

WISP

Harley Wolfe Jr.

Copyright (c) 2011

Wolfesaint8@aol.com

FADE IN:

EXT. GATES OF HELL

SUPERIMPOSE: THE GATES OF HELL

STINGY JACK (43), Drunk and sporting a disheveled appearance, furiously pounds on the MOLTEN RED GATE!

The DEVIL stares him down and strokes his Goatee, his two horns sparkle. A DEMON standing next to him snickers at Jack.

FLAMES and SMOKE bellow in this fantastical version of hell.

Jack SLAMS the gate again.

STINGY JACK

Let me in!

He yells at the Devil.

DEVIL

If God wont have you, what makes
you think I will?

STINGY JACK

But we had a deal!

The Devil shakes his head no and wags his PITCHFORK at Jack.

DEVIL

And you broke it! I curse you to
walk in the darkness of night for
all eternity!

Jack looks hysterical now.

STINGY JACK

But I'm so cold! And how can I see
where I'm going with no light?

He lifts up his unlit TURNIP LANTERN to the Devil.

The Devil elegantly grabs his cape and turns around. He reaches down and fetches a brimstone. He turns back and tosses it to Jack.

Jack fumbles it like a hot potato and puts it in the lantern.

The comical face carved into the Lantern lights up the surrounding gloom.

(CONTINUED)

DEVIL

There! Warmth and Light! Now begone
with your pestilence!

The Devil points for Jack to leave. Stingy Jack drops his head and sulks towards the Earthly realm.

CUT TO:

EXT. WOODS - CAMP FIRE - TWILIGHT

JOHN (22) average looking bloke, dressed in all black garb, closes an ANTIQUE BOOK and puts it down. The engraved cover reads ANCIENT IRISH FOLKLORE.

JASON (20) a bit pudgy with a thin mustache, and TRACY (21) cute, goth, sit around the CAMP FIRE looking drunk and bored.

JOHN

And that's the legend of Stingy
Jack!

Jason smirks. Tracy rolls her eyes and looks back down at the OUIJA BOARD in her lap. She moves the POINTER across it with two fingers.

She speaks in a mocking tone.

TRACY

Oh Grumpy Jack! Can you hear me?

Jason looks at her.

JASON

Having fun?

TRACY

Shush! I'm talking to Grumpy Jack!

JOHN

That's Stingy Jack!

TRACY

Oh right! Hey Stingy Jack. Are you
out there?

Jason crumples an empty beer can and throws it down.

JASON

Do we have anymore beer?

(CONTINUED)

John digs around the bottom of the cooler. He pulls out a "666 DEVILS ALE" brand beer. He flips it over to Jason.

Tracy takes a hit off a hand rolled "cigarette". Jason Turns to her.

JASON

Well?

TRACY

Nothing. He must be busy tonight.

JASON

Having more fun than we are I'm sure.

JOHN

Yep! He's roaming the woods with his lantern. Looking to lead some lost traveler to their doom!

Tracey giggles.

TRACY

The wanker!

In the far distance the SOUND of a muffled POP and a faint SCREECH. They all look at each other.

John shrugs and slowly stands up.

JOHN

Lets go. It'll be dark soon.

JASON

Here here!

They stagger about gathering supplies to put in the car.

CUT TO:

EXT. RURAL ROAD - NIGHT

Darkness creeps over the FOG. Its night time.

DANIEL HILL (28) good looking, well groomed, and EMILY ROBERTS (27) pretty, blond, Walk fast down the side of the road. Daniel turns to Emily.

DANIEL

We could have waited in the car.

Emily looks agitated. Her attractive face pale.

(CONTINUED)

EMILY
I'm too nervous.

Daniel apologetically gestures towards the road.

DANIEL
No worries, someone will come by soon.

EMILY
Good luck with that! We're in the middle of nowhere Daniel!

DANIEL
Hey we're lucky we didn't crash!

She lets out a sigh.

EMILY
Right! and no spare tire to boot!

Daniel rubs his forehead as if hes got a headache.

DANIEL
Lets just be glad we didn't get hurt okay?

He touches her hair, but she gently brushes his hand away.

EMILY
Stop! I'm not in the mood!

DANIEL
We'll get to the Hospital. I promise.

Emily turns her head and shrugs

EMILY
You should have called an ambulance.

Daniel calmly replies.

DANIEL
Emily, you said you were having a panic attack. I called the hospital and they said to bring you in.

EMILY
Its a lot worse than just a panic attack!

This news visibly surprises him.

DANIEL
How much worse?

