

THE BLACK SEA OF ROSES

by

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We hear country music playing and Mark singing along to it. A faded sound of the truck can also be heard.

FADE IN

INT. TRUCK - DAY

CLOSE ON - Melinda's feet can be seen out of the window. The camera follows and we can see Melinda leaning on the seat and Mark driving the truck.

MELINDA

(calmly)

I think it would be a good idea to check out the scenery and camp out near the forest.

MARK

What?

Melinda smiles and turns the radio down.

MELINDA

I think it would be a good idea to check out the scenery and camp out near the forest.

Mark nods while focusing on the road.

MELINDA (CONT'D)

Also, we really can't afford a hotel, so how about getting a tent camping gear?

MARK

Alright. The gas is low. We'll have to make a stop on the gas station.

MELINDA

Of course.

Mark continues driving and there is a long pause. Melinda looks out of the window and immediately at Mark.

MELINDA (CONT'D)

I saw a lady dressed in black  
standing next to some water covered  
with roses.

Mark completely turns off the radio.

MARK

Here? Are you sure? Are you sure?

Melinda thinks for a second and points in the direction.

MELINDA

Yeah, I'm absolutely sure.

CUT TO

EXT. GAS STATION - DAY

The truck pulls up at the gas station. Mark gets out of the  
truck and leans over the window.

MARK

Do you want anything to drink?

MELINDA

Some water will be fine.

Mark nods and walks away from the truck.

CUT TO

INT. TRUCK - DAY

Melinda is lost in thoughts. Mark appears on the window and  
notices. He knocks. Melinda snaps out of it, smiles and takes  
water from Mark.

CUT TO

Mark finishes filling the gas and gets back to the truck. He  
notices Melinda who is lost in thoughts again.

MARK

Are you sure you want to go through  
with this trip?

Melinda smiles.

MELINDA

Yeah, of course. I'm sure. I wanna  
do this.

MARK

Okay. So what do you want to eat?

Melinda points in a direction.

CUT TO

EXT. PARKING LOT - DAY

Mark and Melinda are in the car. Mark hits the steering wheel  
with his hand while looking for a parking spot.

MARK

(annoyingly)

This sucks! This place is crowded;  
there aren't any close parking  
spaces.

Melinda points.

MARK (CONT'D)

What!

MELINDA

Look, there is an open parking  
space!

CUT TO

Mark and Melinda are walking towards the restaurant and they  
bump into Kevin and Amanda.

KEVIN

Oh, here's my ex.

Mark is a little offended and he looks at Melinda.

MELINDA

Hey, Kevin. This is not the way to  
call a person.

Mark laughs.

MARK

It is, what it is.

He looks at Mark and the both shake hands.

KEVIN

I'm Kevin and this is my girlfriend  
Amanda.

MARK

Nice to meet you. Do you wanna join  
us?

Kevin laughs.

KEVIN

We're actually heading out but  
let's do a night out this weekend  
at Ronnie's. How does it sound?

MARK

Great.

INT. RESTAURANT - DAY

Mark and Melinda are sitting opposite to each other in a  
booth. The waitress takes the menu from them and leaves.

WAITRESS

20 minutes.

Mark turns towards Melinda.

MARK

How long have you known Kevin?

MELINDA

(frowns)

Why are you asking me questions  
about Kevin?

MARK

Why are you so upset over him?

MELINDA

I'm not getting upset; I just want  
to enjoy our dinner tonight without  
having this discussion about my ex-  
boyfriend.

CUT TO

Mark and Melinda have their food in front of them. Mark has a  
steak and Melinda has shrimps. Mark cuts a piece with his  
knife.

MARK

What time do you want to leave to  
go to the cabin?

Melinda takes a sip of her wine.

MELINDA

I thought we were leaving for the  
cabin right after dinner.

MARK

I thought you wanted to stay in a  
hotel for a few days—a night and  
then drive to the cabin in the  
morning?

MELINDA

(chewing)

You know what? That's a good idea.  
OK, let's stay in the hotel for the  
night and start driving tomorrow  
morning to the cabin.

MARK

OK, great. I will call the hotel  
and get our room booked for  
tonight.

INT. HOTEL - NIGHT

It is an old hotel. Mark and Melinda are in the lobby. Their  
bags are put aside. The receptionist is sleeping on the  
chair. Mark rings the bell.

MARK

Hello, excuse me. Can we book a  
room for tonight?

The receptionist snores and wakes up. He takes the book and  
finds a room.

RECEPTIONIST

Room 185. Your IDs please.

INT. HOTEL ROOM - NIGHT

Melinda is standing in the balcony against the railing facing  
Mark, who throws the bags on the bed and walks towards  
Melinda. Mark wraps his arms around Melinda's waist and leans  
closer.

MARK

This is a great view!

Mark gently kisses Melinda on the cheek and whispers in her  
ear.

