

Bloodstorm

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FADE IN:

EXT. FOREST - DAY

In a clearing, four YOUNG WOMEN stand in a circle. They wear white dresses, and slowly bring their hands up, touching to form a peak.

Each of the four has a different hair color - black, blonde, fiery red and brunette.

Behind them, the oily waters of a large lake chop in the breeze. The four stand perfectly still, their LAUGHTER like golden rain.

Then, one by one, they break the chain, walk toward the water. The raven haired beauty pauses, looks back over her shoulder.

RAVEN

We're waiting for you, laddie.
All of us...waiting to make
sweet love to you.

A cloud passes overhead, blocking the sunshine. Her smile stays radiant, but her eyes are cold and dead.

RAVEN

(whispers)
Take us...

INT. BUS - LATE AFTERNOON

The single passenger awakens with a jump, shivers. SEAN(25) stares out at the waters of the loch to his right. The sky overheard is packed with low, bruised cloud.

SUPER - LOCH OICH INVERGARRY SCOTLAND

Up the front, the driver, KENNY(30), glances in his mirror.

KENNY

Good timing, lad.

He pulls the bus over to the left. A secondary road runs off the 'T'. Sean looks across the aisle and sees a few houses and shops, about a hundred yards along.

KENNY

Invergarry in all its glory.

Sean walks down the aisle, clutching a medium sized backpack. He blinks, shakes his head, trying to clear the webs. He's tall and thin, wears denim cutoffs, t-shirt and a 49ers cap.

SEAN

Thanks for the ride.

KENNY
It's my job, laddie. Besides,
someone has to escort you
Aussies around.

Sean laughs, gets to the bottom step as the door opens.

KENNY
My cousin runs yonder pub. Tell
him Kenny said to buy you a pint.

A roll of THUNDER overhead. Rain begins to fall lightly.

SEAN
Took me days to get used to the
longer hours of light over here.
Now...

He gestures up, steps from the bus.

KENNY
See you, laddie.

The door shuts, the bus moves off. Sean grins, looks about, starts towards the town.

INT. PUB - LATE AFTERNOON

A well-weathered but neat establishment. A handful of people, all at the bar.

The barman is ALEX(45), a solid chap with a greying beard. He makes small talk with JEFF and DONNA(both 30), an American couple.

DUNCAN(80), wrinkled but spry, sits on the corner stool, head over his pint.

BUS

Kenny WHISTLES, turns on the radio, and his headlights.

RADIO ANNOUNCER(O.S)
...worst summer storm in
decades, between Inverness and
Fort William. Police are urging
people to stay indoors and be
prepared for__

The radio is silenced. Kenny frowns, fiddles with the dial, as the bus rounds a bend.

Suddenly, white shapes on the road in front of him...Kenny brakes, stopping mere feet away.

PUB

Duncan looks up sharply. One of his eyes is muddy with blindness; the other is blue and sparkles fiercely. Alex turns his head, frowns.

OUTSIDE

Sean walks faster, as the drizzle intensifies.

ROAD

The four young women in white...one lies on the road, the others crouch around her.

Kenny gets out of the bus, moves towards them. His eyes are drawn to their bodies, diaphanous dresses, wet and clinging - its evident they wear no undergarments.

KENNY

I...is everything alright? Has there been an accident? I can take you...

DUNCAN(O.S)

They will rise again. Their evil shall curse us once more...

The raven haired beauty stands and faces Kenny.

RAVEN

Everything is fine.

PUB

Alex moves slowly down the bar. Jeff and Donna stare at the old man.

DUNCAN

It was said they would return on the summer solstice...

INSERT - a calendar on the wall; the date is June 21.

DUNCAN

...when the longest day is shortened.

OUTSIDE

Pitch black now. Sean is just a shape.

ROAD

Raven beckons to Kenny. He steps forward, his eyes not moving from her lithe body.

RAVEN
Everything is just...

Her companions rise behind her, but Kenny sees only damp flesh.

PUB

Jeff moves off his stool.

JEFF
What the hell is he babbling about?

DONNA
Tell him to stop, honey.
He's...scaring me.

ALEX
(hisses)
Quiet, old man...

ROAD

RAVEN
...fine.

Her left hand moves like lightning towards Kenny. The long nails rip and slash.

DUNCAN(O.S)
And a stranger comes with them,
unbidden...

PUB

Sean steps quietly through the open door. Everyone at the bar looks up.

DONNA
Oh...

DUNCAN
...but who is...not a stranger?

JEFF
This is all a wind up, right?

ALEX
Sorry?

SEAN
Am I interuppting something?

JEFF
You know...the re-enactment of
the local boogeyman story? Well,
I gotta say, you really had us
going!

Alex frowns at Duncan, smiles wanly.

ALEX
Uh, aye, that's right...

ROAD

Blood sprays across the headlights of the bus...

