

SUPERNATURAL

Episode #1305

"Advanced Thanatology"

Written by

Steve Yockey

Directed by

John Showalter

EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS

Robert Singer

Andrew Dabb

Phil Sgriccia

Brad Buckner

Eugenie Ross-Leming

PRODUCERS

Eric Kripke

Jim Michaels

Robert Berens

Meredith Glynn

T13.20555

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Episode #1305

"Advanced Thanatology"

REVISION HISTORY

Revision	Date	Revised Pages
Production Draft - White	07/18/16	

CAST LIST

SAM WINCHESTER
DEAN WINCHESTER

BILLIE
CASTIEL

DR. AVERY MEADOWS
EVAN GREEN
JESSICA
MIKE
PACING GHOST
PENNY RAMOS
SEAN RAMOS

JARED PADALECKI
JENSEN ACKLES

LISA BERRY
MISHA COLLINS

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SUPERNATURAL
"Advanced Thanatology"

TEASER

1 EXT. MEADOWS HOUSE - NIGHT (DAY 1) 1

Late night. It's very still and very quiet as SEAN RAMOS and EVAN GREEN (both 15), creep over the SHRUB COVERED FENCE. Sean is wearing a BACKPACK.

SUPER: GRAND JUNCTION, CO

They LAND on the other side-- Evan grinning at Sean--

EVAN

Come on...

He moves toward a HOUSE. Big. Dark. Abandoned. Spooky. After a nervous beat, Sean follows...

2 INT. MEADOWS HOUSE - FOYER - NIGHT 2

The front door CREAKS open as the boys slip inside. Most of the furniture is covered in DROP CLOTHS and everything just "feels" old. There's ONE LUMPY ARM CHAIR in particular nearby, but let's not highlight it... yet.

EVAN

Told you it'd be unlocked.

SEAN

But why would they leave it open?

EVAN

Who's they? Come on, Sean. No one even pretends to own this place. Not after--

SEAN

Whatever. *Don't start.*

Evan fires up a FLASHLIGHT-- teasing--

EVAN

What? You don't wanna hear about the guy who used to cut open people's skulls?

SEAN

(eyeroll)

Sure. Of course he did, Evan.

(CONTINUED)

EVAN

No, seriously, he got arrested and everything.

SEAN

So if he cuts your skull open, will you shut your stupid mouth?

Evan shines the flashlight under his own face.

EVAN

Uh oh, *someone's* scared.

He LAUGHS but Sean plays it off, ultra macho...

SEAN

I'm not scared, I-- Mike punked out, at least I showed up.

But it's pretty obvious Sean is scared. It's also obvious Evan is enjoying it.

EVAN

Yeah? If you're so brave, let's look around.

Evan heads into another room. Sean reluctantly follows him. The floors CREAK under their feet. After they leave...

The drop cloth on the lumpy arm chair RISES and it becomes clear SOMEONE WAS SITTING RIGHT NEXT TO THEM underneath it the entire time! The FIGURE, stands and we cut to--

THE GROUND. As the drop cloth falls away-- revealing a pair of BOOTS. The figure moves out-- after the kids...

We catch up to SEAN and EVAN in an office, examining old FRAMED IMAGES on the wall. They have to wipe dust away...

EVAN

Told ya...

Their flashlights pass over frames: DIAGRAMS OF THE HUMAN SKULL, DIAGRAMS OF THE BRAIN, a PHOTO OF A LOBOTOMY PICK.

Sean breaks away with his flashlight and sees something else.

SEAN

Whoa.

A shelf with FOUR DUSTY PLAGUE MASKS. All the same classic BEAKED style, but each a bit different.

EVAN

Freaky...

Evan grabs one, brushes off the dust, and examines it. He gets a mischievous look on his face.

EVAN

Put it in your bag.

SEAN

What-- no.

EVAN

Dude-- nut up.

He GRABS Sean, stuffing the mask into his backpack-- Sean gives in-- like always...

SEAN

Fine. Just hurry.

Then-- a CREAKING SOUND from the hallway. And SOMETHING that sounds almost like a WHISPER. The boys look at each other--

SEAN

What was that?

ON EVAN. No idea, but trying to play it off--

EVAN

Nothing. It was just a weird, like, "house noise." Or the wind.

Then-- MORE CREAKING and MORE SOUNDS, this time almost MOANING. And Sean, freaked, has had enough--

SEAN

Yeah, I'm out.

EVAN

Sean, come on, don't be--

He's interrupted by a HISSING AUDIBLE WHISPER that hisses through the room...

WHISPER (O.S.)

Infection. *Infection!*

The boys trade a look-- what the fuck? And they BOTH RUN for the door--

4 INT. MEADOWS HOUSE - HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS 4

As the WHISPER GROWS and becomes MULTIPLE VOICES--

WHISPERS (O.S.)

Infection! Infection! Infection!

The boys round the corner into the FOYER. To see--

5 INT. MEADOWS HOUSE - FOYER - NIGHT 5

A FIGURE standing in front of the door. A GHOST. Wearing the same BOOTS we saw earlier, and a ratty, moth-eaten lab coat. We only see it from BEHIND--

Sean and Evan skid to a stop-- terrified-- as--

The ghost raises a MECHANICAL DRILL. The machine WHIRRING TO LIFE. CUT TO--

GHOST POV. Grayed, washed out-- as it CHARGES THE BOYS!

6 EXT. MEADOWS HOUSE - NIGHT 6

OUTSIDE THE HOUSE. TIGHT ON THE DOOR-- and its WINDOW--

We hear the high-pitched squeal of the DRILL-- Evan SCREAMING-- then--

BLOOD SPRAYS against the window-- we start to pull back-- the drill still buzzing, until--

BAM! Sean bursts out! He's carrying his knapsack, covered in blood spatter, and BLEEDING FROM THE HEAD! He runs into the night, SCREAMING--

There's no sign of Evan behind him.

BLACKOUT.

END OF TEASER

ACT ONE

7

INT. MEN OF LETTERS - KITCHEN - NIGHT (DAY 2)

7

CLOSE ON: Two slices of bread. One has PEANUT BUTTER on it. The other is bare. A HAND WITH A KNIFE comes into view and drops a DOLLOP OF JELLY directly onto the peanut butter.

