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RESERVATION DOGS

"Deer Lady"
Episode #303

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Revised scenes: 4, 11, 15, 23.

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Revisions notes:

- Sc. 4: Dialog changes.
- Sc. 11: Dialog changes.
- Sc. 15: Dialog changes.
- Sc. 23: Dialog changes.

RESERVATION DOGS

"Deer Lady"
#303

CAST LIST

BEAR
COUNTER MAN
DEER LADY
ELDERLY MAN
KODA
MAN 1
MAN 2
MOSE
MEKKO
NUN 1
NUN 2
SISTER JENSON
WAITRESS
WAITRESS
YOUNG DEER LADY
YOUNG MR. JAMES MINOR

RESERVATION DOGS

"Deer Lady"

#303

SET LIST

INTERIORS

BOARDING SCHOOL

CLASS

DORM

HALLWAY

MESS HALL

DINER

BATHROOM

RANCH HOUSE

EXTERIORS

BOARDING SCHOOL

YARD

FIELD

GAS STATION/DINER

HIGHWAY

OKERN SIGN

DIRT ROAD

ROAD

RANCH HOUSE

DRIVEWAY

PORCH

BEAR'S CUL-DE-SAC

TRE-LINE

WOODS

CEMETERY

VEHICLES

SPORTS CAR

OLD TRUCK

1 EXT. FIELD - DAY 1

A field passes by from an unknown P.O.V. Looking through the crack in a wagon.

Reverse - The eye of a YOUNG GIRL (Age depends on casting. Let's say 13.) looking through the crack.

2 EXT. DIRT ROAD - DAY 2

A white man drives an old truck. A young white man MR. JAMES MINOR (20) sits next to the man with his ass puckered tight. He looks to the back.

In the back are five Native kids. They are tired from the bumpy ride. Scared.

Young Girl has her head rested on a hay bale looking through the crack of the wagon.

3 INT. BOARDING SCHOOL - DAY 3

A long hallway. A nun, SISTER JENSON (30), walks to the door and opens it. She motions for the kids to walk in. They are followed by Jenson.

SISTER JENSON

Wait here.

(Turns to Mr. Minor)

Do any of them know English?

MR. JAMES MINOR

If they did they let on like they didn't. Two escaped.

SISTER JENSON

Yeah?

MR. JAMES MINOR

In rough country. They won't survive the night.

SISTER JENSON

The devil has a plan.

MR. JAMES MINOR

He sure does.

Sister Jenson walks in front of the girls. Young Girl has a hard time looking Sister Jenson in the eye.

SISTER JENSON
(in English)
Eyes forward. Follow me.
(actually heard)
eem wuhlawf. d'rer ohf zeeah eye.

Young Girl doesn't understand English. (When it's her P.O.V., their words sound like gibberish.) She motions for them. They follow her, trying to recognize anything or anyone as they walk. Wailing can be heard. It gets louder and louder. They pass a door where a young KIOWA BOY (14) is sitting on a bench hand-cuffed to the rail. He is inconsolable. Wailing and crying to himself.

KIOWA BOY
(Kiowa)
We won't get out of here! We won't
go home.

Young Girl is scared. It's a horrifying sight, she stops and listens to the young man. Then, a hand comes in and turns her face away from the Kiowa man. It's Sister Jenson. Sister Jenson talks, but it still sounds like the teachers in Charlie Brown (less comical, more scary). She's telling Young Girl to keep walking. Someone closes the door to the Kiowa boy.

4

INT. BOARDING SCHOOL - DAY

4

Young Girl and other kids sit in chairs while workers cut their hair. Sister Jenson oversees it.

SISTER JENSON
You will not need this old hair, we
will keep yours short and orderly.
And kill the bugs that have nested.
There are many things that you have
brought in from the outside that
will be expunged by the end of your
stay. God bless all of your hearts.
In Jesus' name.
(gibberish)
Str-awh rohy vuh loh seh1b dawg.
Mee'ehn sahz'eezsh nih
(to Young Deer Lady, in
English)
You're next
(in gibberish)
Tsk-ehn rohy.

*
*
*
*
*
*
*
*

Some cry as their hair falls to the ground. Young Girl tries not to.

Her hair falls to the ground.

5 INT. SPORTS CAR - PRESENT DAY

5

CU fingers twirling hair.

The Deer Lady daydreams while she speeds down the highway in some dude's sports car.

6 EXT. SMALL HIGHWAY TOWN. GAS STATION/DINER - DAY 6

Deer Lady pulls up and parks.

