BERKSHIRE CASTLE

Written by

Gene Salvitti

Based on Characters created by Gene Salvitti

FADE IN

EXT. DARK FOREST - NIGHT

MELVYN HARRISON, 23, prideful, arrogant, walks a dark, lonely path. A fearsome, gruesome forest of gnarled trees appears out of a thick, soupy fog. Gruesome shadows prance before his weary eyes.

ANOTHER ANGLE

Melvyn stumbles forward. A large cobblestone fence appears through the thick fog.

EXT. BERKSHIRE CASTLE - EAST WOODS - RAZED CHURCH

Melvyn nervously enters through a gate. A DOG HOWLS.

MELVYN

What's that?

A FIERCE DOG'S HOWL freezes Melvyn's heart. Two dark shadows slither out of the fog. They are: OLIVER SHANDLING, 60's, balding, obtuse, and RUPERT OWENS, 43, a red headed Irish man, enter with their dogs.

OLIVER SHANDLING

Where is he?

RUPERT OWENS

He's headed toward the church!

OLIVER SHANDLING

Head him off! Don't let him get to the castle.

Melvyn enters THE RAZED CHURCH whose roof has a massive hole.

INT. RAZED CHURCH - ENTRANCE

Melvyn enters to find large roof pieces scattered amongst the sanctuary's smashed stone pews.

A desecrated altar's eerie torch illuminates a darkened stairway nearby. He enters the stairs.

EXT. RAZED CHURCH - NIGHT

Oliver Shandling's dog BAYS LOUDLY as it leads him toward the church.

INT. RAZED CHURCH - LOWER LEVEL

Melvyn enters the crypt. Stone effigy coffins are framed by a pair of burning torches. Melvyn hides between the coffins.

INT. RAZED CHURCH - SANCTUARY

Oliver Shandling and his dog charge down the stairs.

INT. RAZED CHURCH - LOWER LEVEL

Oliver Shandling tugs his dog's leash. They stop.

OLIVER SHANDLING

Stop. Stay.

The dog obeys. Oliver Shandling searches for Melvyn.

OLIVER SHANDLING (CONT'D)

We know you're here! There is no escape. Why belay the inevitable? Give yourself up.

Rupert Owens enters.

RUPERT OWENS

Where is he?

OLIVER SHANDLING

Hidden somewhere down here.

Melvyn scrunches between the coffins. The torches flicker madly.

Melvyn scoots toward the darkness behind the torches. The sound alerts Oliver.

OLIVER SHANDLING (CONT'D)

Did you hear that?

RUPERT OWENS

Yeah.

OLIVER SHANDLING

Track around the coffins, I'll track him from here. We'll squeeze him in between us.

Rupert Owens moves around the second coffin. Oliver Shandling moves in with King. Melvyn becomes antsy and hides behind a large rock.

Rupert Owens moves toward the rock. Melvyn peeks from behind the rock.

ANOTHER ANGLE

Oliver Shandling and Rupert Owens release theirs dogs.

The dogs trap Melvyn between them. Melvyn shrinks behind the rock.

REVERSE ANGLE

The dogs attack Melvyn. The men cheer their dogs as they viciously attack Melvyn who cries out.

MELVYN

Help! Help me!

OLIVER SHANDLING

No one can hear you boy! You're all alone.

RUPERT OWENS

Too bad we found him this quick. A good run makes the dogs barking mad!

OLIVER SHANDLING

(snickers)

Yes, quite.

MELVYN

Call the dogs off! I'll leave. I was only looking for shelter.

King latches onto Melvyn's arm.

MELVYN'S POV

as an eerie glow envelops the stairways behind Rupert Owens and Oliver Shandling.

A fierce, throaty growl resounds. A massive, muscular headless hulk in tattered breeches lumbers forward.

REVERSE ANGLE

as Oliver Shandling and Rupert Owens suddenly turn around in horror. Oliver ducks the Horror's lethal claws.

Rupert races toward the dogs and Melvyn. Oliver hides behind the stone coffins.

OLIVER SHANDLING

King! Come here!
 (whistles)
King, come!

Melvyn crawls back toward the crypt.

RUPERT OWENS

Argyle. Heel!

Blood stains Melvyn's tattered clothes.

OLIVER SHANDLING

King! Sic! Attack!

King launches at the Horror.

RUPERT OWENS

Argyle! Attack.

Argyle attacks the Headless Horror.

INT. RAZED CHURCH - SANCTUARY

Oliver and Rupert enter the desecrated sanctuary. We HEAR the dogs and the Horror's raspy breathing.

OLIVER SHANDLING

Get the dogs out of there!

RUPERT OWENS

Call them!

OLIVER SHANDLING

King! Come!

RUPERT OWENS

Argyle!

Vicious growls resound. Oliver turns to Rupert.

OLIVER SHANDLING

They're still down there!

RUPERT OWENS

I can hear that! Let's go!

Oliver and Rupert exit the church.

INT. RAZED CHURCH - LOWER LEVEL

The Headless Horror throws Argyle off its arm. King falls to the floor. Both dogs exit hastily.

The Headless Horror's breathing becomes more labored and raspy.

MELVYN'S POV

The Headless Horror prowls up the stairway.

RETURN TO SCENE

Melvyn cautiously peeks around the corner.

INT. RAZED CHURCH - SANCTUARY

Melvyn enters the sanctuary from the lower level stairs. He hobbles to the exit and stops. We hear the distant barks of the dogs. Melvyn sighs heavily as he exits.

EXT. BERKSHIRE CASTLE - EAST WOODS

Melvyn quickly enters and disappears.

EXT. BERKSHIRE CASTLE - TWILIGHT

An angry, ancient forest surrounds the castle. The wind MOANS through the trees like a lost soul.

ANOTHER ANGLE

Three eleven years old boys enter. Clouds gather and the wind blows harder as they enter the front gate.

EXT. BERKSHIRE CASTLE - DRAWBRIDGE - DAY

Berkshire Castle's ancient, rotted foundation cracks with age. The boys move to the portcullis.

ROBERT RIPLEY, a mild mannered boy, is edgy and nervous. His friends, BILLY VICKERS and JACK COLLINS nervously follow him.

JACK

Where are you going Robert old boy?

ROBERT

I'm going in.

BILLY

Now hold up! We came here for a dare and want to see proof.

ROBERT

Proof?

JACK

Proof you've been in the dungeon. Agreed?

The boys stop at the large portcullis.

JACK (CONT'D)

There's an easier way in there.

ROBERT

This one's just as good. Besides, we're already here. I'm going in. (to Billy)

Billy? Catch us up!

Billy meanders up behind them. He is scared and cold.

BILLY

Why are we here?

JACK

To grab a little trinket from down deep in the dungeon.

BILLY

I ain't ready.

JACK

(chuckles)

Billy will never be ready, not even if Jesus Christ himself and a throng of angels protected him all the way.

BILLY

That's not true.

(beat)

I wouldn't need the angels.

Robert enters the rusted portcullis.

JACK

Good luck, Robbie!

Robert disappears into the darkness.

INT. BERKSHIRE CASTLE - GREAT HALL

Robert enters. He moves through the darkness to the spiral staircase adorned with large heraldic shields.

INT. BERKSHIRE CASTLE - SPIRAL STAIRCASE

Robert enters the staircase. He rubs his arms.

INT. SPIRAL STAIRCASE

Robert slows as a wrought iron door and bars appear out of the gloom. Robert pushes the door open.

Robert grabs the key from the lock and pockets it.

INT. BERKSHIRE CASTLE - DUNGEON

Robert enters the dungeon dismal, dingy dungeon. Grimy, broken windows adorned the walls.

Abused furniture and relics fill the dungeon.

EXT. BERKSHIRE CASTLE - DRAWBRIDGE

Billy and Jack nervously shiver in the cold. Jack blows on his hands.

BILLY

Maybe we should go in?

JACK

You mean go in and face the horrors of this place?

BILLY

Yes.

JACK

Maybe you've got something there. We could go into the Great Hall. It has a large fireplace. We could start a fire?

Billy and Jack enter the castle.

INT. BERKSHIRE CASTLE - DUNGEON

Robert slowly moves through the darkness toward an old, abused armoire. He opens the doors.

Robert crinkles his nose.

ROBERT

Phew!

Robert turns toward a shiny items which lays on the floor who walks to the object, He kneels, picks up the object and holds it in his hand. He runs his thumb over an amulet.

ROBERT (CONT'D)

An amulet?

Robert rubs the amulet and places it in his pocket. A groan RISES from within the walls.

Robert tries to locate the sound. A pale blue light GLOWS behind him. Ghoulish footsteps resound nearby.

Robert runs up the stairs to a landing. The Headless Horror plods toward him.

Robert freezes. The Headless Horror MOANS grotesquely. Robert moves quickly up the stairs.

INT. BERKSHIRE CASTLE - SPIRAL STAIRCASE

Robert steps through the wrought iron door, which CLANGS CLOSED. Robert pulls out his key intertwined with the amulet.

The amulet falls out of his hands. He locks the door with the key.

The Headless Horror appears ahead of him. Robert grabs the amulet. The Headless Horror CRASHES into the door.

Robert falls onto his butt. The Headless Horror reaches between the bars. Robert ducks under the Headless Horror's reach.

ANOTHER ANGLE

The Headless Horror angrily swipes at him. Robert rears up.

The Headless Horror thrusts itself against the bars. It reaches for Robert.

Robert backs away from the door, grabs the key and replaces it in his pocket and bounds up the stairs.

INT. GREAT HALL

Robert enters the Great Hall. He races toward the exit, and runs into Billy and Jack. Robert jumps.

ROBERT

Where did you come from?

BILLY

You gave us a turn, mate.

ROBERT

I gave you a turn? I nearly died down there.

JACK

What do you mean?

ROBERT

There's a headless monster down there!

Billy and Jack are visibly shaken.

BILLY

Say what?

ROBERT

There's a headless monster down there.

(takes key out of pocket)
That's where I got this.

BILLY

We can go now -- You got the trinket we came for.

Billy turns to leave, Robert grabs his arm.

ROBERT

Not so fast super chicken!

BILLY

What we waitin' for?

Robert pulls out the amulet and holds it with the key.

ROBERT

I also found this.

JACK

What's THAT?

Robert twirls the amulet.

ROBERT

10.

This shouldn't be here.

BILLY

Neither should we.

ROBERT

Shut up, you.

BILLY

What are gonna do with them?

ROBERT

(thinks)

Maybe we can get some money for them.

JACK

Old Man Tanners will know what it is.

BILLY

The sooner we leave, the better.

ROBERT

Let's go. We got what we came for.

The boys exit.

EXT. BERKSHIRE PAWN SHOP - NEXT DAY

Robert, Billy and Jack enter before the Berkshire Pawn shop. Robert pulls out the amulet.

BILLY

Rob?

ROBERT

Yeah?

BILLY

You really think Old Man Tanners can identify your trinket?

ROBERT

(nods)

He knows his stuff he does. Brought him things I never knew existed, told me within in a minute what they were.

JACK

What are we waiting for?

Berkshire Castle 11.

Robert wraps the amulet in his hand, twirls it and then grabs it. He enters the Berkshire Pawn Shop.

INT. BERKSHIRE PAWN SHOP

The shop holds all manner of things, the old parchment area is particularly large. Billy and Jack enter behind Robert. Billy rings the bell.

Robert turns to the desk and rings the bell. Someone rustles in the back.

ROBERT

Hello? Is anybody here? We came in here to show you a trinket.

An old man in ratty clothes enters. OLD MAN TANNERS has a full head of wild white hair and a pair spectacles.

His aquiline nose is ethnically chaste. He shuffles like an old geezer.

OLD MAN TANNERS

Trinkets are welcome here, what have you got? Is that a talisman?

Robert holds up the amulet. Old Man Tanners puts his bundles and pulls his spectacles on his face.

JACK

What's a talisman?

OLD MAN TANNERS

A talisman is a small amulet imbued with power. The power usually comes from something fused into its metal or through a ritual.

Old Man Tanners hands the amulet back to Robert. Robert rolls it in his hands and hands it back to Old Man Tanners.

ROBERT

Can you tell us what the markings are?

Old Man Tanners turns the amulet in his hands and stops as he observes one side for a long while.

OLD MAN TANNERS

Two dragon likenesses. They face each other and appear to be statant.

ROBERT

Statant?

OLD MAN TANNERS

Not moving. They face each other.

(turns amulet over)

Now for the reverse side.

Old Man Tanners observes the amulet and runs his thumb over it. He then holds the amulet in both hands and tests its strength.

OLD MAN TANNERS (CONT'D)

Metal is strong and inflexible. Three coarse hairs are infused in it.

Robert walks to Old Man Tanners and takes the amulet out of his hand. Robert inspects the amulet as Billy and Jack huddle closer.

JACK

What kind of hairs are they?

BILLY

What do they look like?

OLD MAN TANNERS

They're too coarse to be human. They might be animal hairs.

BILLY

Animal hairs? Who'd put animal hairs in such a contrivance?

OLD MAN TANNERS

Someone who'd want to control something.

INT. BERKSHIRE PRECINCT HOUSE

SGT. DIERDRICK, a short obtuse Scot with a Walrus-like moustache sits as SUPERINTENDENT HOWE walks up to him.

SUPT. HOWE

Any news on the Melvyn Morley disappearance?

SGT. DIERDRICK

No sahr. He's been gone two weeks, and not so much as a whisper.

SUPT. HOWE

Does he have any family?

SGT. DIERDRICK

Father and two sisters. He was the 15th Earl of Surrey.

SUPT. HOWE

Where do they live? What about household help?

SGT. DIERDRICK

He has a small staff at the Surrey Manor House. Maid, Butler, Gardener, and Mechanic.

SUPT. HOWE

Who's on duty?

SGT. DIERDRICK

You, me, Jaeger, Gordon, Brown and McMillan.

SUPT. HOWE

Round them up.

Sgt. Dierdrick exits and reenters with CONS. GORDON, CONS. JAEGER, INSP. BROWN and INSP. MCMILLAN. Supt. Howe puffs a few curls of smoke from his pipe.

SUPT. HOWE (CONT'D)

Alright you lot. We've brought you in to brief you on the disappearance of Melvyn Morley.

CONSTABLE GORDON

Any idea where he might be sir?

INSPECTOR BROWN

That's not like little Mel. He sticks close to home and never leaves without alerting his staff.

SUPT. HOWE

I want to talk to the staff. Maybe we can get an idea where he went?

INSPECTOR BROWN

Then let's bugger.

Supt. Howe, Sgt. Dierdrick, Cons. Jaeger, Cons. Gordon, Insp. Brown and Insp. McMillan exit.

Berkshire Castle 14.

EXT. MANOR HOUSE - SURREY - DAY

Supt. Howe walks up toward a large Manor House. The house is large, old and its facade is covered with ivy.

Supt. Howe grabs the door knocker and bangs it three times. A few seconds pass. The door opens to reveal Butler JOHN HASTINGS.

JOHN HASTINGS

Yes? Who are you?

SUPT. HOWE

Hello. I am Supt. Howe. We are here to talk to you about the disappearance of your employer's son, Melvin Morley.

JOHN HASTINGS

Very good, sir. Please come in.

INT. MANOR HOUSE - PARLOR

John Hastings enters the side Parlor. The elaborate room boasts several large red velvet chairs and a large couch. A small oak desk sits behind the couch with a Greek bust and several old tomes.

JOHN HASTINGS

You may all sit if you'd like. I'll have Maid Cummings bring you a spot of tea.

SUPT. HOWE

Thank you.

John Hastings pulls a rope chime. A moment later, MAID CUMMINGS enters.

MAID CUMMINGS

Yes, John?

JOHN HASTINGS

Mary, our guests would like some tea. Could you bring us some tea and crumpets?

Maid Cummings curtseys.

MAID CUMMINGS

By your leave.

Maid Cummings exits.

Berkshire Castle 15.

Supt. Howe takes out a small notebook and writes on it.

JOHN HASTINGS

Let me see. It was last Wednesday. He had just taken his bath and was all dollied up to go out.

SUPT. HOWE

Do you know where Melvyn went?

JOHN HASTINGS

No, sir. He left saying he was going to take a morning constitutional.

SUPT. HOWE

Was that normal?

JOHN HASTINGS

He took constitutionals on Sunday, Tuesday and Thursday. Never on Wednesday.

SUPT. HOWE

Why not?

JOHN HASTINGS

Wednesday was his golf day. Pretty good at it too.

SUPT. HOWE

Good. How about hunting?

JOHN HASTINGS

He prized hunting sir. Right smart rider. He could leave you at a moments notice.

SUPT. HOWE

Could he have gone riding?

JOHN HASTINGS

He could, except for one fact.

SUPT. HOWE

What's that?

JOHN HASTINGS

All his horses are accounted for in the stables.

Supt. Howe is immensely interested.

SUPT. HOWE

Can we go out to the stables?

JOHN HASTINGS

If you'd like.

Maid Cummings enters with a silver service tea set.

MAID CUMMINGS

You're leaving?

JOHN HASTINGS

No, Mary. Just headed to the stables is all. We can take it in here when we return.

MAID CUMMINGS

Yes sir.

Everyone exits.

EXT. MANOR HOUSE - STABLES

John Hastings enters the stables. Supt. Howe follows close behind. Twenty neatly maintained stables sit astride a main hallway.

SUPT. HOWE

How many horses do you have?

JOHN HASTINGS

Twenty at present. Master Morley's horse Champion is in the last stall on the left.

SUPT. HOWE

Does he have any haunts that he frequents, or hides at when things are rough?

JOHN HASTINGS

Mr. Morley never had a rough day in his life. He spent many nights down at the pub.

SUPT. HOWE

Which Pub?

JOHN HASTINGS

The Roaring Lion. He went there every Friday at eight.

Berkshire Castle 17.

John Hastings walks to Champion's stall. The horse calmly eats its hay.

JOHN HASTINGS (CONT'D)

Here we are. This is Champion.

SUPT. HOWE

A regal animal. Beautiful.

