secret now?

Maria leans in, her voice barely above a whisper – cold, lethal.

MARIA

If Jack finds out...
Or if I discover you're connected
to the kidnappings–

(beat)

I will kill you.

A long silence.

Said exhales slowly... then smirks again.

SAID

You always did know how to motivate me.

He starts to comply – slowly, deliberately pushing her patience.

MARIA

Faster.

SAID

(smiling)

See?

That's the Maria I know. The one
who doesn't bluff.

She turns her back slightly, keeping control.

MARIA

This isn't a game, Said.

SAID

Everything is a game...
The only question is who knows the
rules.

She snaps back at him.

MARIA
Last warning.

Said's voice lowers. Loses the humor for a second.

SAID
Careful, Maria...
Some truths don't survive being
undressed.

A beat.

The sound of distant footsteps echoes faintly in the
corridor.

Maria freezes.

MARIA
(urgent, whispering)
Hurry.

Said looks at her – eyes dark, unreadable.

SAID
Then you'd better hope...
You re ready for what you re about
to see.

Silence.

Tension thick enough to suffocate.

Said's cigarette slips from his fingers, extinguished under
his boot.

He looks at her – not amused. Not surprised.

Something darker.

Something awakened.

The moonlight cuts between them.

CUT TO BLACK.