WIDEN TO-- DEAN. Making himself a snack. As he spreads--

SAM enters. Carrying a TABLET. Sees Dean--

SAM

Hey.

DEAN

Hey.

SAM

PB&J for breakfast. Strong choice.

Dean smashes the plain slice of bread over the slice with the peanut butter and jelly. Result: sandwich.

SAM

You want a beer with that?

DEAN

("really?")

I'm good.

Sam pulls a beer from the 'fridge. Twists its top.

SAM

Come on-- live a little.

He SMILES. Dean-- takes the beer-- eyeballing Sam--

DEAN

What's up with you?

SAM

What? Nothing.

ON DEAN. Not buying that. But... whatever, he takes a drink--

SAM

Anyway-- think I've got something.

(then)

Three days ago, a kid named Sean Ramos was found wandering on the side of the road near Grand Junction, Colorado.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

SAM (CONT'D)

Bleeding from the head, best friend missing. And get this, the only word he's said, is "monster."

DEAN

Okay-- that's something.

As he speaks, Dean digs into his PB&J.

SAM

Thought we'd check it out. Just you and me.

DEAN

What about Jack?

SAM

He's making his way through my old fantasy DVDs: Red Sonja, Beast Master, Beast Master II-- you know, with the time traveling ferrets.

DEAN

Yeah... how you ever got laid, I'll never know.

SAM

(playing along)

Tell me about it. So, I was thinking-- we leave Jack here.

DEAN

Really?

SAM

We'll put up some extra warding-- he'll be fine.

(off Dean)

Come on, how long since we worked a case? Just us.

DEAN

Been awhile.

SAM

Exactly-- so?

OFF DEAN. Considering--

8

EXT. SEAN'S HOUSE - DAY (DAY 3)

8

RWARR! The IMPALA pulls up in front of SEAN'S HOUSE. DEAN driving, SAM shotgun. Our guys get out-- Sam passing Dean a FAKE ID--

SAM

Here.

Dean looks at the ID--

DEAN

Agent Page?

(then)

You always make me be Plant.

SAM

Yeah, well-- changing it up.

Dean shoots his brother a look-- suspicious-- as they KNOCK ON THE DOOR--

And PENNY RAMOS (40s), opens it-- to see SAM and DEAN.

PENNY

Can I... help you.

DEAN

Sorry to bother you, ma'am.

(flashing his badge)

Agents Page and Plant, FBI.

SAM

We're following up on the incident-- with your son.

PENNY

The police have already been here. Shouldn't you talk to them?

SAM

We have, but we'd like to talk to you. And Sean.

Penny looks away-- a pained expression--

DEAN

Something wrong?

PENNY

Sean, he's stopped-- hasn't said anything. He won't.

(CONTINUED)

SAM

What do you mean?

PENNY

The doctors-- they say there's nothing wrong with him physically, but... it's psychological. Trauma. Like he saw something so awful...

Her voice trails off-- choked up--

PENNY

God, I don't even know what he was doing out that late.

INT. SEAN'S BEDROOM - DAY

SEAN sits at a desk in his room, DRAWING ON WHITE PAPER. He has a bandage covering the wound on his temple. DEAN enters.

DEAN

Sean, right?

(no response)

My name's Dean.

(still nothing)

I hear you had a pretty rough time. Wanna tell me about it?

Sean doesn't reply, he just keeps sketching.

DEAN

Okay then...

EXT. SEAN'S HOUSE - DAY

BACK ON Sam and Penny. She's still SHAKEN.

PENNY

...and Evan, he's still missing-- he-- he, Sean, and their friend Mike-- they're inseparable.

SAM

Anyone talk to Mike?

PENNY

Everyone. He says he doesn't know what happened, but..

SAM

You don't believe him?

PENNY
(getting emotional)
Those boys do everything together.
I don't, I... I just don't know...

*
*

11 INT. SEAN'S BEDROOM - DAY 11

DEAN looks to SEAN, who keeps drawing... Dean's eyes go to the picture-- the same HOOK-NOSED FIGURE (for reference: a crude sketch of a Plague Doctor) over and over again.

DEAN
Is that the monster? The one you
told the cops about?

Sean STOPS DRAWING. Going still. Scared.

DEAN
Looks pretty scary.
(then)
Sean, I know what it's like to see
monsters. And I know that even
when they're gone-- they never
really go away.
(then)
You see 'em when you close your
eyes, you see 'em in your dreams...

As he speaks, we PAN DOWN to reveal his knapsack under the desk. The PLAGUE MASK he took from the abandoned house is sticking out.

DEAN
But Sean?
(Sean looks to him)
Me and my brother? We're the guys
that stop the monsters. We're the
guys that scare them.
(then)
You just gotta talk to me, alright?

ON SEAN. A long beat, then-- he looks back down and starts SCRIBBLING OVER his own drawings. Can't do it.

OFF DEAN-- feeling for the kid--

12 EXT. HOTEL - NIGHT 12

The IMPALA pulls up-- Sam and Dean climb out--

SAM
He didn't say anything?

(CONTINUED)

DEAN

Not a word.

(then)

Whatever that kid saw-- it messed
him up.

SAM

We should talk to the friend, Mike,
first thing tomorrow.

DEAN

Sounds like a plan.

He starts for the office--

SAM

So-- strip club?

DEAN

What?

He looks back-- did he just hear that? Sam continues, gamely--

SAM

There's one outside of town. The--
(clears his throat)
Clamdiver.

DEAN

You wanna go to the Clamdiver?

SAM

Sure-- it has great reviews.

DEAN

You read reviews... for the
Clamdiver?

SAM

Yeah. It got four and a half...
pasties.

And Dean's had enough--

DEAN

Okay-- no-- what's going on?

SAM

What are you--

DEAN

All day-- you gave me a breakfast
beer. You let me be Agent Page.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

DEAN (CONT'D)

(then)

You didn't whine about me blasting my music the whole way here, and when we stopped to eat, you ordered me chili fries--

SAM

You love chili fries.