7 INT. SPORTS CAR - CONTINUOUS 7

Deer Lady checks herself in the mirror. She looks over to the passenger seat. She picks up her deer antler. It's covered in dried blood. She wraps a bandana around it and exits the car with it.

8 INT. GAS STATION/DINER - CONTINUOUS 8

Deer Lady walks past the clerk and smiles. He checks her out as she walks by.

9 INT. GAS STATION/DINER. BATHROOM - CONTINUOUS 9

Deer Lady walks into the stall and pees.

She is at the sink waiting on a white woman to finish washing her hands.

WHITE WOMAN

I'm sorry, I'm slow as they come.

DEER LADY

No problem. I'm in no hurry.

The White Woman dries her hands. She smiles and heads out. Deer Lady waits a second and then sticks a mop handle through the handle to lock the door. She then takes her bandana out and removes the antler. She begins washing it in the sink, trying to get the blood off. One of the points breaks off, she catches it before it goes down the drain.

DEER LADY (CONT'D)

Sonuva... Damn. Sorry girl. You're retired now.

She wraps it back up in the bandana and exits the bathroom.

10 INT. DINER - PRESENT DAY 10

CU Deer Lady sitting in a booth, sipping coffee. She has a NEWSPAPER in one hand, reading.

A waitress comes up, Deer Lady puts the newspaper down.

WAITRESS

Ready or need more time?

DEER LADY

No, I think I've got it. I can't decide between them so I want Pecan Pie and Apple pie.

WAITRESS

Ok, slice of pecan and a slice of apple.

DEER LADY

Um, not a slice. Whole pie.

WAITRESS

You want a whole pecan and a whole apple?

DEER LADY

(Mischievous smile)

Yes. That allowed?

WAITRESS

Ok. I wish I had that kind of metabolism.

DEER LADY

Oh, it's a blessing and a curse, believe me.

WAITRESS

If I had your shape I'd be married to some rich asshole, laying out by his pool. Just daring him to divorce me.

Deer Lady smiles. The Waitress walks off. Deer Lady thinks. She is a bit lonely. The thought fades. She sips more coffee and continues reading.

Deer Lady POV - Bear is walking up to the diner. He looks tired and frazzled but still opens the door for an OLD WOMAN, allowing her to go first, and takes in the new environment.

Bear hesitates then approaches the counter. The man at the counter stares at him.

COUNTER MAN

Can I help you?

BEAR
Yeah. Do you have a phone charger?

Counter Man points to a display of cheap chargers.

COUNTER MAN
20 bucks.

BEAR
I don't have any money. Do you have
a charger I can just use or borrow?

COUNTER MAN
Nope.

BEAR
(politely)
Thanks anyway.

Bear is disappointed. He looks around and notices the diner.
He decides to sit. He walks into the diner and sits down at a
booth near Deer Lady. The waitress approaches.

WAITRESS
Hello handsome. Can I get you a
drink?

BEAR
Yeah can I get a water, please?

Back to Deer Lady -

Deer Lady smiles to herself. Is she there to kill him?

Bear gets his water. He takes a sip. Bear looks up and locks
eyes with Deer Lady. He nervously looks away. He looks back
up. She's still looking at him. Smiling.

DEER LADY
Come sit with me.

BEAR
Me?

DEER LADY
Yes. Who else? Come on.

Bear is unsure, but he gets up and walks to her. He sits down
with his water.

BEAR
Hi. I'm Bear.

DEER LADY
I know.

BEAR
You know? Did my mom send you?

DEER LADY

(Thinks)

Mmm no.

BEAR

So, what...

DEER LADY

Stop asking questions. It gives me
a headache.

BEAR

Oh, sorry.

DEER LADY

Would you like some pie?

BEAR

No.

DEER LADY

Are you sure? Pecan and Apple.

BEAR

I'll take some pie. Apple.

Deer Lady motions for the waitress. She approaches.

DEER LADY

Can we get an extra plate and fork?

WAITRESS

Told you that was a lot for one
person.

The waitress walks off to get the fork and plate. Bear waits.
She brings the plate and fork and a mug for coffee. She pours
it.

WAITRESS (CONT'D)

Here's some coffee. Can't have pie
without coffee.

BEAR

Thank you.

WAITRESS

You bet.

(To Deer lady)

Top it off?

Deer Lady scoots her cup towards the waitress. She tops it
off.