Supt. Howe is smitten with Champion's beauty. He steps to Champion's stall and pats the horse on the nose.

SGT. DIERDRICK

Can we inspect the stable for clues sir?

SUPT. HOWE

(turns to John Hastings)
Can they inspect the stables?

JOHN HASTINGS

I don't see why not. Hopefully you'll find something tangible.

SUPT. HOWE

Yes, quite.

(to Sgt. Dierdrick)
Start looking, but Sergeant be

mindful, we are guests here. Don't do anything untoward or disrespectful.

SGT. DIERDRICK

Aye, sir.

They search the stables. Supt. Howe stays with John Hastings.

Insp. Brown inspects the stall. A small glimmer catches his eye.

Insp. Brown removes the hay, and picks up a small watch. The watch is smutty.

INSPECTOR BROWN

Superintendent?

SUPT. HOWE

Yes Joey?

INSPECTOR BROWN

I think I found something sir.

Insp. Brown hands Supt. Howe the watch. John Hastings recognizes the watch.

JOHN HASTINGS

18.

Hang on, that's Master Morley's
watch!

SUPT. HOWE

What's it doing here?

JOHN HASTINGS

He was mindful of everything. He never left here without it.

SUPT. HOWE

We have our first clue. May we take it with us?

JOHN HASTINGS

Yes sir.

SUPT. HOWE

Thank you Mr. Hastings. We'll be in touch. Good day.

JOHN HASTINGS

Good day to you sir.

Supt. Howe exits.

INT. BERKSHIRE CASTLE - DRUM TOWER - CELL

A HOWLING WIND roars through ragged curtains. Old worn pieces of furniture lie on the floor.

A small shadow hobbles toward the window and looks out. It's clothes are tattered and torn.

The Hairy Beast turns toward a mirror and sees itself.

Enraged, the beast launches itself at the mirror and destroys it.

The beast calms down momentarily before it blasts the wooden jail door with violent rage.

The beast calms down and turns away.

INT. BERKSHIRE CASTLE - HALLWAY

An old man with a lantern in hand and long thinning white hair walks toward the cell.

OLD MAN MARLEY'S clothes are old and moldy. He smiles a toothy grin and pats the door holding a small plate of food.

Berkshire Castle 19.

OLD MAN MARLEY

Greetings my pet. How are we today?

The beast GROWLS.

OLD MAN MARLEY (CONT'D)

In good spirits, eh? Old Marley will take care of you. No worries. Ha. Ha.

Old Man Marley slides the plate under the door.

OLD MAN MARLEY (CONT'D)

Bon appetite!

We HEAR growl and a snarf.

EXT. BERKSHIRE CASTLE - DRAWBRIDGE - TWILIGHT

The officers approach the ancient, warped drawbridge. Supt. Howe lights his pipe and turns to Dierdrick.

Supt. Howe walks to them.

SUPT. HOWE

We're in an unholy place lads! Be mindful and keep your wits about you. Always go with a partner. A man alone hasn't got a chance.

CONSTABLE GORDON

If you want the straight dope on this place, just ask the townsfolk.

SUPT. HOWE

Okay Sergeant, give them their details.

Dierdrick rubs his hands as he walks to Jaeger and Gordon.

SGT. DIERDRICK

Alright lads. You can search the Berkshire's private chambers.

Dierdrick waddles over to Brown and McMillan.

SGT. DIERDRICK (CONT'D)

You get to search the Great Hall and first floor rooms. Be careful, there's shattered glass everywhere.

Dierdrick turns to Supt. Howe.

Berkshire Castle 20.

SGT. DIERDRICK (CONT'D)

What about us sahr?

Supt. Howe puffs on his pipe.

SUPT. HOWE

I'd like to check out the razed church on the back property. Is there anything there we might find?

SGT. DIERDRICK Legend has it that's where Berkshire's crypt is.

Supt. Howe's face lights up.

SUPT. HOWE

We'll start there! Uncle Ian can't hide all his secrets forever!

SGT. DIERDRICK

Right!

Cons. Jaeger and Cons. Gordon shuffle across the bridge. Insp. Brown and Insp. McMillan exit. Supt. Howe and Sgt. Dierdrick walk toward the back of the property.

EXT. BERKSHIRE CASTLE - RAZED CHURCH - GRAVEYARD - TWILIGHT

Supt. Howe and Sgt. Dierdrick enter an ancient, razed and dilapidated graveyard. Supt. Howe puffs pipe as he reads the grave markers.

SGT. DIERDRICK

What are you looking for?

SUPT. HOWE

Berkshire's crypt.

SGT. DIERDRICK

You won't find it here. He's buried in the coal mines.

SUPT. HOWE

Coal mines?

SGT. DIERDRICK

Aye, he came into his wealth by slave labor, mining for coal on his property.

SUPT. HOWE

Is that why Berkshire Castle has mounds all over it?

SGT. DIERDRICK

21.

The place used to be flat until they found loads of ore.

SUPT. HOWE

I can't imagine the coal mines being safe.

SGT. DIERDRICK

Berkshire records show hundreds, if not thousands died in them.

SUPT. HOWE

What was the main cause of death?

SGT. DIERDRICK

Cave ins, many were buried alive.

SUPT. HOWE

So the hills we see are mass graves?

SGT. DIERDRICK

Aye.

SUPT. HOWE

Blimey!

SGT. DIERDRICK

Indeed!

INT. BERKSHIRE CASTLE - UPPER APARTMENTS - HALLWAY

Cons. Jaeger and Cons. Gordon shuffle down the hallway pilfered with cobwebs and dust. Candelabras and oil paintings line the walls.

Cons. Jaeger stares at a painting.

CONSTABLE JAEGER

Hey, Gordie?

CONSTABLE GORDON

Yeah?

CONSTABLE JAEGER

Check this out!

Gordon steps toward the painting.

Berkshire Castle 22.

INSERT - PAINTING

The painting is of two boys sitting in period dress. Their eyes are large and sorrowful. Their lips are red and full.

BACK TO SCENE

CONSTABLE GORDON

Who are they?

CONSTABLE JAEGER

Don't know. They might be related to Berkshire. He took great lengths to ensure no one inherited his money.

CONSTABLE GORDON
You mean he killed to ensure his wealth stayed with him?

CONSTABLE JAEGER

Yep.

CONSTABLE GORDON

Dirty rotten bastard!

CONSTABLE JAEGER

Quite.

Cons. Jaeger admires the painting. Cons. Gordon heads toward the door at the end of the hallway.

INT. BERKSHIRE CASTLE - BERKSHIRE'S PRIVATE APARTMENT

Cons. Jaeger and Cons. Gordon enter a richly accoutred room. Rich red carpet adorns the floor. A large canopy bed dominates the room.

A brass candelabra sits on the night stand, its candles layered in melted wax.

An armoire sits across from the bed with several pots and pans on top.

CONSTABLE JAEGER

This is nice.

Cons. Gordon walks toward the window with tattered curtains.

CONSTABLE GORDON

This is Berkshire's apartment?

Berkshire Castle 23.

CONSTABLE JAEGER

Yes.

(stands up)

Nice and cozy.

Cons. Jaeger sits on the canopy bed. Cons. Gordon stops before a large stand-up mirror.

CONSTABLE GORDON

What did he keep up here?

CONSTABLE JAEGER

Don't know. But let's check out the whole room.

Cons. Jaeger peeks under the bed. He spots a small wooden box.

CONSTABLE JAEGER (CONT'D)

What's this?

Cons. Jaeger pulls out a wooden box and places it on the bed. Cons. Gordon jiggles the box.

CONSTABLE JAEGER (CONT'D)

What could be in the strong box?

CONSTABLE GORDON

Is it open?

Cons. Jaeger jiggles the box.

CONSTABLE JAEGER

Locked up tight. How can we open it?

CONSTABLE GORDON

It's a clue. Let's show Supt. Howe.

CONSTABLE JAEGER

Good idea. Let's go.

Cons. Jaeger picks up the wooden chest and exits.

INT. BERKSHIRE CASTLE - HALLWAY - MAIN FLOOR

Insp. Brown and Insp. McMillan inspect the hallway. Insp. Brown peeks into a nearby room.

INT. BERKSHIRE CASTLE - ARCHAIC ROOM

Insp. Brown and Insp. McMillan enter the room.

Berkshire Castle 24.

Insp. Brown walks through the room and admires all the different weapons on display. Insp. McMillan admires the heraldic shields.

INSPECTOR BROWN

Whose is it?

INSPECTOR MCMILLAN

I don't know. The last one has a pair of griffins and dragons facing each other.

INSPECTOR BROWN

Let's keep looking then. Well come back to that shield later.

Insp. Brown and Insp. McMillan inspect the room. Insp. Brown moves toward a small display box with three ceremonial daggers in it. All three daggers are jewel encrusted and are elaborately carved with gold and silver reliefs.

INSPECTOR BROWN (CONT'D)

These are beautiful, highly decorated daggers.

Insp. Brown picks up the box and passes it to Insp. McMillan who thoroughly inspects it. Insp. McMillan turns the box over and carefully inspects the daggers.

INSPECTOR MCMILLAN

There's something under the third dagger.

(pause)

It looks like dried blood.

Insp. Brown snatches the box from Insp. McMillan's grip. He scrutinizes it further.

INSPECTOR BROWN

These are ceremonial daggers used in highly ritualized ceremonies.

INSPECTOR MCMILLAN

You mean someone is killing here?

INSPECTOR BROWN

Yes.

INSPECTOR MCMILLAN

Who's killing them?

INSPECTOR BROWN

Don't know, but I know who's being killed.

Berkshire Castle 25.

INSPECTOR MCMILLAN Who is being killed?

INSPECTOR BROWN
Transients, vagrants and the homeless, people who won't be missed.

Insp. Brown and Insp. McMillan exit.

INT. RAZED CHURCH - DESECRATED SANCTUARY

Supt. Howe and Sgt. Dierdrick enter the desecrated sanctuary. Rows of broken stone pews line the sanctuary's interior.

Supt. Howe walks to the cracked stone altar. Vines and weeds defile the once sacred altar.

A broken stone cross lays shattered behind the altar. Several niches line the sanctuary wall. Supt. Howe inspects them and stops on the last one and reaches inside.

SGT. DIERDRICK What are you doing sahr?

SUPT. HOWE

There's something in here. (pulls out item)

Aha!

Supt Howe pulls out a gilded gold goblet. The goblet is pristine.

SGT. DIERDRICK That's a fancy thing to be left in a desecrated sanctuary.

Sgt. Dierdrick walks to a dry water fountain. The small fountain is filled with fodder.

SUPT. HOWE

The goblet was used in their ceremonies here. They would fill the goblet with the holy water and then offer communion.

SGT. DIERDRICK

What kind of man was Berkshire?

SUPT. HOWE

Greedy and evil. He made money off other people's work. That's abundantly clear.

Berkshire Castle 26.

SGT. DIERDRICK

Is this the only part of the church left?

Supt. Howe places the goblet down and turns around.

SUPT. HOWE

I don't know. Let's have a look at the rear of the church.

Supt. Howe and Sgt. Dierdrick enter the spiral staircase.

INT. RAZED CHURCH - LOWER LEVEL

Supt. Howe and Sgt. Dierdrick enter to find two stone coffins. A pair of burning torches illuminate the dark room.

SUPT. HOWE

Whose crypt is this?

Sgt. Dierdrick inspects the stone coffins inscriptions.

SGT. DIERDRICK

Berkshire's daughter.

SUPT. HOWE

Who's the other one?

Sgt. Dierdrick reads the second coffin's inscription.

SGT. DIERDRICK

Berkshire's granddaughter.

SUPT. HOWE

Where's Berkshire?

A small iron gate appears ahead of them out of the gloom. The gate is securely locked by a large lock framed and secured by a long heavy chain.

SGT. DIERDRICK

He might be behind this gate.

(shakes lock)

It's locked tight.

SUPT. HOWE

There's nothing here. Let's head back.

SGT. DIERDRICK

Aye sahr.

Berkshire Castle 27.

EXT. BERKSHIRE CASTLE - DRAWBRIDGE - TWILIGHT

Supt. Howe and Sgt. Dierdrick walk to the drawbridge. Insp. Brown and Insp. McMillan walk up behind them.

SUPT. HOWE

Hello lads. Any luck?

INSPECTOR BROWN

Got a display case with ceremonial daggers.

SUPT. HOWE

What's that got to do with the castle?

INSPECTOR BROWN

It's got a fresh blood stain in it.

Insp. Brown hands the display case to Supt. Howe who inspects it. He puffs his pipe as he inspects the case. He stares at the blood stain.

SUPT. HOWE

These daggers are beautiful. We'll have to take them to the lab.

INSPECTOR BROWN

Yes sir.

Cons. Gordon and Cons. Jaeger walk up. Cons. Jaeger holds the small wooden box in his hands.

Cons. Jaeger holds the wooden box up and shows Supt. Howe.

CONSTABLE JAEGER

We found this is Berkshire's apartment.

SUPT. HOWE

Ouite.

(puffs on pipe)

This should be interesting for the lads in Scotland Yard.

CONSTABLE JAEGER

Did you find anything?

SUPT. HOWE

We found two stone coffins in the razed church out back.

CONSTABLE GORDON

Whose are they?

SUPT. HOWE

Berkshire's daughter and granddaughter. There was a locked gate which we couldn't get past.

CONSTABLE GORDON

Do you know what's past there?

SUPT. HOWE

We'll have to come back to find out.

CONSTABLE GORDON

We're coming back?

SUPT. HOWE

We have yet to investigate the whole property.

CONSTABLE GORDON

Something tells me that's a bad idea.

SUPT. HOWE

Despite the castle's ugly reputation, we owe it to those who are missing.

CONSTABLE GORDON

I guess you're right.

SUPT. HOWE

(puffs on pipe)

Of course I am, now let's get cracking.

Supt. Howe, Sgt. Dierdrick, Cons. Jaeger, Cons. Gordon, Insp. Brown and Insp. McMillan exit.

EXT. BERKSHIRE SCHOOL - FRONT FACADE - DAY

Robert, Billy and Jack walk toward the entrance.

BILLY

What luck! It's beautiful out and we're stuck in class!

ROBERT

How depressing. I'd rather be back at the castle.

JACK

You're mental!

Berkshire Castle 29.

ROBERT

I didn't say I was, I just I'd rather go back than face school.

Robert, Billy and Jack enter.

INT. SCHOOL - SCIENCE ROOM

Robert, Billy and Jack all sit in their seats as PROFESSOR HOWE enters.

PROFESSOR HOWE

It's so good to see your bright smiling faces. Would you like to tell us about your trip to Berkshire Castle boys?

Robert sheepishly bows his head. Billy buries his head on his desk. Jack crosses his arms and puckers his lips.

Robert glances at Billy and Jack and stands. He folds his hands in front of him.

ROBERT

We didn't really get into the castle. We only walked by it.

Professor Howe sits down and places his head on his hands.

PROFESSOR HOWE

I heard you went into the dungeon. You even found something quite exciting.

Robert shrugs his shoulders.

ROBERT

Who told you that?

PROFESSOR HOWE

Headmaster Ferris saw you. Did you find Berkshire's crypt?

JACK

We didn't find nothing.

PROFESSOR HOWE

Mr. Ferris assures me that you did.

Jack reacts.

JACK

What?

PROFESSOR HOWE

He's in his office waiting for you. (sighs)

My twin sons were your age when they were kidnapped.

ROBERT

Kidnapped?

PROFESSOR HOWE

Yes. They disappeared on August 17th 1964. I never saw them again.

ROBERT

Why would anyone do that?

PROFESSOR HOWE

I was Headmaster back then. When that happened, I had to step down. The school couldn't afford the scandal.

ROBERT

Scandal?

PROFESSOR HOWE

Mr. Ferris and the board said that the kidnapping was in retaliation for something I did.

ROBERT

Did you?

HEADMASTER FERRIS enters.

HEADMASTER FERRIS

Hello lads. Hope I'm not interrupting?

Professor Howe shakes his head.

PROFESSOR HOWE

I was just preparing the lads to meet with you.

Headmaster Ferris rubs his hands greedily.

HEADMASTER FERRIS

Excellent.

(to Robert)

Mr. Ripely, will you and your friends follow me, please?

Berkshire Castle 31.

Robert slowly stands up, looks at Billy and Jack and then back at Mr. Ferris.

ROBERT

Yes sir.

Headmaster Ferris, Robert, Billy and Jack all exit.

INT. HEADMASTER'S OFFICE - WAITING ROOM

Headmaster Ferris, Robert, Billy and Jack enter the Headmaster's Office Waiting Room. Headmaster Ferris gestures to Billy and Jack.

HEADMASTER FERRIS

Mr. Vickers? You and Mr. Collins will wait here until I come for you.

(to Robert)

Mr. Ripley, come with me.

Billy and Jack sit. Robert bows his head.

ROBERT

Yes sir.

Headmaster Ferris and Robert enter the Headmaster Frank's main office.

INT. HEADMASTER'S OFFICE - MAIN OFFICE

Schoolmaster Ferris and Robert enter. Schoolmaster Ferris gestures at a seat in front of his desk.

HEADMASTER FERRIS

Here, have a seat.

Robert sits. Headmaster Ferris walks around the desk to his seat, sits, smiles and folds his hands in front of him on the desk.

HEADMASTER FERRIS (CONT'D)

Maybe you can tell me what you were doing at Berkshire Castle?

Robert sighs and lowers his gaze at the floor.

ROBERT

Billy and Jack dared me to go.

HEADMASTER FERRIS

32.

(intrigued)

What was the dare?

Robert hesitates.

ROBERT

To go into the dungeon.

HEADMASTER FERRIS

You know that was a foolish thing to do, don't you?

ROBERT

Now I do.

HEADMASTER FERRIS

There are things in there that will kill you boy!

ROBERT

They almost did.

HEADMASTER FERRIS

What almost did?

Robert acts sheepishly.

ROBERT

An enormous headless torso with large muscular arms and legs.