DEAN

Everyone loves chili fries, Sam, that's not the-- and-- and now you wanna hang at a strip club? You hate strip clubs.

SAM

No I don't.

DEAN

The last lapdance you got-- on Christmas, paid for by me, as a gift-- you spent the whole song trying to convince the girl to go to nursing school.

ON SAM. True...

DEAN

So, seriously, is it my birthday? My Make-A-Wish? What?

ON SAM. A beat, then--

SAM

I just-- I'm trying to be nice.

DEAN

Why?

SAM

(beat, then--)

Because-- you know why.

ON DEAN. He does-- looks away--

DEAN

I'm fine.

SAM

No, you're not, Dean-- you told me you don't believe in anything, and that's not-- you believe in things, people, that's what you do.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

12

SAM (CONT'D)

(then)

I know... you're in a dark place, I
just want to help.

ON DEAN. Knows his brother's not wrong...

DEAN

Look, Sam, this isn't-- I've been
down before, and I've fought
through it, okay?

(then)

And I'll fight through this too. I
will.

SAM

How?

The truth is that Dean doesn't know, but he plays it off--

DEAN

Same as always... bullets, bacon,
and booze. A lotta booze.

(moving away)

All the booze.

OFF SAM-- worried for his brother--

13

INT. SEAN'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

13

DARK. Silent. We pan through. Overhead. Over the bed, to
see SEAN--

BAM! As he jerks upright in bed, SCREAMING!

Penny bursts into the room, TURNS ON the light--

PENNY

Sean?!

The kid's breathing hard. Eyes wide. Penny moves to him.
Puts a hand on him--

PENNY

It's okay-- it's okay baby. Just a
bad dream.

Sean swallows-- calming-- looks to his mother. She forces a
smile--

PENNY (CONT'D)

Try to get some sleep, alright?

(CONTINUED)

SEAN
(quietly)
Okay.

She stops. She wells up with tears. He responded!

PENNY
Good. That's good...

Penny beams with new hope while tucking him in and tenderly kissing his forehead.

She moves to the door and glances back. She TURNS OFF the light, and exits. She leaves the door cracked so some LIGHT slips in from the hallway.

Sean closes his eyes.

But something RUSTLES in the darkness of his room.

His eyes BOLT OPEN. He looks at...

A dark corner, obscured by shadows. Nothing.

He lies back. But then hears THE NOISE a second time. He sits up and looks again. This time squinting at...

The same dark corner. Sean STARTS TO HYPERVENTILATE as...

A FIGURE slowly emerges from the darkness in the corner of the room! He is tall and broad, in a button up shirt and slacks with a LEATHER APRON over it (the same clothes he was wearing in our teaser). His sleeves are rolled up. He has on tight LATEX GLOVES. His face is hidden behind a PLAGUE MASK and his BREATHING is loud and labored.

*
*

The figure raises his DRILL-- ZZZZ!-- CUT TO--

MEADOWS' POV. As he LUNGES FOR SEAN! The kid SCREAMS and we--

BLACKOUT.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

14 INT. HOTEL ROOM - DAY (DAY 4)

14

CLOSE ON: An ALARM CLOCK going off: 8:00AM

A hand reaches over and silences it. PULL OUT as Sam sits up in bed. He rubs his face. He looks over at the other bed.

It's still made. That's weird. Sam looks a bit confused, but then he hears the SNORING. He walks over and finds...

Dean. Passed out drunk on the floor on the other side of the bed. He's still in his FED THREADS, sleeves rolled up, sans jacket. Who knows where it went? A mostly empty BOTTLE OF WHISKEY is on the floor nearby.

SAM

Awesome...

TIME CUT: Sam comes out of the bathroom, FED THREADED up and ready to go interview Sean and Evan's friend, Mike.

TIME CUT: Sam grabs the CAR KEYS off the table.

TIME CUT: The hotel room door closes. PAN OVER to reveal Dean still passed out on the floor. Still snoring...

15 EXT. PARK BENCH - DAY

15

Sam is sitting on a park bench with MIKE (14). Mid-chat. Mike looks like an AV Club kid. He also looks nervous.

SAM

So, that night, you don't know where Sean went?

MIKE

No. I already told the cops.

SAM

Sure. But when a bad thing happens, we have to triple check.

Mike looks away-- uneasy--

MIKE

Anyway, I wasn't with them.

SAM

"Them?" So Sean was with someone? Like your other friend, Evan?

(CONTINUED)

Mike's eyes dart to the side. Guiltily--

MIKE

I don't know.

SAM

Uhuh.

(then)

Look, I wanna believe you, Mike. You know how in those detective shows, when someone lies their eyes always dart to the side?

MIKE

That's a real thing?

SAM

So if there's anything you "forgot" to tell the police, I need you to tell me.

(then)

Evan could be in trouble.

MIKE

He's not-- he's just hiding out somewhere. Evan-- he's always pulling crap like this. It's just a prank.

SAM

And what happened to Sean... that's a prank too?

ON MIKE. Doubt creeping in-- a beat, then--

MIKE

They-- they were going to the old Meadows place. Out on Night Hawk Drive.

SAM

Why?

MIKE

I don't know, Evan dared us to go and-- it was stupid and creepy and I didn't-- I got scared.

He looks away-- takes a beat, then turns to Sam. Hoping.

MIKE

But Evan... Sean... they're gonna be okay, right?

16

INT. IMPALA - LATER

16

On his LAPTOP, Sam TYPES in: "MEADOWS HOUSE GRAND JUNCTION."

...and is immediately inundated with SEARCH RESULTS that read like: "COLORADO DR. KILLS PATIENTS," "DOCTOR KIDNAPS AND TORTURES," "DR. KILLED, NO VICTIMS ALIVE," "THE BRAIN DOCTOR."

We see a rapid flurry of IMAGES as Sam clicks through: the HOUSE from the teaser in black and white, DR. MEADOWS (who we've seen before-- OUR GHOST) standing in front of his house waving. A caption reads: "DR. AVERY MEADOWS", then...