WAITRESS (CONT'D)

Thank you.

Waitress leaves.

DEER LADY

(Taking a bite)

Bear, are you a good man?

BEAR

I don't know.

DEER LADY

Well, usually when I cross paths with someone, there's a reason.

BEAR

I mean. I try to be.

DEER LADY

That's good. That's all we can do is try. Sometimes.

Beat.

DEER LADY (CONT'D)

You're not eating your pie.

Bear picks up his fork and begins eating. Deer Lady puts her coffee down and purposely bumps her newspaper. It falls off the table.

DEER LADY (CONT'D)

(Not moving)

Oh, no. My paper.

BEAR

(Hesitates)

I got it.

Bear leans over to grab the newspaper. He looks over and sees her hooves. His mouth falls open.

Deer Lady is smiling as he pops back up. He puts the paper back.

DEER LADY

Thank you.

She smiles at him.

DEER LADY (CONT'D)

Have more pie. You don't look well.

11

INT. BOARDING SCHOOL. FLASHBACK - NIGHT

11

Young Deer Lady at the end of her bed like the rest of the students. A young boy, KODA, sitting across from her on a bed is staring at her. She sees him. He begins to speak to her in Indian sign language.

KODA
(Indian Sign Language)
Whatever you do, don't look them in
the eye when they are talking.

Young Deer Lady nods.

Sister Jenson walks past the children. She stops to one. *

SISTER JENSON *
Straighten up. Stop crying. *
(in gibberish) *
puh nahtee'ehrts. Nyih'ee'ahrk *
pawts *

She takes a stick that she has and whacks him in the legs *
with it. He whimpers.

Sister Jenson comes to Young Deer Lady. Young Deer Lady is *
trying to avoid eye contact. Sister Jenson grabs her face and *
makes her look at her.

SISTER JENSON (CONT'D) *
It's still wrinkled. *
(in gibberish) *
Dlahk-nyihr lihts stih *

She steps back and whacks Young Deer Lady across the face
with the stick.

SISTER JENSON (CONT'D) *
Make it again! *
(in gibberish) *
nehgah tih kee'ehm *

Young Deer Lady crashes to the bed. Crying.

12 INT. BOARDING SCHOOL HALLWAY - NIGHT 12

Lights are going out.

13 OMIT 13

14 INT. BOARDING SCHOOL. DORM - NIGHT 14

Young Deer Lady is lying in her bed looking at the ceiling.
There are muffled cries from around the room. Her face is
streaked with drying tears.

Koda appears at her bedside. She is startled at first but he
shushes her. He speaks to her in Kiowa.

KODA

You have to stay away from Sister
Jenson. She's no good.

YOUNG DEER LADY

How long have you been here?

KODA

One year.

YOUNG DEER LADY

Do you ever get to go home?

KODA

I don't have a home. They are dead.
Do you have family?

YOUNG DEER LADY

Yes. My Grandparents. I just want to go home.

KODA

You can't escape here. Unless you kill all of them, which is impossible. No one leaves. Unless you go to the cemetery.

Beat.

KODA (CONT'D)

Whatever you hear at night, never open your eyes. Keep them closed. You will hear things.

He puts a big smile on his face.

KODA (CONT'D)

And remember to keep smiling. They can't stop you from smiling. And that's what we do. We smile.

He frowns, then smiles big. She smiles back at him. He gets up and goes back to his bed.

15

INT. MESS HALL - MORNING

15

The kids are sitting at their places at the table. A couple nuns are walking through with stainless steel pots. They plop goop down on each plate. The kids look at the food with wonder and disgust. Young Deer Lady gets hers. She looks around at the other kids. She picks up a piece of bread off her plate and begins eating it. She messes with the slop with her fork. Another girl is watching her stir the slop with her fork. Young Deer Lady sees her watching. She leans to her and says --

YOUNG DEER LADY

(In Kiowa)

What is it?

A scream is heard across the room. Everyone goes silent and stops eating. Young Deer lady looks around. A nun is walking towards her holding the pot of slop.

SISTER JENSON

(english translation)

Speak English!

(actually heard)

sh'ihlg-ny-eh keep's

*

She doesn't understand her. Nun 1 approaches with the ladle in her hand. She leans over Young Deer Lady and yells -

*

NUN 1
(in English)
No savage tongue in the house of
God!
(gibberish actually heard)
dAWg vuh s'waah ahTH nih nyuht
zszhah vas wuh'n

Young Deer Lady holds her head down as the woman yells. The nun grabs her by the hair and puts her face in the slop.