MARK (CONT'D)

(whispers)

I'm going to start the shower.

Mark removes his arms from Melinda's waist and pulls her by  
her hands to the bathroom.

CUT TO

Mark and Melinda are in the shower together. Mark leans closer to make out and they do it for a while. Suddenly, we hear a sound of someone walking and Melinda backs off.

MELINDA

Did you hear that?

MARK

(annoyed)

No. I didn't hear anything.

He continues making out. Melinda backs off again.

MELINDA

Please, I did hear something.

Mark stops.

CUT TO

Mark walks out of the bathroom and searches the room. He's wearing a towel.

CUT TO

Mark gets back to the shower.

MARK

There's no one.

Melinda sighs.

MELINDA

I'm afraid. Mark, did you see anyone around here?

Mark thinks.

MARK

No, you're right. I didn't see anyone here. Completely quiet.



CUT TO

Melinda comes out of the bathroom first, followed by Mark. As they head out, the door slams. Both of them turn and give each other a curious look.

MELINDA

What the hell is that? The door  
slams close like that.

MARK

I don't know.

CUT TO

Mark is sleeping and Melinda is laying awake beside him. She is thinking when suddenly the room turns blue and we can see a figure being made with blue smoke.

Melinda hurriedly wakes up Mark. He turns and the whole thing is gone.

MELINDA

Mark!

MARK

What's wrong?

MELINDA

(shocked)

There was this blue.... blue  
something, it filled the room.

Mark raises his eyebrow.

MARK

I don't see anything. What was that  
you saw?

MELINDA

I saw misty blue light; it looked  
like a woman in a blue dress  
surrounded by a misty blue light.

Mark holds Melinda by the shoulder.

MARK

Honey, whatever it was you saw or  
thought you saw, it's gone and  
probably was a dream.

MELINDA

(panics)

It wasn't a dream. I know what I  
saw.

MARK

OK, OK, so you saw it; so why can't  
I see it?

MELINDA

I don't know!

Mark looks right in Melinda's eyes.

MARK

I promise we will leave first thing  
in the morning.

He hugs her. Melinda nods.

INT. CABIN - DAY

Mark and Melinda are standing in the cabin. Their bags are in  
the corner.

CUT TO

Melinda looks at the lake from her bedroom.

MELINDA

This is so beautiful.

She turns and sees Mark. She runs and hugs him tightly.

MELINDA (CONT'D)

Thank you Mark.

Mark smiles.

MARK

We're going to going to have dinner  
by the fireplace tonight with some  
red wine.

INT. CABIN - CONTINUOUS

It is morning and Melinda is in the kitchen. She has a cup of coffee in hand. Melinda takes the last sip and makes her way to the hall way.

CUT TO

Melinda stops and sees the blue mist in front of her. Her mouth is wide open and she is in shock.

MELINDA

Mark!

She shouts.

MELINDA (CONT'D)

Mark!

Melinda puts her hand on her head. The mist disappears and she can thud noises coming from the bedroom. She runs.

CUT TO

Mark is sleeping. Melissa rushes to the bedroom and sees Mark sleeping calmly. She looks around and there's no one. Melissa takes a sigh of relief. Mark wakes up.

MARK

What's wrong?

MELINDA

I heard strange noises in this  
room. You know what, you'll think  
this is silly.

Mark holds Melinda's hand and makes her sit beside her.

MARK

No baby. Last night I was taking out some beer from the fridge and the silverware drawer opened all by itself.

Melinda is shocked.

MARK (CONT'D)

It was quite unusual. You know after what happened last time. The bathroom door that opened by itself.

Melinda nods.

MELINDA

Yeah, things are getting stranger.

MARK

I even saw s bluish image out of the kitchen window.

MELINDA

What? You saw it?

Mark nods.

CUT TO

Melinda is in the living room and she finishes tying her shoes. Her phone rings. She picks it up.

MELINDA (CONT'D)

Hello, who's calling?

CUT TO

Mark comes out of the bathroom wearing a towel. Melinda is on the phone.

MELINDA (CONT'D)

Dave is on the phone; he wants to  
know what your plans are for today.

Mark takes the phone from her.

MARK

Hello!

DAVE

Hey dude!

MARK

Melinda and I are going to the mall  
and then we're taking a trip down a  
trail that's in the back of our  
cabin.

Melinda leaves.

INT. FOOD COURT - DAY

Melinda and Mark are sitting on one side of the table. Dave  
is sitting on the other. He is slicing the pizza.

DAVE

The food is good here; we should  
come back some other time to enjoy  
their lunch. And dinner specials.

Melinda takes a slice and takes a bite.

MELINDA

We should take some pizza home for  
dinner tonight.

CUT TO

The pizza tray is almost empty. Mark glances at his watch.