A PLAGUE MASK, reports of many MISSING PEOPLE, DIAGRAMS of skull trepanation, A PHOTO of a bald skull with a marker "x" on the temple, any PHOTOS of trepanning we can get away with, pictures of DRILLS from the 1960s. By the time Sam comes up for air, he looks genuinely upset.

17

INT. HOTEL LOBBY/DINING AREA - DAY

17

DEAN, nursing a hangover, trudges into the harsh light of the hotel's "continental breakfast" area. Mostly empty.

He puts together a plate of breakfast food: ONE SLICE OF MELON and a small mountain of BACON.

He sits at a little table and drinks an entire GLASS OF WATER. Then GROANS. Digging into a handful of bacon, as--

SAM enters and SITS. Carrying a TABLET and a PAPER BAG--

SAM

Hey.

DEAN

Shhhh.

SAM

Dude, really--?

DEAN

What happened to you being nice?

In response-- Sam reaches into his bag-- pulls out a BEER--

SAM

You mean like this?

DEAN

(beat, then-- taking the beer--)

I forgive you.

(CONTINUED)

He twists the top, starts to drink--

SAM

So, I talked to the other kid--
Mike-- and... think I've got
something.

Sam opens his laptop and hands it to Dean. Dean scrolls on the laptop (we've already seen the stuff so we don't need to see it now) as Sam unpacks his info...

SAM

Meet Dr. Avery Meadows. He worked here, back in the early '60s. People used to come to him for help with mental illness.

(then)

But whether they had depression or anxiety-- the cure was always the same: he lobotomized them.

DEAN

(wincing)

Fun.

SAM

The ones that lived, he kept as "patients"-- Meadows experimented on them, in his house. Which is where Sean and Evan were going that night.

DEAN

So that's where Sean got freaked, and Evan went missing?

SAM

Worth a shot-- when people found out what Meadows was doing, he was tried and executed, but-- maybe he made a demon deal--

DEAN

Or he wasn't even human to start with.

He scrolls to the image of MEADOWS wearing the PLAGUE MASK.

DEAN

Whoa--

(showing the pic to Sam)

I've seen this guy-- Sean was drawing him, over and over.

(CONTINUED)

SAM

Really?

DEAN

Yeah-- what's with the creep-ass mask?

SAM

It's a plague mask. Doctors used to use them-- thought they filtered out disease. When they arrested Meadows, he was wearing one... sewn into his skin. They had to cut it off of him.

DEAN

Nice.

Then-- SAM'S PHONE RINGS. He answers--

SAM

Hello?

(beat, listening)

Penny? What's wrong?

INT. SEAN'S BEDROOM - DAY

SAM and DEAN are with PENNY in Sean's room. She's on the bed, even more of a wreck, but it's a stunned kind of thing.

SAM stands near Penny, while DEAN stares down at Sean's drawings-- that masked man...

PENNY

The police were here but they don't-- that's why I called you.

SAM

Penny-- what happened?

PENNY

I don't know, I-- Sean had a bad dream, I checked on him. It seemed like he was getting better...

(fighting emotion)

I-- I went back to my room and it got a little cold, so-- I thought Sean must have opened his window, but when I got up to close it, I... I heard him scream, and then... he was just... gone.

OFF DEAN. As that hits him-- torn up--

19

EXT. SEAN'S HOUSE - DAY

19

SAM and DEAN EXIT. Sam has one of Sean's drawings. Walking-and-talking toward the Impala--

DEAN

This is on me. I saw how messed up Sean was... I should've pushed him harder.

ON SAM. Trying to put the best face on this--

SAM

Dean-- we don't know he's dead. We could still find him.

DEAN

Or what's left of him.

He turns away-- hating himself--

SAM

Look, cold spot means ghost.

DEAN

Yeah-- okay-- but how does a ghost show up at the kid's house? Sean's not dragging a body around.

SAM

The reports say Meadows was cremated, but-- maybe his spirit's tied to something else. An object--

*

DEAN

Something Sean took from the house?

SAM

It's possible.

DEAN

Then where's the kid?

SAM

Meadows "treated" his victims at the house, if this is him-- maybe that's where he took Sean.

20

INT. MEADOWS HOUSE - FOYER - DAY

20

Dark. Silent. Then-- DEAN pushes open the DOOR--

DEAN

Sean? You in here?

No response. Dean moves ahead, as SAM enters behind-- carrying a DUFFLE. Sam drops his bag, flips on the EMF--

DEAN

Sean?

And the EMF GOES NUTS! Clicking and blinking--

SAM

Dean, you need to see this.

Dean comes back into the foyer and stops short. The sight of something behind Sam halts him in his tracks. But Sam has no idea-- still staring at the EMF--

SAM

Definitely a ghost.

DEAN

Sam.

SAM

These readings are--

DEAN

Sam!

Sam looks up, his BREATH NOW VISIBLE in the cold air. Dean points. Sam turns to see...

The GHOST OF DR. MEADOWS. Standing in the front door-- wearing his mask, drill in hand... a beat, then-- he flicks the drill to LIFE-- WHIRRR!

*
*

Sam takes a wary step back, as Dean eyes Meadows--

DEAN

What's up, Doc?

And the GHOST STUTTER-CHARGES. SCREAMING! Right into camera! Taking us to--

BLACKOUT.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

21 INT. MEADOWS HOUSE - FOYER - NIGHT 21

IN A DIRECT PICK UP-- Meadows CHARGES SAM AND DEAN! Drill whining-- screaming-- CUT TO--

MEADOWS POV. Washed out. Racing toward DEAN, as he--

Grabs an IRON CROWBAR from the duffle bag...

He goes to SWING--

BAM! And Meadows waves a hand-- sending DEAN FLYING. Crashing into the wall. HARD! Crowbar skittering across the floor...

And in a flash-- Meadows is ON DEAN! With the DRILL OVER HIS FACE! Dean struggles to hold him at bay, but the ghost slowly pushes the SPINNING drill down toward Dean!

CLOSE ON: DEAN. Fighting hard, he turns his strained face away from the drill and it whirs next to his temple, closer and CLOSER until-- BAM!