HEADMASTER FERRIS

I can see the event left a traumatic effect upon you. Why don't bring in your conspirators?

ROBERT

Conspirators?

HEADMASTER FERRIS

Billy and Jack. Let's bring them in and see what they can tell us about your close encounter with death?

ROBERT

Sure.

INT. BERKSHIRE CASTLE - GREAT HALL

Oliver Shandling and Rupert Owens walk through the Great Hall. They move toward the spiral staircase.

Berkshire Castle 33.

OLIVER SHANDLING Come on Rupe. We're late. The master doesn't like it when we're late.

RUPERT OWENS

Right.

INT. BERKSHIRE CASTLE - SPIRAL STAIRCASE

Oliver Shandling and Rupert Owens walk down the spiral staircase. Int. BERKSHIRE CASTLE - DUNGEON

Oliver Shandling and Rupert Owens walk to a far wall. Oliver grabs a skeleton's forearm. We HEAR rock slide on rock as a secret door opens. Oliver Shandling and Rupert Owens enter.

INT. BERKSHIRE CASTLE - SECRET CHAMBER

Torches illuminate a small antechamber. Several hooded men in black cloaks stand before a man in a Red Cloak. We'll call him LORD HOWE.

The men come to order. Lord Howe steps forward.

LORD HOWE

As protectors of the Castle Berkshire, it is our duty to destroy those who themselves would destroy the castle.

He is cheered.

LORD HOWE (CONT'D)

As the guardians of the old ways, we must continue our quest to find noble blood.

OLIVER SHANDLING

Why noble blood?

LORD HOWE

Anyone of noble blood slain in the castle will ensure that the castle will remain in our hands.

OLIVER SHANDLING

What prophecy?

LORD HOWE

The castle's prophecy of doom. If the castle is not free from the evil, it shall haunt the land forever more!

OLIVER SHANDLING

34.

Hods Bodkins!

LORD HOWE

Yes, quite. It also is prophesied that if the original curse is broken, the lands will be free! As the guardians of the castle, we are trustees of the laird of the castle.

OLIVER SHANDLING

Who is that?

LORD HOWE

Emmett McSorrel Berkshire. His son Harry was born cursed. He is over three hundred years old.

OLIVER SHANDLING

What happened to him?

INT. BERKSHIRE PRECINCT HOUSE - READY ROOM

Cons. Gordon and Cons. Jaeger were in the room. Supt. Howe stepped out of his office.

SUPT. HOWE

Gordon, Jaeger! Get yourselves in here!

Cons. Jaeger and Cons. Gordon both run into Supt. Howe's office. Sgt. Dierdrick ENTERS the office with a sheaf of papers in his hands. He walks to Supt. Howe's desk and lays them down.

SGT. DIERDRICK

Here's the paperwork on Melvyn Morley sir.

Supt. Howe grabs his pipe and lights it. Supt. Howe scowls at Sgt. Dierdrick.

SUPT. HOWE

Can you tell me why an affluent heir suddenly ran away from home?

Berkshire Castle 35.

SGT. DIERDRICK

(salutes)

Aye sir. Melvyn Morley and his father Michael had a bit of a tiff the night he took off.

Supt. Howe puffs on his pipe and sits in his chair.

CONSTABLE GORDON

Sounds like a spoiled brat to me.

Supt. Howe sits up as Sgt. Dierdrick waddles to the side of his desk.

SUPT. HOWE

Once you've had roll call, spot yourselves a good four to six men and we'll begin the search at Berkshire.

SGT. DIERDRICK

Don't we need a warrant or a writ sir?

SUPT. HOWE

We operate under the premise of probable cause. Berkshire Castle is the probable cause of death for half the county! Now gather your men. We're going back.

EXT. BERKSHIRE - PAWN SHOP - DAY

The vine and ivy covered building's door is open as the police approach.

Supt. Howe opens the door and enters. Sgt. Dierdrick holds the door open as the others enter.

INT. BERKSHIRE PAWN SHOP

you?

Papers and items all fill the storefront. Supt. Old Man Tanners enters from the rear. He recognizes PC Gordon.

OLD MAN TANNERS Gordon? Jake Allen Gordon? Is that

CONSTABLE GORDON

Yes, Mr. Tanners. It's me, Jake.

OLD MAN TANNERS

Well that's grand! Have you found it yet?

SUPT. HOWE

Found what, sir?

OLD MAN TANNERS

The deed. Some young fallow came in looking for it betwixt and between half of my shop!

SUPT. HOWE

Can you describe him?

Old Man Tanners touches his lips with his right forefinger. He thinks as he walks around the shop. The officers watch him as he moves.

OLD MAN TANNERS

He was an older gentleman with bushy whiskers and salt and pepper hair. He had an aquiline nose and a strong chin.

SUPT. HOWE

Who is that? Did he leave a name?

OLD MAN TANNERS

He didn't leave a scrap. It's rather odd that someone has come forward after all this time.

SUPT. HOWE

Why?

OLD MAN TANNERS

Berkshire Castle has no deed. There's not a single paper with the name of Lord Berkshire anywhere in the whole of England!

SUPT. HOWE

That's impossible! There has to be a deed. They couldn't own property without one.

OLD MAN TANNERS

That's what the feller said, hinted that he was after the deed. Didn't say where he was headed.

Berkshire Castle 37.

SUPT. HOWE

We have to find the deed. Sergeant! Gather the men. We have a castle to inspect.

SGT. DIERDRICK

Aye sir!

EXT. BERKSHIRE CASTLE - EAST WOODS - NIGHT

JAMES DEVON, 37, a tough rugged biker moves through the gnarled, grizzled forest.

JAMES DEVON - POV

We see the haunting outline of Berkshire Castle. A lone light illuminates one of the tall drum towers.

BACK TO SCENE

INT. BERKSHIRE CASTLE - CASTLE KEEP - CREEPY CORRIDOR

James Devon ENTERS the dark, foreboding hallway. Ghastly shadow figures dance on the walls.

Numerous DISEMBODIED VOICES voices lift from the darkness. Devon moves ahead, drawn by the voices.

JAMES DEVON

What manner of house is this?

Devon takes out a lighter and a pack of cigarettes. He pulls out a single cigarette and lights it.

Devon walks ahead as an intense dark shadow darts across his path. He tracks the shadow with his eyes.

JAMES DEVON (CONT'D)

Who's there?

Silence greets Devon as he steps deeper into the creepy corridor. A light appears in the darkness. He walks toward it, unaware that is in not human.

JAMES DEVON (CONT'D)

Thank God someone's home!

The light sharpens into LORNA BERKSHIRE, the murdered wife of Iain Berkshire. She glides toward Devon and dissipates into thin air.

Berkshire Castle 38.

Devon HEARS a woman's sobs. Devon stumbles ahead into the eerie darkness.

LORNA BERKSHIRE (O.S.)

Who are you?

Devon reacts and glances around him in desperation.

JAMES DEVON

I am James Devon. Who are you?

LORNA BERKSHIRE (O.S.)

Spirits.

JAMES DEVON

What kind of spirits?

LORNA BERKSHIRE (O.S.)

(forcefully)

Angry spirits!

JAMES DEVON

Why are you angry?

LORNA BERKSHIRE (O.S.)

I was taken from this life by force. Murdered by Lord Wilkins, neighbor of my evil husband.

INT. BERKSHIRE CASTLE - SECONDARY CORRIDOR

Devon turns down another corridor. He enters as floating balls of light bounce, jumble and dance around him.

Devon walks to an open cell and inspects it.

INERT - BROKEN LOCK

We see a lock ripped into pieces, shredded apart by something.

BACK TO SCENE

Devon inspects the Gaol cell. An older man's voice calls out to him in the darkness.

Devon turns around and looks for the voice's source.

OLD MAN MARLEY

Who are you? I've been in here for ages. They found me in the old Razed Church.

JAMES DEVON

Who found you?

OLD MAN MARLEY

(distant)

Something big attacked the men and their dogs.

JAMES DEVON

What was it?

OLD MAN MARLEY

Don't know. Only God know what the hell that thing is!

JAMES DEVON

Are you here alone?

OLD MAN MARLEY

I had a fellow cell mate, but he kicked off a while back. They cut off his flesh for a ritual.

JAMES DEVON

That's disgusting! What's with the busted lock?

OLD MAN MARLEY

The Headless Horror attacked someone in there. Shredded them to death. Blood stains can still be seen on the walls.

We HEAR a distant door squeak closed.

JAMES DEVON

What's that?

OLD MAN MARLEY

That's Lord Berkshire. You'd best be off. If they find you here, they'll kill me just for talking with you.

Devon races into the Gaol cell with the broken lock. He quickly turns the table on its side and hides underneath.

Duncan Berkshire, Oliver Shandling, Rupert Owens and Lord Howe enter. They walk slowly past Old Man Marley.

DUNCAN BERKSHIRE

How is Marley this evening?

OLD MAN MARLEY

Tired. I can't get a wink of sleep with all the people talking.

Duncan Berkshire tilts his head in confusion.

DUNCAN BERKSHIRE

People? There are no people here Marley. It's all in your head.

OLD MAN MARLEY

But I heard a woman scream last night. As sure as I'm standing here!

Lord Howe walks to Marley.

LORD HOWE

You're hearing things Marley. You're mind's gone. You're the only prisoner we have!

Lord Howe pulls out a large key ring. He OPENS Marley's cell. Marley exits and walks down the corridor. He looks back and forth as he inspects the cells around him.

OLD MAN MARLEY

I heard a woman sobbing about her husband's cruelty. Hods Bodkins! Did I hear the dead speaking?

DUNCAN BERKSHIRE

Maybe you heard Lorna Berkshire. Her ghost roams these halls in abject misery. She was killed by Lord Wilkins over three hundred years ago.

OLD MAN MARLEY

Why is there fresh blood in the cell yonder?

DUNCAN BERKSHIRE

We had to kill some rats. Bloody nuisance.

OLD MAN MARLEY

And that's a bloody lie. There's too much blood in that cell to be just rats. Who was he?

DUNCAN BERKSHIRE

He met the Headless Horror and made it back to the cell where he died.

OLD MAN MARLEY

41.

All of us will be forgotten someday. Some quicker than others. Do you need a new steward?

DUNCAN BERKSHIRE

(smiles, nods)

As a matter of fact, I do. We just had a position open up. Would you like to have it?

OLD MAN MARLEY

Yes master.

DUNCAN BERKSHIRE

Then it's all yours.

EXT. BERKSHIRE CASTLE - DRAWBRIDGE - TWILIGHT

A pair of police vans arrive at Berkshire Castle's drawbridge. Supt. Howe walks to the drawbridge and surveys the area. Sqt. Dierdrick waddles up behind him.

SUPT. HOWE

We have enough to cover a few places.

Cons. Gordon, Cons. Jaeger, Insp. Brown and Insp. McMillan all walk up to Dierdrick and Supt. Howe.

Sgt. Dierdrick sees something strange and kneels to the ground. He picks up a rock with dried blood on it.

SGT. DIERDRICK

Cappie? I found something.

Supt. Howe walks to Sgt. Dierdrick.

SUPT. HOWE

What is it sergeant?

Sgt. Dierdrick shows Supt. Howe the rock.

SUPT. HOWE (CONT'D)

This rock is bloody. Where'd you get this?

SGT. DIERDRICK

(points)

Over here.

Supt. Howe walks to the area where Sgt. Dierdrick found the rock.

SUPT. HOWE

Looks like someone bled out here.

Insp. Brown and Insp. McMillan both search the rocks near the drawbridge. A bone sticks out of the ground.

INSPECTOR BROWN

Cappie! There's something here!

Supt. Howe helps him dig and soon uncover a headless body. They both rear up in horror.

SUPT. HOWE

This body is fresh. It's been freshly killed.

Insp. Brown backs away from the body. He crosses himself.

CONSTABLE JAEGER

Any idea who this might be?

SUPT. HOWE

Whoever it was, he's one more death in the legacy of Berkshire.

CONSTABLE GORDON

He wasn't a slouch. An Argyle sweater, corduroy pants and a silver watch.

INSPECTOR MCMILLAN

Maybe he was a student at a nearby university?

SUPT. HOWE

Let's check some the castle before we leave. Jaeger, you and Gordon head up to the castle apartments.

CONSTABLE JAEGER

Aye sir.

SUPT. HOWE

Brown, you and McMillan check out the Donjon. Dierdrick and myself will explore the main floor.

INSPECTOR BROWN

What do you want us to do if we find anything?

SUPT. HOWE

Log it, catalog it and if possible, grab it.

Berkshire Castle 43.

INSPECTOR BROWN

Aye sir.

INT. BERKSHIRE CASTLE - LIBRARY

Supt. Howe and Sgt. Dierdrick enter. A large window bathes the room with light. They inspect the books as a moan rises from the within the walls.

SUPT. HOWE

What's that?

SGT. DIERDRICK

Sounds like moaning?

The drapes suddenly close and the room goes dark. The moan rises further and make the books on the table shake.

The table shakes as the moan reaches a crescendo. The walls shake as a SPECTRE materializes through the wall.

The spectre steps, moans and then dissipates into thin air.

SUPT. HOWE

What was that?

SGT. DIERDRICK

Looked like a ghost to me.

SUPT. HOWE

There's no such thing as ghosts.

It's just a trick of light.

Supt. Howe taps on the wall.

SGT. DIERDRICK

There's nothing here. It's a solid wall.

SUPT. HOWE

But what did we see?

SGT. DIERDRICK

That sir, was ghost! It came right through the wall.

SUPT. HOWE

There's no such thing!

Insp. Brown and Insp. McMillan enter and walk to Supt. Howe.

INSPECTOR BROWN

Cappie! This place is haunted!

44.

SUPT. HOWE

(surprised)

What did you see?

INSPECTOR MCMILLAN
The white lady, Lorna Berkshire.
She appeared and warned us to
leave.

SUPT. HOWE

What should we do?

INSPECTOR BROWN

We already have a cadaver for the Coroner. We should start there.

SUPT. HOWE

Okay boys let's go. What do you think Sergeant?

SGT. DIERDRICK

Never bet agin the house!

INT. BERKSHIRE CASTLE - CASTLE APARTMENTS HALLWAY

Cons. Jaeger and Cons. Gordon walk on the shredded carpet. Golden candelabras adorn the walls along with large portrait paintings.

CONSTABLE JAEGER

Hey Gordie?

CONSTABLE GORDON

Yeah Jags?

CONSTABLE JAEGER

Think this is Lorna Berkshire?

CONSTABLE GORDON

I don't know? She was a Berkshire, they sat for their portraits for over a millennium.

Cons. Jaeger enters one of the apartments. Cons. Gordon follows him.

INT. BERKSHIRE CASTLE - CASTLE APARTMENT #2

Cons. Jaeger and Cons. Gordon enter. Cons. Jaeger steps onto the balcony.

Berkshire Castle 45.

EXT. BERKSHIRE CASTLE - STONE BALCONY

Cons. Jaeger takes in the spectacular view. He enters the apartment.

CONSTABLE GORDON

How's the view?

CONSTABLE JAEGER

Incredible. What kind of apartment was this?

CONSTABLE GORDON

These were used for many of the castle workers. They usually lived pretty well despite being poor.

Cons. Gordon looks around the bed and kneels. He inspects underneath the bed.

Cons. Gordon finds a wooden chest under the bed. Cons. Jaeger grabs the chest and sets it on the bed.

CONSTABLE JAEGER

Take a look at this?

CONSTABLE GORDON

What's in it?

CONSTABLE JAEGER

(shakes chest)

Sounds like something's inside.

CONSTABLE GORDON

Maybe we should take this to Cappie.

CONSTABLE JAEGER

How much gold could they get in here?

CONSTABLE GORDON

Let's take it Cappie, he'll know what to do.

Cons. Jaeger and Cons. Gordon both exit.

EXT. BERKSHIRE CASTLE - DRAWBRIDGE

Supt. Howe, Sgt. Dierdrick, Insp. Brown and Insp. McMillan wait at the vans. Cons. Jaeger and Cons. Gordon appear with the treasure chest between them.

46.

SUPT. HOWE

What the bloody hell is that?

Cons. Jaeger and Cons. Gordon struggle as they approach.

CONSTABLE JAEGER

This chest's got something in it, you find anything besides the cadaver?

SUPT. HOWE

Just a healthy dose of aggravation. Let's get our evidence to the lab.

INT. BERKSHIRE MEDICAL EXAMINER'S OFFICE

TECHNICIAN ROLLINS and TECHNICIAN HARVEY sit at their desk. The police enter with the body and chest.

TECHNICIAN ROLLINS

What brings you to our humble abode?

SUPT. HOWE

This body was found in Berkshire Castle and we also found an old wooden chest.

Technician Harvey walks up to Supt. Howe.

TECHNICIAN HARVEY

I'll try to id the stiff.

Technician Rollins smirks as something shifts inside the chest.

TECHNICIAN ROLLINS

(scared)

Did you find it under the canopy bed?

CONSTABLE JAEGER

(smiles)

Yes why?

TECHNICIAN ROLLINS

There's a legend of twins murdered in the castle. One had his skull hidden in a chest under the master's bed.

CONSTABLE JAEGER

What about the other?

TECHNICIAN ROLLINS
He's hidden somewhere else. They

were murdered by old Iain in a fit of jealousy.

Technician Harvey works with the chest's lock. RODERICK BERKSHIRE appears behind Technician Harvey, dressed in boy's sixteenth century shirt and pants.

RODERICK BERKSHIRE

Having trouble?

TECHNICIAN HARVEY

I need a lock pick. This is an easy fix.

Technician Rollins' eyes bulge as Cons. Jaeger hugs Cons. Gordon tremble in fright.

RODERICK BERKSHIRE

What's wrong?

TECHNICIAN HARVEY

What's wrong he says? For one thing, you're a ghost. A GHOST!

Technician Harvey backs away in fright.

RODERICK BERKSHIRE

True, I've been dead nigh on three hundred years. My uncle murdered my brother and I.