MARK

It's almost four-thirty; we need to start heading back to the cabin, because Melinda wants to go through the wooded area behind the cabin before it gets too late.

EXT. CABIN - DAY

The truck stops and Mark and Melinda get out of it.

MARK

Let's get started now before it gets too dark.

MELINDA

OK, going to grab us a few bottles of water out of the refrigerator.

INT. KITCHEN - DAY

Melinda opens the refrigerator and takes out two bottles of water.

VOICE

Get out.

Melinda stops. She calmly closes the fridge and runs out.

EXT. TRAIL - DAY

Mark is getting the gear ready. Melinda comes running to him in shock.

MARK

What's wrong?

MELINDA

Nothing.

MARK

Come on, let's go; it's getting darker.

(MORE)

MARK (CONT'D)

We need to hurry and go down the trail, and don't forget the flashlights under the sink in the kitchen.

CUT TO

Mark and Melinda are walking down the trail.

MELINDA

Did you notice that the cabin cleaned up? I don't remember cleaning up before we left to go to the restaurant.

MARK

I didn't notice anything different about the cabin.

Mark notices a shed and points in the direction.

MARK (CONT'D)

Hey, let's check that out. It's straight ahead of us!

CUT TO

There's some diamond like objects on the trail shining. Melinda points.

MELINDA

Look. It's quite unusual. You know what, we should turn around and start walking back to the cabin.

Then, Mark notices a dark figure.

MARK

What's that dark image ahead of us?

Melinda gets more afraid.

MELINDA

I don't know!

MARK

So, what do you wanna do?

He sighs.

MELINDA

May be I'm being too dramatic. The trail is long, and it is night, but maybe we can use the diamonds on the trail as a guide back to the cabin.

Mark and Melinda walk closer to the figure. It is a woman in a black dress surrounded by flames of fire in the deepest red color.

WOMAN IN BLACK

Go back home!

Mark backs off and tries to cover Melinda, who is stunned.

MARK

What the hell is that thing! Oh my God, what are we going to do?

He grabs Melinda's arm and starts running.

MARK (CONT'D)

Let's run around her because this is the only way back to the cabin. Hurry up, and get into the cabin and close the door!

Mark and Melinda are running.

CUT TO

Melinda closes the door of the cabin. Mark is standing behind her. Both of them are breathing heavily.



MELINDA

I think this place is haunted.

MARK

Don't be ridiculous; that's absurd.

Melinda gets angry.

MELINDA

Oh yeah? Then how do you explain  
that evil thing we saw in the woods  
down the trail with flames of fire  
for hair, hands made with flames of  
fire, feet made with flames of  
fire, wearing all black, and a  
voice sounding like an engulfing  
sea of thunder?

All of a sudden, a tormented group of spirits emerge from the  
ceiling of the cabin, with cloudy and dark circles.

Mark panics.

MARK

Let's get the hell out of this  
cabin now! Let's hurry up and start  
packing because we don't know what  
else we might encounter in this  
creepy cabin.

INT. TRUCK - NIGHT

Mark and Melinda are in the truck now. Melinda keeps looking  
back. Mark is driving at a full speed.

MARK

Everything's going to be fine.

MELINDA

Where are we going now?

MARK

Melinda, honey, we are going home.  
To Chicago.

INT. APARTMENT - DAY

Belinda is in the kitchen drinking juice. Mark enters and throws the keys on the counter. He then walks up to Melinda and places his hand on her shoulder.

MARK

Are you okay now?

MELINDA

I don't ever want to go back to  
that cabin.

CUT TO

INT. BATHROOM - DAY

Melinda is in the bathroom. She turns on the shower to make sure the water is hot. She places her hand below the shower to check. She grabs a towel and places it neatly on the vanity in front of the mirror.

The towel falls on the floor. Belinda leans to pick it up. As she gets up, there's a message written on the mirror.

MESSAGE

The Wages of Torment.

She ignores and steps into the shower.

INT. KITCHEN - DAY

Melinda has a plate of pancakes in front of her. Mark is sitting beside her on the dining table. He is pouring some honey on the pancakes.

MELINDA

Do you know what 'the Wages of  
Torment' means?

MARK

What are you talking about? I have no idea what it means! Where did you get that title from?

MELINDA

I saw it written on the bathroom mirror as I was about to step into the shower.

She takes a bite of her pancakes.

MARK

It's probably nothing. I'll check. It must be your mind playing tricks now. I also took shower in the morning and I didn't see it.

Melinda nods.

MELINDA

May be.

Mark's phone rings. He picks it up.

MARK

Hello Dave.

Mark puts the phone on speaker.

DAVE

Hey, I'm going to a beach party today with a group of friends. Do you and Melinda want to join us?

Mark looks at Melinda, who nods.

MARK

OK, cool.

