

RED DEAD

Written
by

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Character Created
by

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VERSION 9.1
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RETURN TO:
The Asylum
72 E. Palm Ave.
Burbank, CA 91502
(323) 850-1214



BLACK.

A gust of wind WHISTLES through the trees. A WOLF HOWLS in the distance.

FADE IN:

1

EXT. THE APPALACHIAN MOUNTAINS - NIGHT

1

A bright 3/4 moon rises over the Appalachian outskirts of Stillwater, a small town nestled tight among mountains and trees, casting a bright blue glow on the entire valley below. *

CLOSER: A BEAUTIFUL YOUNG GIRL (early 20's) IN A RED JACKET AND HOODIE runs as fast as she can through the forest, away from an UNSEEN PREDATOR. *

P.O.V. OF PREDATOR: as it chases the girl. It gains ground on her as she runs into a clearing.

The young girl SCREAMS as she's overtaken by a large GRAY WOLF with glowing red eyes that viciously ravages her.

YOUNG GIRL
Grandma, help! Grandma!

The girl's clothes are torn to shreds, bloody gashes and bite marks everywhere. Her body goes limp.

Behind them, a RED-CLOAKED FIGURE appears in SILHOUETTE, and the wolf cowers in fear. The figure holds a SILVER SWORD that glows in the moonlight. A SWATH OF ENERGY emanates from it and surrounds the figure. *

The wolf GROWLS angrily, runs off into the night.

The cloaked figure approaches the dying girl, checks her neck and pulse. She pulls back her hood to reveal a vibrant-looking OLDER WOMAN, her eyes bright and full of life. *

YOUNG GIRL
Grandma...? What happened...?

The girl's eyes tear up, and she starts to lose consciousness.

GRANDMA
Shhhhhh. Quiet. It's okay. It's okay. We're running out of time.

(CONTINUED)

1 CONTINUED:

1

YOUNG GIRL

Time...? Grandma... It hurts so
much. I tried... to run.

*
*

GRANDMA

The people must be protected. You
have to take over now. This is the
only way.

*
*

YOUNG GIRL

I don't... understand...

The young girl gasps her final breath as blood runs down the
side of her face.

*
*

GRANDMA

I'm so sorry.

She kisses her tenderly on the cheek...

GRANDMA

I love you.

...and closes her eyelids.

2

EXT. ANOTHER PART OF THE FOREST - NIGHT

2

Grandma drags the body of the young girl to a spot outside

A SMALL CABIN

where a freshly-dug grave and shovel await. She places the
body in the grave, pulls her sword out and lets it radiate in
the moonlight. An AURA of energy moves from the grandmother
to the sword.

She lays the sword on the girl's body, unties her cape and
drapes it over the girl completely. She shovels dirt back
into the grave on top of her, and pats it tight.

*
*
*

She pulls a knife from her side, hesitates, then slashes both
of her forearms open. BLOOD RUNS FAST, falls onto the fresh
grave and to the young girl buried beneath.

*

GRANDMA

As the moon grows over the coming
days, may the tide of its light
illuminate your path so that you
may fulfill your destiny, my child.

The aura of energy permeates the top of the grave, and the
ground morphs back to its original untouched state.

(CONTINUED)

2 CONTINUED:

2

P.O.V. FROM A DISTANCE: a wolf watches, and GROWLS angrily.
Grandma falls over -- and dies.

3 EXT. STILLWATER MAIN STREET - DAY

3

The sun rises above the small town of Stillwater, as several
TOWNSPEOPLE gather anxiously outside

THE COFFEE SHOP

A STATE TROOPER PATROL CAR drives past, as DANNY pulls over.
He gets out of his car, crosses the street to join the
others.

MILDRED THE COOK wipes her hands on her apron, watches Danny
approach.

MILDRED

Why ain't you in school, Danny-boy?
And where's your cute girlfriend
this morning?

DANNY

Should be on her way to school,
Mildred. What's with all the state
troopers?

MILDRED

Somebody got killed down by the
river, looks like, by the old Wolf
Lady's place.

*

DANNY

Miss Winfield? Why isn't anyone
down there checking up on her?

MILDRED

The sheriff ain't letting no one
down thataway, but maybe they'll
let you in -- that's your girl's
grandmother, ain't she?

*

*

*

*

DANNY

Yeah, she is.

*

*

MILDRED

Well, why don'tcha go see if you
can find out anything for us?

*

*

Danny runs back to his car, alarmed.

(CONTINUED)

DANNY

I think I will.

EXT. MISS WINFIELD'S CABIN - DAY

The old cabin sits surrounded by majestic trees and a small pristine river. Yellow police tape cordons off the property. Several police cars and a coroner's van are parked outside.

SHERIFF ADAM KNOX (30-something) and HENRY, his DEPUTY SHERIFF (20-something), watch as STATE POLICE OFFICER SCUDDER and the STATE CORONER take photos of Miss Winfield's corpse.

The coroner covers the body with a white blanket.

OFFICER SCUDDER

Adam, this looks pretty clear cut to me. No pun intended.

SHERIFF ADAM

I'll never understand. How does taking your own life make things better?

OFFICER SCUDDER

Do you need a reason these days?

SHERIFF ADAM

I guess some people don't.
(back to work)
Did you check out the cabin?

OFFICER SCUDDER

Clean as a whistle. No sign of foul play.

STATE POLICE OFFICER VICTORIA (30-something) steps out of the forest behind them, dusting her pants and jacket off.

SHERIFF ADAM

Find anything, Vic?

OFFICER VICTORIA

A mound of angry red ants. And a rash.

SHERIFF ADAM

Good job.

OFFICER SCUDDER

Anything to indicate foul play?

(CONTINUED)

OFFICER VICTORIA

Negative.

She walks over to the dead body of Miss Winfield as they cover her up.

OFFICER VICTORIA

The Wolf Lady did this to herself.

Danny pulls up in his car just outside the yellow tape. He gets out, crosses the perimeter and starts for Sheriff Adam.

DANNY

Where's Miss Winfield?

SHERIFF ADAM

Danny, you can't be here.

DANNY

This is Samantha's grandmother's house! Where is she?

Sheriff Adam grabs Danny and leads him away from the scene, back toward

DEPUTY HENRY'S CAR

He sits him against the trunk.

SHERIFF ADAM

Son, where's your girl, Samantha?

DANNY

At school.

SHERIFF ADAM

Do you know of any other family Miss Winfield has?

DANNY

You know Sammy's the only relative she has left alive.

SHERIFF ADAM

I need you to get a hold of her for me right away. Can you do that?

DANNY

Why can't you tell me about Miss Winfield?

Sheriff Adam motions for Deputy Henry to come over.

(CONTINUED)

SHERIFF ADAM

Henry, can you give me a hand?

Deputy Henry grabs Danny by the arm, leads him back closer to the cabin.

DEPUTY HENRY

Let's go, bro. Over here.

DANNY

Come on, Henry! It's me!

DEPUTY HENRY

I know that! So get your girl
Sammy on the phone.

Frustrated, Danny dials his smartphone, but it goes straight to voice-mail.

DANNY

Sammy, I'm at your grandma's. Can
you call me right away, please?

Deputy Henry tries to block Danny's view as Sheriff Adam helps the coroner and his ASSISTANT put Miss Winfield's corpse on a gurney and into the coroner's van.

DANNY

She's dead, isn't she?

Deputy Henry shakes his head affirmatively.

DANNY

Shit. What happened?

Sheriff Adam walks back, chooses his words wisely.

SHERIFF ADAM

Miss Winfield is deceased, son.
She took her own life.

DANNY

How? Why? Wow. Samantha's really
gonna freak out!

SHERIFF ADAM

Can you give Henry her contact
info?

Danny is distracted, looks at his phone.

DANNY

Yeah, I guess...

(CONTINUED)

4 CONTINUED: (3)

4

SHERIFF ADAM
(to Deputy Henry)
Let's wrap up.

5 EXT. COFFEE SHOP - DAY

5

A SMALL CROWD waits outside as Sheriff Adam pulls up in his cruiser, gets out and walks to the coffee shop. They stare at him, as if waiting for an answer.

6 INT. COFFEE SHOP - DAY

6

Sheriff Adam walks in, looks beat. He sits at the counter and Mildred pours him a cup of coffee.

MILDRED
Anything for you, sheriff?

SHERIFF ADAM
Give me the same ol', Mildred.

MILDRED
Yessir.

Deputy Henry walks in, sits next to Sheriff Adam.

MILDRED
Henry?

DEPUTY HENRY
What you got cooking for us?

MILDRED
For you, Henry, I got your favorite on the stove, with a little extra everything.

DEPUTY HENRY
I could marry you! Pile it on, please, and thank you!

Sheriff Adam turns to the half dozen or so townsfolk waiting for him, including BENSON.

BENSON
So are you gonna tell us or what, Sheriff? What happened down there?

*
*

SHERIFF ADAM
Old Miss Winfield took her life.

(CONTINUED)

Reactions from the crowd, incredulous.

BENSON

Oh, damn... What a crying shame.

*

SHERIFF ADAM

I agree, Benson. Makes no sense.

BENSON

She was a strange coot, though.
Th' Wolf Lady, always keepin' to
herself.

Silence in the room, except Mildred cooking at the grill.

SHERIFF ADAM

So that's it, folks. Life goes on.

The crowd MUMBLES, starts to clear out.

BENSON

Thanks, sheriff. Be careful out
there. It's a crazy world full o'
crazy people. And then some.

Mildred puts the food on the counter, and Sheriff Adam and
Deputy Henry tear in.

SHERIFF ADAM

Thanks, Benson. You, too, pal.

EXT. SAMANTHA'S APARTMENT - DAY

Danny drives up in his car, steps to the door and knocks.

DANNY

Sammy, open up! You in there?

He knocks again, no answer. He peeks in through the windows,
calls her on the phone again.

DANNY

Hey, it's me. Come on, I gotta
talk to you! It's important! I
drove by campus, didn't see your
car anywhere. Call me!

He hangs up, tries to peek inside the locked garage, but it's
too dark to make anything out.

8 INT. SHERIFF'S STATION - DAY 8

Sheriff Adam enters. DEPUTY ABBEY sits at a control station behind a bunch of computer monitors.

SHERIFF ADAM
Give me the good news, Abbey.

DEPUTY ABBEY
Old Man Parsons called again.

SHERIFF ADAM
I'm not dismissing his ticket.

DEPUTY ABBEY
Another domestic dispute at--

SHERIFF ADAM
Jared and Sara's? Tell them to get marriage counseling.

DEPUTY ABBEY
And got a call from that Danny kid.
Says he can't find his girlfriend
anywhere.

SHERIFF ADAM
Tell him to keep looking.

He walks into

*

HIS OFFICE,

sits at his desk, looks at a photo of HIM with HIS TWO KIDS
(a BOY and a GIRL, ages 10 and 11) fishing on a boat.

Deputy Abbey knocks, peeks in.

DEPUTY ABBEY
You going home? Or should I whip
up a new batch of brew?

SHERIFF ADAM
The day is young, Abbey. Keep the
hot stuff coming.

9 EXT. FOREST - NIGHT 9

The UNMARKED GRAVE by the cabin where the young girl was
buried earlier trembles from the inside. A mound rises, as
though something is pushing from below.

(CONTINUED)

9 CONTINUED: 9

The shaking stops and the mound settles back down.

10 EXT. NEIGHBORHOOD - NIGHT 10

A rural neighborhood with a dozen close-knit homes. Behind them, the forest stretches into the mountains.

CLOSER: A middle-class TWO-STORY HOUSE. A Big Wheel, soccer ball and other sports toys are scattered about the front lawn.

11 INT. THE HINKLE HOME - NIGHT 11

JENNY HINKLE (late teens), in a pair of sexy pink shorts and a tank top, TALKS on the phone in the kitchen.

JENNY

Mom, I'm almost 18 years old, and Savannah's not even in town. She's with her boyfriend in Vegas!

(a beat)

Duh! Of course I'll wait until I'm married. What are you thinking?

(a beat)

I love you, too.

She hangs up the phone and high-steps it to

THE LIVING ROOM

TOMMY waits on the couch, well-groomed, and obviously waiting for some action.

TOMMY

Yo, so where are your parents at?

JENNY

Took my little brothers to some amusement park.

She turns the lights off and does a sexy strip-tease dance before jumping into his arms. They start kissing and hugging passionately.

TOMMY

Hey, they're not coming home any time soon, are they?

JENNY

Shut up and fuck me!

(CONTINUED)

11. 11
11 CONTINUED: 11

Tommy obliges and takes his shirt off, kisses her and feels her body up and down.

12 EXT. THE HINKLE HOME - NIGHT 12

From outside, through the back windows, Tommy and Jenny embrace in serious love-making on the couch.

13 INT. THE HINKLE HOME - NIGHT 13

The lights are off, but the moonlight finds its way in. Tommy is having more pleasure than Jenny, and he can't seem to keep his excitement where it belongs.

JENNY
What? You didn't!

Tommy is out of breath. He looks down, dejected.

TOMMY
I'm so sorry!

JENNY
Oh, my God! Tommy!! Really?

TOMMY
I'll go again, just give me a minute!

CRASH!! Something in the backyard makes a LOUD SOUND. Jenny jumps back into Tommy's arms.

JENNY
What was that?

TOMMY
I don't know!

He pushes Jenny aside, throws on his boxer shorts and grabs a baseball bat from the side of the couch.

Jenny reaches for the lights...

TOMMY
Don't! Keep 'em off.

Tommy goes to the window to peek outside.

TOMMY'S P.O.V.: A HOUSE CAT crawls out of a toppled trash-can in the backyard, then races off into the night.

(CONTINUED)

13 CONTINUED:

13

With the window behind him, and a blue aura from the moonlight, Tommy turns to Jenny...

TOMMY

It's just a cat.

The black silhouette of a VERY LARGE WOLF suddenly rises behind Tommy on the other side of the window.

Jenny SCREAMS at the top of her lungs, and Tommy turns just as the wolf CRASHES through and lunges straight at him.

14 INT. SHERIFF ADAM'S HOUSE - NIGHT

14

A quiet, modest home with humble furnishings, except for the big screen television set in the living room. Sheriff Adam on the couch, beer in hand, watches a football game.