TECHNICIAN HARVEY

Is it true your uncle buried gold and other treasures on the property.

TECHNICIAN ROLLINS

The constables caught him and buried him alive. Berkshire was haunted by the spectre of his wife who tortured him into madness before he died.

Technician Rollins picks the lock. The chest pops open to reveal a skull sits on a small pile of dirt. Technician Rollins examines the skull.

TECHNICIAN ROLLINS (CONT'D)

There's a gash in the skull. Is it post mortem?

Berkshire Castle 48.

RODERICK BERKSHIRE Unfortunately no. My uncle killed me while I slept.

TECHNICIAN ROLLINS Where are you buried?

RODERICK BERKSHIRE Somewhere on the property. I'm not sure where. Uncle was haunted by aunt Lorna until he died.

INT. BERKSHIRE MAGISTRATE'S OFFICE

Insp. Brown and Insp. McMillan both enter the Magistrate's Office. Insp. Brown anxiously rubs his hands as the door closes.

INSPECTOR BROWN

I hate books!

INSPECTOR MCMILLAN
Easy Brownie. There's plenty of old
books to digest. Where should we
start?

An aged man hobbles into the room. MAGISTRATE MCSORREL walks to Insp. Brown and waves hello.

INSPECTOR MCMILLAN (CONT'D)
My partner and I are working in
conjunction with an investigation
into the lands and history of
Berkshire Castle. Do you --

MAGISTRATE MCSORREL

(cuts in)

Have anything on Berkshire Castle? There's over three hundred years of paperwork dealing with the castle and its eccentric owners. What would you like to see most?

INSPECTOR BROWN
Has there been any written accounts of curses, ghosts and stuff?

Magistrate McSorrel raises his right hand and extends his index finger. His lips frame a large gregarious smile.

Magistrate McSorrel exit out the rear of the shop and emerges a moment later with his arms full of old manuscripts.

MAGISTRATE MCSORREL

(lays papers down)

Here you go lads. That's all the known papers dealing with Berkshire Castle or the name Berkshire in one form or another.

Inspector Brown rifles through the papers. Two older papers lay on the table with the name Berkshire written on them.

Magistrate McSorrel reads the paper and hands it to Inspector Brown.

MAGISTRATE MCSORREL (CONT'D)

(clears throat)

Lord Willis, a fellow tax collector was found in the arms of Lorna Berkshire, Iain's wife. They were both summarily executed.

INSPECTOR BROWN

(feels throat; frowns)
How long has it been since the castle was last lived in?

MAGISTRATE MCSORREL

Over two hundred years ago. Not many people in England willingly spend any time there.

INSPECTOR BROWN

Are there any other places we should be alert for?

MAGISTRATE MCSORREL

The land was once flat and even before Berkshire began mining on the property. Mines are natural manmade sepulchers. That was a favored way of condemnation.

EXT. BERKSHIRE CASTLE - EAST WOODS - NIGHT

Melvyn weaves through the woods. His steps falter. He moves through the woods as we HEAR a dog howl. Duncan and Oliver Shandling race after Melvyn with their dogs in hot pursuit.

DUNCAN BERKSHIRE

He went this way.

OLIVER SHANDLING

He's doubled back toward the old church--

Berkshire Castle 50.

Melvyn breaks out from the woods and closes in on the Razed Church which is nothing more than a darkened silhouette.

EXT. RAZED CHURCH - NIGHT

Melvyn stumbles out of the darkness and toward the Razed Church's broken door. Melvyn enters the church and knocks the door off its hinges.

EXT. RAZED CHURCH - NIGHT

Moments later, Duncan and Oliver Shandling lead their dogs to the Razed Church. The dogs strain at their leashes. Oliver Shandling stops and unleashes his dog. Duncan unleashes his dog and they let the dogs chase Melvyn into the night.

INT. RAZED CHURCH - SANCTUARY

Melvyn stumbles into the sanctuary The Razed Church is silent and still. He turns toward the stairway and soon disappears into the darkness.

INT. RAZED CHURCH - SANCTUARY

The dogs bound into the sanctuary and race toward the stairs and bound down the stairs after Melvyn.

INT. RAZED CHURCH - BURIAL CRYPT

Melvyn races into the burial crypt. He hides between the middle and last stone coffins.

INT. RAZED CHURCH - SPIRAL STAIRCASE

The dogs race down the stairs and bound in between the stone coffins.

INT. RAZED CHURCH - BURIAL CRYPT

Argyle attacks Melvyn's arm as King bites Melvyn's leg. The dogs rend Melvyn to bits. Duncan Berkshire and Oliver Shandling eggs their dogs on.

DUNCAN BERKSHIRE That's my boy! Tear into him!

Berkshire Castle 51.

OLIVER SHANDLING

Good boy Argyle.

Melvyn shrieks in agony. He crawls toward his tormentors. The dogs tear into Melvyn as a bright blue light appears among them.

The Headless Horror stomps forward, swings and DECAPITATES Oliver Shandling. Duncan Berkshire rears in horror. The Headless Horror stalks after him. The dogs attack the Headless Horror.

DUNCAN BERKSHIRE

King, sic!

Melvyn crawls to the back wall. Duncan moves between the stone coffins. The Headless Horror pursues him. The Headless Horror raises its arm and TEARS out Duncan's heart.

The dogs continue their attack. Melvyn backs himself against the back. The Headless Horror throws King at him. King strikes the back wall. The wall crumbles inward to reveal a white sepulcher.

Melvyn enters the white sepulcher. The Headless Horror butchers Argyle. The Headless Horror stalks after Melvyn.

INT. WHITE SEPULCHER

A pristine glass coffin holds the remains of Mrs. Berkshire, Lord Berkshire's wife. Her severed head is tucked peacefully under her arm. A small stream gurgles peacefully nearby.

INT. RAZED CHURCH - BURIAL CRYPT

The Headless Horror reaches into the sepulcher. It touches the water and ROARS in agony. The wall collapses and buries the entrance. Another hole opens up behind the glass coffin.

INT. WHITE SEPULCHER

Melvyn covers his head. Rocks and debris collapse into the White Sepulcher. He searches for an exit.

MELVYN

A way out.

Melvyn finds the hole and exits the white sepulcher.

Berkshire Castle 52.

INT. RAZED CHURCH - BURIAL CRYPT

Melvyn crawls out of the white sepulcher. Throaty, raspy breaths rise from the darkness. The Headless Horror DECAPITATES Melvyn. The Headless Horror ROARS in victory.

EXT. BERKSHIRE CASTLE - DRAWBRIDGE

Robert, Billy and Jack walk toward the lowered drawbridge. Robert walks across the drawbridge. Billy and Jack refuse to step onto it.

BILLY

Hey Robbie?

ROBERT

Yeah?

BILLY

What are we here for?

ROBERT

To prove what I saw was real!

Jack nervously looks around the castle and turns to Robert.

JACK

The castle isn't so scary now.

The drawbridge's ancient boards moan as Jack crosses. Billy follows closely behind him.

BILLY

How old is this drawbridge?

A board SNAPS and Billy falls through.

JACK

I'm not a history teacher....

Billy pulls himself out of the hole and hobbles across the drawbridge. Jack follows Robert and Billy across the drawbridge.

JACK (CONT'D)

Wait for me!

INT. BERKSHIRE CASTLE - GREAT HALL

Robert, Billy and Jack move through the Great Hall. Robert leads Billy and Jack up the spiral stairway but Jack stops halfway up.

Berkshire Castle 53.

JACK

If you're here to prove what you saw was real, why aren't you going downstairs where you saw the Headless Horror.

ROBERT

I want to search the entire castle.

Robert waves Billy and Jack to him. They move toward the upper rooms.

INT. BERKSHIRE CASTLE - UPPER APARTMENTS

Robert, Billy and Jack enter the long hallway. Large oil paintings and candelabras hang from the walls. A small candelabra's candles erupt to life.

The blood red flames jiggle as they lift from the candles and float in midair.

The fiery red flames bar Robert, Billy and Jack from the apartments. Robert flails his arms.

ROBERT

Whoa!

BILLY

(scared)

Hods Bodkins!

JACK

What in blazes is that?

The flames dance, jiggle and spread out as a single flame.

A BOOMING CACKLE RESOUNDS through the hallway. The balls of flame dissipate into thin air.

INT. BERKSHIRE PRECINCT HOUSE - READY ROOM

The Berkshire Precinct House is full of anxious angry officers. Supt. Howe angrily puffs his pipe as he storms into the room.

SUPT. HOWE

What is the meaning of this?

SGT. DIERDRICK

The meaning of what sahr?

Berkshire Castle 54.

SUPT. HOWE

Melvyn Morley, who disappeared day before last.

SGT. DIERDRICK

Where was he last seen?

SUPT. HOWE

His father's manor. He and Melvyn had a squabble about his inheritance.

SGT. DIERDRICK

What happened?

SUPT. HOWE

The younger Morley stormed out of the meeting, angry that he wasn't given his inheritance.

SGT. DIERDRICK

What made him shuffle off like that?

SUPT. HOWE

He wanted his money now.

SGT. DIERDRICK

What did the Lord High Mayor want with you?

SUPT. HOWE

He's anxious to find Melvyn and return him safely to his father. Only then will he get off my back.

INT. GAOL CELL

James Devon stirs and exits his gaol cell.

INT. BERKSHIRE CASTLE - DARK CORRIDOR

James Devon moves down the dark corridor. He exits.

EXT. BERKSHIRE CASTLE - INNER BAILEY - NIGHT

James Devon runs through the Bailey. The darkness hides him as he moves toward the rear exit.

Berkshire Castle 55.

EXT. BERKSHIRE CASTLE - MEADOW - NIGHT

James Devon runs through the meadow. Dogs HOWL in the distance. We HEAR the bushes rustle.

James Devon breathes heavily as he peeks around the tree. He moves toward the eastern woods.

EXT. BERKSHIRE CASTLE - EAST WOODS

James Devon moves through the scrub. He pulls out his switchblade and cut through the scrub.

James Devon turns and meets the Headless Horror. The tall muscular beast rears up and HOWLS.

Terrified, Devon STABS the Headless Horror in the stomach and zigzags deeper into the Eastern Woods through a scrubby path.

EXT. BERKSHIRE CASTLE - EAST WOODS - MINUTES LATER - NIGHT

The Headless Horror CRUSHES through the scrub after its prey.

EXT. BERKSHIRE CASTLE - RAZED CHURCH

James Devon emerges from the Eastern Woods. He nervously enters the church.

INT. RAZED CHURCH - DESECRATED SANCTUARY

James Devon races into the desecrated sanctuary in search of safety.

EXT. BERKSHIRE CASTLE - RAZED CHURCH - NIGHT - CONTINUOUS

The Headless Horror enters the Razed Church.

INT. RAZED CHURCH - DESECRATED SANCTUARY - CONTINUOUS

The Headless Horror stomps angrily ahead into the darkness.

INT. RAZED CHURCH - SPIRAL STAIRCASE - CONTINUOUS

James Devon follows the stairway into the darkness.

Berkshire Castle 56.

INT. RAZED CHURCH - LOWER CRYPTS - CONTINUOUS

James Devon nervously jogs around the stone coffins.

INT. RAZED CHURCH - SPIRAL STAIRCASE

The Headless Horror moves determinedly down the stairs.

INT. RAZED CHURCH - LOWER CRYPTS

The Headless Horror enters the lower crypts. James Devon hides behind one of the coffins.

The Headless Horror steps toward James Devon who suddenly jumps up and runs back up the spiral staircase. The Headless Horror follows him.

INT. RAZED CHURCH - DESECRATED SANCTUARY

James Devon races across the floor and toward the exit.

EXT. RAZED CHURCH - NIGHT

James Devon exits the church.

INT. RAZED CHURCH - DESECRATED SANCTUARY

The Headless Horror stomps after its prey as it moves toward the exit.

EXT. RAZED CHURCH - NIGHT

The Headless Horror wraps crushes James Devon like a python. The sound of dogs baying startles the Headless Horror, it exits.

INT. BERKSHIRE MAGISTRATE'S OFFICE

Magistrate McSorrel hobbles to the front of the shop. Supt. Howe steps up to him.

MAGISTRATE MCSORREL What kin I hep ya wit laddie?

SUPT. HOWE

I came here to inquire about Berkshire Castle. May we see the deed?

MAGISTRATE MCSORREL

57.

(shakes head)

Berkshire was a man who didn't like deeds. He thought they were a bother. He neither registered a deed nor has any ancestor since.

SUPT. HOWE

Curious.

MAGISTRATE MCSORREL You can check out the back of my office if you like.

We HEAR a bell ring. Sqt. Dierdrick ENTERS.

SUPT. HOWE

(to Dierdrick)
Anything back there?

SGT. DIERDRICK

Not a shred of paper to show that Berkshire owned the haunted old ruin.

A phone RINGS. Magistrate McSorrel answers and listens for a moment before he hangs up. He turns to Supt. Howe.

MAGISTRATE MCSORREL

Mr. Howe?

SUPT. HOWE

Yes what is it?

MAGISTRATE MCSORREL

That was the Coroner's Office. They found Melvyn Morley, he's been murdered.

A sad sigh courses through the room.

SUPT. HOWE

Any word on how he died?

MAGISTRATE MCSORREL

They found his body at Berkshire's Razed Church, his body crushed and head violently removed with great force.

SUPT. HOWE

How soon can you leave?

SGT. DIERDRICK

Now if you'd like.

SUPT. HOWE

Let's go.

Everyone exits. Supt. Howe stops before Magistrate McSorrel who sighs heavily.

MAGISTRATE MCSORREL

Stay safe lads --

Supt. Howe turns to Magistrate McSorrel and shakes hands with him.

SUPT. HOWE

Mr. McSorrel, thank you for your help. I'm sorry we couldn't leave under happier circumstances.

MAGISTRATE MCSORREL

That's fine lad. Get to work. There's something nefarious at work agin.

Supt. Howe smiles and tips his hat.

SUPT. HOWE

Goodbye.

MAGISTRATE MCSORREL

Goodbye.

Supt. Howe exits.

INT. BERKSHIRE HISTORY MUSEUM

School buses line the front of the museum. Robert, Billy and Jack all huddle together as Headmaster Ferris walks up to them with MUSEUM CURATOR DEVON astride him.

HEADMASTER FERRIS

How are we this morning?

Robert shrugs.

ROBERT

Tolerable...

Headmaster Ferris greets them.

59.

HEADMASTER FERRIS

Hello boys.

BILLY & JACK

Hello.

HEADMASTER FERRIS

Mrs. Devon is going to give us a tour of the museum.

MARY MORLEY, 11, a sprightly blonde, giggles with her friends, SUSAN HOWARD, 12, and LISA FAWELL, 11. Mary mocks Robert as Mrs. Devon begins her oratory.

MARY MORLEY

Is it true?

ROBERT

Is what true?

MARY MORLEY

(mockingly)

That you wet yourself when you saw the Headless Horror?

MRS. DEVON (O.S.)

Hello children, welcome to the Berkshire History Museum. You will find many historic items on display...

ROBERT

(decisive)

Who told you that rubbish?

MARY MORLEY

Heard it straight from the horse's mouth.

MRS. DEVON (O.S.)

You are free to move about. I do hope you enjoy your stay here with us today.

BILLY

I never told anyone.

MARY MORLEY

I heard tell from Headmaster Ferris. He's more reliable than you lot. I dare you to stay the night.

ROBERT

Since you're all-fired up antsy about this, I dare you to stay with us. That way you can see for yourself what's down there.

MARY MORLEY

(nervous)

I dared you remember? You have to accept it!

Susan and Lisa walk up behind Mary.

SUSAN

(clears throat)

Don't forget that you have to accept a dare.

MARY MORLEY

But I dared him first!

SUSAN

Doesn't matter. You have to accept the dare, otherwise your dare is null and void.

MARY MORLEY

(stomps foot)

That's not fair!

SUSAN

(smiles)

I never said that it was fair. Accept it, or else you're a chicken!

MARY MORLEY

(bites lip)

Oh, okay, I'll stay. But we have to find a way down there without being seen.

ROBERT

I'll meet you in the broom closet before closing.

The museum fills with sprightly, joyful children who laugh, giggle and play.

Berkshire Castle 61.

INT. BERKSHIRE HISTORY MUSEUM - HOURS LATER

Mary peeks out from the broom closet. Robert, Billy and Jack meet her as we hear a DOOR slam. Robert jumps as he nervously darts his eyes about.

The Berkshire History Museum janitor BILL FRANKLIN enters. Robert catches the door before it closes.

Robert enters. Mary follows him as Billy and Jack both hesitate. A sudden noise behind them scares them and they bolt down the stairway.

INT. BERKSHIRE HISTORY MUSEUM - STORAGE AREA

Robert, Mary, Billy and Jack enter the storage area. Hundreds of relics line the shelves.

Mr. Franklin walks up a second set of concrete steps and opens the rear door. He turns around and steps down.

JARED SMITH, HEATH CASSIDY and Rupert Owens enter.

JARED SMITH

Well done. We're here for a few things. We shant take long.

Fear grips Robert, Mary, Billy and Jack. Robert opens a crate next to him.

ROBERT

(whispers)

Mary! Get in here before they see us.

Mary climbs inside the first crate. Billy and Jack nervously flit about. Robert opens a second crate and hides Billy.

Robert and Jack move toward a third crate. GADSDEN and Rupert Owens enter. Robert flips open a third crate and hides Jack inside. Robert races behind the crates.

GADSDEN

We came here for some relics. Rupert has the lot numbers.

MR. FRANKLIN

What do you need?

GADSDEN

We need several trinkets, such as a silver talisman, and several crates of things.

Berkshire Castle 62.

MR. FRANKLIN

I know where the silver talisman is, I'll be right back.

Mr. Franklin exits.

GADSDEN

Okay Rupert, we need crates BC1236373, BC1236375 and BC1236376.

Mr. Franklin reenters. He holds a silvery talisman in his hand. He walks to Gadsden and hands him the talisman.