CUT TO

INT. BEDROOM - DAY

Melinda is brushing her hair and she is all dressed up. She quickly looks out of the window and sees it is cloudy.

MELINDA

Crap.

Mark comes out of the bathroom. He is also dressed up.

MELINDA (CONT'D)

Have you activated the American Express card?

MARK

Yes, I activated it yesterday.

Melinda is finishing off the mascara now/

MELINDA

I don't remember that, but that's not a big issue; I'm just glad you already have it activated for today. We might not be able to go to the beach party if it starts raining again.

MARK

Hey, my wallet is in the Jeep! I'm going to get it.

Melinda nods.

CUT TO

Mark appears with his wallet.

MARK (CONT'D)

It's sunny outside. Why were you talking about the rain?

Melinda raises her eyebrow and looks outside again. It's sunny. Mark searches through his wallet.

MELINDA

Well, do you see it?

MARK

Yes. Found it.

He takes out the card and shows it to Melinda.

MELINDA

OK, cool, so what time is Dave  
getting here so we can follow him  
to the beach party?

MARK

He should be here any minute.

EXT. APARTMENT - DAY

Dave is in his car. He parks the car near the sidewalk and notices a sudden change of environment and a dark figure in front of the car. It is getting closer and closer. Dave panics a little and then continuously presses the horn. The figure fades away.

INT. BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

The sound of the horn can be heard in the background.

MARK

I think he's here.

INT. PARK - NIGHT

Mark and Melinda are taking a stroll. Both of them are in casual clothes. They are walking close to each other. They notice a statue a little far away. Mark points.

MARK

Look at the stone monument figure  
over there by the tree.

MELINDA

I wonder what it says. Let's go  
check it out!

CUT TO

There is a glimpse of a dark red color covering the grass,  
engulfed with a sea of screaming voices. Then it vanishes  
right before their eyes. Melinda quickly covers her mouth to  
stifle her scream.

MELINDA (CONT'D)

Mark, did you see that? The grass  
was covered with a deep red color,  
and there were strange voices. Then  
it suddenly vanished.

MARK

Oh no, Melinda, I didn't see  
anything like that, but check out  
the message on this stone. This is  
the historical landmark grounds  
where the stages of withering souls  
were haunted by ten plagues.

MELINDA

I wonder what happened to the land  
here, and what does that really  
mean.

INT. APARTMENT - NIGHT

Mark closes the door behind him. Melinda jumps on the couch.  
As Mark starts walking he hears sounds of ghastly moaning  
from behind the door. Mark is intimidated for a moment.

CUT TO

Mark turns and Melinda raises her hand.

MELINDA

Look, look, look, it's a stream of  
bright red light and several hands  
trying to push the door open!

Mark also notices.

MARK

Calm down, Melinda. It has stopped,  
so let's get our things together so  
we can check into the nearest  
hotel.

The lights go off.

MARK (CONT'D)

Come on, hurry up and get the hell  
out of this place before that thing  
comes back!

INT. HOTEL ROOM - DAY

Mark and Melinda are sleeping. Mark receives a call and wakes  
up. He nods for a moment and hangs up. Melinda also wakes up.

MELINDA

Who was that?

MARK

My boss suddenly came down with a  
sickness. Some plague he tells. He  
resigned and the meeting got  
cancelled. We were to present the  
idea of building a museum in that  
park.

MELINDA

Well, I hope he gets better soon.  
"So, are you working for the rest  
of the day? I'm cooking something  
good for you tonight.

INT. CAR - DAY

Mark is driving back home, when he receives a call from Melinda. He picks it up.

MELINDA

Our neighbors don't look well,  
honey. I think something is wrong  
with their skin or maybe it's  
something else.

MARK

What do you mean by looking sick?

MELINDA

I went outside to check the mail,  
and spoke to them briefly. It was  
then that I noticed strange bruises  
on their skin. Ever since we saw  
that concrete monument in the park  
with the stages of withering souls  
listed on the stone, our life  
hasn't been the same. I think this  
is from us visiting the stoned  
monument in the park.

MARK

It's probably just a skin rash. Or  
maybe they are suffering from being  
sunburned. OK, honey, I'm on my way  
home. I hope you have dinner ready  
because I'm starving. These strange  
events don't have anything to do  
with the different strange  
occurrences in the neighborhood.

Mark hangs up. He looks in front of him and the sky has  
turned almost red.



INT. HOTEL ROOM - DAY

Melinda, Mark, and Tom are playing cards.

MELINDA

Mark and I will not be going to the forest with you and your friends.

TOM

Why not.

Mark and Melinda look at each other.

MARK

Tom, this might sound crazy, but we saw something in the forest behind the cabin. Melinda and I saw a woman in black dress surrounded by flames in the deepest color red; her hair was made of red flames of fire; and her eyes, hands, and feet were dark red flames of fire. She spoke to us in a voice that sounded like thunder, and her tongue shaped like a flaming red sword. The woman's told us to go back home.