Dean JERKS FREE-- lurching back-- Meadows grunts-- MAKES A MOVE FOR HIM-- *

BLAM! And something hits Meadows from behind! The GHOST DISSIPATES to reveal--

SAM. Kneeling near the duffle-- holding a SMOKING SHOTGUN--

ON DEAN. Whew!-- looks to Sam--

DEAN

Nice shot.

Sam nods, and we're--

22 INT. MEADOWS HOUSE - HALLWAY - NIGHT 22

The guys make their way down a hall. Looking in rooms, calling out...

SAM

Sean?

Dean walks ahead, looks into the OFFICE and sees--

The familiar row of plague masks. All FOUR MASKS are present again. The one Sean took is back.

(CONTINUED)

22

DEAN

Dude...

He steps in, Sam FOLLOWS--

23

INT. MEADOWS HOUSE - OFFICE - DAY

23

SAM and DEAN move in-- eyes on the masks--

DEAN

That mask-- you said they had to
cut it off him, right?

SAM

Yeah.

DEAN

So, if he's tied to something...

He reaches out-- touching a MASK--

And a GHOSTLY SCREAM! MEADOWS' SCREAM! Echoes from the hall.
Sam and Dean look toward it--

DEAN

Okay-- gonna take that as a yes.

The scream gets LOUDER-- as we CUT TO--

MEADOWS' POV. In the HALLWAY. CHARGING AHEAD! SCREAMING!

BACK TO SAM AND DEAN. Dean points to the door--

SAM

Door. Salt. Got it!

*
*

Sam moves to do just that-- slamming the door-- spreading
salt-- BAM! As MEADOWS' GHOST hits the door-- from the
outside-- rattling it-- CUT TO--

MEADOWS' POV. As he HITS THE DOOR AGAIN. Camera SHAKING.
And AGAIN!

BACK TO OUR GUYS. Sam looks to Dean-- shit!--

SAM

Burn it!

DEAN

Which one?

BOOM! The door rattles again-- straining on its hinges!

(CONTINUED)

SAM

All of them!

Dean grabs a METAL WASTE BIN and puts it on top of the desk--

BOOM! As the DOOR CRASHES IN! Scattering the salt line.
And Dr. Meadows is there, his drill WHIRS!

He CHARGES AHEAD-- right at SAM-- who raises his shotgun--

As Dean throws the masks into the basket-- pulls out a
lighter--

Sam takes aim-- finger on the trigger--

BAM! Meadows waves a hand-- and SENDS SAM FLYING! Crashing
into the wall, as--

Dean drops the LIGHTER-- TORCHING THE MASKS--

And DR. MEADOWS IS CONSUMED BY FIRE! Sam and Dean watch, as
he DISAPPEARS. And when it's over...

Dean moves to Sam-- helping him up--

DEAN

You good?

SAM

Yeah. All good.

(then)

Let's find Sean.

SAM and DEAN exit. Moving down the hall. Scanning. A beat,
then-- Sam glances to Dean-- and SEES HIS BREATH--

SAM

Dean--

(he turns)

I can still see your breath.

As that lands on Dean--

BANG! The door behind them SLAMS CLOSED! Then-- BANG!
BANG! BANG! Every other door in the place does the same!

DEAN

Sammy-- what the Hell?

Sam pulls out the EMF-- it's going WILD--

SAM

I think there's another ghost.

Suddenly-- VOICES echo around them-- like in our teaser--

GHOSTS (O.S.)

Infection. *Infection!*

ON OUR GUYS. Shit... The EMF getting LOUDER--

DEAN

I think there might be a lot.

PICTURES start to SHAKE on the wall, as MORE WHISPERS--

GHOSTS (O.S.)

The doctor? We need the doctor!
He keeps us well! He heals us!
Where is Dr. Meadows?

DEAN

They're asking for the doc?

SAM

These-- they must be the people
Meadows killed.

DEAN

If they're ghosts, why can't we see
them?

SAM

Maybe they're not strong enough to
pierce the Veil.

As he speaks-- WHAM! A HEAVY, METAL SCONCE breaks free from
the wall and ROCKETS ACROSS THE ROOM-- and CRASHES into the
wall. BARELY MISSING SAM AND DEAN. Our guys react-- shit!--

DEAN

But apparently, they're strong
enough to kill us. Awesome.

SAM

Their remains must be somewhere in
the house. We just have to find
them-- and find Sean--

DEAN

How?

SAM

Search it. Top to bottom.

(CONTINUED)

As he speaks-- BOOM! Something hits the wall behind Sam-- an INVISIBLE FORCE-- spiderwebbing it with cracks--

DEAN

With a bunch of ghosts on our ass?
No way-- no time.

Dean grabs the DUFFLE from Sam--

SAM

What are you--?

DEAN

We need to find out where these
dicks are buried.

SAM

So?

DEAN

So I'm gonna ask 'em.

SAM

What-- how?

As he speaks, Dean digs in and pulls out-- a small DOPP KIT. He brushes off dust to reveal a piece of MASKING TAPE with the writing: DR. ROBERTS, FOR EMERGENCY.

Dean opens the kit for Sam. The kit contains 2 SYRINGES.

DEAN

One stops the heart. One starts it
up again.

ON SAM. Realizing what's happening--

SAM

No.

DEAN

We can't talk to them on this side
of the Veil. So I go to the other
side-- and work my way through
every one of these Caspers, until I
find out where that freak hid their
bodies.

SAM

*You're talking about killing
yourself.*

DEAN

Worked before.

SAM

That's an insane risk to take for--

*

But Dean's not listening.

DEAN

Gimme three minutes.

And before Sam can respond, Dean injects himself with the LETHAL SYRINGE. A tremor rocks through his body.

SAM

Dean!

Dean's EYES ROLL BACK. He collapses. Sam rushes to his brother--

SAM

Dean!

As he crouches over Dean, who lays motionless-- DEAD-- as we CUT TO--

THE VEIL (the realm of spirits that overlays our world). Where DEAN (GHOST!DEAN), stands over SAM. (NOTE: SAM CANNOT SEE GHOST!DEAN).

SAM

Dean!