NUN 1 (CONT'D)
(in English)
Wash your mouth with the Lord's
bounty!
(actually heard)
eet n'waab z'drohl ahTH THihw
THwaam roh'ee shaw'w

Then she strikes Young Deer Lady with the ladle in the back. Young Deer Lady is crying. Koda watches from another table unable to help.

16

INT. BOARDING SCHOOL. DORM - NIGHT

16

Young Deer Lady is lying in bed. She has cloth tightly tied around her head and in her mouth. As punishment. It's hard to breathe.

Just then a door opens. Two nuns walk into the dorm. They go to a young boy and wake him up. Young Deer Lady watches them. They make the boy get up and then they take him out of the room.

Young Deer Lady sits up in the bed. She struggles to untie the cloth around her head. She finally gets it undone. She gets up and walks over to find Koda awake. They speak in Kiowa.

YOUNG DEER LADY
Where did they take him?

KODA
You shouldn't be up they could find
you.

Beat. Koda sits up.

KODA (CONT'D)

That's where they take kids to hurt them.

YOUNG DEER LADY

How do they hurt them?

KODA

I don't know. But some don't come back. They will be back you should go back to bed.

Young Deer Lady goes back to her bed. She ties the cloth around her head and puts it back in her mouth.

17

INT. DINER. END FLASHBACK - DAY

17

Deer Lady is finishing her Pecan pie. Bear watches her. It's pretty impressive. She notices.

DEER LADY

You want any more?

BEAR

No thank you.

Bear drinks from his coffee cup.

BEAR (CONT'D)

So, you're real then?

DEER LADY

Real? Do I look real?

BEAR

Yeah.

DEER LADY

You want to touch my hooves?

BEAR

Definitely not.

DEER LADY

Then what's the deal? You've heard of me your whole life? You thought I was fake? Make believe?

BEAR

I just thought it was a story to keep all the Uncles in line.

DEER LADY

Some Uncles need more than stories
to stay in line. Those are the ones
I visit.

BEAR

You kill them?

DEER LADY

Guilty.

BEAR

Do you kill women?

DEER LADY

I have. Bad ones.

BEAR

Are you here to kill me?

She doesn't answer. She looks out the window.

DEER LADY

You remind me of a boy I once knew.

18

EXT. BOARDING SCHOOL. YARD - DAY

18

Young Deer Lady and the other children are working in the
garden. Sister Jenson oversees with other nuns.

Koda is working a hoe near Young Deer lady, who is pulling
weeds. They are covered in dirt.

Sister Jenson seems pleased.

NUN 1

They seem to be more fit for the
field than the classroom don't you
think?

SISTER JENSON

An Indian Boy or girl will have to
make their living by the sweat of
their brow, not their brains. The
way I see it is the harder we work
them, the faster they break.

MR. JAMES MINOR (O.S.)

Yes. Like animals.

Mr. James Minor has joined the women.

SISTER JENSON

Oh, I didn't know you were there.
Sister, Mr. Minor knows a lot about
Savages, don't you?

MR. JAMES MINOR

I do.

SISTER JENSON

And such a young man.

MR. JAMES MINOR

I am that.

NUN 1

How old are you, if you don't mind
me asking?

MR. JAMES MINOR

Not at all. I'm 22 years old.

SISTER JENSON

Do you still flirt with the idea of
joining the priesthood?

MR. JAMES MINOR

I do. I don't know if it's for me.
It has taken a backseat since I
began working for the school.

SISTER JENSON

He's so good with their families.

MR. JAMES MINOR

There must be trust. And they trust
me.

We join the kids. Koda smiles at Young Deer Lady. He makes a
face at her. She smiles at him, then glances at the Nuns and
Mr. Minor. Koda leans down next to her.

KODA

What do you think they are talking
about?

YOUNG DEER LADY

I don't know.

KODA

Heaven. That's what they always
talk about.

YOUNG DEER LADY

Who is he?

KODA

He's the one you must stay away
from. He's the most evil. He is a
wolf.

19 EXT. BOARDING SCHOOL. YARD - DAY 19

The students are dirty and tired as they follow Sister Jenson and the nuns back towards the school.

Something catches Young Deer Lady's eye as she walks in line. From her P.O.V. We see Men digging a fresh grave in the cemetery.

20 INT. BOARDING SCHOOL. CLASS - DAY 20

The students are in the classroom. A nun leads in "Jesus Loves You." The kids sing loud and full. Young Deer Lady sings.

