

# S.T.A.L.K.E.R. Chronic Discord

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Fade In

INT. UKRAINE KYIV APARTMENT BUILDING GROUND FLOOR - late night

John approaches the elevator door and presses the call button humming to himself. The elevator doors open and John enters.

INT. Apartment building hallway - late night

The elevator doors open and a young woman stands in the hallway dressed for her night out. John hesitates awkwardly before exiting the elevator and tries to walk off casually. The woman enters and presses the floor button, the doors close. John walks a bit further but realizes that he's walking the wrong way. So he turns and purposefully walks into a wall as a form of shame, then he walks to his apartment the right way.

INT. APARTMENT - LATE NIGHT

John carefully opens the front door and hears his brother CONNOR talking to his mom at the kitchen table. John tries to sneak past them by crawling through the living room.

MOM

He hasn't texted or called you?

CONNOR

He never does

MOM

Can you call some of your old friends to see if they know?

CONNOR

I can, but you said this has happened before

MOM

He's still unaccounted for, anything can happen.

CONNOR

Have you heard from DAD?

MOM

No, he'll be working til the end of the month

John makes it to his bedroom, but collapses as soon as he stands up. Mom hears the noise John makes, she investigates and Connor follows.

MOM

John, are you okay?

Hey! get up...

Connor call an ambulance!

John! Can you hear me? John!  
Wake up! come on! Jon Jon!

FADE OUT

FADE IN

INT. PICKUP TRUCK DIRT ROAD WOODS 50 MI OUTSIDE OF THE ZONE -  
NIGHT

Conner drives while Father navigates. John is asleep in the backseat.

FATHER

How's business?

Connor does answer (just raises an eyebrow)

FATHER

Right, sorry

FATHER

How'd Carrie like camp?

CONNER

We'll she's been begging me to get a pool  
ever since she got back. She says "swimming one week a year is  
depressing".

Father smirks

CONNER

I want to and all, but... you know.  
I don't wanna spoil her.

Father nodes

FATHER

You'll take your next right in about 1 km.

Fade out

Fade in

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM DAY

John sits up right in the bed on his phone. Mom is sitting tense in a chair.

MOM

You okay bud?

John looks up from his phone and sees his mom, then looks around the room. After some silence he says quietly

JOHN

I mean...

Mom looks at him for a moment.

MOM

It's okay... you've got this.

DR. KYLE

Good evening!

MOM

evening Dr.

Dr. Kyle looks at John and is instantly uneasy

Dr. Kyle

Hi John! It's good to...

How have you been?

John just looks at the doctor's clipboard, then looks at the doctor. Dr. Kyle clears his throat

Dr. KYLE

Um, Ma'am can I talk to you in the hall?

Mom gets up and holds John's arm

MOM

It's Okay.

She then follows the Doctor to the hall

Exit Mom and Dr. Kyle

John stares out the window for a while, when his mom returns she goes straight to the bathroom and cries

Fade out

FATHER V.O.

Jonny...

CUT TO INT/EXT. PICKUP TRUCK JUST OUTSIDE OF THE ZONE - NIGHT

FATHER

Wake up.

John wakes up to find that the truck has stopped and Conner is outside camouflaging it.

FATHER

You feeling okay?

JOHN

Yep.

FATHER

Then I need you to grab your stuff and get ready.

We have to leave in 3

John squeezes out of the truck

JOHN

Sir yes sir.

John takes a little longer to get ready and has trouble with his body armor. Once Father is finished he helps John.

FATHER

It's gotta be kind of tight. And you'll  
only take this off if I say it's okay...  
alright?

JOHN

Alright.

CONNOR

We're five minutes behind.

FATHER

One more thing. Jonny, what does this mean?

Father holds up his hand in a fist

JOHN  
Stop.

FATHER  
Stop walking, stop talking, look around and listen.  
If I yell drop, then you drop to the ground and find cover.  
Got it?

JOHN  
yeah.

FATHER  
Alright, mask up.

They all put on gas masks. John removes his beanie to reveal his bald head due to cancer treatment, then he puts on his mask.

FATHER  
Check your seal, like this.

Father hold his palm up to the intake of the mask and breaths in,  
John copies him.

FATHER  
Got suction?