EMILY
I'm hearing things again. Last
night I heard my sister's voice.
(Beat)
She was calling my name.

DANIEL
Why didn't you tell me this before?

EMILY
I don't know. I didn't want to
worry you.

He takes out his cell phone and looks at its screen. It says
"NETWORK UNAVAILABLE". Frustrated he puts it back in his
pocket.

DANIEL
We must be in a dead zone.

Emily quickly scowls at him after this remark. He looks
embarrassed. He gives a sympathetic glance at her.

DANIEL (CONT.)
Remember what the doctor said. The
voices aren't real.

Emily looks like she's about to cry.

EMILY
I'm having another breakdown
Daniel!

He stops her and they hug.

DANIEL
Hey! You're just stressed out love.
You'll be fine after you get some
help.

They move down the road.

Suddenly a menacing GROWL comes from the woods. Startled,
they quickly stop and look. No sign of a dog.

They compose themselves and continue.

DANIEL
Just a dog. No biggie!

EXT. RURAL ROAD - FURTHER DOWN - NIGHT

The light of the HARVEST MOON mixes with the surrounding darkness giving the air a crimson hue.

In the distance they see a cars approaching headlights. Emily points at it.

EMILY

Look!

DANIEL

I told you someone would come!
Let's flag em down!

They get into the middle of the road and wave. But suddenly the car makes a sharp turn into the woods. They look at each other, dumbfounded.

EMILY

Bloody Hell!

DANIEL

Come on lets catch em!

Daniel races ahead, leaving Emily where she stands.

EMILY

Daniel wait!

He shouts back at her.

DANIEL

Gotta catch em before they get
away, hurry!

Emily slumps, then in a panic runs. She quickly loses site of Daniel in the night. She yells ahead.

EMILY

Daniel!

But no use, hes gone. She stops to catch her breath.

In the quite, the sound of the breeze SWOOSHING through the trees seems much louder than it should.

Glancing into the woods, the swaying branches look like giant claws, ready to tear at her.

Out of the dark an eerie female VOICE speaks.

(CONTINUED)

DISEMBODIED VOICE (O.S.)

Emily?

She puts her hand's over her ears.

EMILY

No! It's not real!

DISEMBODIED VOICE (O.S.)

I miss you Emily.

She puts her hand's down.

EMILY

Tracy?

DISEMBODIED VOICE (O.S.)

Yes?

EMILY

Where are you?

DISEMBODIED VOICE (O.S.)

I'm here Emily.

Emily sees her SISTERS ghostly form in the woods. A hand grabs her shoulder from out of the darkness.

DANIEL

Emily!

She lets out a gasp.

EMILY

Daniel!

DANIEL

Lets go!

He takes her by the hand and they rush off. Emily looks back, but the image is gone. They reach the intersection where the car turned.

EXT. EDGE OF PATH - NIGHT

Down the path the car appears to have stopped. But its difficult to tell from this distance. Especially at night.

EMILY

Daniel, I can't go any further.

(CONTINUED)

DANIEL
Wait I think they see us!

EXT. FOREST - NIGHT

They hurry down the path. The car gets more distant with each step they take. It quickly disappears altogether.

DANIEL (CONT.)
Bloody hell, their gone!

Emily says nothing. The sound of a TWIG SNAPS from behind a tree. The voice calls out to her again.

DISEMBODIED VOICE (O.S.)
Emily, come here!

Emily puts her hands over her ears.

EMILY
No!

Daniel notices shes in distress. He pulls her close.

DANIEL
Its alright love, we'll go back to the car.

Emily nods in agreement.

As they are about to turn around, a BLUE GLOWING ORB appears down the path in the direction the car went.

It sway's back and forth as if its being held like a lantern. It seems to be coming towards them.

Daniel cups his hands over his mouth and yells.

DANIEL (CONT.)
Hey! can you help us?

The light stops.

EMILY
He heard you.

They walk towards it. The light suddenly backs away. Daniels patience is worn out.

DANIEL
Bugger this! Lets get out of here.

(CONTINUED)

EMILY

Okay.

They walk down the path towards the road. Glancing back they see the light still hasn't moved.

EXT. RURAL ROAD - NIGHT

Leaving the woods they get back on the roadside.

DANIEL

You feel any better?

Emily's face is blank.

EMILY

I feel like I'm suffocating.

Daniel acts like he didn't hear her.

DANIEL

We're almost to the car.

The mysterious light is following them from behind the treeline. It moves parallel and in the same direction their going. They both see it and stop. The light does as well.