Tom stares at Mark for a moment.

TOM

OK, it sounds crazy, but you know what, you and Melinda were probably spooked by something in the forest, that's all.

Melinda notices the weeping woman behind Tom. She points. As Tom and Mark turn, the woman is gone.

INT. KITCHEN - DAY

Mark is making himself some coffee. He throws the spoon in the sink and weeping sounds start coming from the pantry. Mark stops and looks in the direction.

MARK

I know I heard a sound like some is crying; maybe I'm just imagining things. Mark, you are just imagining things.

He leaves the kitchen.

INT. FOOD COURT - DAY

Mark and Melinda are sitting with Tom, who is explaining.

TOM

You know you guys were right. We left the cabin as soon as we can.

Mark and Melinda look at each other.

TOM (CONT'D)

But something really strange happened. My friend found a newspaper with the headline saying The Black Sea of Roses.

Tom takes a pause.

TOM (CONT'D)

We dig deeper into it.

MELINDA

And what did you find?

TOM

The book was filled with historical events about hauntings from loved ones who had dark hearts. The black sea is a symbol of dark hearts, and the rose is a symbol of loved ones.

(MORE)

TOM (CONT'D)

A blue supernatural entity called Misty Blues, the entity from the diamond trails, and the woman dressed in black with tears streaming down her cheeks are all looking for this book in the forest that was behind the cabin. Also, there was a voice deep in the forest that sounded like thunder roaring.

Melinda's mouth is wide open.

TOM (CONT'D)

I an article in which it was written that in a small town, there were three women spirits who haunted for years looking for this book with supernatural events in their life but that they were not around to tell the story. So when anyone who finds the book and speaks the title of the book, the pages in the book would turn into blood with images of a black sea filled with roses, and this would set the three women spirits free from the pages of the book so they could be human again.

MARK

Well, I don't really believe this.

MELINDA

You haven't seen anything yet. We have experienced glowing red hands trying to open our apartment door as we came home one day.

MARK

Yeah, the past few days have been terrifying. But there is something else in the forest that I don't want to talk about in our conversation.

TOM

Why?

MARK

Well! That's really a hidden secret.

TOM

Well, we need to be heading home before it gets too dark. To snap out of the experience, we are going on a boat trip at noon tomorrow.

MELINDA

Can we bring some more guests with us on the boat trip? It will be fun.

TOM

Yeah, sure.

EXT. DOCK - DAY

Mark and Melinda are at the dock wearing light clothes. Mark is wearing a hat. Tom appears with a rope in hand. Behind him are Lisa, Samantha, Paul, and Claud.

TOM

You guys ready?

VOICE

Don't get in that boat.

Melinda is shocked.

MELINDA

Did you hear that Mark?

Mark looks at Tom.

MELINDA (CONT'D)

Tom?

MARK

No, we didn't hear anything.

CUT TO

The seven of them are walking closer to the boat.

TOM

All the tickets are on me for  
everybody. We will just get a bite  
to eat probably at a great  
restaurant.

CUT TO

An apparition gets on the boat. Melinda is stunned again. She  
shakes Mark's hand.

MELINDA

Did you see that?

MARK

Probably, you are just imagining  
things, M. Calm down, we're here to  
enjoy and forget about the strange  
events.

INT. BOAT CABIN - DAY

Mark wakes up. Melinda is already up. They both share a kiss  
and mark rubs his forehead.

MELINDA

How bad does your head hurt, honey?  
We had an awesome time on the  
ferryboat trip yesterday. Tom's  
friends didn't say much, but I bet  
they really loved the pool, snack  
bar, and dinner.

Mark smiles.

MELINDA (CONT'D)

Hey, I wanted to discuss something.

She pauses.

MARK

Go on honey.

MELINDA

The time we were at the cabin, I  
don't know if you noticed that  
brick building. I'm sick and tired  
of these strange happenings and I  
want to get rid of them once and  
for all.

MARK

We really have a secret about the  
forest that no one else besides Tom  
and his friends could ever find  
out.

MELINDA

My fear would be hard to conquer,  
but I have to do it, since I want  
peace. Mark honey, we both have to  
learn how to conquer our fears,  
because we want peace.

MARK

Why are you so eager to travel to  
that area?

MELINDA

Oh, I'm not sure, maybe we'll be able to discover the history of the forest behind the cabin.

MARK

And why do you think the cabin and the forest should have anything to do with the strange brick building that's a few miles away?

MELINDA

Honey, I bet that old brick building is probably nothing to find but ashes and bricks. We'll first go to the library and do some research about the area.

EXT. OLD BUILDING - DAY

Mark pulls up his truck in front of the old building. Melinda is sitting beside him.

MARK

We're here.

Mark's phone rings and he picks it up.