JOHN  
yeah.

FATHER  
Hook up your canister and let's go.

They follow Father as he leads them to the Zone.

Fade out

MOM V.O.  
We are going to lose him.

Fade in

INT. KITCHEN APARTMENT NIGHT

Mom and Father sit at the table processing the tragic news about John. They're not holding each other.

MOM

If you don't get him One, he will die.

Father remains silent.

MOM

You do it every day... just bring him One that will heal him...  
please... I can't lose him.

After some time in silence, Father finally speaks.

FATHER

I can't.

Mom looks at him in disbelief.

FATHER

They've tried.

Artifacts of the Zone dissolve outside of it.

MOM

So take him there!

FATHER

It's dangerous. Even if we find an artifact, He won't be able  
to return home with it.

Mom gets up walks to the end of the hall, she stares at John's  
room and begins to sob. She falls to the floor sobbing, Father  
embraces her.

Fade out

Fade in

EXT/INT. WOODS EDGE OF THE ZONE - NIGHT

Father, Connor, and John walk with haste through woods towards  
the Zone. Father leads the line followed by John then Connor.  
Father is alert, armed and ready, always scanning the horizon  
and the sky. After a while walking John speaks to himself.

JOHN

Man... we in It yet?

CONNOR

What?

JOHN

Nothing.

Connor looks at him in some frustration. John mumbles to himself again.

JOHN  
Doesn't look any different.

They come to a small house and after making sure that it's clear, Father addresses them.

FATHER  
We'll eat here.

CONNOR  
If we keep going we'll make it before sunrise. We can eat there.

Father just looks at John.

JOHN  
I could use the calories.

Connor agrees, they enter the house and eat breakfast. While they prepare to leave. The sun rises and shines through the windows.

John walks out the front door to see the beautiful world before him. The sun rises to reveal the brown, overgrown landscape, gravity anomalies lens their surroundings like bubbles in space time, and abandoned vehicles flash with DC electrical arcs. A beautiful scene that John only wants to breathe in. Father joins him.

FATHER  
Watch out for those.

Pointing to the electric and gravitational anomalies

FATHER  
Treat them like a bomb. They'll kill you just the same.

Gunshots are heard not far from them.

FATHER  
Follow.

He walks away from the shots.

CUT TO EXT. JUST OUTSIDE A SMALL TAVERN - MORNING

The small group walks up to the tavern in single file (Father in front Connor in back)  
Father asserts



FATHER

I have to meet a friend, John you might want to make friends with the tavern owner. He has good prices for friends.

JOHN

Okay.

They enter the tavern.

INT. TAVERN MID-DAY

Father looks around, then nods to John, and walks further into the tavern out of sight. Connor takes a seat at an empty table. John sees the tavern owner, but he just looks around awkwardly for a moment until he decides to sit with Connor. Connor notices John's action and laughs.

CONNOR

Kelly is too scary to talk too huh?  
The tavern owner?

John ignores him and they sit in silence for a moment.

A tall Stalker watches them while drinking with accomplices (this is Malik, a bounty hunter known throughout most of the Zone.

He sits there watching John and Connor like a hawk for a few minutes before John notices him.

JOHN

Who's that?

Connor looks around to find who he's talking about.

CONNOR

Who?

JOHN

That guy who's staring at us.

CONNOR

I don't know. How long has he been looking?

JOHN

A couple minutes.

Connor shrugged his shoulders.

CONNOR

Just wait for Dad.

Father returns after a short while.

FATHER  
No trouble?

CONNOR  
Nope, no trouble just him.

Connor points at Malik.

FATHER  
What did he say?

CONNOR  
Nothing just sat there, I guess.

Father strides over to Malik's table. Father stares down Malik and seems to be questioning him about something. After a moment Father leaves Malik and rejoins John and Connor.

FATHER  
Let's go.

Father exits the tavern last.

EXT. OUTSIDE THE TAVERN - MORING

FATHER  
Here's the coordinates.

Father hands Connor a piece of paper. Connor glances at John before he receives it. He studies the paper for a second

CONNOR  
And I'll meet you at the factory, correct?

Father nods.

CONNOR  
I'll see you later.

He turns and walks away. Father nods to John, then walks another direction a little ways, then turns around because John isn't following him.