Then--

PACING GHOST (O.S.)

Infection!

Dean turns, to see-- A GHOST! Now visible. In white hospital gown. It moves (spookily) down the hall-- mumbling frantically--

PACING GHOST

The doctor-- where's the doctor?!

Dean moves after the ghost--

DEAN

Hey!

The PACING GHOST ENTERS. DEAN right behind--

PACING GHOST

The doctor... need the doctor...

DEAN

Hey-- I'm talkin' to you.

Then-- BOOM! A WHITE LIGHT BURSTS DOWN at an odd angle, warmly illuminating Dean. He looks toward it-- shielding his eyes-- and sees--

JESSICA (20s), a REAPER in a wrap dress and stylish coat with her hair tightly pulled back. Smiling. Light pouring down behind her. It's all gorgeous.

JESSICA

Hello. My name is Jessica. I'm a Reaper and I'm here to lead you to your next--

DEAN

Save it, lady. I'm busy.

He moves past her, toward the PACING GHOST--

DEAN

Hey, shuffles, my name's Dean
Winchester, I'm tryin' to help...

*
*

ON JESSICA. That name MEANS something to her--

JESSICA

Oh... God...

She turns-- worried-- and we SWISH PAN TO--

INT. DEATH'S LIBRARY IN THE VEIL - CONTINUOUS

JESSICA-- IN A NEW LOCATION. A LARGE LIBRARY.

The space has a MODERN AMERICAN MISSION style, wood and leather furniture, and the shelves are all filled with NOTEBOOKS that look identical. THOUSANDS OF HANDWRITTEN NOTEBOOKS IN ROWS. Two DESKS sit just inside of the entrance, on either side. Two other REAPERS are busy typing away, one at each desk. They both have GLASSES and they both look up as Jessica appears, breathless and full of urgency...

JESSICA

Dean Winchester is in the Veil!

There is a PRE-LAP CRACK of THUNDER! And we SMASH TO--

27 INT. MEADOWS HOUSE - HALLWAY - NIGHT 27

BACK IN THE REAL WORLD. Sam works-- pouring a SALT CIRCLE around DEAN'S BODY. A CRACK OF THUNDER AND LIGHTNING startles him. He looks at the windows as a thunder storm starts to roll in outside the house. Sam's eyes go to Dean-- not good--

28 INT. MEADOWS HOUSE - FOYER - SAME 28

MEANWHILE IN THE VEIL. Dean GRABS THE PACING GHOST-- by the arm--

DEAN

I need to talk to--

But the man shakes him off-- and WALKS THROUGH THE WALL. Vanishing.

ON DEAN. Fucking really?

DEAN

Oh, come on...

SEAN (O.S.)

I know you.

Dean freezes. He knows that voice-- and turns--

To SEE SEAN. A GHOST. He has an open wound on his temple and blood on his face. His eyes are vacant, his words without expression. He'd be in shock if he were alive.

DEAN

Sean?

SEAN

You're the FBI man, from my house.

And Dean knows: if Sean's here in the Veil, then they're too late to save him. He's already dead. Dean swallows back his emotions and tries to press forward.

SEAN

Are you dead too?

DEAN

I-- yeah, I-- Sean, what... what happened to you?

ON SEAN. Haunted. A beat, then--

SEAN

The man with the drill, he was in
my room. He... he...

29 INT. SEAN'S ROOM - NIGHT (FLASHBACK) 29

QUICK CUTS: DR. MEADOWS' GHOST CHARGES SEAN--

And CRASHES INSIDE HIM. POSSESSING HIM. Sean JERKS RIGID--

Then RELAXES. Turns to camera-- a BLACK TEAR leaking from
his eye.

Sean rises-- jerkily-- and moves to his BACKPACK.

Takes out the PLAGUE MASK. And PUTS IT ON.

30 EXT. MEADOWS HOUSE - NIGHT (FLASHBACK) 30

QUICK CUTS: Sean, barefoot in pajama pants and a T-shirt,
walks through the gate. The plague mask is still on.

31 INT. MEADOWS HOUSE - OFFICE - NIGHT (FLASHBACK) 31

QUICK CUTS: Sean takes off the mask and sets it with the
others. He opens a drawer in Dr. Meadows' desk...

REVEALING an ANTIQUATED DRILL. His hand grabs it.

He raises the drill. It WHIRS and we... *

32 INT. MEADOWS HOUSE - FOYER - NIGHT 32

...CUT BACK to the present with Dean IN THE VEIL.

DEAN

The doc-- he possessed you. He
killed you. *

SEAN

I just... I couldn't stop him. He
said I'd feel better, but... but I
miss my mom. *

And that tears Dean apart--

DEAN

Sean, I-- I should've-- I'm so
sorry.

SEAN

Evan's here too. We can't leave,
we--

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

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CONTINUED: 32

32

 SEAN (CONT'D)
 (then, getting antsy)
 Why can't we leave?

OFF DEAN-- DEVASTATED CUT TO--

33

INT. MEADOWS HOUSE - HALLWAY - NIGHT 33

SAM. Salt circle finished, Sam takes out the ADRENALINE shot. Checks his watch-- THUNDER AND LIGHTNING flashing outside the window--

34

INT. MEADOWS HOUSE - FOYER - NIGHT 34

DEAN moves toward SEAN-- in the VEIL--

 DEAN
 I know you're scared, but I-- I'm
 gonna help you, okay?

 SEAN
 Help me go home?

 DEAN
 Help-- help you go to a better
 place.
 (then)
 But I need to know... the doc...
 where'd he put your body?

Sean points to a LARGE RUG.

 SEAN
 Under there-- there's a door-- and
 a room-- that's where he put me.
 That's where he put all of us.

OFF DEAN-- that's what he needed to know. CUT TO--

35

INT. MEADOWS HOUSE - HALLWAY - NIGHT 35

DEAN (in the VEIL)-- racing down the hallway toward SAM.

 DEAN
 Sammy, I got it!

SAM (not in the veil)-- who looks at his watch-- time's up. THUNDER ROLLS outside, as Sam SLAMS down the needle into Dean's chest!

AND NOTHING HAPPENS.