MR. FRANKLIN

Here's the talisman. How are you going to get the crates out of here?

GADSDEN

We have three hearses standing by.

EXT. BERKSHIRE HISTORY MUSEUM - REAR ENTRANCE

Three pristine horse drawn glass hearses wait at the door. Gadsden and Rupert Owens exit with crate BC1236373. They slide it onto the first hearse.

Mr. Franklin and Rupert Owens exit with the second crate and load the second hearse. Gadsden carries the last crate and slides it onto the last hearse.

Gadsden climbs the first hearse and grabs the horse's reins. Mr. Franklin walks to the first hearse.

MR. FRANKLIN

You got everything?

RUPERT OWENS

With the talisman in our possession, we have everything now.

Mr. Franklin steps away from the hearse and waves goodbye.

MR. FRANKLIN

Good night then.

Rupert Owens climbs the second hearse and grabs the reins. Heath Cassidy does the same with the third and final hearse. The men spur the horses ahead. Mr. Franklin locks the door.

Berkshire Castle 63.

INT. BERKSHIRE HISTORY MUSEUM - STORAGE AREA

Mr. Franklin enters the storage area. He HEARS something. He investigates and finds Robert behind the crates.

MR. FRANKLIN

What are you doing here?

ROBERT

I came down here on a dare.

MR. FRANKLIN

How long have you been down here?

ROBERT

Two minutes. I came down here and heard you. I ducked behind these crates when you found me.

MR. FRANKLIN

If you accepted a dare, then where is the one who gave you the dare?

ROBERT

What do you mean?

MR. FRANKLIN

I know that you were here with your friends.

(aghast)

They're in the crates!

ROBERT

(adamant)

No they're not! They left when the museum closed.

MR. FRANKLIN

(angry)

Liar! The crates are on their way to the castle.

ROBERT

What is Rupert going to do with them?

MR. FRANKLIN

(knows)

They are in the crates, that of course is problematic for you.

ROBERT

How so?

MR. FRANKLIN

64.

They're locked and stored in the dungeon. If they can't escape, they'll die.

ROBERT

You have to let me go --

MR. FRANKLIN

(shakes head)

No chance me bucko. I let you go and I'll get pinched by the coppers...

ROBERT

If you don't let me go, they'll die! If I disappear in the castle, who will know that you helped them?

MR. FRANKLIN

(thinks)

Your offer intrigues me. So you promise to go straight to the castle to face certain death?

ROBERT

(extends hand)

I do.

MR. FRANKLIN

Then we have an agreement --

Mr. Franklin and Robert shake hands.

ROBERT

(ecstatic)

Thank you! Thank you!

Robert walks to the rear entrance and unlocks it. Mr. Franklin sighs as he watches him leave.

MR. FRANKLIN

Be careful out there lad. There are things that go bump in the night that will kill you --

ROBERT

Thank you and goodbye!

EXT. MORLEY MANOR - DAY

Supt. Howe, Sgt. Dierdrick, Insp. Brown, Insp. McMillan, Cons. Gordon and Cons.

Berkshire Castle 65.

Jaeger all arrive at the home of Lord Morley. Supt. Howe rings the bell. Butler John Hastings answers the door.

JOHN HASTINGS

Good day sir. The master is waiting for you in his parlor. Please come in.

INT. MORLEY MANOR - PARLOR

Supt. Howe and his men enter the parlor where Lord Morley sits and sips a brandy. He looks up, sees Supt. Howe and stands up.

LORD MORLEY

Ah, Superintendant. How are you today?

SUPT. HOWE

I wish I were in a cheerier mood. I'm sad to report that your son Melvyn has been murdered.

LORD MORLEY

(sad)

Melvyn? No! I can't be?

SUPT. HOWE

I'm afraid it is. He was found by the Coroner on Berkshire Castle property.

Lord Morley angrily turns away and smashes his fists together.

LORD MORLEY

That accursed place? What happened to him?

SUPT. HOWE

(beat)

He was beheaded...

Lord Morley touches his throat and turns to Supt. Howe.

LORD MORLEY

Have you seen my daughter Mary?

SUPT. HOWE

No sir, why?

LORD MORLEY

She didn't come home after she went to the Berkshire History Museum.

66.

SUPT. HOWE

The buses returned over two hours ago. No one reported her missing. (beat)

We'll look into it.

Maid Cummings runs into the room in a full panic. Her face is flushed, her clothes are disheveled.

MAID CUMMINGS

Lord Morley!

LORD MORLEY

Yes?

MAID CUMMINGS

There's a beast in the stables!

LORD MORLEY

A what?

MAID CUMMINGS

A short Hairy Beast! It snatched Champion!

Lord Morley moves toward the door. Supt. Howe grabs him by the arm.

SUPT. HOWE

Is Champion your prize steed?

LORD MORLEY

He has won every race he's entered.

SUPT. HOWE

I think it prudent we investigate.

LORD MORLEY

Hurry!

INT. BERKSHIRE CASTLE - BERKSHIRE CASTLE - DUNGEON

Gadsden, Jared, Heath and Rupert Owens carry the crates and place them down on the floor. Gadsden and Jared sit on their crate as Heath and Rupert exit.

GADSDEN

Two down. One to go. What do they want with all the crap in these crates?

JARED

Important items for our rituals. Should we open them?

GADSDEN

Let Lord Howe do that. He knows what he needs.

Rupert Owens and Heath carry a third crate and place it on top of crate number one. Gadsden and Jared stand up.

JARED

Is that it? Are we done?

RUPERT OWENS

That's all. Let's go.

Gadsden and Jared begin to leave as crate number three moves. Heath and Rupert Owens see it and move to the crates.

RUPERT OWENS (CONT'D)

Did you see that?

HEATH

Sure I did.

Rupert Owens steps to the crate, bends down and grabs a crowbar. He thrusts the crowbar into the crate and opens it. Mary Morley gasps as the crate breaks open.

RUPERT OWENS

Who are you?

MARY MORLEY

Mary Morley. Who are you?

RUPERT OWENS

We are the Celtic Circle. Why have you hidden yourself in the trunk?

MARY MORLEY

I gave a dare and was given one in return. We hid in the crates when...

RUPERT OWENS

There's others in the crates?

MARY MORLEY

(nervous)

I hid in the crates. But my friends actually got out before you took them.

68.

Rupert walks and points at the other two crates.

RUPERT OWENS

Okay boys. Let's open the other two and see what we've got?

Gadsden and Jared remove Mary's crate and use the crowbar to open the crate underneath. Jack blinks nervously as Gadsden grabs him and pulls him out of his crate. Heath and Rupert Owens force open the third crate. Billy climbs out and stands amongst them. Gadsden and Heath replace the crate's tops.

Rupert Owens walks to Billy and Jack. Heath, Jared and Gadsden surround them. Rupert grabs Mary by the arm.

RUPERT OWENS (CONT'D)

So what have we here?

BILLY

We hid in the crates when you broke into the Berkshire History Museum. Robert was the only who didn't hide in a crate.

RUPERT OWENS

Who's Robert?

BILLY

A friend of ours. He's gone to the coppers with his story by now.

RUPERT OWENS

(shakes head)

I doubt that lad. Mr. Franklin is a trusted worker. Chances are that he grabbed Robert and is holding him hostage.

BILLY

What a mess we're in.

RUPERT OWENS

(to Jack)

What about you?

JACK

All I know is we hid in the crates where you broke in. Robert had the talisman.

RUPERT OWENS

He has the talisman? What about the one in our possession?

JACK

Just a crude fake created for the museum. It doesn't have any powers...

RUPERT OWENS

You'd better be right.

MARY MORLEY

What are you gonna do with us?

RUPERT OWENS

(looks at Gadsden)

I think an exchange is order. You go back and tell Robert we want to trade for the talisman.

MARY MORLEY

Our talisman for your talisman?

RUPERT OWENS

No, your talisman for your friend's life.

(grabs Mary)

If you fail to bring the talisman, Berkshire Castle will have one more burial.

BILLY

What if they don't go for it?

Rupert Owens unsheaths his dagger and holds it at Mary's throat. Mary is visibly scared.

RUPERT OWENS

Then your friend will die.

Billy waves Jack to him.

BILLY

Come on Jack. We've got an errand to run.

RUPERT OWENS

Hurry back. Timing is critical. You wait too long and her ghost will haunt you.

BILLY

We're only just going. Give us a chance!

Mary wriggles in Rupert Owens' hand.

MARY MORLEY

If you fail and they kill me, I'll haunt you forever!

Jack exits as Billy stops and turns around.

BILLY

We'll be back for you Mary. Don't worry.

Billy exits.

EXT. MORLEY MANOR - STABLES - DAY

Lord Morley races to the stables as Champion EXPLODES out of the stables. Dierdrick climbs GLADIATOR and chases after Champion and the Hairy Beast. Lord Morley mounts a Chestnut named MINNIE.

EXT. MORLEY MANOR - FOOTHILLS - DAY

Champion and the Hairy Beast race for small foothills. The horse foams at the mouth as the beast holds onto his long mane. It hops happily as it clings onto Champion's mane. Gladiator with Sgt. Dierdrick onboard chases Champion through the small foothill area.

EXT. EASTERN MOORS - DAY

Champion races hellbent over dangerous moors where patches of fog make footing treacherous. The Hairy Beast nimbly flips on Champion's back as it clutches the horse's mane. Gladiator and Sgt. Dierdrick chase Champion over the moors. Gladiator trips momentarily and gains his balance.

EXT. EASTERN FOOTHILLS - DAY

Champion races up over steep cloven cloaked grass. His hoofs clop up the steep uneven ground.

Berkshire Castle 71.

A small rocky dolmen appears out of the fog. The Hairy Beast pulls on Champion's mane and the horse stops. The Hairy Beast hops off Champion and into the gathering fog.

EXT. DEACON'S DOLMEN - DAY

The Hairy Beast hobbles inside the small dolmen and disappears. This is Deacon's Dolmen.

Dierdrick pulls on Gladiator's reins and draws the horse to a stop. Dierdrick climbs down off Gladiator as Minnie and Lord Morley arrive. Lord Morley climbs off Minnie as the other officers all arrive on horseback. They soon surround Deacon's Dolmen.

Supt. Howe runs to Deacon's Dolmen that is surrounded by his men. Dierdrick pants heavily as he hobbles to the dolmen. He kneels to the ground to see where the Hairy Beast went.

Supt. Howe walks up behind Dierdrick and grabs his shirt. He pulls Dierdrick away from the Dolmen just as the Hairy Beast swings out its small claw.

SUPT. HOWE

Look out!

SGT. DIERDRICK

Whoa!

Dierdrick withdraws seconds before the Hairy Beast strikes. Dierdrick squints his eyes to see in the darkened recesses of the dolmen.

INSERT - A pair of bright yellow eyes pierce the darkness.

BACK TO SCENE.

SGT. DIERDRICK (CONT'D)

Bugger me! Looky dere!

Supt. Howe sprawls down on his hands and knees and looks inside the darkened dolmen. The beast's yellow eyes shine back at him.

SUPT. HOWE

Hods Bodkins!

Supt. Howe stands to his feet as Lord Morley grabs Champion's reins, pats him on the back and feels the horse's sweat.

LORD MORLEY

That beast nearly killed Champion!

SUPT. HOWE

We've found the little blighter. It won't bother you again.

LORD MORLEY

Do I have your word on that?

SUPT. HOWE

You should take Champion back to his stable. We've got the beast trapped.

LORD MORLEY

(nervous)

Are you sure? Champion is my best horse.

Supt. Howe, Sgt. Dierdrick, Insp. Brown, Insp. McMillan, Cons. Gordon and Cons. Jaeger surround the dolmen. A shadow emerges. MEGHAN MORLEY, enters. She lowers her hood.

MEGHAN MORLEY

What's with all this hubbub father?

LORD MORLEY

Something stole Champion and raced him here to Deacon's Dolmen.

MEGHAN MORLEY

Sounds like Melvyn playing tricks again.

LORD MORLEY

(sad)

He couldn't have done this...

MEGHAN MORLEY

Why not?

LORD MORLEY

Because he and I had angry words a while back. He left without so much as a by your leave...Did he drop by?

MEGHAN MORLEY

It's just me and Harris.

LORD MORLEY

You should come home. With your husband gone and all...

MEGHAN MORLEY

(determined)

Harris and I are fine. We eat what we catch and gather the rest. The moors are plentiful for us.

Supt. Howe walks forward.

SUPT. HOWE

Good evening lass. Have you seen anything on the moors?

MEGHAN MORLEY

Old Man Marley gads about once in a while. Other than that it's like a graveyard, not a living soul for miles!

Sgt. Dierdrick waddles to them.

SGT. DIERDRICK

Evening lass. Have ya seen your brother lately?

MEGHAN MORLEY

Can't say that I have. The last I saw of Melvyn, was a year ago.

SGT. DIERDRICK

I'm sorry to report that Melvyn was killed on Berkshire's property.

MEGHAN MORLEY

(aghast)

That wretched place reeks with death. No same person ever goes there.

SGT. DIERDRICK

Your brother wasn't in his right mind the night he died...

MEGHAN MORLEY

Who killed him?

SGT. DIERDRICK

That's the rub my dear, it's not who killed him, but what killed him.

MEGHAN MORLEY

(sad)

Dogs?

Berkshire Castle 74.

SGT. DIERDRICK

No, he was killed by something...dead.

MEGHAN MORLEY
Do you know how to stop it?

SUPT. HOWE

I wish it were that easy.

(to Lord Morley)

Lord Morley, we're on our way to the castle. Is there anything you require from us before we depart?

LORD MORLEY

No lads.

(hugs Meghan) Get that monster!

SUPT. HOWE

Okay lads. Time to end it! Let's go.

Supt. Howe, Sgt. Dierdrick, Insp. Brown, Insp. McMillan, Cons. Gordon and Cons. Jaeger all exit. Lord Morley and his daughter Meghan watch them leave.

EXT. BERKSHIRE CASTLE - EAST WOODS

Rupert Owens drives the horse drawn hearse toward the castle. The two other hearses slow as they near the drawbridge. Rupert Owens stops the hearse as the night creatures sign their drowsy chorus. He dismounts the hearse with a small lantern in hand.

LORD HOWE

Where are you going?

RUPERT OWENS

We haven't lowered the drawbridge. It'll be nigh impossible to fetch the hearse from the moat don't you think?

LORD HOWE

Lower away.

Rupert Owens walks to the moat's edge and waves his lantern. The drawbridge noisily CLANKS open. Rupert Owens pauses for a moment and then turns back to the hearse and remounts in his seat.

Berkshire Castle

RUPERT OWENS

75.

The castle is quiet. Almost too quiet.

LORD HOWE

Are you expecting any company?

RUPERT OWENS

Not a soul sir. I'm just saying that the Headless Horror haunts the castle. It usually appears on dark quiet nights like this.

LORD HOWE

Let's get inside! We can start our ritual...

RUPERT OWENS

Aye sir.

INT. BERKSHIRE CASTLE - BERKSHIRE CASTLE - DUNGEON

Rupert Owens enters into the dungeon. He lights a small lantern and hangs it on the wall. Mary Morley steps out of the darkness.

MARY MORLEY

What are you doing here?

RUPERT OWENS

Ensuring Berkshire Castle stays in our hands.

MARY MORLEY

(scared)

It's not fair. You better let me go or else...

RUPERT OWENS

Or else what?

MARY MORLEY

Or else I'll kill you!

RUPERT OWENS

Empty words when you yourself are under a death sentence.

MARY MORLEY

Why don't they answer?

Berkshire Castle

RUPERT OWENS

While we wait for your friends to answer, we'd better hide you where you'll be safe.

MARY MORLEY

(confused)

Where are you taking me?

RUPERT OWENS

To the drum towers where they kept the Hairy Beast.

Mary gasps anxiously as she covers her mouth. Rupert Owens smiles at her.

DUNCAN BERKSHIRE

The room is nice and airy. You can make yourself right at home.

MARY MORLEY

But I won't be at home. Just wait til my father hears of this!

Duncan Berkshire closes the door as he and Mary exit.

EXT. BERKSHIRE CASTLE - EAST WOODS

Supt. Howe, Sgt. Dierdrick, Insp. Brown, Insp. McMillan, Cons. Gordon and Cons. Jaeger all emerge from the scrub of the eastern woods. They walk toward three lonesome shadows ahead of them. Robert stands in between Billy and Jack.

SUPT. HOWE

What are you doing here?

ROBERT

Mary's being held hostage inside.

SUPT. HOWE

How'd she get in there?

ROBERT

She hid in a crate in the Berkshire Museum that was taken by some men to the castle.

SUPT. HOWE

She's still in there?

ROBERT

Billy and Jack were released to get my talisman.

Berkshire Castle 77.

SUPT. HOWE

They wanted your talisman? Why would they need that?

ROBERT

They wanted a trade...

SUPT. HOWE

The talisman for Mary?

ROBERT

(beat)

My talisman for the talisman they took from the museum. My talisman is the one they need.

SUPT. HOWE

What could they possibly need with your talisman?

ROBERT

To ward off the Headless Horror.

SUPT. HOWE

I don't savor them wanting your talisman. If they succeed in banishing the beast, they could effectively curse the castle for all time.

ROBERT

What can we do?

SUPT. HOWE

I have an idea.

EXT. BERKSHIRE METALSMITH SHOP - DAY

Supt. Howe walks down the street and up to the Berkshire Metalsmith's shop front door. He reads the shop hours and enters.

INT. BERKSHIRE METALSMITH SHOP

A small bell RINGS as Supt. Howe enters. MR. STIERS, the Berkshire Metalsmith Shop's owner greets him.

MR. STIERS

Good morning sir how may I assist you?

Berkshire Castle

SUPT. HOWE

Yes, my grandfather recently passed away and asked that I make a copy of his treasured talisman.

Supt. Howe pulls Robert's talisman from his pocket and places it on the counter. Mr. Stiers picks up the talisman and rubs it in his hand.