TOM

Hey, what are you guys doing today?

MARK

We have just arrived in front of the old building that was is couple of miles from that cabin near the forest. Remember when you told me about the newspaper clipping that one of your friends found in a hotel that you guys were staying in near the cabin?

Tom pauses.

TOM

Oh yeah!

MARK

That's the story that Melinda and I want to explore while we're at this old building.

TOM

I believe the book might have a connection to a supernatural belief about a family with dark hearts, who might have lived in that area. I'm not sure, but I think I remember the newspaper clipping talking about spirits haunting this area because they are looking for the book. The book is filled with loved ones who eat family members who have dark hearts. Well, what exactly are you going to do at the old building today, Mark? Maybe I should pack a few things and bring my friends along with me to the old historic building where you and Melinda plan to explore.

MARK

OK, cool. Melinda and I will be waiting for you and your friends.

TOM

You guys shouldn't go to that area by yourselves, because you don't know what kind of spirits you might run into. Give us about half an hour.

CUT TO



Mark, Tom, Melinda, Paul, Many, Yolanda, Zackary, and Lisa are standing in front of the building. Tom puts his hands on his pelvis.

TOM (CONT'D)

I wonder what's up with this building's history. My gut feeling has me feeling about this place.

Mark starts walking and sees that the door is open. He turns and looks at the rest of the group.

MARK

Is anybody else following me, or are all of you going to just watch me going into this creepy place by myself?

TOM

Let's start looking upstairs, then downstairs and then meet up right back here by the front entrance. If we don't find the book today, then we'll continue searching for it tomorrow morning.

INT. OLD BUILDING - DAY

It is an old building. Tom, Mark, Zackary, and Yolanda are searching downstairs. Mark comes across a piece of paper. He turns to Tom.

MARK

What are the broken wells?

TOM

It is symbolic of divided waterfalls of demonic relationships.

(MORE)

TOM (CONT'D)

In this case, there are broken wells of angry dark spirits that are probably haunting this place while we're sleeping at night in our warm beds.

CUT TO

Zackary points in a direction.

ZACKARY

Hey, did you see that bright light?

YOLANDA

No, what was it like?

ZACKARY

I don't know. May be it was nothing.

Zackary looks at a jewelry box on the bookshelf. He walks and picks it up. He opens it and sees a newspaper clipping.

CUT TO

Tom is holding the newspaper clipping. He is surrounded by Melinda, Zackary, Yolanda, and Mark.

TOM

The black sea means deceased family members with dark hearts, the roses mean the loved ones from the supernatural realm. Today, in our time, this meaning is symbolic of demonic spirits with broken wells relationships. Well, the dead don't get along, just like the living don't get along—hey, what can you say; that's just how it goes.

CUT TO

Mark is examining a reception like place. He opens a drawer. Tom joins him. Mark looks at the newspaper and takes it out. It has pictures of family members, customers, and friends who visited the old building very often in the past.

MARK

I wonder who owned this place—it looks like a family named the Whitefields. The neighborhood frequently visited this antique shop at this location. It seems like this was a highly respectable family in this area.

They hear Melinda's screams and run.

INT. OFFICE - DAY

Melinda, Zackary and Yolanda are in the office. Melinda is in shock.

MELINDA

Look, look, I found a skeleton downstairs in one of the closets! The eyes were glowing in a bright red color, with torn clothing.

Mark and Tom appear.

MARK

What's wrong with you, honey? Did you really see a skeleton standing in this closet?

Melinda is scared.

Tom

Maybe it was a figment of your imagination.

(MORE)

Tom (CONT'D)

Since all of us completely searched this place from top to bottom, has anyone else thought of another area in this building to search?

ZACKARY

The basement hasn't been searched yet.

Tom hears an old TV playing.

TOM

What was that noise I heard?

MARK

I don't know what you're talking about. Maybe you were just hearing things.

Tom looks around.

TOM

So am I the only one going bonkers hearing things? Did somebody turn an old TV on?

YOLANDA

I found some creepy porcelain dolls if that has something to do with it.

Tom sighs.

TOM

Anyway, let's go to the basement. You never know what might be discovered from this old building. I'm pretty sure there's plenty of old buried secrets in this deserted place from many years ago.

INT. BASEMENT - DAY

Mark, Melinda, Tom, Yolana, and Zackary are in the basement. It is full of antique stuff.

CUT TO

Mark comes across a mask.

MARK

Is anybody else feeling a little chilly down here? Just a minute ago I thought I felt someone grabbing my arm, but when I turned around, I saw no one behind me. I don't know, but I'm not going crazy. Anyway, while I started searching around down here, I found an eerie-looking dark mask.

Tom snatches the mask from Mark and quickly takes it off.

TOM

Whoa! What the hell was that?

MARK

What did you see?

TOM

I don't know. Looked like some parallel world.