FATHER  
Follow me, CLOSE.

They begin their journey to find the artifact.

EXT. PAVED ROAD MEADOW/POWER RELAY - EVENING

Father and John walk along the road. Father is alert, John is sight seeing. John breaks the long silence.

JOHN  
So where's Connor going?

FATHER  
To do me a favor.

JOHN  
Don't we need help with this thing?

FATHER  
No, we're good.

A little way further Father slows his pace to a halt. He holds up his fist to signal. He turns to face a hill, a ways off where he can see the silhouette of a man on all fours (This is known as a Snork). He signals for John to back up into the trees. But more men on all fours appear, they make a shrieking sound as they charge John.

FATHER  
Don't let them get too close, SHOOT THEM!

But John runs away leaving Father behind. He runs about 200 meters to an abandoned power relay station. He hides in a small building, listening to the gunshots in the distance. The gunshots stop and John walks out to investigate and he realises that he's not alone. He hears an animal sound behind him and sees a shimmery figure (This is a Bloodsucker, a tentacle faced invisible monster) charging him before he can react when the figure hits him to the ground, nearly killing John. The Bloodsucker backs off for a second, while John struggles to breathe. The Bloodsucker charges John again, but Father dumps a magazine of 7.62 into its chest and finishes it off with 2 12 gauge slugs to it's head. The Bloodsuck falls to the ground DEAD. Father rushes to help John, He gives John a shot of morphine.

JOHN  
JEEZE! it hurts.

FATHER  
Can you breath okay?

JOHN  
It hurts to.

FATHER  
You probably have a broken rib.

JOHN

What was that?

FATHER

That was a Bloodsucker, and the shot was a pain killer. We have to go, COME ON.

Father supports John until he can catch his breath. And the two continue down the road to the factory (where the artifact is)  
EXT. A SMALL ABONDOND FACTORY MADE OF RED BRICK - DAY - SUNNY

John and Father approach the door of the factory, the door is wide open. John stares into the dark hallway, but Father gets his attention.

FATHER

John, you feel alright?

John thinks about the question longer than normal.

JOHN

I'll be fine.

Father nods.

FATHER

Stay close and keep quiet.

Father enters the factory and turns on his headlamp. After walking a little ways into the basement. John begins to hear random sizzling, popping and cracking sounds in the walls, they come and go as the minutes go by. Father and John walk a little ways further, when they come to a hallway, as they're walking through John hears the cracking sound behind him. He turns to see a flickering blue light in a room down the hallway. A second later an object with a bright core floats through the air into the hallway. Blue electric arches shoot off of it onto the walls, ceiling and floor as it floats toward John (this is an electric anomaly). Father pulls John into another room.

FATHER

Come on!

He and John move to the back of the room while the anomaly passes their room by and disappears.

FATHER

Watch out.

They keep moving through the basement. John can still hear the faint sound of the anomaly crackling in the walls. Father holds an artifact detector watching it for a ping.

FATHER

It's in the next room, kill your light.

John turns off his headlamp as they move into the next room, but Father stops in the doorway, John looks over past him to see a bloodsuck feasting on a corpse beyond the bloodsucker John can see the artifact they came for glowing blue. A second later the bloodsucker stands up and turns invisible. Father fires at it and John can hear it scream the pain. But the bloodsucker charges at them and knocks Father backward, Father begins to reload while John empties his gun in the direction that he thinks the bloodsucker is. But he misses nearly every shot and is thrown against the wall and falls to the floor (unconscious).

CUT TO BLACK

CUT TO INT. ROOM THAT CONTAINS THE ARTIFACT - DAY

Father is kneeling beside John's unconscious body tapping him on the face trying to get him to wake up. Father had placed the Artifact on John's chest in hopes to heal him.

FATHER

Wake up buddy, come on!

Father checks his pulse. He can still feel John's heart beating. He keeps tapping John's face.

FATHER

Come on John, Wake up!

John's eyes open slightly. He takes in a breath only to seize up in pain midbreath.

FATHER

You good?

John mutters and puts his hand on his chest.

JOHN

No.

FATHER

Catch your breath.

After a few minutes of recovery.

JOHN

Dad... thank you... for helping me.