DANIEL (CONT.)

Hes following us?

EMILY

I think so.

Daniel shouts at it again.

DANIEL

Hello!

The light hovers motionless.

EMILY

What does he want?

DANIEL

I don't know. But hes starting to piss me off. (To the light) You better leave us alone if you know whats good for you!

Emily tugs at his shirt.

(CONTINUED)

EMILY

Don't!

The light flicks out. Daniel scans the woods but doesn't see anything.

DANIEL

Its just some wanker with a flashlight fooling around.

He takes Emily by the hand and they proceed. Ahead, the outline of their car is visible now. It has a blown front tire, skid marks streak behind it on the road.

DANIEL (CONT.)

There it is.

INT. CAR - NIGHT

Daniel unlocks the door and opens it. Emily slides over to the passenger seat and he follows. She puts her head on the dash.

Daniel looks out the front window, then the back. Nothings coming.

He checks the cell phone again. He tosses it down. He reaches in his pocket and pulls out his car keys.

DANIEL

I'll drive with just the three tires. It may take a while but we'll get there.

Emily doesn't budge. She hears her sisters voice. It seems to be coming from the woods.

DISEMBODIED VOICE (O.S.)

Emily?

She look's at Daniel.

EMILY

Did you hear that?

DANIEL

Hear what?

EMILY

My sister!

(CONTINUED)

DANIEL

No I didn't hear anything.

DISEMBODIED VOICE (O.S.)

Emily, come to me. I'll protect
you.

Emily peers into the woods, as if searching for someone.

Daniel puts the key in the ignition.

The light reappears in the woods next to the car. Emily
look's at it wildly.

EMILY

Tracy?

She reaches for the door handle. She open's it and rushes
out. Daniel open's his door to pursue her.

EXT. CAR - WOODS - NIGHT - CONTINUOUS

Emily runs around the front of the car and towards the
light. Daniel gives chase. She ignores him and continues.

DANIEL

Wait!

EXT. FOREST - NIGHT

The orb gives off an other worldly brilliance. It
illuminates the surroundings giving everything a twisted
fantasy world motif.

Magical yet frightening at the same time.

RUNES appear on the tree trunks where the light shines, then
disappear as it passes.

Emily gives chase to the moving orb. Its as if it wants her
to follow.

It zigzags between the trees.

EMILY

Tracy!

DANIEL

Emily!

(CONTINUED)

Daniel's just a few feet behind. He extends his arms to grab her. He trips over a large tree root and falls hard on the ground.

Looking up he sees Emily running deeper into the wood's.

EXT. FOREST - FURTHER IN - NIGHT

Emily pants as she closes in on the light.

Suddenly the ground suddenly disappears underneath her. She runs off a steep embankment and falls.

EXT. FOREST MARSH - NIGHT

Laying on a large boulder at the edge of the MARSH she can barely move. Blood is pouring from her head.

She opens her eyes to see the light approaching. It's color changes from blue to BRILLIANT RED the closer it gets.

EMILY

Tracy? is that you?

A FIGURE dressed in a BLACK CLOAK steps forward. Hairy talons hold out a Lantern with a BLAZING PENTAGRAM on it.

Hell FLAMES and SMOKE bellow from the lantern. The real Stingy Jack is horrifying. A DEMONIC MONK.

With an inhuman voice He speaks.

STINGY JACK

No!

Jack laughs malevolently. Emily screams.

EXT. FOREST - NIGHT

Daniel limps through the trees. Its so dark he almost trips again. He reaches the edge of the embankment.

Emily's lying below and shes not moving. He sees her.

DANIEL

Oh my God!

EXT. FOREST MARSH - NIGHT

He scurries down the side grimacing with pain. Reaching Emily he falls to his knees, then hold's her in his arms.

DANIEL
Emily! Emily!

She doesn't move.

The whole area behind them lights up red as Stingy Jack RE-MATERIALIZES. Daniel lets go of Emily and stands up to face him.

He looks stunned beyond words at what he sees.

Daniel picks up a large rock and throws it at Jack.

It passes through him as if he were made of smoke.

He rises and drifts away transforming back into the blue orb.

Emily opens her eyes. She turns her head and sees Daniel. In a whisper she speaks.

Daniel drops back down to her side.

EMILY
I'm sorry love. I know it wasn't
real.

He caresses her hair. She lays her head down and and goes limp. Daniel sees the Will-O-The-Wisp fade away into the night.

He speaks aloud to himself.

DANIEL
It was real Emily.
(Beat)
It was real!

FADE OUT:

THE END