ZACKARY

It is probably an old piece of an antique prized possession when the store was originally open back in the day.

Zackary sighs.

ZACKARY (CONT'D)

I think we need to get out of this creepy basement.

(MORE)

ZACKARY (CONT'D)

You know what, I'm beginning to think that The Black Sea of Roses isn't anywhere in this building.

TOM

That can't be true. The book has to be here somewhere; maybe we aren't looking hard enough for it.

Melinda comes forward.

MELINDA

Why don't we see how much that dark mask is worth when the antique store is opened? Tom, you are acquiring it right?

Tom nods.

MARK

Well, let's keep on searching for the mysterious book while it's still daylight.

CUT TO

All of them are standing in the closet now. A crate falls on the ground and opens. Tom, Mark, Yolanda, Zackary, and Melinda are standing in front of it. The crate has newspaper clippings, and creepy drawings. Tom takes out a photo and shows it to the others.

TOM

I guess the couple in this photo has to be the Whitefields, with a young girl standing in front of them holding a porcelain doll and an older woman standing next to what we might presume to be Ms. Whitefield.

## ZACKARY

Maybe some of the newspaper  
clippings can explain what happened  
to the Whitefields . . .

Tom takes out a newspaper and his mouth is wide open. He  
shows it to the others.

## NEWSPAPER

A couple and a young girl found  
unconscious by the next-door  
neighbor in their home.

(body)

A couple and an eighteen-year-old  
girl were found unconscious by the  
next-door neighbor in the upstairs  
bathroom in their home, with The  
Black Sea of Roses, a book of  
demonic poems, lying right next to  
them. Later, Ms. Whitefield's  
sister, Karen, was found  
unconscious in the front part of  
the antique brick shop, with The  
Black Sea of Roses lying on the  
counter next to the cash register.  
Later that day, she was rushed to  
the hospital and slipped into a  
coma and didn't wake up.

## TOM

So that explains the porcelain  
dolls that we found earlier.

## YOLANDA

The porcelain doll in the photo  
looks evil—her eyes are large and  
black; the hair is jet black, long,  
and curly; and she's wearing a long  
black dress with black shoes.

MELINDA

I didn't believe in evil dolls  
until after what Mark and I  
experienced in the forest behind  
the cabin a few miles from here. I  
might be convinced, after all.

ZACKARY

Let's open the next crate. We still  
haven't found the mysterious book  
yet.

Melinda hears a woman scream.

MELINDA

Did you all hear that?

YOLANDA

Hear what?

Melinda examines everyone's face.

MELINDA

Are you kidding me? There it is  
again! I know what I just heard; I  
know I'm not losing my mind. This  
place gives me the creeps. Listen,  
after we open the next crate, I  
hope you guys are ready to leave.

CUT TO

Tom opens the next crate. He turns on his flashlight. He uses  
the hammer to bang the dusty lock until it is broken and  
falls on the floor. As soon as he opens the crate, Melinda  
sees a dark shadow and ignores it.

Everyone is shocked. Tom has the book in his hand.

TOM

Guess what I found, everybody!

Tom starts going through the pages.



MARK

What's on the pages?

Tom raises his eyebrow as he keeps turning the pages. He looks at Mark.

TOM

It's a poem . . . a book of poems .  
. .

There is a pause.

YOLANDA

Well, what are we going to do with  
the book now that we have found it?

TOM

I'll keep it with me. I will take  
it home with me today.

MARK

What, are you crazy?

TOM

Oh, what's the matter? First, you  
guys didn't want to come to this  
old historic dusty brick building,  
and now all of you are calling me  
crazy for taking home a mysterious  
legendary book of poems.

MELINDA

Tom, let's not forget it's also  
supernatural.

Tom laughs.

TOM

What could be so supernatural about  
it? It's only a book of poems. OK,  
everybody, that's enough for today.  
Let's get out of this place.

CUT TO

Everyone is out of the basement now. As they go by the reception, the eyes of the porcelain dolls light up.

INT. TOM'S CAR - DAY

Tom throws the book on the seat and then starts the car. As he is driving, we show blood coming out of the book.

INT. RESTAURANT - DAY

Angie, Larry, Tom, Mark, and Melinda are having lunch at a fancy restaurant.

LARRY

I'm delighted to work with you on the old historical brick building project. So, I guess tomorrow morning we'll start making phone calls to some local resources to help us get started on our project. First things first, we need to get some electricity going through that old place. I can call some of my clients in the local area and inquire in nearby resources for electricity providers not too far from where Angie and I live. I have been there to see the building; it's looking shabby, but I'm pretty sure we can put some life back into that old place soon.

Tom nods and looks at Mark.

TOM

I'll see you and Melinda tomorrow morning at the old building to start the reconstruction process, and I'm going to take Angie, Larry, Zackary, and Yolanda to their place. You guys go home.