His smartphone RINGS. He picks up.

INTERCUT:

15 INT. DENISE KNOX'S HOUSE - NIGHT

15

A more upscale and modern home. DENISE KNOX in the kitchen, her TWO KIDS (10 and 11 years old) running around in the BG.

DENISE

Adam, I need you to watch the kids for about two weeks. I've got a deal to close out of town, and the nanny has some kind of foreign disease thing. Can you do this?

SHERIFF ADAM

You know the kids always come first.

DENISE

What are you trying to say?

SHERIFF ADAM

I'm not trying to say anything. Please send them. This is their home.

DENISE

No. This is their home.

SHERIFF ADAM

Okay, Denise. I'm not arguing.

(CONTINUED)

15 CONTINUED:

DENISE
But you're arguing now.

SHERIFF ADAM
Okay, look. Send the kids. I'll
be here. Just e-mail me the flight
number with all the information.

DENISE
You're impossible, Adam!

CLICK!! The phone goes dead. Sheriff Adam stares wide-eyed
at his phone.

SHERIFF ADAM
What a bitch.

*

16 EXT. FOREST CLEARING - NIGHT

16

A bunch of TEENAGE KIDS gather around a large FIRE PIT, the
light from the flames illuminating the entire area around
them -- drinking, laughing and listening to LOUD MUSIC.
Several off-road vehicles are parked behind them in the
background. SHOTGUNS rest against one of the trucks.

*
*
*

Danny is off to the side, texting on his phone. RAMIRO
messes with him...

RAMIRO
Yo, yo, Danny-boy! Where's Sammy?
Where's your girl, homie? I didn't
see her in class today!

*
*

DANNY
Don't know, man. I think she went
out of town.

RAMIRO
And didn't tell you? She's banging
some other dude, dude! Promise!

*
*

Ramiro LAUGHS like only an annoying teenager can.

DANNY
Thanks.

ANNA is more compassionate.

ANNA
Danny, the sheriff's looking for
her, right?

(CONTINUED)

DANNY

I don't think he thinks she's missing.

ANNA

She probably went with family, just forgot to tell you. Don't worry.

*

RAMIRO

That was Sammy's grandmother who killed herself?

Danny shakes his head quietly.

RAMIRO

That's some fucked up shit, bro. Sorry to hear it, man.

ANNA

Yeah, that's really sad, Danny.

DANNY

Thanks.

JASON is with his girlfriend RITA, who hugs and kisses all over him. ALEX downs a bottle of beer...

ALEX

Yo, Rita! Where's your cousin? When's she flying out again?

RITA

She's back in New York, but she asked about you!

The group REACTS: "Whooaaaaa, Alex!"

ALEX

Really? You think she likes me?

RITA

She wanted to know if you're retarded.

The group LAUGHS, including Danny.

ALEX

Fuck you! Fuck her!

Rita is clearly drunk. She messes with Jason's pants, tries to unzip them. Jason laughs, pushes her away.

(CONTINUED)

16 CONTINUED: (2)

16

JASON

Not here, what's wrong with you?

Rita LAUGHS, starts to pull him into the forest.

RITA

Come on, big college man...

She gives him a devilish stare, licks her lips.

RITA

Don't you want me?

Jason's eyes widen and he LAUGHS. He looks around.

JASON

I'll show you how much I want you!

He pushes her into the forest.

17 EXT. FOREST - NIGHT

17

A thin blanket of fog rolls in. Rita kisses all over Jason, while he pulls her shirt off.

A loud CRACK ECHOES from the forest.

JASON

What the hell was that?

Jason looks at the trees all around them.

JASON

Alex, is that you? Quit fucking around! Get your own girlfriend!

Rita is too drunk to notice anything, continues to kiss him.

Another CRACK. Jason stops her, looks around.

JASON

You didn't hear that?

RITA

Hear what?

In a flash, a LARGE GRAY WOLF barrels out of the forest and tramples JASON. Rita SCREAMS at the top of her lungs.

EXT. FOREST CLEARING - NIGHT

The teenage kids hear the SCREAM. They stop the music, stare at each other in disbelief.

19 EXT. FOREST - NIGHT

19

Jason tries to stand, but the wolf lunges at him again, BITES *
into his neck and shakes him around like a rag doll. *

Blood splatters everywhere, Rita SCREAMS again. The wolf drops Jason and turns toward her.

SHOTGUN BLASTS rip through the trees, missing the wolf.
Danny and Ramiro enter the small clearing, shotguns smoking,
as the wolf bolts back into the trees.

DANNY

Did we hit it?

They see Jason's mangled body on the ground.

RAMIRO

Fuck! No way, man!

Danny grabs Rita, who's crying hysterically.

DANNY

Come on, don't look!

RAMIRO

No fucking way!

A loud HOWL comes from the forest, and everyone freaks out!

DANNY

Let's get out of here! Now!

They grab Jason's bloodied body and head back to the cars...

20 INT. SHERIFF ADAM'S HOUSE - NIGHT

20

Sheriff Adam is in bed asleep when his PHONE RINGS. He looks *
at the clock -- almost 4 in the morning -- and picks up.

SHERIFF ADAM

This better be good.

He listens, reacts.

(CONTINUED)

20 CONTINUED:

20

SHERIFF ADAM
I'll be right there!

21 EXT. THE FOREST CLEARING - NIGHT

21

Deputy Henry is already there with his patrol car, another Deputy and an ambulance, as Sheriff Adam pulls up. A POLICE HELICOPTER CIRCLES OVERHEAD, shining its bright spotlight on the clearing.

*
*
*

The Sheriff's radio CRACKLES from dispatch.

SHERIFF ADAM
323, copy that. I'm 10-97.

RADIO
10-4.

Most of the teens that ran earlier are present. Deputy Henry walks up to Sheriff Adam with a shotgun in hand.

DEPUTY HENRY
Wolf attack. Got one fatality.
Got the state chopper. Scudder's
en route.

*
*

SHERIFF ADAM
Did you find the wolves?

*
*

DEPUTY HENRY
No sign of them.

*
*

Sheriff Adam walks to the group of teens. Danny just stares at him, silent.

SHERIFF ADAM
Who can tell me what happened?

RAMIRO
We heard a scream. Ran to help,
saw Jason on the ground, then the
wolf going after Rita. We took a
shot at it.

*
*
*
*

SHERIFF ADAM
Did you hit it?

*
*

RAMIRO
Don't think so.

*
*

SHERIFF ADAM
How many of you kids were here?

*

(CONTINUED)

ALEX

We were ten, sir. Counting Jason
and Rita, but they were in the
woods.

*
*
*

SHERIFF ADAM

How many wolves?

RAMIRO

Just one, sir.

SHERIFF ADAM

Just one, are you sure?

DANNY

There could've been more in the
trees.

Sheriff Adam looks around. The forest is eerily silent.

DEPUTY HENRY

What is it?

Sheriff Adam walks over to the body of Jason covered by a
blanket. Some of the girls in the group CRY.

SHERIFF ADAM

You got a fire pit. A large group
of kids. Lot of noise. One wolf?

DEPUTY HENRY

Pretty brave wolf. I thought they
roamed in packs.

SHERIFF ADAM

Yeah, me, too. This one's inching
way too close to town. We're gonna
have to come back and take it out.

DEPUTY HENRY

Shouldn't we let the state police
handle it?

SHERIFF ADAM

It's a local intrusion. We'll get
some volunteers and take care of it
ourselves.

DEPUTY HENRY

Roger that.

Deputy Henry goes back to the group of kids. Sheriff Adam
spots Danny off to the side, regards him.

(CONTINUED)

21 CONTINUED: (2)

21

SHERIFF ADAM

Get a hold of Samantha yet?

DANNY

No.

SHERIFF ADAM

We'll help find her tomorrow, okay?

Danny forces a smile. Sheriff Adam steps to the edge of the forest, looks deep into it.

P.O.V. FROM A DISTANCE: A lone wolf watches Sheriff Adam.

22 EXT. FOREST - THE UNMARKED GRAVE - NIGHT 22

The ground where the young girl was buried shakes again. The mound rises, and a large crack forms on the surface. *

23 INT. SHERIFF'S STATION - DAY 23

A HALF DOZEN PEOPLE including Benson at the counter, waiting for Sheriff Adam who's chatting on the phone. *

SHERIFF ADAM

(into phone)

We need your bloodhounds, Lance,
but don't bring Dennis -- that
guy's nuttier than a bag of trail
mix. Okay, thanks.

Sheriff Adam hangs up, steps to the group. *

SHERIFF ADAM

Thanks for coming, everyone. Looks
like we're meeting at Mildred's
coffee shop at sundown.

BENSON

Wolves are nocturnal. We might
have a good chance of findin' 'em. *

SHERIFF ADAM

That's what I'm counting on. But I
don't want anyone getting hurt.
It's a lot more dangerous this way.
We'll do it together, as a team.

BENSON

We'd expect nothin' less from you,
Sheriff. We'll be waitin'. *

(CONTINUED)

SHERIFF ADAM

Thanks, everyone. I appreciate it.

The group heads out, except A YOUNG WOMAN (20-something). Sheriff Adam notices her standing by the door in a black hoodie, staring intensely at him.

SHERIFF ADAM

Miss? Can I help you?

The young woman walks out. Sheriff Adam turns to Deputy Abbey at the control station, a quizzical look on his face.

DEPUTY ABBEY

New neighbor?

SHERIFF ADAM

Probably. How are we doing on Miss Winfield's granddaughter?

DEPUTY ABBEY

No luck.

SHERIFF ADAM

Call Danny. Keep trying. I'll go down to the cabin, see if I can dig up anything.

A THUMP at the bathroom window, and it cracks. Another THUMP, and it shatters completely.

Danny pokes his head inside.

DANNY

Samantha? Sammy!

He crawls in through the window, struggles.

DANNY

(under his breath)

You couldn't let me have a set of keys, could you?

He walks into

THE LIVING ROOM

Quiet, undisturbed. He looks around, shuffles through school books and folders on the table, finds nothing of interest.

(CONTINUED)

He admires a framed photo of him and Samantha, then dials his cell phone.

DANNY

C'mon, Sammy, pick up.

Samantha's CELL PHONE RINGS inside the apartment. He follows the SOUND, finds her phone on the kitchen counter. He picks it up, puts his away.

DANNY

Why don't you have your phone?

He accesses her VOICE-MAIL:

VOICE-MAIL

Sammy, it's Danny! Where the hell are you? I've tried every--

He skips to the next message.

VOICE-MAIL

Hey, girl! You didn't show up to class. Psych class blows. Call me.

Skip. He plays earlier messages.

VOICE-MAIL

Sammy, it's grandmother. I have a special surprise for you. Can you please come meet me at the house? Hurry, angel. I'll be waiting.

*

*

No more messages. Danny remains pensive.

A humble but comfortable wooden cabin. A red cape hangs on a coat rack. A STUFFED WOLF stands perched by the front door.

Sheriff Adam rummages through Miss Winfield's things, looks carefully through documents and cardboard storage boxes on her wooden desk in the corner.

The front door opens, and Sheriff Adam turns, hand on his gun.

In walks Officer Victoria.

*

SHERIFF ADAM

You scared the hell out of me.

*

(CONTINUED)

OFFICER VICTORIA

Sorry, Adam. Came down to follow up, see if I could figure out why Miss Winfield killed herself.

SHERIFF ADAM

And I'm trying to see if she had any next of kin besides her granddaughter, who we can't locate.

OFFICER VICTORIA

That's interesting. I didn't know she had a granddaughter.

SHERIFF ADAM

You knew her pretty well, huh?

OFFICER VICTORIA

Didn't everyone know the Wolf Lady? Living fearlessly off the land all alone out here. I mean, just look at this thing...

She regards the giant stuffed wolf by the front door.

OFFICER VICTORIA

She killed it and stuffed it herself, supposedly.

SHERIFF ADAM

She definitely knew what she was doing.

His RADIO CRACKLES:

RADIO

Control, 323.

Sheriff Adam starts for the front door.

SHERIFF ADAM

(to Officer Victoria)

Well, good luck. I couldn't find anything.

(into radio)

323, control.

RADIO

Sheriff, what's your 10-20?

SHERIFF ADAM

(into radio)

What's up, Abbey?

(CONTINUED)

25 CONTINUED: (2)

25

RADIO

See a possible property break-in
and wolf sighting on Blake Street.

SHERIFF ADAM

(into radio)

Alright, get me the address.

(to Officer Victoria)

Are you still the wildlife expert
in your department?

OFFICER VICTORIA

That's what they tell me.

SHERIFF ADAM

You got time to follow me?

OFFICER VICTORIA

Sure. Let's go.

26 EXT. HINKLE HOME - DAY

26

Sheriff Adam pulls up in his squad car, Officer Victoria
behind him in hers. Deputy Henry and ANOTHER DEPUTY are
already there, cordoning off the area with yellow tape.
Several NEIGHBORS gather to watch.

Sheriff Adam and Officer Victoria get out of their cars, meet
Deputy Henry.

DEPUTY HENRY

Bitch-slap me twice and kick me in
the nuts if it's not another wolf
attack!

(re: Officer Victoria)

No offense, m'am.

SHERIFF ADAM

What?!

DEPUTY HENRY

Busted in through the rear window,
killed a couple of more kids.
There are tracks all over the yard.

27 INT. HINKLE HOME - DAY

27

The mauled bodies of Jenny and Tommy lie on the floor, blood
splatters and broken glass from the window everywhere.

(CONTINUED)

Sheriff Adam, Deputy Henry and Officer Victoria look around, too shocked to say a word.

Officer Victoria notices wolf fur on the window pane, pulls it and shows it to Sheriff Adam.

SHERIFF ADAM

I've never seen a wolf do this.

OFFICER VICTORIA

It's not common. It's not unheard of, either.

SHERIFF ADAM

What would provoke them to attack like this?

OFFICER VICTORIA

Countless reasons.

SHERIFF ADAM

I'm all ears on any theories you might have.

OFFICER VICTORIA

Territory, food scarcity, thirst. Could be anything.

SHERIFF ADAM

That's your expert opinion?