Sam freaks-- shaking Dean--

(CONTINUED)

SAM

Dean! Dean!

But the body's motionless-- LIFELESS. CUT TO--

DEAN. In the VEIL. Stunned--

DEAN

It's not working-- why isn't it--

And a GLOVED HAND touches his shoulder-- DEAN SPINS TO SEE--

BILLIE! (last seen-- and killed-- in 1209). But she looks different now-- more polished. Her hair is up, gray silk blouse, thin gloves, black leather trench. She's also holding DEATH'S SCYTHE. Oh, and she's NOT DEAD--

*
*

BILLIE

Hey, Dean. We need to talk.

ON DEAN. Holy shit--

DEAN

Billie?

BLACKOUT.

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

36

INT. MEADOWS HOUSE - HALLWAY - NIGHT

36

We pick up IN THE REAL WORLD. ON SAM. He's desperately struggling to revive his brother: POUNDING ON HIS CHEST, SHAKING HIM, anything to bring Dean back!

SAM

No. No, no, come on, come on!

IN THE VEIL. BILLIE frowns at Sam while removing one glove, as DEAN stares-- can't believe this is happening. *

BILLIE

And...

She SNAPS HER FINGERS-- and TIME STOPS!

SAM FREEZES OVER DEAN'S BODY. The STORM STOPS. The sudden quiet is JARRING.

BILLIE

That's enough of that.

Dean looks to Sam-- to Billie-- *

DEAN

That's-- I saw Cass kill you. *

CLOSE ON: Billie's pupils as they DILATE. *

BILLIE

How's that working out for him? *

Dean clenches his jaw. Hard. *

BILLIE

It's funny-- to hear a Winchester talk about the *finality* of dying. *

Billie's eyes return to normal. *

BILLIE

This reality-- it has rules, Dean. So many rules. And one of them? *

(then)

Kill one incarnation of Death, like you did, the next Reaper to die takes his place. *

She removes her other glove, revealing Death's familiar SILVER RING with a white stone. *

(CONTINUED)

BILLIE

So, when Castiel stabbed me in the back, turns out-- I got a promotion.

DEAN

So... you died to become Death?

BILLIE

The universe can be many things, and sometimes it is poetic.

(then)

That's why we need to talk.

She SNAPS HER FINGERS AGAIN-- and we SWISH PAN TO--

INT. DEATH'S LIBRARY IN THE VEIL - CONTINUOUS

THE LIBRARY. Where BILLIE and DEAN are now standing. Dean's a little off balance-- WOOZY.

DEAN

...the Hell?

BILLIE

Welcome to my reading room.

The two Reapers from earlier come forward. Billie hands her COAT to one and her SCYTHER to the other.

*
*

BILLIE

Learned not to leave this lying around near you, didn't I?

*
*
*

The two Reapers quickly exit, closing the doors behind them.

*

DEAN

So, am I dead?

*

Billie moves to a nearby table and starts eating GRAPES from a bowl. She CONTINUES TO EAT GRAPES throughout.

*

BILLIE

You killed yourself.

DEAN

No. Are you keeping me dead?

BILLIE

Now that depends on you.

DEAN

Sure, okay-- congrats on the promotion, but I've got a house full of ghosts waiting and I need to get back to my brother. So if it's up to me--

BILLIE

I didn't say it was up to you. I said it depends on you.

(then)

Word on the interdimensional street is that you've been slipping between worlds, Dean. I want to know how you're doing it. Now.

ON DEAN. Giving it right back--

DEAN

Thought Death knew everything.

BILLIE

Then you can imagine how this one little blind spot is *really* bothering me.

DEAN

What's in it for me?

BILLIE

What do you want?

ON DEAN. A beat, then--

DEAN

Get rid of the ghosts.

BILLIE

Excuse me?

DEAN

Free the ghosts from the Meadows house, let 'em move on-- and I'll tell you whatever you want to know.

Billie's eyes narrow a beat-- studying him-- then--

BILLIE

Deal.

38

A LIGHT SHINES DOWN on him and he looks up...

JESSICA is there standing next to a beautiful WHITE LIGHT.
She holds out her hand.

JESSICA

Come with me. You don't have to
stay here. It's going to be okay.

Sean takes her hand and stands up. He looks back...

Maybe a half dozen other GHOSTS, led by Evan (with a DRILL
HOLE in his head and BLOOD on his face), calmly walk to the
light, transfixed. *

39

INT. DEATH'S LIBRARY IN THE VEIL - SAME

39

ON BILLIE.

BILLIE

It's done.

Dean eyes her--

DEAN

How do I know I can trust you?

BILLIE

You don't. But then again, I'm not
the one breaking cosmic bargains
left and right, now am I?

DEAN

Not that you hold a grudge.

BILLIE

Don't I?
(off Dean)
So... spill.

ON DEAN. A beat, then--

DEAN

It's Lucifer's kid. Jack. When he
was born, there was a little rip.

BILLIE

A "little rip" into another world?
(Dean shrugs-- yup--)
And you went there?

DEAN

Let's just say it wasn't Candyland. *

(CONTINUED)

BILLIE

I'll bet.

DEAN

Why do you care?

BILLIE

Because I do, because-- this whole multiversal quantum construct we're living in? All these worlds stacked on worlds stacked on worlds? They're like a house of cards. Perfectly balanced.

Poetic.

(then)

And the last thing I need is some big, dumb Winchester knocking it all down.

DEAN

You think we're gonna end the world?

BILLIE

Worlds. Plural. And-- wouldn't be the first time.

Dean frowns-- she's not wrong-- Billie studies him-- curious--

BILLIE

You've changed.

DEAN

New shampoo. Makes my hair all shiny.

BILLIE

(a thin smile)

When you bargained with me just now, you could have asked to go back. To live.

*
*

DEAN

No offense, but I know if you're in charge, I'm not getting back.

*
*

BILLIE

That doesn't sound like the Dean Winchester I know and love. The man who's been dead so many times-- but it never seemed to stick.

She moves in--

(CONTINUED)

BILLIE

But... maybe you're not that guy anymore.