INT. BATHROOM - DAY

Mark is brushing his teeth when he notices "Pages of trapped doors" written on the mirror. He looks around to see if anyone is there. He tries to wipe it from the hand but it reappears again. Mark is shocked.

INT. KITCHEN - DAY

Mark and Melinda are having breakfast.

MELINDA

I wonder what is the meaning of tragic vows and who wrote it in our closet.

Melinda puts an omelette on her plate.

MARK

Whatever that meant, I'm not hungry right now because that took away my appetite, so I think I'm going to skip breakfast. I'm going to make sure I have plenty of questions about the role we will play in the renovation of the historic building.

INT. TOM'S HOUSE - DAY

Melinda, Mark, Larry, Angie, and Tom are having a discussion in the living room.

MARK

Have you ever heard of 'pages of trapped doors'?

Tom thinks.

TOM

Yeah. I was reading The Black Sea of Roses. Well, on one of the pages, I read a poem about pages of trapped doors. From what I understand, the poem means the pages of their life in trapped doors of family situations. It could also mean it's a supernatural dimension of demonic spirits trapped in the doors of another world besides ours and somehow the spirits have found a way to come through a portal from the other side into our world of existence. My guess is that the Whitefields must have somehow opened up a pathway for the demonic spirits to get into our world through The Black Sea of Roses.

Mark frowns.

MARK

You really don't believe all this evil spirits or supernatural stuff now, do you?

MELINDA

How did you come to that conclusion?

Tom sighs.

TOM

Well, give or take from all the newspaper clippings that I've been reading, combined with the weird unexplained supernatural events that we have experienced of evil demonic spirits in the forest behind the cabin in the deep part of the woods, there is a mystery that I and my other friends found in those woods that night, and that's why we decided to stay in the hotel. I just couldn't take any more of the weird stuff. Well, I guess we might have some unwanted visits in that historic old brick building, probably had a few or many different types of haunting moments that bothered the Whitefield's.

Tom pauses.

TOM (CONT'D)

OK, I guess that's enough of that spooky talk. Let's start discussing plans to reconstruct that old building before the end of the year. I have different suppliers who can supply us shipments filled with antiques from around the world in a matter of a few months. By that time, the building should be in full production; I'm recruiting for a sales and marketing team. A team will be developed each for promotions, advertising, distribution of flyers, plumbing, and landscaping. Also, there will be a brand-new cash register.

(MORE)

TOM (CONT'D)

Mark, if it's OK with you, can  
Melinda help my business partners  
Angie and Larry with the paperwork,  
phone, filing, bookkeeping, and  
monitor the inventory?

Mark nods. The room gets dark and then gets bright again.

LARRY

Oh wow, I was freaked out there for  
a moment. Look, it's raining  
outside today. If it keeps on  
raining, then I guess we won't be  
working on the building project  
today.

He turns to Angie.

LARRY (CONT'D)

So what are you planning on helping  
us with?

ANGIE

Well, I plan on helping with the  
bookkeeping; answering the phone;  
periodically helping Melinda,  
Yolanda, and Mark in local  
advertising; and a few other  
additional duties.

Thunder can be heard.

TOM

Well, everybody, I assume that we  
all probably more than likely won't  
be working on the project today. So  
I guess this concludes our meeting  
for today.

Tom sees a shadow standing behind Larry. It suddenly  
disappears.

TOM (CONT'D)

Hey, I just had a great idea for everybody—if you guys want to stay here at my place, nobody has to drive home in the rain. I don't have any problem with that. Then all of us could leave together from my house to the old building.

MARK

OK, that sounds like a good idea, but we didn't bring a change of clothes.

TOM

Oh, no worries. I have clothes for everybody to wear to bed, and you guys can wash your clothes here. Is everyone OK with the idea of staying here? Because I feel it would be better to stay here for the night instead of driving in that heavy downpour. It's really risky driving in that kind of weather because you cannot see where you're going.

Suddenly the storm sounds like women weeping and then stops just as quickly.

Angie and Larry get up.

LARRY

We're gonna fetch something to eat, if you don't mind.

They leave to the kitchen. Tom turns towards Mark.

TOM

Mark, there is something else I wanted to share with you that has been really bothering me.

(MORE)

TOM (CONT'D)

You know what, the historical cabin is a landmark too.

MARK

I know it's a landmark, but we can't worry about that haunted cabin, right? Because we have the old abandoned historical antique shop project to finish.

Tom taps on Mark's back.

TOM

I know we have a lot of work to do. Well, first things first, we can start by calling a company to get that place all cleaned up. Angie and Melinda can start preparing the paperwork for the bookkeeping for shipments that are going to start coming in and that should get things rolling.

MARK

That sounds like a plan. We're going to have a very busy day today.

FADE OUT

THE END