Officer Victoria's RADIO breaks the eerie silence.

RADIO

Base, PF-3. Please advise, Doral County requests assist on a possible 10-54.

OFFICER VICTORIA

(into radio)

PF-3, Base. I'm 10-97 with Doral County now. Confirmed two 10-54's. Please alert Officer Scudder.

RADIO

PF-3, 10-4.

Officer Victoria bends down, runs a finger along one of the bite marks on Jenny's dead body.

OFFICER VICTORIA

You had another wolf attack last night, didn't you?

(CONTINUED)

27 CONTINUED: (2)

27

SHERIFF ADAM

Looks that way.

Officer Victoria hesitates.

SHERIFF ADAM

What is it?

OFFICER VICTORIA

There have been more attacks in the
area you probably should be made
aware of.

Officer Victoria has Sheriff Adam's full attention now.

SHERIFF ADAM

What's going on?

OFFICER VICTORIA

It's probably be best to continue
this back at the station later.
It's going to take some time.

*

28 EXT. FOREST - THE UNMARKED GRAVE - DAY

28

The unmarked grave where the young girl was buried starts to
shift and move again...

TWO HANDS with nails as big and as sharp as BLADES burst up
from the ground and feel around. The ARMS follow, purple and
bruised, with skin missing in parts to reveal rotting muscle
underneath. The HEAD pokes through with closed eyes, sunken
and dark, like the skull of a long-dead corpse. Blood drools
from the mouth. Part of the cheek is missing on one side.

At last, the full body of the young girl crawls out from the
grave, her legs and torso as bloodied and decrepit as her
arms and face. Covered in dirt and debris, her red jacket
and hoodie tattered and shredded, she shakes the earth out of
what's left of her once-beautiful hair.

*

*

She OPENS HER EYES to reveal a pair of GLOWING DEMONIC ORBS.

29 INT. SHERIFF'S STATION - STRATEGY ROOM - DAY

29

A geographic map of the town and surrounding area is on the
wall. Sheriff Adam, Deputy Henry and Deputy Abbey watch
Officer Victoria point things out on the map.

(CONTINUED)

OFFICER VICTORIA

The first wolf attack happened in Arcadia, twenty miles south of here.

SHERIFF ADAM

Since you've been tracking them?

OFFICER VICTORIA

Since I became concerned. The next one was halfway between the two towns, by Sproul Creek. Then there were attacks here, here and here.

She points out a pattern in the forest around the town.

DEPUTY ABBEY

All these attacks happened when?

OFFICER VICTORIA

Over the past few months. Over a dozen attacks.

DEPUTY HENRY

I say it's time to exterminate these fuckers!

SHERIFF ADAM

Why wasn't I made aware of them?

OFFICER VICTORIA

Out of your jurisdiction. I guess no one saw any cause for concern, and no reason to alert your office.

SHERIFF ADAM

We've had wolves around here for as long as I can remember. This has never happened before.

OFFICER VICTORIA

You're used to seeing Canis rufus, known as the red wolf. It's like a wolf-coyote mix. Not as big as the Canis lupus, the gray wolf, which on average is twice as large as its cousin.

SHERIFF ADAM

And twice as aggressive?

OFFICER VICTORIA

Potentially.

(CONTINUED)

SHERIFF ADAM

Okay, so why are we seeing the gray wolf, then? I'm confused.

OFFICER VICTORIA

From what I know, wolves in general aren't as common around here as they once were. Red wolves might come up from the south from time to time. But Gray wolves have been eradicated for decades, so we're really not supposed to see them in this neck of the woods at all.

DEPUTY HENRY

Yet, here they are.

OFFICER VICTORIA

All I know is that this was their territory at one time. Before man hunted them down to near extinction and wiped them out in the last century.

SHERIFF ADAM

So you're saying they've come back?

OFFICER VICTORIA

I'm saying something unprecedented seems to be taking place.

SHERIFF ADAM

Well, whatever is going on, this aggressiveness isn't normal. A lot of these towns have been around for a hundred years, with no problems.

OFFICER VICTORIA

No major problems, but yes, you're basically correct.

SHERIFF ADAM

So what's happening, then?

An awkward moment of silence. Finally...

OFFICER VICTORIA

I'm not the biggest expert at this, but I've been doing extra research, and I have reasons to suspect we might be dealing with a new breed of wolf.

(CONTINUED)

SHERIFF ADAM

What do you mean, new breed?

OFFICER VICTORIA

There's a lot more to it, but I think these wolves have been showing uncommon characteristics lately. Exhibiting traits that... they shouldn't be showing.

Sheriff Adam stares at her as if trying to read her mind.

SHERIFF ADAM

Are you kidding me?

OFFICER VICTORIA

No, I'm not.

DEPUTY HENRY

Hey, maybe they're werewolves.

SHERIFF ADAM

So what do we do with this new breed of yours?

OFFICER VICTORIA

I don't know, Adam. Stock up on silver bullets?

SHERIFF ADAM

Well, you let me know when you have an idea how to stop them from killing people, because that's all I really care about.

He points to a MOUNTAIN RIDGE on the map.

SHERIFF ADAM

This is the common point between all the towns. We should probably start looking here.

OFFICER VICTORIA

That's a dead area. No reported wolf sightings.

SHERIFF ADAM

You can't be sure.

OFFICER VICTORIA

The mountains are pretty steep and barren there. There's not enough prey for a predator at the top of
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

OFFICER VICTORIA (CONT'D)

the food chain, and no source of water like other places. Feel free to go look, but I think it would be a waste of your time.

SHERIFF ADAM

So where should we look, then?

OFFICER VICTORIA

I recommend you look for bodies of water, creeks or rivers, within a three-mile radius outside of town or the last known contact with the animals. You should find their dens nearby.

SHERIFF ADAM

Why don't you come with us in the morning and help?

Officer Victoria looks at her watch.

OFFICER VICTORIA

Tomorrow's bad. I have to wrap up my report on Miss Winfield's suicide for Scudder. You know how anal he is about paperwork. But I'll be happy to go with you any other time.

SHERIFF ADAM

I understand. And I may just take you up on that offer.

Sheriff Adam and his deputies get up.

OFFICER VICTORIA

Adam, I know you think you know the land and the wildlife here.

She hesitates.

SHERIFF ADAM

Spit it out.

OFFICER VICTORIA

The forest is a very big place.

SHERIFF ADAM

When we get back with the catch, you can help us tag 'em and bag 'em. How's that?

(CONTINUED)

29 CONTINUED: (5)

29

OFFICER VICTORIA
Sounds like a plan.

Sheriff Adam winks at her, and she smiles.

30 EXT. FOREST CLEARING - NIGHT

30

The waxing moon casts a bright blue luminance over the entire area. Several cars are parked along with several people from the town, shotguns, rifles and powerful flashlights in hand, including LANCE with his BARKING BLOOD HOUNDS. *

Sheriff Adam pulls up in his patrol car as Deputy Henry checks everyone's weapons for safety.

SHERIFF ADAM
(to Deputy Henry)
How we doin'?

DEPUTY HENRY
We're mostly good here, sheriff.

Deputy Henry spots Benson walk by with a World War II era flame-thrower, a FUEL TANK strapped to his back. *

DEPUTY HENRY
Whoa, whoa, whoa! Where are you taking that thing, soldier? Get over here!

SHERIFF ADAM
Benson, what the hell is that?

BENSON
What the hell's it look like? *

Benson lets loose with a FULL BLAST OF LIQUID FLAMES across the clearing. People run and hide.

BENSON
Pretty spiffy, huh?

SHERIFF ADAM
Shut that damned thing off! You wanna burn the whole forest down!? *

Sheriff Adam angrily takes the weapon from him, hands it to Deputy Henry.

BENSON
Oh, nonsense! Give me a break, will ya?!

(CONTINUED)

SHERIFF ADAM
(to Deputy Henry)
Throw this thing in my trunk. Keep
it off the streets!

*
*

BENSON
So what 'm I supposed to use,
sheriff, the bottom of my shoe and
bad breath?

*
*

Sheriff Adam puts his finger in Benson's face...

SHERIFF ADAM
You're really starting to get on my
nerves, Benson! Watch it!

*
*

...and walks off.

Deputy Henry throws the flame-thrower in the back of Sheriff Adam's patrol car, pulls out a rifle and hands it to Benson.

DEPUTY HENRY
I want this back when we're done,
you hear me?

BENSON
An' I want my flame-thrower back,
ya hear me?

DEPUTY HENRY
That's between you and the sheriff.
Now quit being a smart-ass!

Sheriff Adam notices the same young woman in the black hoodie he saw at the police station watching his every move from the crowd.

He walks over to her.

YOUNG WOMAN
You should leave the wolf alone.
It only acted on instinct.

SHERIFF ADAM
Your name is?

YOUNG WOMAN
Not important.

SHERIFF ADAM
I think it is.

She hesitates.

(CONTINUED)

YOUNG WOMAN

Becky... Becky Sanders.

SHERIFF ADAM

You're new to this neck of the woods, Becky Sanders? I don't believe I've ever met you bef--

BECKY

I've been around, sheriff. Long enough to know we're the ones encroaching on the wolves' land, and it's not our place to kill them.

SHERIFF ADAM

So you would rather we let this animal continue killing our good citizens?

Becky looks away.

SHERIFF ADAM

This wild animal has to be taken out, I'm sorry.

BECKY

I'm sorry, too.

SHERIFF ADAM

I can't assume you're here to wish us good fortune on the hunt.

Becky looks menacingly into his eyes.

SHERIFF ADAM

Are you here to give me trouble today, Becky?

BECKY

I'm certain you'll have enough trouble without me.

Sheriff Adam studies Becky for a beat, then walks away from her, pulls Deputy Henry aside.

SHERIFF ADAM

Do me a favor when we're done. Run a background on a Becky Sanders.

Deputy Henry glances at Becky.

(CONTINUED)

DEPUTY HENRY

You got it.

Sheriff Adam turns to the group, WHISTLES for them to gather.

SHERIFF ADAM

Alright, listen up! We're wasting time. Is everyone ready?

Affirmative responses...

SHERIFF ADAM

You all know why we're here. We have a serious wolf problem. It's killed three young people so far, unprovoked, which means its not afraid of humans. We need to put this thing down before it attacks again. I don't want anyone getting hurt. Stick together. Understood?

More affirmative responses.

SHERIFF ADAM

Okay, let's move!

The group starts walking into the forest, bright flashlight beams crisscrossing in every direction. Becky watches them with piercing eyes.

*
*

The ARMED POSSE moves through the trees and thick brush, Lance leading the way with his BARKING dogs.

LANCE

Let's go, boys and girls. Show everyone what you got!

The group spreads out.

LATER: Deputy Henry and Benson walk side by side.

BENSON

About time we did this, Henry. I've been tellin' you and the Sheriff forever 'bout these wolves!

DEPUTY HENRY

They're just animals.

(CONTINUED)

31 CONTINUED:

31

BENSON

There's something not right about
'em, no sir! I've been here m'
whole life and I know when there's
something off kilter, yessir!

DEPUTY HENRY

Well, maybe you'll get a chance to
nab one today.

BENSON

Oh, you bet your sweet patootie on
that one! Yessiree!

*
*

32 EXT. THE FOREST - NIGHT

32

Sheriff Adam, Deputy Henry and the posse stand around a CROP
OF BUSHES THAT COVERS A HOLE IN THE GROUND. Benson crawls
out, shakes the dirt out of his head.

*
*

DEPUTY HENRY

Alright, Mr. Expert. What'd you
find?

BENSON

It's a den, alright, but I reckon
it's been 'bandoned for a while.

SHERIFF ADAM

Alright, let's keep moving.

Benson dusts himself off, and the group heads out again.

33 EXT. THE FOREST - NIGHT

33

Later. Deeper in the woods. Everyone looks wary and tired.
They stop at a RIVER.

The blood hounds lap up the water as the group puts down
their weapons and gear.

LANCE

The hounds are done, Sheriff.
There's wolves out here, alright.
They can smell 'em! But these
woods are thick.

In the distance, a WOLF HOWLS...

BENSON

Ya hear that?

(CONTINUED)

SHERIFF ADAM

We're close, Lance. We should keep going a little while longer. Think the hounds will cooperate?

LANCE

Let's just give them a five-minute rest, boss.

Suddenly the hounds GO CRAZY. They BARK across the river, practically tearing out of their leashes.

LANCE

Whoa! What is it?!

Everyone aims their powerful flashlights across the river. Lance tries to control his dogs. *

LANCE

Over there, by the rocks!

It doesn't take Sheriff Adam long to spot them: A PAIR of glowing RED EYES in the heavy brush.

Several of the men aim their weapons.

BENSON

I see 'im! I got a clean shot!

SEVERAL SHOTS ring out, and the animal YELPS and falls over.

DEPUTY HENRY

Take that, sucker!

SHERIFF ADAM

Careful, there might be more of them!

Everyone looks around in quiet anticipation, but the forest is eerily dark and silent.

BENSON

It's a lone wolf, sheriff.
Probably the exact one we was
looking for. Yessiree! *

After a beat, the men CHEER and high-five each other.

DEPUTY HENRY

Piece of cake, mother fuckers!

ANOTHER WOLF appears suddenly from behind and attacks one of the men, knocking him back into the river. *

(CONTINUED)

Sheriff Adam FIRES a volley of bullets from his hand-gun, but misses the darting animal.

SHERIFF ADAM

Shoot it! Quick!

Total chaos ensues as ANOTHER WOLF attacks from behind.

RIFLE BLASTS and GUN SHOTS ring out as the men fight back, but they are overcome by a group of gray beasts moving so fast, they become a blur of motion as they attack, retreat, then attack again.

One of the men SCREAMS when he's shot by FRIENDLY FIRE.

Deputy Henry goes into a rage, FIRING FREE-FOR-ALL.

DEPUTY HENRY

What, you want some?!

BAM! Another SHOTGUN BLAST!

DEPUTY HENRY

Take that, bitch! Come on! I got more!

Deputy Henry and Benson get knocked over. The bloodhounds break free and run off BARKING into the forest.