MR. STIERS

Two statant dragon vassals. Each with their claws raised. Reverse side has three hairs infused in it. Why are there hairs in it?

SUPT. HOWE

Grandad never revealed why they were there, he only wanted a duplicate to sit in the niche of the church while we buried the original with him.

MR. STIERS

When is it needed by?

SUPT. HOWE

(pretends to think)
The memorial is Friday, so I'd need it by Thursday, early Friday at the latest.

MR. STIERS

Small trinkets like this are nothing to make. It'll be ready by Thursday. These types of talisman were created to control something through magical means. There's no tool marks on it.

SUPT. HOWE

Grandad was raised as a believer in the old Celtic ways.

MR. STIERS

Do you prefer to pick it up or have it delivered?

SUPT. HOWE

I'll pick it up, that way I only have myself to blame if anything goes wrong.

Berkshire Castle

MR. STIERS

The store closes at seven on Thursday. What's the name you want it kept under?

79.

SUPT. HOWE

Reginald Johnson.

MR. STIERS

Please be prompt, if you're late even one quarter of an hour, I'll be gone.

SUPT. HOWE

Thank you.

Supt. Howe exits. Mr. Stiers walks toward the back of the shop.

INT. BERKSHIRE METALSMITH SHOP - WORKSHOP

Mr. Stiers carries the talisman into the workshop. He places the talisman on a small anvil and grabs a pair of goggles. He dons the goggles and heads back to the anvil where he picks up the talisman in his hand.

MR. STIERS

Now to make something worth remembering....

Mr. Stiers begins to create a false talisman and works diligently for several moments.

EXT. DEACON'S DOLMEN - NIGHT

Deacon's Dolmen is dark, silent and ominous as a pair of glowing yellow eyes peek out from it's darkened niche. The Hairy Beast bursts from underneath the Dolmen and escapes.

The Hairy Beast rolls in the grass and moves toward the moors. The Hairy Beast stops and gets its bearings. It hobbles toward the Eastern Woods ahead.

EXT. BERKSHIRE CASTLE - EAST WOODS - NIGHT

The Hairy Beast hobbles through the scrubby bush. He moves quickly into a large open meadow. The Hairy Beast rolls toward the castle.

Berkshire Castle 80.

EXT. BERKSHIRE CASTLE - DRAWBRIDGE - NIGHT

Jared Smith and Heath Cassidy stand guard at the drawbridge. They keep station as the Hairy Beast rolls up toward them. Jared steps forward as Heath keeps his station.

JARED

What is that?

HEATH

What is what?

Lightning flashes illuminate the castle. The Hairy Beast is visible for a moment. A second flash of lightning blinds them and the Hairy Beast is gone.

JARED

I saw it! A little Hairy Beast, right over there!

HEATH

You're seeing things.

EXT. BERKSHIRE CASTLE - INNER BAILEY

The Hairy Beast rolls into the large Inner Bailey. Rain falls as the Hairy Beast clamors toward a lancet doorway. The Hairy Beast enters the lancet doorway.

INT. BERKSHIRE CASTLE - GREAT HALL

The Hairy Beast hops into the Great Hall and races up the spiral staircase.

INT. SPIRAL STAIRCASE

The Hairy Beast rolls up the stairs and into a small hole in the wall.

EXT. BERKSHIRE METALSMITH SHOP - DAY

Supt. Howe enters the metalsmith shop. He walks to the back where the register is. He RINGS the bell. Mr. Stiers walks out and sees Supt. Howe. He turns around and grabs his completed order.

MR. STIERS

Your order's completed Mr. Johnson. Here it is.

Berkshire Castle 81.

Mr. Stiers hands Supt. Howe the real talisman and the completed talisman. Supt. Howe unwraps the finished talisman and aligns them side by side. He turns them over and views them together.

SUPT. HOWE

Excellent. Grandad will be sent off in grand style. How much do I owe you?

MR. STIERS

Ten pounds.

Supt. Howe reaches in his pocket and pulls out the money. He hands it to Mr. Stiers.

SUPT. HOWE

Here you are with an extra pound for being prompt. Thank you.

MR. STIERS

Thank you sir.

Supt. Howe admires the talisman in his hands. He pockets the real talisman in his front pocket as he exits.

EXT. BERKSHIRE TRAIN DEPOT - NIGHT

Rupert Owens and Heath Cassidy wait as the train arrives. They walk to the waiting passenger car and enter.

INT. TRAIN PASSENGER CAR

Rupert Owens and Heath Cassidy walk down a narrow corridor to a single door at the end of the car. The butler JAMES CALDWELL stands at the door.

JAMES CALDWELL

Good evening gentlemen. Are you Heath Cassidy and Rupert Owens?

HEATH CASSIDY

Yes we are.

James Caldwell OPENS the door.

JAMES CALDWELL

Right this way sir. Lord Howe is waiting for you.

Heath Cassidy and Rupert Owens enter the room. James Caldwell closes the door behind them.

Berkshire Castle 82.

INT. TRAIN - DARK CHAMBER

Duncan and Rupert Owens enter a dark smoky room. A single light high above them illuminates a table filled with prepared food. A single man sits at the table ahead of them, this is LORD HOWE.

LORD HOWE

Greetings gentlemen.

HEATH CASSIDY

Why have you called us here?

LORD HOWE

I have called you to enlist your help.

HEATH CASSIDY

For what your Lordship?

Lord Howe gestures to the table as he stands up.

LORD HOWE

Sit down. We can talk as we eat.

Heath Cassidy and Rupert Owens both sit down on either side of the table and begin to eat. Heath Cassidy grabs some Steak Wellington. Rupert Owens eats some Quail. They both sigh as the sink their teeth into the food.

HEATH CASSIDY

The Steak Wellington is magnificent!

LORD HOWE

I'm glad you like it. Steak Wellington is my favorite.

RUPERT OWENS

The Quail is first rate.

LORD HOWE

I have need of you to fulfill my ends. Have you brought your hoods?

Duncan and Rupert Owens both hold up their hooded cloaks.

RUPERT OWENS

Right here.

LORD HOWE

When you are finished, go to the baggage car and unload my effects.

Berkshire Castle 83.

RUPERT OWENS

What happens then?

LORD HOWE

You will take my effects to the castle. I will follow later, after the depot has cleared out.

RUPERT OWENS

When would you like us to go to the baggage car?

LORD HOWE

Now would suffice. The man there will help you load all my effects. Take them to the castle. Once I meet up with you, we'll begin the ritual to cleanse the castle from the scourge of the unbelievers...

RUPERT OWENS

At once sire.

Rupert Owens stands up and pushes his chair out. Heath Cassidy stands up across from him. They both head to the baggage car.

HEATH CASSIDY

We shall begin at once. Is there anything else you require?

LORD HOWE

Only one thing...

HEATH CASSIDY

What's that?

LORD HOWE

A talisman to hold the Headless Horror at bay.

HEATH CASSIDY

I shall enquire at once.

EXT. LONELY LANE - NIGHT

Rupert Owens drives a small glass hearse down a lonely road. The moon illuminates his course as Heath Cassidy and Lord Howe sit atop the glass hearse's seats.

Berkshire Castle 84.

RUPERT OWENS

We have prepared the castle for your arrival. Is there anything else in particular that we need?

LORD HOWE

Only one thing...Fresh blood.

Rupert Owens spurs the horses ahead into the moonlight.

INT. BERKSHIRE CASTLE - SANCTUARY

Lord Howe, dressed in his red hooded cloak walks toward a large wooden door surrounded by burning candles. Clive, Heath, Jared and Geoff all hold single candles in their hands as they walk toward the sacred ritual chamber. Lord Howe stops at the door.

INT. BERKSHIRE CASTLE - BERKSHIRE CASTLE - DUNGEON

The Headless Horror angrily stomps out of the darkness and growls. It plods methodically through the castle corridors.

INT. BERKSHIRE CASTLE - RITUAL CHAMBER

Lord Howe walks amongst Clive, Heath, Jared and Geoff as Rupert Owens enters the room. The room is dark and ominous.

HEATH CASSIDY

Where does this lead my Lord?

LORD HOWE

To the ritual chamber where we shall secure our control over Berkshire for all time.

HEATH CASSIDY

What do you need?

LORD HOWE

(smiles, beckons)

Bring the girl.

CLIVE

At once sire.

Clive and Geoff bow and quickly exit.

Berkshire Castle 85.

INT. BERKSHIRE CASTLE - DRUM TOWER - GAOL CELL

Mary sits on her butt and cries as the sky storms outside her window. She buries her head in her knees as a soft noise draws her attention.

Mary picks her head up as the Hairy Beast crawls out of a small hole in the wall. The Hairy Beast hobbles to Mary and takes her by the hand.

INT. BERKSHIRE CASTLE - DRUM TOWER

Clive and Geoff walk to the outside of the drum tower gaol cell. Clive pulls out a large set of keys and opens the gaol door.

INT. BERKSHIRE CASTLE - DRUM TOWER - GAOL CELL

The door swings open to reveal Mary and the Hairy Beast as they disappear into the small hole in the wall. Clive chases them to the hole.

CLIVE

Stop!

Clive turns to Geoff who spins back toward the hallway.

GEOFF

They're on the move!

INT. BERKSHIRE CASTLE - SPIRAL STAIRCASE

Clive and Geoff race down the stairs. They leap off the stairs and into the Great Hall.

INT. BERKSHIRE CASTLE - GREAT HALL

Clive and Geoff run through the Great Hall as they race to a hole in the small corner of the western wall.

INT. BERKSHIRE CASTLE - CATACOMB CORRIDOR

The Hairy Beast and Mary race down a dark, foreboding corridor which illuminated by small bright light. Mary races past the hole and Clive grabs her. Mary panics as the Hairy Beast bites Clive's hand and frees her. The Hairy Beast and Mary race into the darkness ahead.

Berkshire Castle 86.

INT. BERKSHIRE CASTLE - GREAT HALL

Clive screams and withdraws his arm from the darkened hole. His hand is bloody from the Hairy Beast's bite.

CLIVE

(angry)

She bit me!

Geoff inspects Clive's hand.

GEOFF

The beast did that. Where'd they go?

CLIVE

Down toward the ritual chamber.

Clive waves Geoff to follow him and they exit the Great Hall.

INT. BERKSHIRE CASTLE - SPIRAL STAIRCASE

Clive and Geoff race down the spiral staircase back to the secret ritual chamber.

EXT. BERKSHIRE CASTLE - DRAWBRIDGE

Supt. Howe, Sgt. Dierdrick and the other police officers exit their vans. Supt. Howe gathers them together. Robert, Billy and Jack all jump out together.

SUPT. HOWE

Brown! McMillan. Gordon. Jaeger. We have to find the sacred ritual chamber. That's where they'll be.

SGT. DIERDRICK

Why dere sahr?

SUPT. HOWE

That's where they'll be conducting their ritual....

SGT. DIERDRICK

Whar do you want us?

SUPT. HOWE

We need to break into three teams. (waves to Robert)

Robert come here!

Berkshire Castle 87.

Robert, Billy and Jack all run to Supt. Howe and gather together with them in a large circle.

ROBERT

What is it?

SUPT. HOWE

We need to break up into three distinct groups. Every group will have two officers and one of you.

ROBERT

How will do we choose which one of us goes with you?

Supt. Howe smiles and reaches into his pocket and pulls out a pair of matches. He breaks one in two and leaves the second one intact.

SUPT. HOWE

Here's how we'll do it. Whoever picks the intact match pairs up with me and Dierdrick. Whoever picks the match stick's head goes with Brown and McMillan. The one who gets the match stick without the head goes with Gordon and Jaeger.

Robert, Billy and Jack close their eyes as Supt. Howe raises his hand with the match sticks in it. Jack scoops the plain match stick. Billy picks the complete match stick as Robert picks the broken match stick head.

SUPT. HOWE (CONT'D)
Okay lads we have our teams. Jack,
you go with Gordon and Jaeger.
Billy you're with Dierdrick and me.
Robert me lad, you're with Brown
and McMillan.

INSPECTOR BROWN

We have our teams, but where to start?

SUPT. HOWE

That's a good question. Gordon, Jaeger, you take Jack and cover the Moors. McMillan and Brown, you take Robert and scour the dungeon. Dierdrick, Billy and I will inspect the upper apartments.

Berkshire Castle 88.

INSPECTOR BROWN What if we find anything?

SUPT. HOWE Mark and categorize it. We'll be back to check on it later. Okay lads let's get to work!

INT. CATACOMBS - CORNERSTONE CRYPT

The Hairy Beast and Mary race toward a smaller chamber. Mary lags behind the Hairy Beast as her eyes adapt to the dark. She sees skeletal remains ahead. The Hairy Beast stands on the backbone of a murder victim.

MARY MORLEY

What is that?

Mary walks to the Hairy Beast and pushes him off the bones as she inspects them. The Hairy Beast sniffs at the bones as Mary digs into the dirt. Pieces of bone break off in her hand.

MARY MORLEY (CONT'D) (surprised)
Is this the building sacrifice that originally cursed the castle?

The Hairy Beast pats the bones in somber remembrance. A sound behind them spooks them as the darkened corridor fills with bright blue light. Mary turns around and sees the Headless Horror behind her. Mary screams and runs into the darkness ahead as the Hairy Beast jolts alert and chases after her. The Headless Horror STRIKES where the Hairy Beast stood.

INT. CATACOMBS - WINDING CORRIDOR - CONTINUOUS

Mary and the Hairy Beast race down the winding corridor, terror-stricken. The Headless Horror chases them and breaks off pieces of rock and bone.

INT. CATACOMBS - WHITE ALABASTER CORRIDOR - CONTINUOUS

Mary and the Hairy Beast race into a pure white corridor where the Headless Horror chases them and suddenly falls, unable to stand and chase them. Mary sees the White Sepulcher entrance and enters, followed by the Hairy Beast.

Berkshire Castle 89.

INT. BERKSHIRE CASTLE - WHITE SEPULCHER

Mary stares in awe as she walks around the small holy sepulcher. A small babbling brook gurgles and flows through the small white sepulcher. Mary walks to the brook and marvels at it. The Hairy Beast hobbles to the brook and gazes at the water surface. He squeals and backs away. Mary smiles and chortles at him.

MARY MORLEY
Silly goose! That's only your

reflection. Go ahead, look at yourself again.

The Hairy Beast sneaks back to the brook and stares in wonder at its own reflection.

INSERT - HAIRY BEAST'S REFLECTION

We see the Hairy Beast's face on the surface of the water. He gently touches his face in utter amazement.

BACK TO SCENE

Mary walks to the Hairy Beast and watches him marvel at himself.

MARY MORLEY (CONT'D)

You can drink some water if you'd like.

The Hairy Beast stops staring at his reflection and scoops out a handful of water which he drinks. Bare skin appears on his hand. The Hairy Beast shrieks in terror, stumbles over the rocks that line the brook and falls on his back. Mary tries to calm him down.

MARY MORLEY (CONT'D)

What's the matter?

Mary sees the Hairy Beast's hand and gasps.

MARY MORLEY (CONT'D)

The water did that to you? Drink some more.

The Hairy Beast dives into the water and his hairy body sheds its fur and becomes smooth. Skin replaces the Hairy Beast's furry overgrowth as it drinks in several more handfuls of water. The Hairy Beast's fur clumps off into the water, he stands up and turns around.

HARRY BERKSHIRE (grunt)....Grr. Where am I?

MARY MORLEY

You're in the white sepulcher...(Gasp)! Did you just say something?

HARRY BERKSHIRE

(nods)

The first words I have spoken in over three hundred years...

MARY MORLEY

Hods Bodkins! You can talk!

HARRY BERKSHIRE

Yes I can. What do we do about the Headless Horror? He's still out there you know?

Mary kneels and scoops up a handful of water. She drinks it and then scoops up a second handful and dowses herself with it. Harry scoops up a handful and drinks it, then he scoops up a second handful and dowses himself with it.

MARY MORLEY

This should give us some protection. The beast can't enter here.

Harry turns to Lorna Berkshire's glass coffin. Lorna Berkshire holds a perfectly preserved white lily. The alabaster walls illuminate the sepulcher. Harry stares at Lorna Berkshire's nearly white skin.

HARRY BERKSHIRE

She's amazing, isn't she?

MARY MORLEY

She rests in her perfectly white sepulcher.

Harry turns toward a far wall and sees a small white box. He walks to it and picks it up. He opens it and shows it to Mary. A small jewel encrusted ceremonial dagger with a hidden compartment in its hilt glimmers in the small box. Harry removes the dagger and unscrews the hilt's secret compartment. He reads a small inscription on the box's inside.

HARRY BERKSHIRE

This dagger holds the doom of the Headless Horror. All that is needed is water, courage and a steady hand.

(to Mary)
(MORE)

Berkshire Castle

HARRY BERKSHIRE (CONT'D)

91.

This inscription says that we can defeat the Headless Horror. 'All that is needed is water, courage and a steady hand.'

Mary glances to the babbling brook and smiles.

MARY MORLEY

Harry! Fill the dagger's hilt with the water. Then all you need to do is stab the Headless Horror and the dagger will do all the rest!

Harry walks to the brook and lowers the dagger into the water. The dagger's hilt fills with water. Harry screws the hilt's cap on tight and turns back toward Mary.

HARRY BERKSHIRE

It's filled. Now what?

MARY MORLEY

Time to find the Headless Horror...

INT. BERKSHIRE CASTLE - SECONDARY CORRIDOR

Clive and Geoff walk toward the end of the corridor. They turn down a darkened corridor.

INT. BERKSHIRE CASTLE - DARKENED CORRIDOR

Clive and Geoff sneak down the corridor. They walk cautiously through the darkness.

INT. BERKSHIRE CASTLE - WHITE ALABASTER CORRIDOR

Mary and Harry both walk out of the White Sepulcher. Mary walks down the corridor as Harry holds onto the jewel-encrusted dagger.