Sizzling...

INT. PUB - NIGHT

Sean leaves his backpack near the door, walks to the bar.

SEAN
Getting pretty wild out there.
Could use a pint, please.

Alex nods, pours a beer. Duncan watches Sean, a faint smile on his lips.

JEFF
You're an Aussie by the sounds?

SEAN
Yep. Did the West Highland Way
to Fort William. Caught the bus
here.

Alex puts the beer on the bar. Sean pulls out his wallet.

ALEX
Bus? My cousin would have been
driving.

SEAN
Yeah, he said you ran this pub.
Said you might shout me a
beer...but I don't mind paying.

He grins, hands over some cash. Alex shakes his head.

ALEX
It's on me, lad.
(beat)
In fact, drinks for all of you.

JEFF
Mighty kind.

DONNA
Yes, thank you.

Duncan drains his pint, smiles at Alex.

DUNCAN
The usual then. I...

He stops, tilts his head, as if...listening. Whispers softly...

DUNCAN
Kenny's dead.

CRASH! Alex drops a full pint on the floor. His hands shake as he lunges at the old man, gets in his face.

ALEX
Enough of this superstitious claptrap! These good people don't want to hear it. I don't want to hear it.

Duncan ignores him, calmly gets up.

DUNCAN
We don't have much time. They will be coming for us soon. Their blood lust is only rising...

ROAD

Kenny's lifeless eyes fill up with rain. The last of the four lifts her mouth from his gaping neck. Blood mingles with water...

Pale feet step over Kenny. The four hold hands, walk back along the road.

INT. PUB - NIGHT

Duncan takes an ancient sword from the wall above the fireplace.

DUNCAN
They fear anything made of iron.
It harms them. Do not hesitate to use weapons.

He gives the sword to Sean, takes a rusty poker from the hearth.

DUNCAN
We'll need the reflexes of youth tonight.

Sean stares at the sword. Jeff drains his drink, slams it down.

JEFF

Ok, This has gone too far, guys.
You're scaring the crap out of
me now. What the fuck is going on?

Duncan walks painfully to the front door, closes and secures it.

DUNCAN

They are called the Baobhan
Sith...

(he pronounces it
'baa-van shee')

...and they are a type of
vampire. In female form,
extremely beautiful, very
dangerous...

JEFF

Vampires? What century are you
living in? For god's sake, it's__

SEAN

Quiet!
(beat)
Please, let him speak.

Alex comes out from behind the bar, sits at a table.

DUNCAN

Oh, they are real...they have
existed in Scotland for
centuries, rising at times to
feed on humans.

(beat)

They do not have fangs but
razor sharp fingernails. They
rip then drink. The men they
kill do not become like them,
only other women.

SEAN

You...know a lot about these
creatures.

Duncan unbuttons the top of his shirt, pulls it down. The flesh is gnarled, with ancient scars visible.

DONNA

Oh, sweet jesus...

DUNCAN

I fought them once
before...when I was a boy.
During the war, when men of the
village were away fighting.

His eye is blazing now.

DUNCAN

I somehow managed to break
their spell, not sure...but
they vanished.

(beat)

Until now...the portents have
arrived...the storm darkening
the longest day of the year. A
stranger in our midst...

He nods at Sean. Alex gets up suddenly, crosses to a window, looks out.

DUNCAN

There's more to you, lad,
something...

ALEX

I can see...shapes...walking
in the rain. Four of them.

Then...the faint CRUNCHING of gravel.

DUNCAN

It is the Sith.

He limps forward, poker at the ready. Sean swishes the sword, tests its balance.

DUNCAN

Whatever happens...do not open
the door.

JEFF

Come on, man, as if we'd be
that stupid.

DUNCAN

They have ways of overpowering
minds.

A POUNDING on the door. Everyone tenses.

RAVEN(O.S)

Please, you must help us...

The voice is wrought with fear and innocence. And reason...

RAVEN(O.S)

The bus driver...we found
him...down the road, an
accident. He said his cousin
was here?

Sean GASPS softly, turns as Alex's eyes widen, and he lumbers forward.

DUNCAN
 (roars)
 No! Be still!
 (beat)
 It's a trap.

He approaches the door, holds the poker close.

DUNCAN
 You shall not enter, foul Sith.
 Return to the dark waters of
 the loch.

Alex tries to push past him.

ALEX
 Kenny...he needs us.

Duncan moves fast for his age, raps Alex in the gut with the poker. He stumbles to his knees.

JEFF
 Now just a minute, old timer.
 Aussie, you ok with this shit?
 Suppose someone out there is hurt?

SEAN
 I think...I don't know...

Jeff suddenly hears a VOICE...in his head.

RAVEN(O.S)
 (in Jeff's mind)
 Open the door...open the door
 and all four of us will show
 you pleasure you can only dream
 of with HER...