A wolf lunges at Lance, takes him down by the neck. Blood squirts in all directions. Lance SCREAMS.

BENSON

Lance! Lance!

BAM! BAM! BAM! More SHOTGUN BLASTS and barrel flashes ricochet through the woods like fireworks...

A wolf races straight for Sheriff Adam. As it lunges at him, the ZOMBIE-DEMON GIRL that climbed out of her grave jumps through the air and tears the wolf's torso in half with her RAZOR-SHARP CLAWS. Entrails and blood fly through the air.

She turns for an instant to glance at Sheriff Adam, her eyes glowing like luminescent fireballs.

Everyone reacts...

DEPUTY HENRY

What the hell is that?!

He BLASTS a round at the girl, but Sheriff Adam pushes him...

(CONTINUED)

SHERIFF ADAM

Don't!

...and the bullets miss.

Another wolf flanks the zombie-demon girl and lunges at her. She turns and catches the beast in mid-air with her sharp claws. The beast dies before it hits the ground.

ANOTHER WOLF approaches, but stops and sizes the zombie-demon girl up and down. The wolf GROWLS menacingly, then high-tails it back to the forest.

DEPUTY HENRY

What the fuck?! What the fuck?!

Most of the men are on the ground and badly injured. Lance is dead. Deputy Henry is in total freak-out mode.

The zombie-demon girl walks confidently through the battlefield. She turns to Sheriff Adam, looks at Deputy Henry and Benson, then runs back into the forest...

EXT. FOREST CLEARING - DAY

The sun rises. Several FIRST-RESPONDER VEHICLES gather at the clearing where the armed posse left their cars. Lance's body is draped on a gurney by the coroner's van. *

Everyone, including Sheriff Adam and Deputy Henry, look rattled and wide-eyed. EMTs take care of the wounded. An ambulance rushes one of the men out of there.

Officer Scudder talks to Sheriff Adam alone off to the side.

OFFICER SCUDDER

I need for you to tell me what happened here, Adam, or we're going to have to step in and take over.

Sheriff Adam hesitates.

OFFICER SCUDDER

I don't want to do that to you, but you have another dead body on your hands. And every time there's a dead body in your little splinter of paradise, you know the state police has to jump in. That's my job. That's when I have to get involved. This is serious shit.

(CONTINUED)

Benson walks over.

BENSON

I kept tellin' ya, something's
wrong with the wolves.

Sheriff Adam snaps...

SHERIFF ADAM

What was that thing that came out
of nowhere, Benson? Was that a
wolf, too?! Please be quiet!

Benson retreats.

OFFICER SCUDDER

What thing?

SHERIFF ADAM

I don't know what it was. Someone.
Some... thing. Those wolves snuck
up on us. Everything went to hell
fast, and then this... zombie-girl
came to our rescue.

DEPUTY HENRY

That bitch looked like a walking
corpse! She definitely wasn't
human, I'll tell you that much!

OFFICER SCUDDER

You're saying a girl... zombie...
corpse-thing... saved your lives?

Sheriff Adam sighs.

SHERIFF ADAM

Yeah, that's what I'm saying.

OFFICER SCUDDER

So where is this... thing?

SHERIFF ADAM

Probably still in the forest.

OFFICER SCUDDER

Let's go find her, then.

DEPUTY HENRY

Fuck that. You go find her! That
bitch had demon eyes!

An awkward moment of silence.

(CONTINUED)

34 CONTINUED: (2)

34

DEPUTY HENRY

She was kind of crexy, though, if
you put aside the demon eyes.

OFFICER SCUDDER

Crexy?

DEPUTY HENRY

Creepy-sexy. Crexy.

Officer Scudder is at a loss for words.

SHERIFF ADAM

(to Officer Scudder)

Look. Give me some time to lock
this down. You know if I need the
State Police to help, I'll ask for
you. I don't have any problem with
you coming in here to lend a hand.
But just for the sake of my own
sanity, let me get a grasp of this
first, okay?

Officer Scudder stares at Sheriff Adam.

OFFICER SCUDDER

Adam, you know I got your back, but
I can only give you a few days at
most.

35 EXT. FOREST FIELD - DAY

35

Not far from one of the town roads, Little Dead Rotting Hood
wakes in an open field, a NORMAL HUMAN again -- except for
her skin, which is pale. With the same tattered clothes, she *
looks around, a look of total confusion and fear on her face.

She runs back toward town.

36 INT. SHERIFF ADAM'S HOUSE - DAY

36

Looking banged up, Sheriff Adam walks out of the shower with
shorts and a T-shirt, pours a cup of coffee. The DOORBELL
RINGS and the front door opens. His TWO CHILDREN run in.

DUSTY & KENDRA

Daddy!!

Startled, Sheriff Adam hugs them, as Deputy Abbey walks in
behind them, giant suitcase in tow.

(CONTINUED)

SHERIFF ADAM

I can't believe it. I totally forgot they were coming. They shouldn't be here right now with all that's going on.

DEPUTY ABBEY

I agree. It's dangerous. But do you really think your wife would have understood?

SHERIFF ADAM

Never in a thousand years.

The kids jump all over their dad some more, and Deputy Abbey walks out, shuts the door behind her.

SHERIFF ADAM

I've missed you guys so much! How was the plane ride?

Split responses:

DUSTY

Too scary, dad! I thought the plane was going to crash! And they didn't have my favorite drink -- or food!!

KENDRA

I loved it! It was perfect! Can we go to Hawaii next? Daddy, I love to fly! Can I be a pilot when I grow up?

Sheriff Adam LAUGHS and hugs them tighter.

SHERIFF ADAM

Alright, let's grab the suitcase and settle you guys in!

He watches them fondly as they grab the suit case and roll it to their room, SCREAMING and LAUGHING the whole way.

EXT. SHERIFF'S STATION - DAY

Deputy Henry is not his cheerful usual-self as he takes Danny's report by his car.

DEPUTY HENRY

When's the last time you saw her?

DANNY

You already asked me that.

Deputy Henry looks down at his report.

(CONTINUED)

DEPUTY HENRY

Yeah, sorry. You're right.

*

DANNY

Are you putting out a bulletin for everyone to look for her?

*

DEPUTY HENRY

The sheriff will decide.

DANNY

What's there to decide? This is bullshit, Henry! With all those wolves running around out there, and her grandmother dead, what if something bad happened to her?

DEPUTY HENRY

Hey, relax!

DANNY

Forget it, man! How long does she have to go missing before you guys take this serious?!

DEPUTY HENRY

The sheriff says your girl used to run away a lot growing up, so I don't think he's too concerned.

DANNY

Well, at least you admit you don't care! Thanks for nothing!

Danny jumps in his car...

DEPUTY HENRY

Danny, wait!

...and takes off.

Danny drives fast, angry. His cell phone RINGS, and he peeks at the screen. He answers it.

DANNY

Sammy?!

39 INT. SAMANTHA'S APARTMENT - DAY

39

Danny storms in, finds Samantha curled up in a ball on the couch. He slams the door shut and runs to her.

DANNY

Sammy!!

He holds her really tight, kisses her.

DANNY

Oh, my god, where have you been?!

He takes in her bloodied and dishevelled appearance.

DANNY

What happened to you?

She stares at him, a look of confusion on her face.

SAMANTHA

I... don't know.

Danny dials his cell phone.

DANNY

I gotta tell the sheriff!

SAMANTHA

Don't.

DANNY

What?

Samantha raises her voice.

SAMANTHA

I said, don't!

Danny puts the phone down, touches her arms.

DANNY

You're so cold and pale!

He grabs a blanket, covers her with it and holds her tight again.

DANNY

Just relax. Everything's going to be okay.

He sees dried mud and debris stuck to her feet and ankles.

(CONTINUED)

39 CONTINUED:

39

DANNY

My god, where have you been?

Samantha closes her eyes. A tear runs down her cheek.

40 EXT. MILDRED'S COFFEE SHOP - DAY

40

MARTHA walks out of the coffee shop as Sheriff Adam pulls up in his cruiser with both of his kids in tow.

MARTHA

Morning, sheriff. Looks like you got your helpers today.

SHERIFF ADAM

I sure do, Martha. You say hello to George for me.

Martha walks up to Sheriff Adam, grabs him by the arm.

MARTHA

Promise to be more careful hunting those wolves, young man.

Sheriff Adam is slightly taken aback.

SHERIFF ADAM

Yes, ma'am. I promise.

He watches her walk back to her car.

41 INT. MILDRED'S COFFEE SHOP - DAY

41

Mildred is busy serving other customers, as Sheriff Adam picks a spot and sits with Dusty and Kendra. The kids grab the menu and ARGUE about the deserts.

*

SHERIFF ADAM

Sorry, you're not having cookies until you eat some real food. End of discussion.

*

DUSTY

But, daddy, not all cookies are junk-food!

*

KENDRA

Yes, they are! They're the same as candy and donuts and marshmallows and gummy bears!

*

(CONTINUED)

Mildred walks up to the group, addresses the kids.

*

MILDRED

Hey, there! Haven't seen you two
in a while... Who's this big guy
you dragged in here with you?

*

*

*

KENDRA

Oh, he says he's our daddy, but
I've never seen him before.

*

*

*

DUSTY

Yeah, he's hungry, too.

*

*

KENDRA

He's always hungry!

*

*

The kids LAUGH hysterically. Mildred angles away, so the
kids can't hear.

*

MILDRED

(to Sheriff Adam)

You okay? I heard what happened
out in the forest, there.

*

SHERIFF ADAM

I'll be fine.

MILDRED

You know, people are talkin' about
these wolves going on a rampage,
killin' folks. Like they're
suddenly possessed or something.

SHERIFF ADAM

That's nonsense. They're just
animals.

Mildred stares at Sheriff Adam for a beat.

MILDRED

Well, I hope you're right.

*

Quickly changing the subject...

SHERIFF ADAM

You still go those rib-eyes you had
last week?

MILDRED

Do bears poop in the woods?

Dusty and Kendra LAUGH again at her response.

*

(CONTINUED)

41 CONTINUED: (2)

41

SHERIFF ADAM

Let me have a plate of that, with
all the trimmings, and whatever
these knuckleheads want -- unless
they ask you for cookies.

DUSTY

Aww, dad!

KENDRA

No cookies, Dusty!

MILDRED

You kids want to try the chicken
fingers with fries?

The kids respond affirmatively as Sheriff Adam stares at the
picture of the rib-eye steak on the menu cover. Suddenly,
something occurs to him...

SHERIFF ADAM

Mildred?

MILDRED

Yeah, boss?

SHERIFF ADAM

You cut your own steaks here?

MILDRED

Sure do. Why do you ask?

SHERIFF ADAM

How much does a full slab of meat
weigh?

*

MILDRED

About thirty, thirty-five pounds.
I'm not sure.

*

*

Sheriff Adam reaches into his pocket to see how much money he
has...

SHERIFF ADAM

Can I buy a slab from you?

42

EXT. TOP OF THE MOUNTAIN - TRAIL - DAY

42

Sheriff Adam parks the cruiser and gets out, the kids PLAYING
GAMES on their game tablets in the back seat. He looks
pensive out over the forest far below him, then looks through
a pair of binoculars.

(CONTINUED)

42 CONTINUED:

42

P.O.V. THROUGH BINOCULARS: Trees and undergrowth everywhere.

He pulls a map from his cruiser and runs a finger along the page until he finds the right spot. He draws an "X."

43 EXT. MOUNTAIN OVERLOOK - DAY

43

Sheriff Adam drives up and parks on top of ANOTHER HILL. He scans the forest valley below again:

P.O.V. THROUGH BINOCULARS: A deer forages on berries. Beyond that, there's nothing but trees, rocks and streams.

A wolf HOWLS in the distance. He scans the valley for the source, but spots Becky Sanders by a stream instead.

Becky puts her hand in the water, splashes it, looks around as if searching for something.

After a beat, A WOLF appears on the other side of the water, sits like a domesticated dog. Becky stands and regards it.

Sheriff Adam puts down the binoculars, incredulous.

SHERIFF ADAM

What the hell?

He looks through the binoculars again, but the wolf is gone. Becky walks to her car, gets in and drives away.

44 INT. SAMANTHA'S APARTMENT - DAY

44

Samantha sits at the kitchen table huddled in a blanket, trying to sip soup from a spoon that Danny feeds her.

DANNY

I'm sorry about your grandmother.

Samantha seems to contemplate his words, but shows little reaction. She speaks in a very monotone voice:

SAMANTHA

I need to go back to her house.

DANNY

For what?

SAMANTHA

I have to find something of hers that's very important.

(CONTINUED)

44 CONTINUED:

44

DANNY

Okay. Let's go.

SAMANTHA

Not now.

DANNY

When?

SAMANTHA

After sundown. I don't want anyone
to see me like this.

45 EXT. FOREST - DAY

45

A WOLF HOWLS somewhere in the distance.

P.O.V. OF A LONE WOLF: It wanders through the forest,
sniffing the air and smelling the ground, its ears at full
attention.

By the river, something odd hangs from a tree. A large
carcass, some piece of fresh meat. On a rope.

The wolf regards it, smells the air, and moves closer to it.

The wolf stops in its tracks, hesitates. It looks at the
hanging meat as if waiting for it to move. After a beat, it
takes a step closer.

P.O.V. THROUGH A RIFLE TELESCOPE: The wolf moves to bite into
the carcass, when a DEAFENING RIFLE BLAST tears through the
night sky and the wolf YELPS its sudden demise.

Sheriff Adam looks up from his rifle's telescope.

SHERIFF ADAM

Gotcha.

46 EXT. STATE POLICE & PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING - NIGHT

46

Officer Victoria is on her computer in her office, working on
a report.

Sheriff Adam opens the door and storms in, the corpse of a
GRAY WOLF slung over his shoulder. He drops it at her feet
with a LOUD THUMP.

SHERIFF ADAM

A direct hit to the back of the
head is all it took.

(CONTINUED)

OFFICER VICTORIA

What are you doing?

SHERIFF ADAM

I killed your werewolf for you, and
I didn't even need silver bullets!
You're welcome.

OFFICER VICTORIA

Adam, seriously?

SHERIFF ADAM

You scared my deputies with your
talk of a new breed of wolf. The
whole town's freaking out, so I
thought I'd help you figure things
out.