INT. BERKSHIRE CASTLE - INTERSECTION

Mary and Harry both trudge along until they arrive at the intersection of a pair of corridors. Mary walks nervously as she HEARS Clive and Geoff talk. She stands against the wall as Clive and Geoff both turn the corner in front of her. Harry stops as Clive and Geoff stop directly in front of him. Clive steps forward and sees Harry.

CLIVE

There you are! (to Geoff)

I got him!

Harry raises his dagger and stabs Clive in the hand. Clive clutches his injured hand and falls to the floor. Geoff spots Mary against the wall and steps toward her. Mary jumps out into the corridor behind Harry. Geoff steps toward Harry.

GEOFF

I got you now!

Harry reacts and stabs Geoff's arm as he sprints into the darkness. Mary follows him into the darkness. Geoff holds his injured arm.

CLIVE

Did he stab you?

GEOFF

Yes, where'd he stab you?

CLIVE

(holds hand)

In the hand.

GEOFF

Wrap it up and follow me. They're headed for the ritual chambers!

INT. RITUAL CHAMBERS - SANCTUARY

Lord Howe, Rupert Owens and Heath Cassidy stand before a desecrated bloodstained altar. Vines wrap around the rocky altar.

LORD HOWE

It is time.

RUPERT OWENS

For what?

LORD HOWE

To prepare a glorious future.

RUPERT OWENS

How will we accomplish that?

LORD HOWE

By the infusion of blood.

Berkshire Castle 93.

RUPERT OWENS

That is hard to do without a blood donor.

LORD HOWE

We'll have one soon.

INT. BERKSHIRE CASTLE - SPOOKY CORRIDOR

A dark, creepy corridor winds into the darkness. The corridor fills with wispy, ghostly orbs that float, undulate and absorb into the walls and floor. Voices waft through the corridor.

MALE GHOST (O.S.)

...it comes....

FEMALE GHOST (O.S.)

Beware the horror!

The Headless Horror stomps down the corridor. The orbs disperse at its approach. The Headless Horror stomps ahead and swings at the orbs which disappear before, behind and around it.

MALE GHOST (O.S.)

Vile beast!

FEMALE GHOST (O.S.)

Monster.

INT. BERKSHIRE CASTLE - UPPER APARTMENTS

Supt. Howe, Sgt. Dierdrick and Billy walk through a once pristine apartment. The room holds tattered covers, rusted candelabras and rotted wood. Billy moves toward a darkened niche.

INT. BERKSHIRE CASTLE - DARKENED NICHE

Billy inspects the niche. A rotten bookcase lines the niche. Rotten and tattered books sit covered with cobwebs. A small wooden chest lies inside a dark hole. Billy reaches inside and grabs it. He pulls it out and struggles with it to the floor. Supt. Howe and Sgt. Dierdrick both run to Billy's side. They help him to his feet and stare at the chest.

SUPT. HOWE

Another chest?

Berkshire Castle 94.

SGT. DIERDRICK

I wonder if it might be the second twin's skull? You know, like the first one we found?

BILLY

I think so.

SGT. DIERDRICK

Then let's find da others....

INT. BERKSHIRE CASTLE - SKULLERY

Several torches burn in their holders and illuminate hundreds of skulls lay in the large sepulcher. Harry and Mary enter and become mesmerized by the sheer volume of skulls. Harry walks toward a small niche with several odd shaped and broken skulls where he picks up and examines one.

HARRY BERKSHIRE

Hods Bodkins. What are these doing here?

MARY MORLEY

(gasps)

There's hundreds of them!

HARRY BERKSHIRE

Probably thousands. All victims of Iain Berkshire! Where do we go?

MARY MORLEY

(shrugs)

I don't know?

Mary searches for an opening as Harry places the skull back in the niche. He pockets the dagger and walks around the sepulcher. He examines the sepulcher and pushes and pulls on certain parts of the wall.

Mary moves forward and touches the wall. She steps onto large rock which shifts beneath her foot and sinks into the floor. Mary gasps as a loud rumble pierces the darkness. Harry slowly walks to Mary and embraces her. A door slides open before them.

HARRY BERKSHIRE

Well done Mary. Follow me.

Harry steps forward into an abysmal darkness and steps back and grabs a torch from its holder. Harry steps back into the open door.

Berkshire Castle 95.

Mary shuffles her feet and steps off the large rock. The rock slowly rises and the door begins to close. Harry waves Mary to him.

HARRY BERKSHIRE (CONT'D)

Hurry Mary!

Mary races toward the closing door and jumps into the darkness just before the door closes behind her.

EXT. MOORS - WITCHES HEARTH

Old Man Marley stands next to a raging bonfire and a small cart with several dead bodies on it. Old Man Marley grabs one and throws it on the fire. The body becomes engulfed in flames.

Cons. Jaeger, Cons. Gordon and Jack hide behind a large tree as Old Man Marley dances a strange minuet. He dances and prances as he throws another body on the fire.

OLD MAN MARLEY

Them's bodies burn best by far! And I laughs with a hearty hardy har har!

Old Man Marley spins in ghoulish delight until a garish blue light appears behind him. Old Man Marley spins around and beholds the Headless Horror which STRIKES Old Man Marley in the gut. Old Man Marley collapses to the ground and crawls along the ground as the Headless Horror towers over him and STRIKES Old Man Marley in the back and paralyzes him.

Cons. Jaeger, Cons. Gordon and Jack all watch spellbound as Old Man Marley screams for his life. Cons. Gordon steps forward and Cons. Jaeger restrains him.

PC JAEGER

Where you going mate?

PC GORDON

To stop this!

PC JAEGER

And how do you think you'll do that?

PC GORDON

We have to do some --

PC JAEGER

(cuts in)

Not bloody likely mate. (MORE)

PC JAEGER (CONT'D)

That thing will decapitate you like a dandelion.

JACK

Then how do we stop it?

PC JAEGER

(sighs)

Let nature take its course.

JACK

You mean stay here and doing NOTHING?

PC JAEGER

That's exactly what I'm saying.

PC GORDON

What happens when it finds us?

PC JAEGER

Let's worry about that later. Right now, we have a chance to stop it.

The Headless Horror raises its talons and cuts off Old Man Marley's head. Jack covers his eyes. Cons. Gordon and Cons. Jaeger both turn away. The Headless Horror stomps away into the night. Cons. Jaeger taps Cons. Gordon on the shoulder.

PC JAEGER (CONT'D)

It's leaving! Come on!

INT. BERKSHIRE CASTLE - SECRET PASSAGE

Harry and Mary move toward the opposite end of the passage an toward a large barred doorway pilfered with cobwebs. Several skeletons surround the door, all crushed by some extreme force.

INT. BERKSHIRE CASTLE - BARRED DOORWAY

Large iron bars frame a large stone door which is surrounded by several stone effigies which hold a set of polished eyes. The effigies are a horse, a dog, a cat, a moose and a lion. The lion is missing its right eye. Harry turns back to Mary.

HARRY BERKSHIRE

Do you see the effigies?

MARY MORLEY

What are they?

Berkshire Castle

HARRY BERKSHIRE

97.

Looks like a dog, a cat, a moose, a horse and a lion.

MARY MORLEY

Why are they here?

Harry holds up the torch and sees the lion's eye is missing.

HARRY BERKSHIRE

The effigies have orbs for eyes. The lion is missing one. Replace it an we can move on.

Harry and Mary search for the missing orb. Harry holds the torch in his right hand as he feels around with his left. Mary searches in between the rocks. She pushes and pulls the rocks in a frantic manner.

Harry moves around the bars and searches for the orb. He searches and thinks he finds it, only to throw back a highly polished rock.

Harry walks back and forth around the bars in a desperate search for the orb. A sparkle catches his eye.

INSERT - ORB

As it sparkles in between two large rocks. It looks hopelessly stuck between them.

RETURN TO SCENE

Harry pulls at the orb with his left hand. He doesn't budge it and turns to Mary.

HARRY BERKSHIRE (CONT'D)

Mary? I found the orb, but its stuck.

Mary walks over to Harry and kneels by the rocks and digs for the orb. Mary strains mightily as the rocks gently shift and the orb come out from between the rocks. She stands up and hands Harry the rock.

MARY MORLEY

Here you are.

Harry grimaces as he feels the slime that covers the orb. He wipes it on his shirt and walks to the lion effigy. Mary stands up and follows Harry to the lion effigy where Harry slides the orb into the effigy's eye socket. A large rumble resounds within the darkness as the iron bars retract into the ceiling above them. The stone door moans open.

Berkshire Castle 98.

Harry catches his breath as the door moans open. Mary stands behind him with her hands on his shoulder. Their torch illuminates the area behind the door. They slowly enter the gruesome tomb sepulcher.

INT. BERKSHIRE CASTLE - DUNGEON

Insp. Brown, Insp. McMillan and Robert all enter the darkened dungeon. Only a few flickering torches illuminate the dungeon.

INSPECTOR BROWN

There isn't enough light down here to see squat!

Insp. McMillan walks to a large arch. He walks through the arch and turns.

INSPECTOR MCMILLAN

There's a doorway here.

INSPECTOR BROWN

Where does it go?

INSPECTOR MCMILLAN

I don't know.

(to Billy)

Billy come here.

Billy walks to Insp. McMillan.

BILLY

Yes?

Insp. McMillan waves Billy to him. They stand in the archway. They walk to the door.

INSPECTOR MCMILLAN

Watch yourselves!

Insp. McMillan steps to the door. He grabs the door handle and opens the door. Billy steps lightly behind him as they enter. Insp. Brown steps to the door, pauses and then enters the Skullery.

INT. BERKSHIRE CASTLE - SKULLERY

Insp. Brown, Insp. McMillan and Billy walk toward an open door on the floor. Insp. McMillan kneels and inspects the open door. Billy looks around and inspects the skulls around him.

BILLY

What is this?

INSPECTOR BROWN

A sepulcher of some sort. There's over one hundred skulls in here.

BILLY

Why would anyone have a place like this?

INSPECTOR MCMILLAN

To hide their sins. Murder being chief among them.

BILLY

All these people were murdered?

INSPECTOR BROWN

Possibly. But we digress.

(to Insp. McMillan)

Mr. McMillan follow that corridor.

INT. BERKSHIRE CASTLE - GRUESOME TOMB SEPULCHER

Harry and Mary enter the tomb which is pilfered with cobwebs. Several tombstones and vaults sit inside the dark tomb. A large green mausoleum with a hooded skeletal angel stands on one side of the tomb. The green blocks glow eerily as Harry and Mary step toward a small iron doorway. A small parchment lays on the floor. Harry steps forward and scoops up the parchment. He reads from it.

HARRY BERKSHIRE

Despoilers of the tomb beware. The Angel of Death guards Lord Berkshire's tomb. Do not stare into its eyes or be caught in its cold embrace, for you will die in pure disgrace.

Mary moves toward the tomb's iron doors. Harry folds the parchment and pockets it. He walks directly behind Mary who stops in front of the gate. They stand there for a long moment.

Noises erupt behind them as Clive and Geoff run up behind them. Geoff wraps Harry in his arms as Clive grabs Mary by the arm.

GEOFF

Gotcha!

Berkshire Castle 100.

CLIVE Come here you!

Harry and Mary struggle mightily as they fight against their captors. Harry spins as Geoff holds him tight. They spin several times until they slam against the wall of the gruesome tomb. Mary claws at Clive's grip.

Harry lifts his legs to make himself heavier. Geoff struggles with Harry's weight and finally drops him. Harry rolls toward the gate as Geoff scrapes against the hooded skeletal angel of death.

Geoff rears against the statue, dusts himself off and steps toward Harry. The statue suddenly comes alive and reaches out and squeezes Geoff who gasps for breath as the statue crushes the life out of him. The statue releases Geoff's body which slumps to the ground. Mary continues to claw at Clive's hand. Harry runs and slams himself into Clive which breaks his grip on Mary.

Mary races to the gate as Clive swings at Harry who ducks the first swing. We HEAR a whoosh. Harry circles away from Clive as he swings again.

Harry continues to duck away from Clive as Mary hides behind the tomb and kneels down on a rotten board. Mary instantly stands up and grabs the board.

Mary watches Clive close in on Harry as he runs out of room. Clive swings and strikes him. Harry falls to the ground and Clive towers over him. Harry moans softly as Clive gloats over him.

CLIVE (CONT'D)
You're mine now!

Clive reaches for Harry as Mary BLASTS Clive in the back with the board. The board shatters into several pieces and Clive falls to the floor. Mary runs and grabs Harry by the hand and heads to the tomb's gate. Clive sprawls on the floor directly in front of the angel of death and pushes himself up as the angel of death stares and hisses at him.

Clive feels something behind him, turns and meets the Angel of Death's gaze. Clive shudders as his skin turns a sickly green. Several seconds later, Clive slumps dead to the ground. Harry and Mary push through the tomb's gate.

Berkshire Castle 101.

INT. BERKSHIRE CASTLE - RITUAL CHAMBERS - SANCTUARY

Lord Howe, Heath Cassidy, Gadsden, Rupert Owens and Jared Smith stand nervously in the chambers as the darkness around them pulses. A pale blue light appears behind Jared and Heath.

The Headless Horror steps forward and kills Heath. Jared races from the Headless Horror. Lord Howe and Rupert Owens step toward a nearby doorway. Jared runs past Rupert Owens to the nearby doorway and opens it.

Lord Howe and Rupert Owens stumble back as the door yawns open. Jared exits hurriedly. The Headless Horror plods forward and grabs Rupert Owens by the neck.

Rupert Owens struggles to free himself. Rupert Owens kicks and screams as the Headless Horror holds him aloft into the air. Rupert Owns claws at his throat.

The Headless Horror holds Rupert Owens aloft as he crushes his throat. Rupert Owens slumps in his hand. The Headless Horror throws Rupert Owens' body into a nearby wall. The Headless Horror rears up and ROARS into the darkness.

EXT. RAZED CHURCH - NIGHT

Supt. Howe, Sgt. Dierdrick and Billy walk toward the Razed Church. They move forward as Cons. Jaeger, Cons. Gordon and Jack run from the other side of the Razed Church.

SUPT. HOWE

Gordon? Jaeger? What have you found?

PC JAEGER

We found the Headless Horror sir.

SUPT. HOWE

How did you escape?

PC JAEGER

We were at a safe distance when it killed Old Man Marley.

SUPT. HOWE

Old Man Marley's dead?

PC JAEGER

The beast killed him as he was burning dead bodies.

Berkshire Castle 102.

SUPT. HOWE

Were there any left?

PC GORDON

Several I believe. We left when it took off.

SUPT. HOWE

We'll have to snag a few for autopsy matches. In the meanwhile, we have a case to solve.

INT. BERKSHIRE CASTLE - SKULLERY

Lord Howe, Gadsden and Jared climb through the small trapdoor. They move hurriedly toward the dungeon.

INT. BERKSHIRE CASTLE - DUNGEON

Lord Howe races ahead of Gadsden and Jared. He trips over items on the floor in the dark.

LORD HOWE

Come on you lot!

JARED

Is it still after us?

LORD HOWE

I dare say that beast won't be happy until we're cold, dead and headless.

JARED

Hurry up, I think I hear it.

INT. BERKSHIRE CASTLE - SKULLERY

The Headless Horror climbs into the small confines of the Skullery and stops. It turns and grabs a skull and holds it in its hand. The Headless Horror CRUSHES the skull and ROARS. The Headless Horror plods toward the dungeon and his quarry.

INT. BERKSHIRE CASTLE - GREAT HALL

Lord Howe, Gadsden and Jared race through the Great Hall and race toward the exit.

Berkshire Castle 103.

INT. BERKSHIRE CASTLE - DUNGEON

The Headless Horror plods ahead and smashes everything in its wake. It growls angrily as it chases its prey.

EXT. RAZED CHURCH - NIGHT

Supt. Howe, Sgt. Dierdrick, Insp. Brown, Insp. McMillan, Cons. Gordon and Cons. Jaeger, Robert, Billy and Jack all kneel or sit in a semi-circle around the church's exit.

INT. RAZED CHURCH - LOWER LEVEL

Harry and Mary emerge from a crag in the wall of the lower crypts. They race toward the spiral stairs that leads to the desecrated sanctuary.

INT. RAZED CHURCH - DESECRATED SANCTUARY

Harry and Mary race toward the shattered altar. They are out of breath. Harry leads Mary behind the shattered altar.

HARRY BERKSHIRE Stay here. I'm sure it'll be here soon. Whatever happens, stay hidden.

Mary's eyes bulge and she nervously nods her head. Harry shuffles to a large pile of crushed stone pews where he lays down onto his stomach on the floor.

INT. RAZED CHURCH - LOWER LEVEL

The Headless Horror climbs through the crag in the wall. It stops and inspects the stone effigies. When he doesn't see Harry and Mary, he moves toward the stairs.

EXT. RAZED CHURCH - NIGHT

Lord Howe, Gadsden and Jared all run toward the Razed Church where Supt. Howe has laid a trap. They move a mere ten yards and Supt. Howe stands up.

SUPT. HOWE

Don't move.

Lord Howe stops as he recognizes the voice.

Berkshire Castle 104.

LORD HOWE Is that you brother?

Supt. Howe steps forward as Sgt. Dierdrick, Insp. Brown, Insp. McMillan, Cons. Gordon and Cons. Jaeger all step forward with Robert, Billy and Jack at their side.

Sgt. Dierdrick and the other officers surround Lord Howe, Jared and Gadsden in a closed circle. Robert, Billy and Jack huddle together. We HEAR distant thunder.

SUPT. HOWE

It is I, brother. Your foul enterprise is at an end.

LORD HOWE

If I were you I wouldn't rest here too much longer...

SUPT. HOWE

Why is that?

LORD HOWE

The Headless Horror seeks our lives.

INT. RAZED CHURCH - DESECRATED SANCTUARY

Harry hides beneath a shattered stone pew. Mary cowers behind the desecrated altar. The Headless Horror angrily stomps his feet as it searches for Harry and Mary.