21 OMIT 21

22 INT. BOARDING SCHOOL. DORM - NIGHT 22

The kids are knelt in front of their beds in a praying position. They all recite the lord's prayer with the nuns watching. They finish and they all get in their beds.

Young Deer Lady is in her bed with the blankets on. She stares at the ceiling. A head pops up. It's Koda. Smiling. Young Deer Lady laughs at him.

KODA

You know what I was thinking about
today?

Young Deer Lady shakes her head "No."

KODA (CONT'D)

Fishing. I want to go fishing. I
haven't fished in a long time.

YOUNG DEER LADY

How will you go?

KODA

I don't know. But I think I'll be
fishing soon. Maybe I'll break out
of here. Would you come with me?

YOUNG DEER LADY

Yes.

KODA

Ok. Then let's plan it. We just
have to run until we see an Indian.
They will take care of us.

Young Deer Lady smiles. He pats her on the forehead and takes
off. She smiles to herself.

23 INT. BOARDING SCHOOL. DORM - LATER

23

Young Deer Lady is startled awake. She looks up. Two nuns are
waking Koda from sleep.

NUN 1

Wake up!
(gibberish)
puh kee'ehw

*
*

Koda sees them. He pulls away.

NUN 2

Don't be difficult!
(gibberish)
tlahkahfihd eeb t'nuh'ood

*
*

KODA

No...

They pull him out of bed.

KODA (CONT'D)

No! No!

They muffle his mouth and both drag him out of the room.
Young Deer Lady is horrified. She sits up in her bed, not
knowing what to do.

She gets up. Other kids watch her as she follows them out the
door.

24 INT. BOARDING SCHOOL. HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

24

Koda is being dragged down the hallway. He is yelling the
whole time.

We join Young Deer Lady who walks out into the hallway,
staying to one side so that she isn't seen. She watches as
they drag Koda to a room at the end of the hallway.

She ducks by a cart of kitchen pots and pans. A man opens the door. It's Mr. James Minor. He grabs Koda by the head as the nuns struggle to get him into the room.

He smiles as he pulls the boy in easily. The nuns help get Koda into the room and the door shuts.

Young Deer Lady begins to hyperventilate.

SISTER JENSON (O.S.)
What are you doing!!??
(gibberish)
nyihood ooy raw tuhw

*
*

Young Deer Lady turns and sees her.

SISTER JENSON (CONT'D)
Why are you out of bed?!
(gibberish)
dehb vuh twaa ooy raw eeahw

*
*

Young Deer Lady doesn't know what to do. She grabs the cart of pots and pans and sends it flying towards Sister Jenson. Sister Jenson is stopped for a moment. Young Deer Lady takes off running. She turns down a hallway and disappears.

25 EXT. BOARDING SCHOOL - NIGHT 25

Young Deer Lady comes running from the boarding school. She runs towards a tree-line.

Sister Jenson runs outside to a bell and rings it. She screams.

SISTER JENSON
She's running! She's running!

A light comes on in a couple small buildings on the campus. Men come outside in a hurry.

Sister Jenson runs after Young Deer Lady.

26 EXT. WOODS - CONTINUOUS 26

Young Deer Lady runs into the thick woods. She stops. Decides on a direction and runs. Sister Jenson can be heard yelling in the distance.

27 EXT. TREE-LINE - CONTINUOUS 27

Sister Jenson runs into the woods.

28

EXT. WOODS - CONTINUOUS

28

Sister Jenson comes to a stop. She calls out.

SISTER JENSON

You don't have to run! You'll die
out there! There's nothing out
there but the devil, child!

She continues walking at a pace.

29

EXT. WOODS - CONTINUOUS

29

Young Deer Lady ducks down by a tree. She is breathing
heavily. Sister Jenson can be heard in the distance.

Young Deer Lady closes her eyes and begins praying in Kiowa.

YOUNG DEER LADY

Help me. Help me. Help me. Help me.

She cries.

She hears something. A rustling. She's busted. She looks up.
It's not Sister Jenson. Rather, it's a silhouette of a deer.
A doe. It's eyes are glowing red. It moves slightly in the
moonlight.

DOE

What do you want help with little
girl?

Note: The Deer makes a humming noise and we see it's words by
subtitle.

DOE (CONT'D)

Who do you run from?

Young Deer Lady is scared. She doesn't know what to do.

DOE (CONT'D)

I said who do you run from?