OFFICER VICTORIA

Freaking out because of what I
said? Or because of what you said?

Officer Victoria eyes him carefully.

OFFICER VICTORIA

A corpse zombie-thing, is that what
you called it? Everyone is talking
about that, too.

Sheriff Adam closes the office door.

SHERIFF ADAM

I don't know what I saw. You said
you thought we were dealing with a
new breed of wolf, right?

Officer Victoria gets on her knees, regards the corpse...

OFFICER VICTORIA

The snout on this one is longer.
Paws are bigger. Eyes larger.

...and closes its dead open eyes with a gentle hand. She
runs her finger behind its sharp teeth.

OFFICER VICTORIA

Here. Feel behind the upper teeth.

Sheriff Adam, hesitant at first, does as he's asked.

SHERIFF ADAM

Double canines?!

(CONTINUED)

Sheriff Adam looks at Officer Victoria, as if a thousand thoughts were running through his head.

SHERIFF ADAM

What is this? I don't--! What are we dealing with?

OFFICER VICTORIA

Genetic mutation? I think their attacks on all the towns show a conscious effort to test the boundaries and the reactions of humans.

SHERIFF ADAM

And they're doing this, why?

OFFICER VICTORIA

Resurgence. Domination. I don't know. Your guess is as good as mine.

SHERIFF ADAM

You're thinking there's something supernatural about all of this, aren't you? Something you can't explain.

OFFICER VICTORIA

I don't know about your zombie-thing you think you saw, but I can tell you nature has a natural process of adaptation. I think these animals are evolving, but supernatural? No. There's no such thing.

Sheriff Adam contemplates her words. Officer Scudder walks in, sees the wolf corpse on the ground.

OFFICER SCUDDER

You guys okay? Adam?

SHERIFF ADAM

I'm not sure. But I'll let you know.

*
*

Sheriff Adam walks off.

47

EXT. FOREST - NIGHT

47

Sammy leads Danny by the hand through the woods and thick underbrush. Sammy has her blanket draped around her, and Danny carries a rifle, but doesn't look very confident.

SAMANTHA

This is the path I took. My grandmother asked me to come this way, but she knew it was a dangerous path. Why would she do this?

*

She looks at Danny, a quizzical expression on her face.

SAMANTHA

I was ambushed by... a wolf. It's the last thing I remember.

*

DANNY

We're going to be ambushed by wolves if we don't keep moving. It's too dangerous to be out here at this time of night.

SAMANTHA

You have a rifle.

DANNY

A lot of good it's gonna do if we run into a pack of wolves.

They pass through the treeline and approach

MISS WINFIELD'S CABIN

Samantha falls to her knees when she finds the grave she crawled out of. She runs her hands through the loose dirt.

DANNY

What is it?

SAMANTHA

I died, Danny. I don't know how I know this, but... I died. This is where I was buried. And... reborn.

*

*

Danny is taken aback.

DANNY

This is insane, Sammy! Are you kidding me? What the hell are you talking about!?

*

*

*

(CONTINUED)

Samantha smells the air... as if in a trance.

*

SAMANTHA

I can smell the hunger... and the fear.

DANNY

You're totally freaking me out now!

SAMANTHA

Danny, I can smell the fear in you!

DANNY

Of course you can, I'm scared!

Samantha holds her stomach, doubles over in pain.

SAMANTHA

I can feel their lust for blood.
Their anger. Their fear of the...
Den Mother.

DANNY

Den mother?! Sammy, are you
fucking with me?

SAMANTHA

No, Danny! Get out of here! Go!

DANNY

No! I'm staying here with you!

Samantha looks into the forest.

SAMANTHA

Danny, they're coming!

Danny loads his rifle.

DANNY

Who's coming?! What are you
talking about?!

Samantha falls to her knees.

DANNY

Sammy!

She looks up at him, her eyes suddenly GLOWING YELLOW ORBS.

SAMANTHA

(demonic, hoarse)
Get out of here, now!

(CONTINUED)

Danny freaks out, stumbles backward, as he watches Samantha TRANSFORM into Little Dead Rotting Hood before his eyes.

Samantha arches her back in pain, then writhes violently on the ground. She punches the dirt with her fists. Her skin changes color, her fangs grow, and her nails extend and sharpen to become sharp killing weapons.

Danny's mind is completely blown. He SCREAMS at the top of his lungs, and turns to run away...

In that instant, A WOLF jumps from the forest at Little Dead Rotting Hood, but she rolls out of its way.

Another one circles around behind her.

They rush her at the same time, but she ducks and rolls out of their way, almost playing with them.

Danny turns and watches from behind the treeline, wide-eyed and scared out of his mind.

DANNY

Holy shit! What the fuck?!

The wolves continue their attack against Little Dead Rotting Hood, but fail miserably:

The first one loses its head; its body runs headless into a tree at full speed.

The second one loses its hind legs, runs pathetically in circles on the ground before getting cut in two.

TWO MORE WOLVES GROWL from the treeline, turn and flee back into the night.

Little Dead Rotting Hood looks around for Danny, finds him hiding up in a TALL TREE, aiming his rifle at her.

DANNY

(trembling with fear)

What... what the fuck are you?

He stares into her eyes, and slowly lowers the weapon.

Little Dead Rotting Hood collapses in a heap on the ground.

Sheriff Adam and his kids eat pizza and chicken wings at the table, with the television on in the background.

(CONTINUED)

48 CONTINUED:

SHERIFF ADAM

I have a question for you knuckle-
heads. Don't you have homework the
teachers gave you to do?

KENDRA

Nope, we already did it!

DUSTY

All done, daddy!

SHERIFF ADAM

I think someone's pulling my leg.

The kids LAUGH deliriously as if the greatest joke had just *
been told.

SHERIFF ADAM

Do your homework after we finish
eating, okay?

KENDRA

Can we play after, daddy?

SHERIFF ADAM

Sure. You guys want more pizza?

Dusty BURPS.

DUSTY

Nope.

More hysterical LAUGHTER, and Sheriff Adam LAUGHS, too. The
PHONE RINGS, and the kids go to their room.

He picks up.

SHERIFF ADAM

Henry, what's up?

INTERCUT:

49 INT. SHERIFF'S STATION - NIGHT

49

Deputy Henry scrolls through information on a computer, with
rows of data and images of Becky Sanders popping up.

DEPUTY HENRY

Got a background on that Becky
Sanders girl you asked me to check.

(CONTINUED)

SHERIFF ADAM

Let's hear it.

DEPUTY HENRY

Looks like this chick's got a rap sheet a mile long, mostly for civil disobedience. Arrested protesting for animal rights.

SHERIFF ADAM

Any outstanding warrants?

DEPUTY HENRY

Negative on that. But check this out. Assault and battery on three occasions -- for attacking animal control officers. She bit them!

SHERIFF ADAM

Bit them?!

DEPUTY HENRY

Are you ready for this? Guess who she attacked last year? Esmerelda Winfield.

SHERIFF ADAM

The Wolf Lady?

DEPUTY HENRY

The one who just killed herself.

SHERIFF ADAM

How come I never knew about this?

DEPUTY HENRY

Happened a few miles away in Clover Town. That's not our jurisdiction.

An awkward silence as Sheriff Adam takes it all in.

SHERIFF ADAM

You got a current address?

DEPUTY HENRY

I'll have to verify.

SHERIFF ADAM

Do it. I think we're going to pay her a visit in the morning.

DEPUTY HENRY

Copy that.

(CONTINUED)

49 CONTINUED: (2)

49

They hang up. Sheriff Adam remains deep in thought.

50 EXT. FOREST CLEARING - NIGHT

50

Little Dead Rotting Hood lies unconscious on the forest floor, back to her normal human self again.

Danny puts her blanket back on her, shakes her.

DANNY

Sammy...?

Samantha wakes with a start.

SAMANTHA

Oh, my God, Danny!

She holds her head in pain.

DANNY

Are you okay?

SAMANTHA

I...

Samantha rolls her eyes around in her head, as if a thousand thoughts come to her mind.

SAMANTHA

My grandma's house! Quick!

She takes off running before Danny can say anything.

DANNY

Samantha, wait! What happened?!

51 EXT. GRANDMA'S CABIN - NIGHT

51

Samantha runs as fast as her human legs will carry her to her grandmother's cabin. She finds the front door locked, runs around to the back.

Danny reaches the front, looks around for Samantha.

DANNY

Sammy?

The front door opens, and Samantha pulls Danny inside.

52

INT. GRANDMA'S CABIN - NIGHT

52

Sammy turns on the lights, and Danny SCREAMS in terror at the site of a WOLF with its claws reaching out for him.

SAMANTHA

Danny!

It's the stuffed animal. Danny backs up, paces around the room in total confusion. Samantha tosses her tattered red cape, puts on the new one from her grandmother's coat rack.

DANNY

Okay, listen, what just happened out there? I mean, what the hell... are you?

Samantha goes through SEVERAL BOOKS on a bookcase, looks at each title and tosses them aside, one after the other.

DANNY

Sammy, I need answers, I'm sorry! What are you looking for? What are we doing here?

She ignores him, continues her search under grandmother's bed. She pulls out SEVERAL BOXES, searches them, pushes them aside.

Danny grabs her arm angrily, makes her look at him.

*

DANNY

Tell me what's going on!

SAMANTHA

I'm just as confused as you are. I'm trying to find answers!

DANNY

Under the bed?

SAMANTHA

My grandmother had a lot of secrets and she kept a diary. It has to be around here somewhere.

As Samantha continues her search, Danny goes to the stuffed wolf. He grabs it by the snout and runs his fingers along the sharp teeth. He shakes it and looks down at the floor board. It moves.

(CONTINUED)

DANNY

Sammy?

She looks up, and he points at the floor. Together they move the wolf to reveal

A HIDDEN FLOOR COMPARTMENT

Danny reaches in and pulls out a leather-bound DIARY.

SAMANTHA

You found it!

Samantha sits on the couch and looks through it...

SAMANTHA

Oh, my God, this is it.

Danny sits beside her, looks on: PAGES AND PAGES of hand-written text and elaborate drawings. Wolves, trees, and other animals. Some predators, some prey.

DANNY

What is all this?

Samantha stops on a page that has drawings of a person in a cape and hood, much like the one she's wearing now -- just not as tattered and shredded.

SAMANTHA

That's her. My grandmother.

Another drawing: the figure stands before a dozen wolves.

SAMANTHA

Look. They're afraid of her.

More drawings, more text. Finally, the sketch of a GIGANTIC WOLF, twice the height of the woman, and completely different than the other wolves. It looks part human, more defined and muscular. It's a GIANT WEREWOLF.

SAMANTHA

The Den Mother...

THE FINAL PAGES OF THE BOOK: drawings of a FULL MOON and lines that indicate an alignment with the Earth. The final page shows the grandmother slashing her arms, and blood falling onto a grave. A younger, stronger female rises from the grave to confront the giant werewolf.

SAMANTHA

Oh, my God, Danny.

(CONTINUED)

52 CONTINUED: (2)

52

Samantha looks up, tears falling from her eyes, a look of complete dread on her face.

SAMANTHA

My grandmother sacrificed herself
for the town.

DANNY

And she sacrificed you, too?

*

Samantha shakes her head affirmatively, almost in shock.

SAMANTHA

So she could pass on her powers.

DANNY

What does this mean?! You're...?

SAMANTHA

Dead?

They stare at each other in total disbelief.

DANNY

How!? Sammy, why!? I don't--!

Sammy points at the giant werewolf in the diary:

SAMANTHA

A new Den Mother -- a Mega Wolf --
will rise when the Hunter's Moon
falls on the autumn equinox...
tomorrow night.

*

*

DANNY

Tomorrow night? Okay, what does
that mean? What happens tomorrow
night?

*

*

*

SAMANTHA

She'll gather her army of wolves
and lead them to kill everyone in
sight. I'm the one who's supposed
to stop her.

*

*

*

53 INT. SHERIFF ADAM'S HOUSE - NIGHT

53

Several lights are still on in the house, including the glow
from the giant-screen TV that's tuned to a NEWS CHANNEL.

*

(CONTINUED)

Sheriff Adam is asleep on the couch in front of the TV, a SHOTGUN resting across his lap. He wakes with a start, looks around half asleep.

SHERIFF ADAM

Kids?

He looks at his watch: Almost one in the morning. He sighs, puts the shotgun down and walks to *

THE BATHROOM

Without turning the light on, he urinates in the toilet, still half asleep. As he goes to flush, he stops, looks out the small window into the backyard.

SHERIFF ADAM'S P.O.V.: Oblivious to Sheriff Adam, a LARGE WOLF puts its front paws on the wall of the house and steadies itself as it stands up to peek quietly into one of the BEDROOM WINDOWS.

Careful not to make any noise, Sheriff Adam steps quietly into the hallway and to the edge of the door of

THE CHILDREN'S BEDROOM

Both kids are sound asleep on the bed, Dusty's legs resting comfortably on Kendra's back.

There, at the bottom of the window, in the dark shadows, the wolf watches the children through the glow of evil red eyes.

Sheriff Adam glances over at his shotgun by the couch in the living room, looks back at the wolf again.

The wolf SNIFFS the window like a bloodhound, then hits the window with its snout.

Sheriff Adam starts moving slowly for the living room.

The wolf hits the window harder.

Sheriff Adam takes another cautious step toward the living room, accidentally steps on one of the children's TOYS. It SQUEAKS really LOUD!

The wolf turns instantly. Its glowing eyes lock with Sheriff Adam's.

In an instant, Sheriff Adam makes a desperate dash toward the living room, dives for his shotgun.

(CONTINUED)

53 CONTINUED: (2)

53

The wolf CRASHES THROUGH the window into the children's room. The kids wake with a start and SCREAM. The wolf shakes the glass off, and recoils on its hind legs. Just as it lunges at the kids, BAM!! -- a shotgun blast RIPS through the room and strikes the wolf in the torso.

SHERIFF ADAM

Get the fuck away from them!!

*

The wolf stumbles, gets up and lunges this time at Sheriff Adam. He pumps the shotgun and fires again -- BAM!!