DONNA
 Jeff? Honey, you ok?

Duncan listens at the door, nods. The sound of receding FOOTSTEPS.

DUNCAN
 They're going. There's a chance
 we may have stopped them.

He limps to Alex, whispers to him, rubs his shoulder.

Jeff lurches towards the door. The voice in his head oozes lust...

RAVEN(O.S)
 (in Jeff's mind)
 You will be sated beyond belief,
 beautiful man...our bodies are
 your temple...

JEFF

Oh, jesus...

DUNCAN

NO!

Too late...Jeff unlatches the door. It opens...the four Sith stand there, exuding a dark presence. They surge in, pushing Jeff back.

DUNCAN

Attack them. No mercy...kill them all.

The blonde veers towards Alex, who's struggling to his feet. The great nails slash his face and he falls back.

Duncan swings the poker at Raven and the red head. Sean and Jeff face the brunette, who charges them. Donna SCREAMS, hunkers behind a table.

Sean swipes at the brunette. She ducks and leaps on him. He tumbles back over a chair and the Sith is impaled on the ancient sword. Her body quivers, vanishes in a cloud of black dust.

Duncan thrusts the poker into the throat of the red head. Raven backhands him across the room, drops to the floor, avoiding Sean's wild swing, as the red head disappears into dust.

Jeff runs over, takes the poker from Duncan, who tries to rise. He smashes the poker into the blonde's back, as Sean's sword bites into the bridge of her nose.

Raven lashes at Jeff with her nails. He dodges back, then watches as Donna emerges to kick out at Raven, sobbing. Raven swipes backwards, sending Donna flying.

Jeff YELLS, rushes at Raven, but she hurls him past her into a wall. She ducks Sean's sword again, and is upon him, driving him to the floor. The sword flies away, leaving him helpless beneath her knees.

Raven savours the moment, seeming to grow larger and stronger. Duncan watches in horror, on his knees.

DUNCAN

She's getting more powerful, feeding off the deaths of her sisters...all hope is lost.

Sean struggles, but can do nothing as Raven slowly, sensuously, draws her nails across his neck. Blood wells and she lifts it to her lips.

RAVEN

Remember the touch of my body,
mortal, as I take your
lifeblood. You shall not...you...

A look of anguish and pain across her face. She falls back,
SCREAMING.

RAVEN

Poison....I....it burns me...

She staggers to her feet, turns to the door.

DUNCAN(O.S)

You shall not escape me this
time...

The great SWOOSH of the sword takes off Raven's head
cleanly at the neck. It falls, turning to dust, along with
her body.

Duncan sits on a chair, gasping for breath. Sean crawls
to him.

DUNCAN

I'm alright. The adrenaline is
still keeping me upright.

He grins, but it becomes a grimace of pain. Something on
the floor attracts his single eye. Sean's backpack...

Duncan leans down, lifts to his face. A plastic tag with
a name on it...SEAN MCDONELL. The old man mouths the words
to himself, then...

DUNCAN

Sean McDonell. Of course...you
are descended from the
Glengarry McDonells?

Sean nods. Jeff still sits across the room, dazed. Donna
rises to her feet behind Duncan.

SEAN

I came to visit the old castle
near the loch.

DUNCAN

Aye, the Raven's Rock it was
called. Tis said past Lords
paid homage to the Sith there.
Your blood contains remnants
of the past. It was enough to
sicken her.

He sighs, then slowly stands up. Sean supports him and
they both rise.

DUNCAN
Better get this place cleaned
up. The authori__

He GRUNTS, as Donna drives her nails into the back of his neck. She SNARLS at Sean, dips her head to gulp the blood.

SEAN
Oh, fuck...no!

He catches the falling Duncan, trips, falls backwards. Duncan's eye flutters inches from Sean's face.

DUNCAN
(weakly)
Must...kill...her...

Sean looks up to see Donna stooping over him, deadly nails driving at his face. He closes his eyes, tries to move.

Suddenly, Donna is exploding into black dust. Jeff is revealed, sobbing, the poker still thrust forward.

JEFF
I...she was one of them. My poor Donna...my lovely, my sweet baby...

SEAN
I'm...sorry, man. But you had to do it.

EXT. PUB - TWILIGHT

Sean stumbles out the door, cloth held to his bloodied neck. The storm has passed, and there is partial daylight. He heads towards the loch.

EXT. LOCH - TWILIGHT

The castle ruins are fenced off, a sign warning of the unsafe structure. Sean stares at the high, crumbling walls, feeling the past flow through him.

He walks to the edge of the loch, gazes over the steel-gray water. He turns to look at the castle again. A presence wraps around him, calling him into willing, velvet flesh.

SITH QUEEN(O.S)
Welcome home, my Lord of
Glengarry.

Sean gently falls into the embrace, and the waters take him.

FADE OUT.