YOUNG DEER LADY

All of them. This place.

DOE

I can help you. I can help you run.
We can run fast. Do you want me to
help you?

SISTER JENSON (O.S.)

Get back here!

Sister Jenson is getting closer.

DOE
You must decide.

YOUNG DEER LADY
Ok. Help me. Yes, help me.

DOE
Ok. Come near me. Hurry, she is coming.

Young Deer lady hesitates for a moment. Then exits frame.

30

EXT. WOODS - NIGHT

30

Two men with lanterns walk through the woods.

MAN 1
That girl's long gone.

MAN 2
She'll die out there.

MAN 1
Yeah.

Beat.

MAN 2
Sister Jenson!

MAN 1
I haven't heard her in a while.

MAN 2
Let's get her and go back.

They continue. Until Man 1 stops in his tracks, he throws his arm towards Man 2.

MAN 1
Oh, my god.

MAN 2
Jesus Christ!

From their P.O.V. We see Sister Jenson lying against a tree with her throat cut out.

End flashback.

31 INT. DINER - DAY 31

Bear and Deer Lady sit across from each other. Bear's leg is bouncing.

DEER LADY
(To Waitress)
I'll take the check.

WAITRESS
All on one?

DEER LADY
Yeah.
(To Bear)
My treat.

The waitress hands them a check.

WAITRESS
Pay up front when you're ready.

Deer Lady goes into her pocket for money.

DEER LADY
Why are you out here? Are you lost?

BEAR
Kind of.

DEER LADY
I'll take you home.

Bear is nervous.

DEER LADY (CONT'D)
I have to make a stop first,
though.

Bear nods. His leg bounces.

32 EXT. ROAD - DAY 32

Deer Lady's sports car flies down the road.

33 INT. SPORTS CAR - CONTINUOUS 33

Bear is looking at the Deer Lady's broken antler laid out on the bandana on the dash. He looks over at her. Her eyes are on the road. He's a little nervous.

Deer Lady smiles to herself.

34 EXT. ROAD - DAY 34

The sports car turns onto a dirt road.

35 INT. SPORTS CAR - CONTINUOUS 35

Bear is more uncomfortable. He looks behind them. They continue.

36 EXT. RANCH - DAY 36

A worn RANCH GATE reaches towards the blue sky. At some point in time the ranch was grandiose, but today it's a pitiful ruin of what it once was. A sign, displaying the words "Minor Ranch," hangs by one hinge on the entryway.

Deer Lady's sports car pulls up to the gate and parks.

37 INT. SPORTS CAR - CONTINUOUS 37

She turns the car off.

BEAR

Where are we?

DEER LADY

You don't have to come in. You can wait in the car.

Bear is confused. Leg is bouncing. Deer Lady opens the door.

BEAR

Ok. So, you're not going to kill me?

She shuts the door and settles back in. She smiles at Bear.

DEER LADY

The boy you remind me of. He's the one that taught me the difference between a good man and a bad one. He was good. You're good. I don't kill good men. You should give yourself a break. I know it's hard. I know the noise you have in your head. I know it's loud. Being good or bad is a choice. A choice you choose every day. You understand?

Bear nods. His leg slows down. Stops bouncing.

BEAR

I understand.

DEER LADY

I've seen the most evil. All of them have the same look in their eyes. Like human wolves. They are strong. They get stronger every day. The only way to beat them is to be the good that defeats them. The only way to do that is to make more good than evil. It's that simple. We have to outnumber them, Bear.

Bear nods.

DEER LADY (CONT'D)

Relax. I'll be right back.

Deer Lady hands him the keys.

DEER LADY (CONT'D)

Listen to the radio.

She gets out. Bear sees a phone charger. He turns the key on, the music plays. He plugs his phone in.

Bear looks at Deer Lady's hooves as she walks down the long driveway towards a modest RANCH HOUSE.

BEAR

Holy fuck... deer lady is real.

Back with Deer Lady - The driveway is lined with an IRON FENCE that needs mending in spots. Deer Lady notices her surroundings as she walks down the long drive.

Bear is waiting on his phone to come back on. He keeps an eye on Deer Lady.

38

EXT. RANCH PORCH - CONTINUOUS

38

Deer Lady steps onto the porch --- making her way to the door. She surveys her surroundings.

She waits in silence for what feels like an eternity. Tears fall down her face. She wipes them away.

She lifts her hand nervously and knocks quietly. Waits.

She knocks again. Nothing.