(then)

The guy who saves the world. The guy who always thinks he'll win, no matter the odds.

Dean looks down-- Billie presses--

BILLIE

You have changed. And you tell people it's not a big deal. You tell people you'll work through it. But you know you won't-- you can't--

(then)

And that scares the Hell out of you. Or-- am I wrong?

ON DEAN. As that lands-- beat, then--

DEAN

What do you want me to say, huh? It doesn't matter. I don't matter.

BILLIE

Don't you?

ON DEAN. Full on self-loathing.

DEAN

I couldn't save Mom. I couldn't save Cass. I couldn't even save a poor, scared kid.

(then)

And Sam... he's been trying to fix it-- but we both know he'd be better off without me.

A look to Billie.

DEAN

So I'm not gonna beg-- if it's my time, it's my time.

BILLIE

You really believe that.

(then)

You want to die.

ON DEAN. Standing strong. He does. Billie moves forward-- motioning to a TALL SHELF packed full of notebooks--

*

(CONTINUED)

BILLIE

Dean-- every notebook on this particular shelf tells a version of how you die. You, specifically: heart attack, burned by a red-haired witch, stabbed by a ghoul in a graveyard, on and on. But which one's right? That depends on you. On the choices you make.

*
*

DEAN

(beat, then--)
Yeah, well... guess I made my choice.

*
*
*
*

BILLIE

But... unfortunately, none of these books say you die today.

*
*

ON DEAN. Surprised by that--

DEAN

Come again?

BILLIE

Since I got this "new job"-- I stand witness to a much larger picture. One beautiful in its savagery.

*
*

(then)

But when I cast my gaze across infinite possibilities, infinite worlds, do you know what I see?

(then)

You. And your brother. You're important.

*

DEAN

What-- why?

BILLIE

You have work to do. That's all you need to know.

(then)

And trust me, having my eyes opened to the necessity of any humans, especially Winchesters, is not a thrill.

(then)

So you want to die... but I say: keep living.

She raises her hand to snap...

*

DEAN

Wait--! Just, I need to-- Is my
Mom really--?

*
*
*

Billie SNAPS HER FINGERS--

*

Dean is thrown backwards and we SWISH PAN off him to...

INT. MEADOWS HOUSE - HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

...Dean's "dead body." BACK IN THE REAL WORLD where--

DEAN JERKS BACK TO LIFE! Gasping for air--

Sam kneels in front of him-- stunned--

SAM

Dean?!

He rushes to his brother--

OFF DEAN-- alive-- stunned-- scared--

BLACKOUT.

END OF ACT FOUR

ACT FIVE

41 EXT. MEADOWS HOUSE - NIGHT

41

OPEN ON DEAN. Alone. Surveying the scene--

SAM, at a distance, talking to Penny and a POLICE OFFICER. Penny is crying. The EMTs haul Sean's body out of the house. Penny turns into the Police Officer's arms. She can't look.

Dean looks down. Uncomfortable. Broken. When he looks back up-- Sam's approaching--

DEAN

How'd it go?

SAM

About how you'd expect.

Dean nods-- fair enough--

SAM

Dean-- what happened in there?
That shot-- it didn't work, and
then-- you were just back.

(then)

Don't get me wrong, I'm happy, but--

DEAN

Guess it just took a minute for the
drugs to kick in. I got lucky.

SAM

Lucky?

Dean gets in the car. Sam reluctantly follows suit.

42 INT. IMPALA - CONTINUOUS

42

Dean starts the car, but as he puts it in gear...

SAM

Hold on, *just stop for a second*.

Dean sits back in his seat.

SAM

What about the ghosts? I checked
the EMF-- they're gone. That
"lucky" too?

DEAN

We can talk about it later.

(CONTINUED)

SAM

We won't talk about it later.

ON DEAN. A long beat, then--

DEAN

I saw Death. The Death. *

SAM

He's dead.

DEAN

No, she's not.

(off Sam)

It's Billie. Long story-- but she got a new gig. She's the one that took care'a the ghosts.

SAM

Why would she help us?

DEAN

Wanted intel, and... she said we're important-- said we got work to do.

SAM

And that means?

DEAN

I got no friggin' clue.

Dean looks back to the ambulance-- to Penny-- to Sean's body-- a DARK LOOK passing across his face. Sam notices--

SAM

Dean, are you--?

DEAN

No, Sam. I'm not okay, I'm not fine, I-- *

(then)

My whole life, I've always believed that what we do is important. That no matter what it costs-- or who we've lost... didn't matter if it was Dad, or Bobby, or-- I took the hit and I kept on fighting because I believed-- I knew we were making the world a better place. But after Mom and Cass... *

SAM

You don't believe it anymore? *

(CONTINUED)

42 CONTINUED: (2) 42

Dean looks down-- takes a long beat-- this is Dean near rock bottom-- then turns to Sam--

DEAN

I-- I need us to get a win, Sam.

*

As that lands on Sam-- MUSIC KICKS IN and we START A MONTAGE--

43 EXT. MEADOWS HOUSE - NIGHT 43

PENNY. Standing over Sean's body... sobbing...

44 INT. DEATH'S LIBRARY IN THE VEIL - NIGHT 44

BILLIE. Staring up at Dean's shelf. A small, mysterious smile playing across her face.

45 EXT. ROAD - NIGHT 45

The IMPALA roaring into the night.

46 INT. IMPALA - NIGHT 46

SAM is ASLEEP. DEAN DRIVES. Lost. A beat, then-- DEAN'S PHONE RINGS-- and SAM STIRS as he ANSWERS--

DEAN

Yeah?

We can't hear anything, but Dean goes pale. Sam notices--

SAM

Dean? What is it?

47 EXT. ROADSIDE CONVENIENCE STORE - NIGHT 47

The IMPALA pulls to a stop in front of a convenience store in the middle of nowhere. A FIGURE, details hidden in SHADOW, leans against a phone booth. His back is to the car.

Sam and Dean get out. Stunned. Dean chokes out--

DEAN

Cass.

And CASTIEL slowly turns toward Sam and Dean. He's BACK!

BLACKOUT.

TO BE CONTINUED...