FATHER

You're welcome.

Father gets up, helps John to his feet and the two of them exit the factory.

EXT. FACTORY/ROAD - DAY

John and Father wait on the road outside the factory for Connor to meet them. John is holding the artifact that has been slowly healing him, admiring its strange beauty.

FATHER

Don't play with that too much...  
Or you'll go blind.

John snickers at the joke, Connor approaches them.

CONNOR

Did you get it?

FATHER

We did, how about you?

CONNOR

I got by okay...

JOHN

What were you doing?

Connor ignores John. Standing for a moment dreading the answer to the question he's about to ask his father.

CONNOR

Dad... um... will YOU be heading back home with me?

Father looks at Connor in understanding.

FATHER

No, I'll make sure he gets settled in.

CONNOR

Will you be at Carrie's party?

FATHER

No, I'm sorry.

After a tense moment.

CONNOR

Alright... You know that you haven't been to a single family gathering in years. Neither has John, there's a reason why Mom spends every birthday and Christmas with us.

John is always out of the house drinking, smoking... I mean bush not cigarettes, and getting arrested, while Mom worries about him, she calls me every week asking if I've seen him, because who else can she call? not you, your never home...

But you know, stay here, help Him with whatever. But you should consider your other family.

Connor storms off, leaving Father standing there. He stands there for a minute thinking over what Connor said, while John sits behind him feeling the shame of his own actions. But eventually Father strides after Connor, John follows. From fifty meters away Father calls to Connor.

FATHER

Connor!

Connor turns around to face Father, but just then Malik jumps out from hiding and holds Connor at gun point using him as a hostage/meatshield. Father and John stop right in their tracks and everyone sits in silence for a moment.

MALIK

Drop your gun... or I'll shoot.

Father hesitates looking for a better option. Malik shoots an inch away from Connor's head, Father submits and so does John. Malik looks at Father (debating)

Malik SHOOTS Father in the head. And Father falls to the ground (Dead)

Connor and John can hardly believe what just happened. The two of them sit in silence for a moment. Connor looks at John queuing for retaliation, but when John notices him John just stands frozen with emotion. Connor turns gun ready to kill Malik, but Malik Shoots and kills him before he has the chance.

MALIK

You want a bullet too? Don't try anything.

Malik walks over to John, with his gun in John's face.

MALIK

How does it feel to live, while friends suffer the consequences?

Malik swings to knock out John, but John dodges the hit and tackles Malik. The two of them brawl for a moment each one trying to get the gun to kill the other. John empties the clip into the ground and one shot into Malik's leg. Pulls out a knife and begins to stab John, but Kevlar saves him. John catches the knife, breaks Malik's nose with his elbow. With Malik still holding the knife, John forces his body weight onto the knife driving it into Malik's chest. Malik gasps and dies slowly, letting his head fall into the grass.

John falls back to catch his breath. And notices Connor's dead body, he turns to see his father lying dead. Overcome with anger John slams his fist into the ground once, twice, over and over yelling in shame and rage until he sobs with his face on the ground.

John gets up and loads Malik's gun with one bullet. But before he does the unthinkable he notices Father's body and decides to bury him and Connor. After he buries them he takes a moment to remember them. He takes out the artifact from his pack and places it between the graves.

JOHN

Thank you, both of you... and I'll see you soon.

Then John walks away.

INT. HALLWAY, GROUND FLOOR OF JOHN'S PARENTS APARTMENT.

The elevator doors open, and the young woman from scene one stands in the elevator. She is a bit surprised by John's appearance bruised and without hair from his treatment. She steps out of the elevator and walks down the hall. John hesitates to enter the elevator, so he calls to the woman.

JOHN

You look nice.

WOMAN

Thanks

John nods then enters the elevator.

INT. JOHNS PARENT'S APPARENT

John takes a deep breath before entering the apartment, his mother sits at the table when he enters staring at the floor. After a moment of silence John begins to sob, trying to hold back the tears. She gets up and comforts him.

EXT. CEMETERY - MORNING



A small funeral is concluded and members leave one by one leaving only John's mother, Connor's wife and daughter (Carrie). They all pay their respects by putting a hand on the casket and then they all leave John's grave.

FADE OUT