She steps back. A sense of relief registers on her face.
Then, the shuffling of someone inside.

MAN'S VOICE (O.S.)

I'm coming!

Deer Lady takes a breath. Waits.

The door unlocks, then slowly opens.

Deer Lady takes in the ELDERLY WHITE MAN who opens the door.
The man sees Deer Lady --- At first, he seems confused by his
visitor, but confusion turns to a strange acceptance. Almost
as if he has been waiting for her.

ELDERLY MAN

Hello, young lady.

DEER LADY

Hello.

A beat as the man takes her in.

ELDERLY MAN

Best step in out of the cold.

The man turns and walks in. Deer Lady hesitates, then walks
in.

39

INT. RANCH HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

39

The man walks towards a dining area connected to the kitchen.
Deer Lady follows, looking around the house as she walks.

The ranch house is filled with NATIVE AMERICAN ART, AND
CHEESY COWBOY KNICK KNACKS. NAVAJO BLANKETS line the
furniture. A thick layer of dust covers everything.

ELDERLY MAN

I'm sure you're thirsty. Let me get
you some water.

The Elderly Man walks to his cabinet and pulls a GLASS down.
He pours Deer Lady water from the sink. Deer Lady continues
looking at her surroundings.

On the DINING TABLE where the man has been sitting there is a
SUITCASE open with BLACK AND WHITE PHOTOS spilling out of it.
There are stacks of photos next to the suitcase as if the man
has been going through them.

He hands Deer Lady the glass of water.

ELDERLY MAN (CONT'D)

There you go. What's your name?

Deer Lady hesitates to tell him. He slightly nods and moves back to the table. He sits down and continues looking at the pictures. Deer Lady stands next to the kitchen counter directly behind the man. The man's back is to Deer Lady.

ELDERLY MAN (CONT'D)

You caught me being nostalgic.

He lifts a few photos up and looks at them --- reading the dates on the back before stacking them with the others. He continues this as he talks.

ELDERLY MAN (CONT'D)

I don't get many visitors anymore.
This ranch used to be a sight to see. I haven't kept it up the last few years.

Deer Lady looks at the man's back as he speaks.

40

INT. CAR - CONTINUOUS

40

Bear's phone has service. It vibrates with missed texts.

BEAR

Oh, shit.

Bear gets out of the car.

41

EXT. CAR - CONTINUOUS

41

He makes sure to quietly shut the door. He looks towards the house then makes a call to his mom on the phone.

BEAR

Mom! Yes! I'm ok! I'm so sorry! I for real got lost... I missed the bus then my phone was dead... I ended up staying with some dude from Okern. He didn't have a phone... I know. I know I'm grounded. And in the most fucking trouble I've ever been in my whole life. But what a relief I'm alive right? Sorry. Yes. I know. I'll clean the house ten times. I understand. Yes m'am. I think I can be home in two hours. I have a safe ride... and everything.

BEAR (CONT'D)

I'll explain when I'm home. I love you too. Don't cry. It's only been one day. I know. Ok. Ok. I love you too. Goodbye.

42-43 OMITTED

42-43

44 INT. RANCH HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

44

Sweat beads form on Deer Lady's forehead --- She's visibly nervous. The glass of water rests in her hand --- still hasn't taken a sip.

ELDERLY MAN

... There's no point. Most everyone I know is gone. No one to talk to, no one to entertain. You're young. You should remember to talk to people while you can. Or else they'll all be gone and it'll be too late.

DEER LADY

It's already too late.

The man nods.

ELDERLY MAN

It's funny looking at these old pictures. This is all that we leave... really. Ain't it? Pictures... everyone has pictures.

ELDERLY MAN (CONT'D)

Thank god we don't have pictures of everything.

Deer Lady's hand shakes, the water ripples in the glass.

ELDERLY MAN (CONT'D)

Thank god. It must be strange to see such an old man. You being so young.

From Deer Lady's P.O.V. We see the back of the man looking through the photos.

Push in on Deer Lady. Her breathing grows deeper. She looks down at the water in her hand. She lifts it and takes a sip.

She then leans against the counter. Her hand drops quickly, setting the glass on the counter. The noise that the glass makes on the counter causes a pause in the Elderly Man's speech.

Continuing:

ELDERLY MAN (CONT'D)
It's all here. A whole life. My
folks... everything.

PROFILE SHOT of the man looking through the pictures. Deer Lady is out of frame.