SHERIFF ADAM

That's it! Come on!

The wolf stumbles again, turns and CRASHES back out the bedroom window into the night.

SHERIFF ADAM

Where the hell are you going?!

As the kids continue to SCREAM, Sheriff Adam jumps through the window after the wolf.

54 EXT. SHERIFF ADAM'S BACKYARD - NIGHT

54

The wolf tears through the backyard and scales the fence in a single bound, into the forest beyond.

Sheriff Adam runs after it, jumps the fence and runs into the forest. He FIRES after the beast until he's completely out of ammunition.

55 EXT. POLICE STATION - DAY

55

The sun rises as Sheriff Adam races to the police station in his squad car. He SCREECHES to a stop, runs inside with both kids in his arms.

56 INT. SHERIFF'S STATION - DAY

56

Deputy Abbey and ANOTHER DEPUTY greet him, confused.

DEPUTY ABBEY

Are you alright?

SHERIFF ADAM

Where's Henry?!

(CONTINUED)

DEPUTY ABBEY
He said he's on his way.

Sheriff Adam goes to
THE BREAK ROOM,
puts his kids on the couch.

KENDRA
Daddy?!

SHERIFF ADAM
Stay here. Don't move.

*

The kids are completely freaked out, their faces covered in
tears.

*

DEPUTY ABBEY
Oh, my God, what happened!?

*

SHERIFF ADAM
A god-damned wolf came into the
house!

DEPUTY ABBEY
What--?!

Sheriff Adam grabs a box of ammunition, loads his shotgun.

*

SHERIFF ADAM
I shot it twice, it didn't go down.

DEPUTY ABBEY
Are you sure you hit it?

SHERIFF ADAM
Positive!

Deputy Henry storms in.

DEPUTY HENRY
Where are the kids?

SHERIFF ADAM
In the break room.

Sheriff Adam takes a deep breath. Deputy Henry puts his arm
around his shoulder.

DEPUTY HENRY
Alright, relax.

(CONTINUED)

SHERIFF ADAM

No, I can't relax!

DEPUTY HENRY

Everyone's safe right now, that's all that matters.

SHERIFF ADAM

We're not safe, Henry!

DANNY (O.S.)

Sheriff?

Danny walks into the station.

DANNY

I found Sammy.

DEPUTY HENRY

Great, Danny! Can this wait?!

DANNY

Not unless you want more deaths on your hands.

SHERIFF ADAM

What are you talking about?

Danny holds up Miss Winfield's diary.

DANNY

Werewolves.

Danny leads Sheriff Adam and Deputy Henry through a thick part of the forest.

SHERIFF ADAM

How much farther?

They stop on a hill overlooking the valley below, and Danny points out a barren mountain in the distance.

DANNY

There.

SHERIFF ADAM

That's the spot Victoria said had no activity.

(CONTINUED)

DANNY

That's where we need to go. Sammy went ahead without us.

SHERIFF ADAM

What's there, Danny?

DANNY

The Den Mother. Every few decades, a full moon falls precisely on the autumn equinox. It's a very rare celestial alignment, and it takes place tonight.

SHERIFF ADAM

And what will happen?

DANNY

A changing of the guard. A new Den Mother, queen of the werewolves, whatever, will take over. The wolves you've been dealing with are just playing with you. They've been testing the towns to see the response as they get ready to launch a full-scale attack.

*
*

DEPUTY HENRY

Just great! Most towns get serial killers and rapists. And we get stuck with zombie-demon bitches and werewolves.

DANNY

The Den Mother and a few of her closest soldiers are the only true werewolves, the only true shape-shifters. The rest are real wolves turned evil or something under her spell through untold generations.

*

SHERIFF ADAM

So some of the wolves are human?

*

DANNY

Looks that way.

*
*

SHERIFF ADAM

The Den Mother is human, too?

*
*

DANNY

She's probably someone you know from one of the towns around here,

*

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

57

CONTINUED: (2)

57

DANNY (CONT'D)

someone with a low profile. The Keeper of the Forest keeps them all in check, but I don't know how things will turn out this time.

SHERIFF ADAM

Keeper of the Forest?

Sheriff Adam and Deputy Henry exchange a look of concern.

DEPUTY HENRY

I'm gonna take a wild guess and proclaim that if I was drunk this would probably make a lot more sense to me.

*
*
*

SHERIFF ADAM

Keep explaining, Danny, but let's also keep moving.

The group continues into the forest.

*

58

EXT. FOREST - DAY

58

They continue through the trees toward the mountain in the distance. They stop and huddle quietly when they think they see movement ahead of them, their weapons at the ready.

*

SHERIFF ADAM

Get down!

Suddenly, from the tree branches above, SOMETHING crashes to the ground before them, landing hard on two feet.

Sheriff Adam and Deputy Henry fall back, startled, ready to blow it away.

DANNY

Don't! It's Sammy!

Samantha, in normal human form, in her tattered red outfit, walks toward them.

*

SAMANTHA

There are Keepers all over the world that keep us safe from things we'd rather not even know exist. A balance of good versus evil. As long as they're kept in check, the world rarely ever sees them.

Sheriff Adam and Deputy Henry lower their shotguns.

(CONTINUED)

SAMANTHA

My grandmother was the Keeper of
this forest. She kept the wolves
and the original Den Mother at bay.

SHERIFF ADAM

Your grandmother's dead.

SAMANTHA

She killed herself to pass on her
powers to someone stronger.

*

Sheriff Adam starts to understand.

SHERIFF ADAM

You.

*

Samantha smiles. Sheriff Adam looks at her knowingly.

*

SHERIFF ADAM

You're the... girl... we saw in the
forest. How? You were something
else entirely.

*

*

SAMANTHA

I don't know fully yet, Sheriff.
I'm still learning.

SHERIFF ADAM

What are we supposed to do now?

*

SAMANTHA

Find the new Den Mother before the
full moon reaches the highest point
in the sky later tonight.

DEPUTY HENRY

I'd say you can handle these things
pretty well without us, young lady.

*

SAMANTHA

If my grandmother didn't think she
could do it herself, I don't know
how well I can do on my own. I
need your help.

*

*

An awkward silence as the knowledge sinks in.

SHERIFF ADAM

What happens if we fail?

(CONTINUED)

SAMANTHA

The new Den Mother will lead her soldiers to kill every person in sight. They feed off human blood. The more they kill, the stronger they'll become.

*

Deputy Henry looks at Sheriff Adam and sighs.

SHERIFF ADAM

Then we need backup.

Sheriff Adam gets on his radio.

SHERIFF ADAM

323, Control.

Static.

SHERIFF ADAM

323, Control. Abbey, are you there?

More static. No response. He grabs his cell phone.

SHERIFF ADAM

Any of you getting a phone signal?

Negative.

DANNY

We're too deep in the forest. And it's getting late.

SAMANTHA

There's no time left. We have to do this now. The stronger she gets, and the stronger her soldiers get, the harder they'll be to kill.

DEPUTY HENRY

I should've listened to my mother and stayed in the army. I could've been in some Middle Eastern country right now getting shot at by good old-fashioned bullets and missiles.

SHERIFF ADAM

That's enough, Henry.

DEPUTY HENRY

I want a raise.

(CONTINUED)

58 CONTINUED: (3)

58

SHERIFF ADAM

Are you done?

DEPUTY HENRY

And a vacation.

Sheriff Adam looks sternly at him.

SHERIFF ADAM

We're going to have to go in there
alone. I need you sharp.

Deputy Henry pumps his shotgun, stands strong, spits.

DEPUTY HENRY

Fine! Let's kill this bitch!

*

59 EXT. FOREST RAVINE - NIGHT

59

The sun sets. Darkness settles in. On top of a ravine, a
WOLF HOWLS at the bright full moon. Something suddenly
spooks it, and it runs off.

*

HEAVY FOOTSTEPS RESONATE behind it as something much bigger
steps to the top of the same ravine. It's ANOTHER WOLF, but
this one is enormous in stature. It's the DEN MOTHER.

*

The monster HOWLS into the sky. More of a GUTTURAL
EXPLOSION, it RATTLES the very foundation of the earth.

*

60 EXT. FOREST TRAIL - NIGHT

60

Sheriff Adam, Deputy Henry, Danny and Samantha continue
through the trees and heavy brush toward the mountain.The same HOWL from the Den Mother ECHOES through the forest
around them.

Everyone stops and looks at each other in trepidation.

DEPUTY HENRY

Oh, fuck that! We're gonna need a
nuclear bomb for that thing!

*

61 EXT. CAVE ENTRANCE - NIGHT

61

At the base of the mountain, surrounded by large rocks, trees
and thick brush, a LARGE OPENING gives way to the cave. A
heavy fog permeates the entrance.

(CONTINUED)

61 CONTINUED:

61

Sheriff Adam and his group approach cautiously.

The wind picks up and clouds move in. The forest becomes eerily SILENT. *

Samantha smells the air, closes her eyes.

SAMANTHA

I think she knows we're coming. *

She looks at the FULL MOON overhead.

SAMANTHA

We might already be too late.

62 INT. THE CAVE - NIGHT

62

The cave is dark, with wild undergrowth throughout. Water trickles from the ceiling. Fog embraces the ground.

Sheriff Adam and Deputy Henry lead the group with flash-lights, their shotguns aimed straight ahead. They enter A TUNNEL at the end of the cave and continue through it.

DEPUTY HENRY

There's nothing in here.

Danny looks through the diary as they advance.

DANNY

We're almost there.

Samantha flinches with pain, but controls it this time. *

SAMANTHA

She's not alone. Her soldiers are near and will protect her.

SHERIFF ADAM

How many of them?

SAMANTHA

I can't tell.

They continue through the tunnel and find lit torches along the walls that ILLUMINATE THE PATH. They look at each other with concern. They enter: *

A LARGE CAVERN

A dozen lit torches line the walls, revealing an EMPTY ALTAR with GIANT PILLARS and ANCIENT STATUES against the back wall. *

(CONTINUED)

Before it, a DOZEN WOLVES stand guard, their glowing red eyes fixated on the group, their fur raised, teeth glistening.

They emit a low-pitched GROWL, but stand their ground.

Scattered among the beasts are several YOUNG MEN AND WOMEN from all walks of life. They turn toward the group, their eyes glowing like those of the wolves, an expression of equal menace on their faces.

Sheriff Adam and Deputy Henry raise their weapons.

DEPUTY HENRY

This was a very, very stupid idea!

DANNY

Where's the Den Mother?!

SAMANTHA

She should be here!

DANNY

But she's not!

*

*

As if on cue, the men and women among the wolves start to contort violently as they MORPH into WOLVES.

*

DEPUTY HENRY

No fucking way!

SHERIFF ADAM

There are too many of them. We can't do this. Let's back out slowly...

The group backs out of the cave.

*

DANNY

Why aren't they attacking?

Samantha's eyes suddenly glow yellow, and she jumps in front of the group to protect them.

SAMANTHA

They're waiting for their orders.

DEPUTY HENRY

What orders? From who?

The same GUTTURAL EXPLOSION of a HOWL they heard earlier in the forest REVERBERATES through the cave and the tunnels like a SONIC BOOM, physically shaking the walls and causing rock and debris to fall from the ceiling.

(CONTINUED)

And all at once, the wolves attack. BLASTS OF GUNFIRE RICOCHET through the cave as Sheriff Adam and Deputy Henry let loose with their weapons and the group tries to retreat.

SHERIFF ADAM

Shoot them in the head! It's the
only way they go down!

*

There's complete chaos and SCREAMING, and SHOTGUN BLASTS on top of more SCREAMING...

Danny and Samantha are trampled by the wolves, but just as quickly as they go down, Little Dead Rotting Hood emerges from the onslaught.

It's a VICIOUS BATTLE, but Little Dead Rotting Hood is faster than the beasts, and more ferocious.

SHERIFF ADAM

Now's our chance! Run!

Sheriff Adam, Deputy Henry and Danny run for their lives.

Another wolf attacks Little Dead Rotting Hood, then another. Two at a time, but she slashes them from the side, from the top, from the bottom. She tears the heads off two, and goes after two more.

Body parts, blood and guts fly everywhere.

Sheriff Adam, Deputy Henry and Danny run out of the cave as fast as they can, all the VIOLENCE and FIGHTING left behind them in the large cavern.

DEPUTY HENRY

This is insane, man! Fuck this!

A wolf rushes Deputy Henry from behind and slams him to the ground. Sheriff Adam BLASTS it with his shotgun, but the creature tears into Deputy Henry's torso and shakes him.

Deputy Henry's shotgun slips from his grasp. He punches the beast in the face with his fists as hard as he can.

DEPUTY HENRY

Fuck you, bitch! Is that all you
got!?

The wolf gets a better grip and tears Henry's head from his body. Danny SCREAMS.

SHERIFF ADAM

Henry!!

(CONTINUED)

62 CONTINUED: (3)

62

Sheriff Adam SHOOTs the wolf several times in the head, until it collapses into a heap of dead flesh.

SHERIFF ADAM

Die!!

Sheriff Adam pushes Danny, and they continue to run out of the cave, back up the tunnel where they came from...

SHERIFF ADAM

Go, Danny! Go!

DANNY

What about Sammy?!

SHERIFF ADAM

We'll fall back and cover for her when she comes out!

63 EXT. THE CAVE - NIGHT

63

Sheriff Adam and Danny run out of the cave into the forest clearing. Behind them, the SOUNDS of Little Dead Rotting Hood battling the wolves SPILLS OUT INTO THE NIGHT.

DANNY

I can't leave her!

SHERIFF ADAM

Wait, Danny! It's too dangerous!
Let her come out!

A wolf bolts out of the cave and beelines for Sheriff Adam, who manages to get off ONE BLAST before he's knocked down by the wild beast. It tears into him and latches onto his arm.

Little Dead Rotting Hood jumps the creature from behind and tears its head off. The creature's body runs headless into a giant tree stump and collapses.

The wolf's head rolls to a stop, and Danny sees that Little Dead Rotting Hood is badly beaten and hurt.

DANNY

Sammy!

Holding his bleeding arm close, Sheriff Adam pushes Danny.

SHERIFF ADAM

Let's get out of here!