Harry stirs nervously under the shattered stone pew. Mary cowers behind the desecrated altar.

The Headless Horror stomps toward the desecrated altar. It scans the area for any sign of Harry and Mary.

EXT. BERKSHIRE CASTLE - MEADOW - NIGHT

Supt. Howe, Sgt. Dierdrick, Insp. Brown, Insp. McMillan, Cons. Gordon and Cons. Jaeger take Lord Howe, Jared and Heath into custody. Lightning flashes and we HEAR thunder roar across the sky.

LORD HOWE

Make haste, the beast is nigh.

SUPT. HOWE

Why did you need Robert's talisman

Berkshire Castle 105.

LORD HOWE

We needed to control the beast and make it do our bidding.

SUPT. HOWE

Why?

LORD HOWE

So we could keep control over our lands forever. The Celtic Council was formed to preserve the old ways, the only life we knew...

SUPT. HOWE

Perverted twerp!

LORD HOWE

If the Headless Horror catches us you won't judge me so harshly. I did it to protect us.

SUPT. HOWE

Where are Harry and Mary?

LORD HOWE

I don't know their fate. Geoff and Clive had them. They could be dead for all I know.

Supt. Howe grabs Lord Howe by the handcuffs and pushes him ahead into the darkness. Insp. Brown escorts Gadsden ahead as Cons. Gordon escorts Jared ahead into the darkness.

SUPT. HOWE

You'd better pray they're still alive, because if the Headless Horror doesn't kill you, I will!

Supt. Howe pushes Lord Howe ahead and is followed by Sgt. Dierdrick. Insp. Brown pushes Gadsden ahead as Insp. McMillan follows him. Cons. Gordon escorts Jared as Cons. Jaeger, Robert, Billy and Jack keep pace as they disappear into the darkness ahead.

INT. RAZED CHURCH - DESECRATED SANCTUARY

The Headless Horror stomps closer to Harry's hiding spot. Mary grows nervous and peeks from her spot. The Headless Horror spots and chases her. Mary races from the desecrated altar as the Headless Horror stomps after her and passes Harry. Harry reaches out and trips the Headless Horror which crashes into a heap.

Berkshire Castle 106.

Mary runs into the darkness. Harry slides out from underneath his hiding spot. The Headless Horror shakes off the crash, stands up and stalks after Harry.

Harry backs away as the Headless Horror prepares to pounce. Harry breaks into a dead run as the Headless Horror chases after him.

Mary runs toward the spiral stairs and hides in a niche nearby. Harry blindly runs down the stairs with the Headless Horror in hot pursuit.

INT. RAZED CHURCH - SPIRAL STAIRCASE

Harry races down the darkened staircase. He glances behind him and CRASHES into something. Harry flails to the floor before he looks up at what he ran into.

The Headless Horror rears up and angrily howls at him. Harry crab walks up the stairs.

The Headless Horror stalks down the stairs, sees Harry on floor and steps forward and towers above Harry. Harry can only stare as the Headless Horror swings at him. The Headless Horror's clawed hand SPARKS as it strikes the ground. Harry anxiously scrambles to his feet and races up the staircase.

INT. RAZED CHURCH - DESECRATED SANCTUARY

Harry races past Mary who hides herself in the nearby niche. Mary climbs out of the niche as she recognizes Harry. He steps out and in front of the Headless Horror which is only steps behind Harry.

MARY MORLEY Harry? Is it gone?

Harry tries to stop but slides into a nearby stone pew. He anxiously looks up and sees a blue aura glow behind Mary.

HARRY BERKSHIRE Mary look out! Behind you!

The Headless Horror steps forward and grabs Mary by the arm. Harry takes the jewel encrusted dagger from his pocket, runs to the Headless Horror and STABS its arm with the dagger. Harry quickly removes the dagger and steps away. The Headless Horror ROARS in agony as Mary SCREAMS, rips her arm free and races for the desecrated altar.

Berkshire Castle 107.

EXT. RAZED CHURCH - NIGHT

Supt. Howe pushes Lord Howe ahead as Mary's scream SHATTERS the silence. Supt. Howe anxiously looks about and barks out orders.

SUPT. HOWE

Mr. Brown, Mr. Gordon, hang onto our prisoners. Mr. Dierdrick, mind my brother. I'm going to see where that scream came from.

Robert runs to Supt. Howe and points.

ROBERT

It sounded like it came from inside the Razed Church.

Supt. Howe smiles and pats Robert on the head.

SUPT. HOWE

Thank you lad. You stay here. I'm going to find Harry and Mary.

Robert hops in place as he watches Supt. Howe race ahead into the darkness. Robert grows impatient. He jogs ahead as Billy and Jack grabs him by the arms.

BILLY

Where do you think you're going?

ROBERT

(tugs at arms)

To help Supt. Howe.

JACK

What do you think will happen to you?

ROBERT

I don't know. I haven't gone yet.

JACK

That's right. And you're not gonna go.

ROBERT

But Supt. Howe needs me.

JACK

Not bloody likely mate. He's got a better chance at stopping that thing than you do?

Berkshire Castle 108.

ROBERT

Not without my talisman he doesn't.

BILLY

Get a grip mate. Supt. Howe has the talisman, and the fake talisman, I only hope he doesn't forget which is which.

EXT. RAZED CHURCH - NIGHT

Supt. Howe races to the Razed Church and grabs the talisman from his pocket. He swings it and places it in his hand and clutches it. Rain begins to fall as he we see lightning and hear the thunder explode.

SUPT. HOWE

All right old bean. Time to end this!

Supt. Howe looks into the Razed Church and quickly enters.

INT. RAZED CHURCH - DESECRATED SANCTUARY

The Headless Horror plods steadily after Mary. Harry watches them as he holds the jeweled dagger and looks at it.

HARRY BERKSHIRE

Please let this work.

The Headless Horror takes two more gigantic steps before Harry hurls the dagger at it. The dagger STRIKES the Headless Horror in the right shoulder. The Headless Horror ROARS in agony, rips out the dagger and turns on Harry.

Harry backs toward the desecrated altar. He minds his steps as he deftly moves over several large shattered stone pews. The Headless Horror closes in on him.

Supt. Howe races into the Razed Church's desecrated sanctuary as the Headless Horror closes on Harry. Harry backs himself against the wall as the Headless Horror towers above him.

Supt. Howe holds up the talisman and commands the Headless Horror to stop.

SUPT. HOWE

Stop I say! The talisman commands you.

Berkshire Castle 109.

The Headless Horror stops and turns toward Supt. Howe. It is drawn to the talisman. Supt. Howe steps backwards with the talisman in his hand.

The Headless Horror moves toward Supt. Howe. Harry feels helpless and looks around for something to grab.

SUPT. HOWE (CONT'D) Harry get out of there! Find Mary and get out.

Harry nods and races to Mary and grabs her hand. They run out of the Razed Church hand in hand amid flashes of lightning and peals of thunder.

Supt. Howe waves the talisman. The Headless Horror follows him. A huge lightning bolt STRIKES the Razed Church's shattered roof.

EXT. BERKSHIRE CASTLE - MEADOW

Harry and Mary race to Sgt. Dierdrick, Insp. Brown, Insp. McMillan, Cons. Gordon and Cons. Jaeger who guard Lord Howe, Jared and Heath. Robert, Billy and Jack cower together in the rain.

SGT. DIERDRICK Hello kiddies. Is the Headless Horror dead yet?

HARRY BERKSHIRE
No sir. Supt. Howe took out the talisman and made it follow him.

SGT. DIERDRICK
That's good. He used the talisman
as a distraction to help you get
away.

HARRY BERKSHIRE I don't think he has the right talisman...

SGT. DIERDRICK What makes you think that?

HARRY BERKSHIRE
It moved without a command from him. It moved freely about, unhindered.

Sqt. Dierdrick grows anxious and moves to Robert.

Berkshire Castle

SGT. DIERDRICK

110.

I got to help Supt. Howe. You stay here and mind Lord Howe and the others.

ROBERT

I have a better idea, why don't I go with you?

SGT. DIERDRICK

That's out of the question lad.

ROBERT

Then what should we do?

SGT. DIERDRICK

I'm going and you're staying.

Robert frowns and hops angrily on his feet.

ROBERT

No! I'm going.

SGT. DIERDRICK

No you're not!

ROBERT

Oh yes I am!

Robert suddenly bolts away from Sgt. Dierdrick. Sgt. Dierdrick turns back to Cons. Jaeger.

SGT. DIERDRICK

Jaeger, secure the prisoners until I return.

LORD HOWE

(scoffs)

You mean if you return.

Sgt. Dierdrick ignores Lord Howe and chases after Robert. They both disappear into the darkness.

EXT. RAZED CHURCH - NIGHT

Robert races to the Razed Church's entrance, stops to catch his breath and races inside.

Sgt. Dierdrick arrives at the Razed Church's entrance out of breath. He doubles over as he pleads with Robert.

Berkshire Castle 111.

SGT. DIERDRICK

Come back lad...
(pants heavily)
You don't know what you're up
against!

INT. RAZED CHURCH - DESECRATED SANCTUARY

Supt. Howe holds the talisman as the Headless Horror closes on him. The talisman has no effect.

SUPT. HOWE

I bid you leave!

A strong peal of thunder EXPLODES overhead. The Headless Horror plods closer.

Robert races into the Desecrated Sanctuary with Sgt. Dierdrick hot on his tail.

ROBERT

Supt. Howe, you've have the wrong talisman...

Supt. Howe lapses momentarily. The Headless Horror swings and barely misses him.

SUPT. HOWE

What do you mean? I have the talisman right here.

Supt. Howe holds up the talisman. The Headless Horror STRIKES the talisman from his grip.

ROBERT

If you have the correct talisman, the Headless Horror can't move. Do you have the other talisman?

Supt. Howe pulls out a second talisman. The Headless Horror SWATS at him. The second talisman flies from his grip and lands under a shredded table.

Robert races after the real talisman. Supt. Howe nervously backs away from the Headless Horror. Sgt. Dierdrick runs to Supt. Howe.

SUPT. HOWE

Sergeant? I told you to mind the prisoners?

SGT. DIERDRICK

I decided to help ya.

Berkshire Castle

SUPT. HOWE

The best help you can give is to get Robert out of here.

SGT. DIERDRICK What do you think you can accomplish by getting killed?

Robert races to the shredded table. He scoops up the talisman and begins to swing it.

112.

ROBERT

I command you to leave this place!

The Headless Horror muscles freeze in place. The talisman holds it frozen.

SUPT. HOWE

Robert get out!

A second powerful lightning bolt STRIKES the Razed Church. Robert loses concentration. The Headless Horror awakens and stalks after Supt. Howe and Sqt. Dierdrick.

Supt. Howe and Sgt. Dierdrick spilt apart as they try to keep the Headless Horror occupied.

Supt. Howe runs past a hole in the wall. He slides to a stop and peeks in. He climbs into the hole.

INT. BERKSHIRE CASTLE - WHITE SEPULCHER

Supt. Howe enters the white sepulcher. He steps into a water fountain and pulls his foot out.

A small pail lays beside the fountain. Supt. Howe grabs the pail and immerses it into the fountain. He withdraws it and exits with the pail.

SUPT. HOWE

Sergeant? Are you here?

SGT. DIERDRICK

Aye sahr!

SUPT. HOWE

Keep your wits about you.

The Headless Horror SHRIEKS in agony. It SWINGS angrily and HITS the walls nearby. Robert holds the talisman aloft and confronts the Headless Horror.

Berkshire Castle

ROBERT

I bid you leave this place. I command you to leave.

The Headless Horror rears up and freezes. A third lightning bolt STRIKES the church. Robert flinches and drops the talisman.

113.

The Headless Horror awakes, grabs Robert and lifts him into the air. Supt. Howe grabs the talisman.

The Headless Horror SHRIEKS. Sgt. Dierdrick stabs it in the heart. Supt. Howe holds the talisman aloft.

SUPT. HOWE

By the power of the talisman, I command you to lower the boy.

The Headless Horror slowly lowers Robert with a growl. Sgt. Dierdrick holds onto the dagger. The Headless Horror tries to pull the dagger loose.

Sgt. Dierdrick falls off. The Headless Horror burns furiously with poisonous smoke.

A tremendous lightning bolt STRIKES the dagger in the Headless Horror's chest.

The lightning bolt SHREDS the Headless Horror's flesh as blood, bone and putrefied flesh EXPLODE.

Supt. Howe becomes covered in blood. Robert examines the Headless Horror's remains.

ROBERT

It's dead.

Supt. Howe kneels before the Headless Horror's body. He pokes it with his pipe.

SUPT. HOWE

Looks like it's dead all right. No sure way to know.

SGT. DIERDRICK

What do you want with the lads we caught?

SUPT. HOWE

Sergeant, get them to the van and process them. We have a mystery to reveal to the populace.

Berkshire Castle 114.

SGT. DIERDRICK

Ave sahr.

Sgt. Dierdrick exits. Robert walks to Supt. Howe.

ROBERT

What do we do now?

SUPT. HOWE

Grab some body bags and wrap this up.

ROBERT

Is it wrapped up?

SUPT. HOWE

I'd like to think so. How about you?

ROBERT

I'm not so sure.

Robert kneels beside the Headless Horror's smoldering body as thick, acrid smoke wafts from its body.

INT. CORONER'S OFFICE - MAIN LAB

Technician Harvey and Technician Rollins observe the Headless Horror's body on the main table. Technician Rollins removes the jewel encrusted dagger from the Headless Horror.

TECHNICIAN ROLLINS

What is this thing you brought us Cappie?

Supt. Howe puffs on his pipe.

SUPT. HOWE

This lads is one of the stranger pieces of the Berkshire Castle puzzle.

Technician Rollins opens the Headless Horror's body bag.

TECHNICIAN ROLLINS

This thing is funky. (waves hand)

That's right nasty.

SUPT. HOWE

Did you find anything else from the items we brought you.

Berkshire Castle 115.

TECHNICIAN ROLLINS

The twin brothers whose skulls you brought us turned out to be murdered and entombed somewhere in the castle.

SUPT. HOWE

According to legend, once we found the original victim the original curse was broken.

TECHNICIAN ROLLINS

Yes and no. You found the bones of the original victim, you have yet to find the skull.

Cons. Jaeger and Insp. McMillan enter the lab.

SUPT. HOWE

(to Cons. Jaeger)

What is it?

PC JAEGER

Lord Morley has come for his daughter, Mary.

Lord Morley enters the lab. He walks to Supt. Howe.

LORD MORLEY

I have come for my daughter, Mary Eloise!

SUPT. HOWE

Yes sir. She and Harry are being cleaned up.

Supt. Howe knocks on the door. Insp. Brown opens the door to reveal Harry and Mary. Supt. Howe and Lord Morley both walk to the door.

INT. CORONER'S OFFICE - REAR OFFICE

Cons. Gordon tends Harry. Insp. Brown cleans up Mary's appearance. Supt. Howe and Lord Morley both enter.

Lord Morley walks to Mary. He inspects her from head to toe and grabs her.

LORD MORLEY

Mary? Are you okay lass?

Berkshire Castle 116.

MARY MORLEY

(smiles)

Never better dad.

Lord Morley hugs her desperately. Mary becomes overwhelmed by emotion. She hugs her father back.

Supt. Howe walks to Harry who kicks his legs on the table.

SUPT. HOWE

Are you okay Harry?

HARRY BERKSHIRE

Yes sir.

Mary steps off her table and tenderly hugs Harry who gratefully hugs her back. Lord Morley watches with bewilderment.

LORD MORLEY

And just who is this?

Mary releases Harry, smiles and turns back to Lord Morley.

MARY MORLEY

Father, this is Harry Berkshire. He saved me from the Headless Horror. He found me in the tower and helped me escape.

LORD MORLEY

Then let me be the first to thank you for saving my little girl. (shakes hand)
Thank you.

Harry smiles.

HARRY BERKSHIRE

You're welcome sir.

Supt. Howe steps forward.

SUPT. HOWE

Harry, do you have any relatives who can take you in? I mean, it wouldn't do to have you homeless after all?

HARRY BERKSHIRE

I don't know sir. Its been so long.

Berkshire Castle 117.

SUPT. HOWE

I'll tell you what, I'll take temporary custody of you until we can find you a permanent home. How about that?

HARRY BERKSHIRE

(excited)

Really? You will?

SUPT. HOWE

(smiles)

Without a doubt. Now, we have some friends who have come to see you.

HARRY BERKSHIRE

(confused)

Friends? But I don't have any friends...

Robert, Billy and Jack enter.

SUPT. HOWE

Hello boys. I see you have come to see your friend.

ROBERT

If he'll see us?

Robert, Billy and Jack enter. Harry is intimidated.

HARRY BERKSHIRE

Hello.

BILLY & JACK

Hello.

ROBERT

Hello.

HARRY BERKSHIRE

How are you lot?

ROBERT

Good.

HARRY BERKSHIRE

Could you use another mate?

Robert glances at Billy and Jack. They lower their heads as they glance between Robert and Harry.

ROBERT

Only if you want to. I won't make you.

Harry thinks about it and mulls it for a while before he smiles and sticks out his hand.

HARRY BERKSHIRE

Well I could use some good mates. I think I've been lonely long enough. Could you use another friend?

Robert stares at Harry's hand. He sighs and places his forefinger to his lips. He smiles and grabs Harry's hand and shakes it.

ROBERT

We're always looking for a new mate, being with these two, I need all the mates I can get.

(winks)

Get me?

HARRY BERKSHIRE

(winks back)

Got ya.

Billy and Jack greet their new friend. Sgt. Dierdrick, Cons. Gordon and Insp. Brown all huddle together.

SUPT. HOWE

There you go lads. Now you're all mates. What's the first thing the four of you are going to do?

HARRY BERKSHIRE

(wipes brow)

Rest!

Supt. Howe, Sgt. Dierdrick, Cons. Gordon and Insp. Brown all laugh with Robert, Billy, Jack and Harry Berkshire. They laugh as we widen the frame.

FADE OUT

THE END