45 INT. SPORTS CAR - CONTINUOUS 45

Bear sees the newspaper on the console. He picks it up. It's folded to a story about an old man named "James Minor". The headline says "Mr. Minor has lived an eventful life, full of adventure and faith." It is highlighted.

46 INT. RANCH HOUSE - CONTINUOUS 46

Profile of the man.

ELDERLY MAN
I have one son. He's pretty
pathetic.

He drops a picture in the stack.

ELDERLY MAN (CONT'D)
Then again, I wasn't a good father.
I was hardly around. I gave in to
drink for most of my life... After
I backslid from the lord...
most men that lived like me would
be dead by now.

THEN: a LARGE KNIFE comes into frame. Deer Lady slowly approaches the man from the rear --- knife gripped in her hand. She adjusts his grip on the knife. The knife casually goes into the man's back. The blade doesn't go as deep as she expected. The Elderly Man lets out a yell and struggles to reach the knife in his back. He tries to turn --- Deer Lady pulls the knife out --- grabs the man by the hair of his head and shoves it to the table. She stabs the man again, this time going deeper --- the man still struggles --- She stabs him three more times in the back until the struggle stops. The man kicks a few last times, then he is lifeless.

Deer Lady lets out a gasp and drops the knife. She is breathing heavily.

Blood pools on the table where the man is spread out. Deer Lady walks past him and goes out the door.

47 EXT. RANCH HOUSE - DAY 47

Deer Lady shuts the door behind her.

MUSIC CUE: 'OUT INTO THE SNOW' by Simon Joyner plays.

She steps off the porch and heads to the car.

Bear watches her curiously.

48 EXT. RANCH DRIVEWAY - CONTINUOUS 48

TRACKING SHOT - Deer Lady walks towards the camera as it tracks back with her.

Her expression is frail, something we haven't seen in her. Though, with each step she gets more confident --- her expression turns from scared into a determined stoicism.

49 INT. RANCH HOUSE - CONTINUOUS 49

James Minor, the elderly man, lies in his pool of blood on the table. OVERHEAD SHOT - the camera pushes in, past the man's body and to a picture that is collecting a pool of blood around it. It's a picture of young James Minor with the kids from the boarding school. Sister Jenson and the nuns are there with him, as is Koda and Young Deer lady.

50 EXT. RANCH HOUSE - CONTINUOUS 50

Deer Lady is walking down the driveway to the car. She gets to the car and opens the door, gets in.

51 INT. SPORTS CAR - CONTINUOUS 51

Bear is sitting in the car. He can see her demeanor has changed.

BEAR

Good?

DEER LADY

Yeah. You good?

BEAR

Yep.

DEER LADY

You call home?

BEAR

Uh... yeah.

She starts the car. They back out.

52 EXT/INT. HIGHWAY - DAY 52

They drive in silence.

53 EXT. OKERN SIGN - DUSK 53

They drive past the "Welcome to Okern" sign.

54 EXT/INT. BEAR'S CUL DE SAC - SUNSET 54

They pull up to Bear's Cul De Sac.

BEAR

Here's good. I need to collect my thoughts before I go in.

DEER LADY

Ok.

55 INT. SPORTS CAR - CONTINUOUS 55

Bear is about to open the door. He reaches over to shake her hand.

BEAR

Thank you.

DEER LADY

(Laughs)

Thank you, sir.

Beat.

BEAR

Did you kill someone at that house?

DEER LADY

I killed a human wolf.

Bear nods.

DEER LADY (CONT'D)

You're going to be ok, Bear. You're one of the good ones.

BEAR

I hope so.

DEER LADY

Take care of your friends. And don't worry about becoming your dad. Your mom saw to that.

Bear nods.

DEER LADY (CONT'D)

And remember to keep smiling. They can't stop you from smiling. And that's what we do. We smile.

She smiles at him, and he can't help it. He smiles back and gets out.

She pulls out.

Mose and Mekko are walking by.

MOSE

Gaww.

MEKKO

That your new girlfriend, Bear?

MOSE

Dang, she fine.

BEAR

That was Deer Lady.

MOSE

Damn we shoulda gave her a cd.

MEKKO

Your mom gonna whoop dat butt.

BEAR

I know.

Bear walks towards his house. Mose and Mekko head out.

Tag -

56 EXT. CEMETERY - CONTINUOUS

56

One grave stands out. A picture of Koda is on the gravestone.
Etched underneath reads "Killed By Human Wolves."

FADE OUT.

END OF EPISODE