(CONTINUED)

Hesitant, Danny runs out of the forest valley with Sheriff Adam struggling behind.

SHERIFF ADAM

Don't look back, Danny!

Behind them, the sound of VICIOUS SNARLING echoes through the trees. They reach the top of a hill and turn around to see:

Little Dead Rotting Hood attacked simultaneously by a new wave of soldier wolves. After a brief struggle, she manages to kill them all, and she falls to her knees, exhausted.

Danny lets out a sigh of relief.

INSERT: High above them, the full moon reaches its maximum height and brightness. It glows majestically.

DANNY

Samantha! Up here! Come on!

Little Dead Rotting Hood turns to see Danny, and in that instant a MASSIVE CREATURE quietly idles up behind her.

Sheriff Adam is the first to notice it.

SHERIFF ADAM

Behind you! Turn around!

Before she can turn, the giant DEN MOTHER MEGA WOLF attacks Little Dead Rotting Hood, slams her body against the forest ground with one thunderous motion.

DANNY

No!!!

Danny takes Sheriff Adam's shotgun and shoots at the Mega Wolf until he's out of ammunition.

Little Dead Rotting Hood struggles to fight back. She swings at the Mega Wolf with little effect. She's beat.

DANNY

Samantha! Run!

Danny tries to run down to help her, but Sheriff Adam wraps his arms around him and holds him tight.

SHERIFF ADAM

No, Danny! You can't help her!

The Mega Wolf crushes Little Dead's body with a vicious bite, and slams her lifeless body to the ground. It sniffs the

(CONTINUED)

63 CONTINUED: (2)

63

body to make sure it's lifeless, turns and races back into the forest.

Danny looks like he wants to scream, but he can't. He's too traumatized.

64 EXT. SHERIFF'S STATION - NIGHT

64

A CROWD OF ONLOOKERS assemble where several STATE EMERGENCY VEHICLES and ARMED PERSONNEL have gathered. Officer Scudder rolls up in his patrol car, gets out, walks into the station.

65 INT. SHERIFF'S STATION - NIGHT

65

Several State Officers discuss operations with Deputy Abbey in the background. An E.M.T. tends Sheriff Adam's lacerated arm as Officer Scudder walks up...

OFFICER SCUDDER
Adam, are you alright?

SHERIFF ADAM
No. I'm not.

OFFICER SCUDDER
I'm sorry about Henry. We'll find his body. I promise.

Sheriff Adam looks at him, LAUGHS.

OFFICER SCUDDER
Try to relax. We got this now.

He pats Sheriff Adam on the shoulder, walks away. After a beat, a badly shaken Danny sits down next to Sheriff Adam.

Sheriff Adam's face looks guilt-ridden.

SHERIFF ADAM
I fucked up bad. I'm sorry, Danny.
I should have given this to the
state police from the start. We
shouldn't have gone in there alone
like that.

*

*

DANNY
Sammy pushed you to go. It wasn't
your fault.

They both reflect.

(CONTINUED)

DANNY

Did you tell the state police what they're dealing with?

SHERIFF ADAM

They won't believe anything I tell them. Let them figure it out.

*
*

Danny hands the diary to Sheriff Adam.

DANNY

Keep this. Maybe you can make more sense of it.

SHERIFF ADAM

Where are you going?

DANNY

As far away from here as possible.

Sheriff Adam shuffles through the diary as Danny gets up to leave. He spots the drawing of a woman in a cape and hood, with a SWORD in her grasp. Before her, a giant wolf.

SHERIFF ADAM

Danny? What is this?

Danny looks at the drawing.

DANNY

Sammy's grandmother. Keeping the original Den Mother at bay.

*

SHERIFF ADAM

With a sword?

DANNY

Looks like it.

SHERIFF ADAM

Did Samantha have a sword?

Danny looks closer, studies the drawings intensely.

INSERT DIARY PAGES: the grandmother places the SWORD into the ground, into the grave, of another person. The person re-emerges with the SWORD in hand and a flowing RED CAPE on her back. A blanket of energy surrounds the sword and cape and the person coming out of the ground.

*
*
*

DANNY

The Keeper's life force...

(CONTINUED)

65 CONTINUED: (2)

65

SHERIFF ADAM

The what?

DANNY

Samantha never had the sword! Or
the cape! They must still be in
the grave!

*
*

Danny starts for the door. Sheriff Adam tries to stop him.

SHERIFF ADAM

No, Danny! Wait! It's too
dangerous!

*
*

DANNY

I'll be back!

Danny runs out of the sheriff's station, and Sheriff Adam
spots Becky Sanders outside, through the station doors.

66 EXT. SHERIFF'S STATION - NIGHT

66

Becky walks inconspicuously around the emergency vehicles and
personnel in her black hoodie.

Sheriff Adam storms out of the building and grabs her by the
throat, shoves her against the wall, his hand on his gun.

SHERIFF ADAM

Give me one reason why I shouldn't
blow your brains out!

BECKY

Let go!

SHERIFF ADAM

You were certain I would have all
this trouble without you, right?!
What else do you know? I saw you
at the river with that wolf! Why
didn't it attack you?

BECKY

I haven't done anything wrong!

SHERIFF ADAM

How are you involved?

BECKY

I don't have to answer you!

(CONTINUED)

SHERIFF ADAM

How'd you know Miss Winfield? You have a record for attacking her in Clover Town. Why?

Becky looks at him defiantly. She LAUGHS sarcastically.

BECKY

You really have no idea what's going on, do you, Sheriff? You live in your cozy little black and white world, with your good guys and bad guys, where the sun rises and sets every day without fail. You've got your gun and your handcuffs, and you think you've got everything under control. What you don't know is that there are other forces at work all around you, all the time, which makes for a whole lot of gray.

SHERIFF ADAM

Who are you?

BECKY

News flash, sheriff. Your deputy was easy to kill. Your little forest keeper put up a good fight, though.

She gives him a wicked smile and her eyes glow RED for just an instant. Sheriff Adam lunges at her.

SHERIFF ADAM

You fucking bitch!

Officer Scudder is walking by and jumps in to stop Sheriff Adam, physically restrains him.

OFFICER SCUDDER

Whoa! Hold it, there, Sheriff!

SHERIFF ADAM

(to Becky)

I swear, I'll kill you myself with my bare hands! No judge, and no fucking jury! I'll tear your heart out and feed it to you!!

OTHER DEPUTIES gather around, take hold of Becky, try to calm Sheriff Adam down.

(CONTINUED)

66 CONTINUED: (2)

66

SHERIFF ADAM

Get her out of here! Lock her up!

Officer Scudder handcuffs her.

OFFICER SCUDDER

What's going on?

SHERIFF ADAM

I'll do the paperwork myself. Just make sure she can't get out.

OFFICER SCUDDER

Okay, try to relax.

Sheriff Adam tries to catch his breath, watches Becky angrily as Officer Scudder drags her into the police station.

67 EXT. GRANDMA'S HOUSE - NIGHT

67

Danny arrives at grandma's cabin, searches for Samantha's unmarked grave. But the area is wet from the morning dew, and it all looks the same.

DANNY

Come on! I know it's gotta be here somewhere!

He drops to his hands and knees, pokes around for soft dirt.

68 INT. SHERIFF'S STATION BREAK ROOM - NIGHT

68

Sheriff Adam enters, finds his kids and Deputy Abbey huddled on the couch. Dusty and Kendra run to their father.

KENDRA

Can we leave now, daddy?

DUSTY

I'm scared, daddy!

Sheriff Adam hugs them close.

SHERIFF ADAM

We're almost done here, kids.

DEPUTY ABBEY

What are you gonna do?

SHERIFF ADAM

I need to find someone--

(CONTINUED)

Officer Scudder walks in, putting his handcuffs back on his belt.

OFFICER SCUDDER
We're rolling in five minutes.

SHERIFF ADAM
You got Victoria on duty?

OFFICER SCUDDER
Yeah, I have her covering the Apex
River off the dirt road for backup.
Want me to get her on the radio?

SHERIFF ADAM
No, I want to see her in person.

Danny has found Grandma's shovel and the UNMARKED GRAVE. He
digs through the soil as fast as he can. *

DANNY
Come on, come on!

He keeps digging, finally hits something. He drops to his
knees and clears the dirt. It finally becomes clear what it
is: a long silver sword. He SCREAMS with joy as he pulls it
out -- a magnificent weapon with intricate carvings on the
handle. *

DANNY
Yes! Yes! *

He keeps digging and finds grandma's red cape. More SCREAMS
of joy! *

A HELICOPTER SCREAMS past overhead with it's bright spotlight
as Sheriff Adam, Deputy Abbey, Dusty and Kendra watch Officer
Scudder get in his car and lead the troops toward the forest
like a small battalion. *

Sheriff Adam has an M4A1 CARBINE ASSAULT WEAPON in hand, puts
a new CARTRIDGE in it. He pulls Deputy Abbey aside:

SHERIFF ADAM
Take this, lock yourself up inside
with my kids until I return. If
you see anything that doesn't look
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

70

CONTINUED:

70

SHERIFF ADAM (CONT'D)

right, shoot first, ask questions
later. Got it? Keep an eye on our
new prisoner, too.

DEPUTY ABBEY

Go do what you gotta do, boss.

SHERIFF ADAM

I'll be right back, guys.

DUSTY

Hurry, daddy!

KENDRA

Love you, daddy!

Sheriff Adam gets in his patrol car and watches Deputy Abbey
usher the kids inside. He drives off.

71

EXT. FOREST - NIGHT

71

Danny races through the forest back toward the cave.

72

EXT. THE RIVER - NIGHT

72

Officer Victoria's State Police vehicle is parked at the
river. Sheriff Adam pulls up and parks beside it. He gets
out and looks around.

Officer Victoria is on the other side of the river. She
spots Sheriff Adam and walks back toward him.

As she crosses the river and gets closer:

OFFICER VICTORIA

Adam, what are you doing here?

SHERIFF ADAM

Something big is happening, and I
can't explain it all, but I want
you to consider for one second that
werewolves are real, and there's
more to your wolves than genetic
mutation. Can you do that for me?

OFFICER VICTORIA

You've lost your mind.

SHERIFF ADAM

Probably. But you're the only one
who can help me make sense of
everything.

(CONTINUED)

OFFICER VICTORIA

I'm wouldn't be too sure about that.

SHERIFF ADAM

I have someone in custody I really want you to meet. Can you come back to the station with me? Can you do that for me? If you find nothing strange with her, I won't bother you ever again about this.

Officer Victoria gives him a stern look.

OFFICER VICTORIA

Let Scudder go do his thing, Adam. Forget whatever you think you saw, forget this person, forget the wolves -- go back to your life, or someone's probably going to lock you up at the funny farm.

SHERIFF ADAM

That's my point exactly. Please.

An awkward moment of silence. Victoria finally relents.

OFFICER VICTORIA

What's this person's name?

SHERIFF ADAM

Becky Sanders.

OFFICER VICTORIA

Becky Sanders? I know her. She's trouble. You have her in custody?

SHERIFF ADAM

There's something about her, Vic. I can't tell you... I have to show you. You have to trust me.

OFFICER VICTORIA

She's not all there, Adam. She's worse than you. She's actually accused people of being werewolves and tried to kill them.

SHERIFF ADAM

And that doesn't strike you as odd, given the current circumstances? Did you know she attacked the Wolf Lady before?

(CONTINUED)

OFFICER VICTORIA

Yes. She also believes different bloodlines have clashed over the centuries for the position of the coveted Den Mother, leader of the werewolves and other things that go bump in the night.

SHERIFF ADAM

You know the stories?

OFFICER VICTORIA

Becky believed she was a shape-shifter, a werewolf, and tried to take the spot of the Den Mother by eliminating her opposition on various fronts before the autumn equinox. Part of the reason she would attack people.

SHERIFF ADAM

The autumn equinox was last night.

OFFICER VICTORIA

I know.

SHERIFF ADAM

So she thought Miss Winfield was a werewolf?

OFFICER VICTORIA

No. She thought the old Wolf Lady was the Keeper of the Forest.

A wolf HOWLS somewhere in the distance.

SHERIFF ADAM

You knew these stories and didn't share them with me?

OFFICER VICTORIA

They're common tails. And like Becky Sanders, the Wolf Lady was no match for the new Den Mother, which is why she killed herself and passed her powers on to her granddaughter. She hoped her younger bloodline would be stronger and able to stand up to the new threat someday.

SHERIFF ADAM

I don't understand.

(CONTINUED)

OFFICER VICTORIA

I could never figure out who her blood-line was. I didn't know she had a granddaughter. I swear I looked for clues everywhere, even in her cabin the day I ran into you. I should've hung around town more, talked to more locals.

SHERIFF ADAM

Why would you care about finding Samantha?

OFFICER VICTORIA

Is that her name? Well, she's no longer of any concern. She's been taken care of, and Becky has fallen in line like a good little soldier.

Across the river, a large GRAY WOLF steps out slowly from the treeline, GROWLS at Sheriff Adam. He pulls his handgun and aims at it.

SHERIFF ADAM

Watch it!

Another WOLF steps out and stands beside the first. It bares its teeth and SNARLS. Sheriff Adam backs up, but Officer Victoria stays by the river, admiring the wolves...

OFFICER VICTORIA

The Full Moon fell on the autumn equinox tonight, Adam. The Den Mother took her rightful position of power.

TWO MORE WOLVES appear and flank the first two.

SHERIFF ADAM

What the fuck's going on?

She turns to Adam slowly, her eyes SUDDENLY GLOWING RED.

OFFICER VICTORIA

You ask too many fucking questions, that's what's going on!

The cave is directly in front of Danny, but he hangs back in the shadows, cautious. Ahead of him, in a heap in a clearing is the mangled body of Samantha.

(CONTINUED)

He dashes across the clearing and kneels by her side. *

DANNY

Come on, Sammy! This is your life
force! You can do this! *

He moves her body enough to place the red cape under her, *
then lets her fall back on top of it. He ties the straps *
around her neck, then puts the sword on top of her corpse, *
but nothing happens. He wraps her fingers around the handle. *

DANNY

Come on!! Please!!

Moments pass. Nothing. He CRIES, holds her lifeless body. *

After a beat, from inside the cave comes the distinct GRUMBLE
and FOOTSTEPS of a wolf moving up on him. He turns and comes
face to face with the largest GRAY WOLF he's ever seen at the
entrance to the cave. He lets out a heavy sigh of defeat and
closes his eyes.

DANNY

You win.

The wolf recoils, ready to pounce, when Little Dead Rotting
Hood suddenly stands tall behind Danny, an AURA OF ENERGY *
emanating from the sword, draping itself around her red cape *
and body. *

The wolf stops in its tracks... It turns tail and runs back *
into the cave.

Danny turns and comes face to face with the twisted zombie-
demon love-of-his-life...

Sheriff Adam freaks out as Officer Victoria transforms into
THE DEN MOTHER MEGA WOLF right before his eyes.

Her ears grow back, her face elongates at the mouth and nose,
and vicious fangs sprout forth. Her hands become sharp
claws. She SCREAMS as her body convulses and grows, fur so
thick it tears and rips the clothes from her body.

She falls to all fours, and her arms and legs complete the
transformation: she stands 7 to 8 feet tall at the shoulder.

Sheriff Adam pulls his gun and BLASTS the monster until he
runs out of ammunition, then reloads. He FIRES AWAY again,
but the bullets don't have any effect on the beast.

(CONTINUED)

SHERIFF ADAM

God have mercy.

The Mega Wolf HOWLS into the sky like it did before in the forest, and the RUMBLE is so vicious the entire forest and land VIBRATES around her...

Sheriff Adam jumps into his car, and the wolves across the river chase after him...

Officer Victoria completes her transformation and knocks over several large trees in a fit of rage.

Sheriff Adam BURNS RUBBER back toward town, but the giant wolf and her soldiers chase after him.

SHERIFF ADAM

Go, go, go! Move, dammit!

EXT. RIVER ROAD - NIGHT

The smaller wolves fall behind, but Mega Wolf keeps up with Sheriff Adam's car easily. She's about to slam into the car, when it spins out of control and CRASHES into a ditch.

The dust settles, and the giant wolf POUNCES on the car.

Sheriff Adam scrambles out of the vehicle, grabs his shotgun from the front seat, but it's jammed in place. The trunk is breached open from the wreck, and he grabs Benson's FLAME-THROWER instead.

The giant wolf HOWLS ferociously at the sky, and prepares to go after Adam, but Little Dead Rotting Hood jumps out of the trees above and lands right in front of Adam... In her grasp is the silver sword with its radiating energy.

The wolf stops cold in its tracks. Like an old western showdown, the giant wolf and Little Dead Rotting Hood size each other up and down.

DANNY (O.S.)

Sheriff!

Danny runs up behind the treeline.

DANNY

This way!

Sheriff Adam follows Danny clumsily with the flame-thrower in tow, as the four soldier wolves come from behind Mega Wolf and lunge at Little Dead Rotting Hood.

(CONTINUED)

With renewed strength, she easily defeats the wolves in a vicious blood-bath.

SHERIFF ADAM

Holy fuck!

Mega Wolf lunges at Little Dead Rotting Hood with all its might, and the MOTHER OF ALL BATTLES ENSUES...

Locked in a lethal dance, the giant wolf and zombie-demon girl go at it like supernatural fighters in a mixed martial arts ring.

The wolf pounces and the zombie-demon girl jumps, ducks, rolls, punches, flies, kicks, cuts and slices. They trade THUNDEROUS blows.

Sheriff Adam looks on in complete shock and disbelief.

The giant wolf attacks again, and Little Dead Rotting Hood hits back hard. But no matter what she does, the giant wolf refuses to fall.

Sheriff Adam and Danny race back to town on foot. Sheriff Adam tries his radio...

SHERIFF ADAM

323, Control, do you copy?

The radio is damaged from the car wreck.

SHERIFF ADAM

It's no good!

A soldier WOLF charges them, and Danny BLASTS it with his shotgun. The wolf tumbles, but keeps coming at them. He BLASTS it again and again. The wolf finally falls.

Sheriff Adam tries to get the flame-thrower hooked up and in working order...

SHERIFF ADAM

You know how this thing works?

Another soldier WOLF lunges at them from the forest, and Sheriff Adam falls back, just as the flame-thrower kicks in. A GIANT STREAM OF FUELED FIRE roasts the wolf in mid-air.

The soldier wolf falls to the ground, a giant ball of fire, bouncing around and writhing in pain until it dies.

77 EXT. FOREST - NIGHT 77

The battle continues, fierce and violent: trees get uprooted, dirt and debris flies everywhere.

The giant wolf slams Little Dead Rotting Hood into the ground. She scrambles out from under her, and attacks from behind, but this makes Mega Wolf angrier. *

Several soldier WOLVES attack Little Dead Rotting Hood, but one by one she slays them with her claws and with her sword. Corpses fly in every direction. *

Mega Wolf lunges at Little Dead Rotting Hood, but she jumps away for an instant and gets a solid grip on her sword. She lunges with lightning speed at the giant wolf:

78 EXT. FOREST EDGE - NIGHT 78

The EDGE OF THE FOREST EXPLODES. Little Dead Rotting Hood and the Mega Wolf spill their battle out of the forest onto *

THE TOWN'S MAIN STREETS

PEOPLE SCREAM, panic and flee. Others come out of their houses and buildings to watch the destruction.

Everyone is in a state of disbelief. *

The Mega Wolf gets a good hit on Little Dead Rotting Hood, and she falls hard, dazed. They wrestle into a building, and crash into a gas station that EXPLODES on impact. A giant plume of black smoke billows into the sky. *

As the Mega Wolf prepares to jump on her again, a GIANT FLAME SHOOTS from nowhere and engulfs the giant beast.

It's Sheriff Adam with the flame-thrower:

SHERIFF ADAM

Go to hell where you belong, bitch! *

The Mega Wolf HOWLS and stumbles as she catches fire...

DANNY

Get her, Sammy! Now's your chance!

But the giant flame quickly runs out. Adam struggles with the device, but it's out of fuel.

(CONTINUED)

SHERIFF ADAM

No way! Are you kidding me?!

*

A group of SOLDIER WOLVES race out of the forest and make a beeline for Sheriff Adam and Danny. Danny BLASTS the wild beasts, but he's quickly overtaken by the animals. Sheriff Adam is knocked over.

DANNY

Help!

A BARRAGE OF SHOTGUN BLASTS come from nowhere, and the animals fall. It's Benson and Ramiro, unloading on the wild creatures.

RAMIRO

Out of the way!

BENSON

I tried to tell ya, sheriff!

Danny bleeds profusely, tries to stand.

SHERIFF ADAM

Danny, stay down!

DANNY

No, I gotta help Sammy!

The Mega Wolf recovers from the flames. It lunges at Danny, and with one swift move slashes his torso in two with its vicious claws.

SHERIFF ADAM

No!!

Benson and Ramiro BLAST Mega Wolf, shotgun BLAST after shotgun BLAST. Other TOWNSFOLK join in with their weapons, but Mega Wolf seems mostly impervious to the bullets.

MORE SOLDIER WOLVES race out of the forest, straight for Benson and Ramiro and the townsfolk firing on the Mega Wolf.

Benson SCREAMS as he's taken down, but the townsfolk start to get the upper hand. The wolves stumble and die. One by one, they go down.

LITTLE DEAD ROTTING HOOD

runs to Danny's side. With her glowing golden demonic eyes, she looks at Sheriff Adam, as if pleading for help. A tear runs down her tattered cheek.

(CONTINUED)

SHERIFF ADAM

I'm sorry, Samantha.

She holds her head down for an instant, and when she looks up again, her eyes have transformed into a HELLISH RED.

MEGA WOLF

Severely burned and taking on bullets from the townsfolk, the giant wolf lunges at a defenseless Sheriff Adam. *

As it jumps through the air, Little Dead Rotting Hood meets it head on and slashes its neck with a vicious swipe from her sword -- and tears its throat out with her free hand. *

The giant monster falls at last.

Everyone reacts with STUNNED SILENCE.

There is SCATTERED DEBRIS everywhere. The town is damaged, with pillars of fire and smoke billowing in every direction. *

The state police helicopter SCREECHES PAST overhead, and circles the town. The rest of the state troopers make their way back from the forest, lights flashing, SIRENS BLARING.

They surround the fallen creature.

People fall in behind Sheriff Adam as he approaches the dying Mega Wolf.

The giant monster gurgles its last breath, and transforms back into Officer Victoria, her naked body convulsing in its final death throes.

Officer Scudder runs up beside Sheriff Adam, speechless.

Sheriff Adam drops the flame-thrower and turns to look for Little Dead Rotting Hood, but she's gone.

SHERIFF ADAM

Anybody see where the girl went? *

Everyone is silent, in shock. No one says a word. *

The Harvest Moon falls behind the horizon. The Harvest Moon on the autumn equinox has come and gone.

80 EXT. STILLWATER MAIN STREET - DAY 80

The next morning, the town is cleaned up, but things are not back to normal yet. People appear quiet, distracted.

81 INT. SHERIFF'S STATION - DAY 81

Deputy Abbey is behind the control station, handling her duties, as Sheriff Adam walks in. Deputy Abbey looks up.

SHERIFF ADAM
Feds took Victoria's body.

DEPUTY ABBEY
Good.

SHERIFF ADAM
They may want to come back for Miss Winfield's, too.

Sheriff Adam looks around the station, pensive.

DEPUTY ABBEY
What about Becky Sanders?

He goes to the back of the station...

82 INT. SHERIFF'S STATION JAIL CELLS - DAY 82

Sheriff Adam enters the holding area to find a HOLE in the back of the jail cell, with wolf hair clearly snagged on some of the rougher edges.

SHERIFF ADAM
Damn it!

83 EXT. BACK OF SHERIFF'S STATION - DAY 83

Sheriff Adam, Deputy Abbey and OTHERS converge at the hole in the back of the sheriff's station.

DEPUTY ABBEY
Should we put out an all-point?

SHERIFF ADAM
What would we say? Prisoner turned into werewolf, busted out of jail?

(CONTINUED)

DEPUTY ABBEY

She's dangerous.

He turns and looks deep into the forest.

SHERIFF ADAM

Put her down on the warrant as a murder suspect.

DEPUTY ABBEY

What about this hole?

SHERIFF ADAM

Secure it, inside and out. Have it repaired and reinforced right away.

Sheriff Adam sits at his desk, looks at photos of him with his two kids.

Deputy Abbey peeks her head inside:

DEPUTY ABBEY

Are you going home, or are you going to stick around for a bit?

SHERIFF ADAM

I think I'm going to stick around, Abbey. Why don't you fire up some of your famous hot brew.

Deputy Abbey smiles knowingly, walks out.

Sheriff Adam settles into his chair. There's a KNOCK at his door.

SHERIFF ADAM

Come in.

It's Samantha, cleaned up, in new bright-colored clothes, and a bright red cape and hoodie to match. Sheriff Adam stands up right away when he sees her. *

SHERIFF ADAM

Samantha?

SAMANTHA

Hi, sheriff.

She smiles, hesitates, and steps into a big hug with him.

(CONTINUED)

SHERIFF ADAM

It's okay, sweetie. It's okay.

He gives her a kiss on the top of her head.

SAMANTHA

I just wanted to thank you.

SHERIFF ADAM

Are you going to be alright?

SAMANTHA

I have a lot to learn still. At least I don't have the threat of the Den Mother, so that will allow me some time to figure things out.

An awkward moment of silence.

SHERIFF ADAM

I'm terribly sorry about Danny.

SAMANTHA

Me, too. Can you do me a favor?

SHERIFF ADAM

Sure, anything.

SAMANTHA

You had me down as a missing person, right?

SHERIFF ADAM

Yes, Danny filed it.

SAMANTHA

Did you ever close it out?

SHERIFF ADAM

No. I'll do it right away, though. I'll do it now.

SAMANTHA

Please don't.

SHERIFF ADAM

What?

SAMANTHA

Leave it.

Sheriff Adam looks at her, doesn't ask her any questions. He smiles knowingly.

(CONTINUED)

SAMANTHA

Thank you.

SHERIFF ADAM

Where are you going?

SAMANTHA

I guess I'm the new Keeper of the Forest. But there are other Keepers out there. I want to find them.

SHERIFF ADAM

The Appalachians are huge. And Becky Sanders is out there, too.

Samantha smiles.

SAMANTHA

I know.

SHERIFF ADAM

Will you be safe?

SAMANTHA

I'll try.

She smiles again and walks out of his office. Sheriff Adam sits and a few seconds later Deputy Abbey walks in with a fresh cup of hot coffee, hands it to Sheriff Adam.

DEPUTY ABBEY

Who was that?

SHERIFF ADAM

Just an old friend.

Deputy Abbey heads back out of the office, but Sheriff Adam stops her.

SHERIFF ADAM

Abbey?

DEPUTY ABBEY

Yes?

Sheriff Adam smiles at her.

SHERIFF ADAM

Thank you.

DEPUTY ABBEY

For what?

(CONTINUED)

84 CONTINUED: (3)

84

SHERIFF ADAM

Just, thank you.

Deputy Abbey gives him a sincere smile back.

85 EXT. THE FOREST OUTSIDE OF TOWN - DAY

85

Samantha, in her bright red cape and hood, walks along a faded foot-trail into the forest, leaving the little town of Stillwater far behind.

*

*

FADE OUT.

DURING END CREDITS:

*

86 EXT. FOREST LAKE - DAY

86

Sheriff Adam with his kids, Dusty and Kendra, on a small boat in the middle of a pristine lake in the middle of the forest.

They LAUGH while they attempt to figure out the best bait to throw on a hook at the end of daddy's fishing line.

DUSTY

Okay, if I was a fish, I would like Gummy Bears.

KENDRA

But you're not a fish, Dusty!

DUSTY

Daddy, tell Kendra fish like Gummy Bears!

SHERIFF ADAM

Kids, I have an idea. How about we go buy the biggest pepperoni pizza we can possibly find and watch some movies?

KENDRA

Pizza!!

DUSTY

Daddy, can we put Gummy Bears on the pizza?

FADE OUT.

THE END