Roy Witch-Hunter

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FADE IN:

INT. SEMINAR ROOM- DAY

A large seminar college classroom-- seating around 100 students. It's loud. Busy. Everyone's talking the person next them. Then--

A MAN steps onto the stage at the front of the room. Faces the audience. He is—

ROY(28), intelligent, resourceful, sharp. He's the kind of guy that always has his guard up. And you can see it in his eyes.

ROY

(raising his arm)
Alright! Alright! Settle down! Let's
get started!

A beat as the audience slowly quiets down. Now it's deathly silent.

Roy takes his spot at the podium. Stares out at his audience for a beat. They're young. College students. Eager to learn. But what's the topic?

ROY (CONT'D)

My name is Roy Perkins. And I'll be your guest speaker today. So lets jump right into it...

Roy CLICKS a button on the podium. Just then--

An IMAGE projects onto the large SCREEN behind Roy. It's the gruesome image of an aging woman. Her skin is extremely dry and wrinkled. Some of it appears to be falling off. Her eyes, wild— an angry expression on her face. Her nose is unrealistically long and pointy. And she wears a black, pointy hat.

The sounds of quiet gasps and protest ripple throughout the audience. But only for a second.

ROY (CONT'D)

Yea. Disgusting, isn't it? ... Now can anyone tell me what we're looking at?

MALE STUDENT

A witch!

ROY

A witch. Good guess.

(MORE)

ROY (CONT'D)

Very good guess. In fact, I'm sure everyone else here would agree with you...But you're incorrect. This is actually a woman in Florida that has a rare skin disease. I gave her 50 dollars to put on the hat and the fake nose.

More quiet protest ripple through the classroom-- Roy ignores it.

ROY (CONT'D)

Now, what's the point of me showing you this image? ... It's to point out the most common misconception about the folklore of witches.

Roy CLICKS again. Another IMAGE appears on the screen. This time it's a WOMAN. Nothing out of the ordinary about her. Dark hair, pretty eyes. And she's smiling.

ROY (CONT'D)

Now who can tell me what we're looking at now?

A beat-- the room is silent.

ROY (CONT'D)

This, ladies and gentlemen, is a witch. ... Not all witches are old woman that wear pointy hats. By definition, a witch is someone that participates in witchcraft. Therefore, anyone can be witch.

(a beat)

Anyone.

Roy POINTS out a random male student in the crowd.

ROY (CONT'D)

Even him. Cause after all, being a witch isn't exclusive to females.

(quietly)

Looks can be deceiving... That's rule number one.

A FEMALE STUDENT towards the back of the room raises her hand--

FEMALE STUDENT

How do you know so much about witches?

A beat. Roy stares out at the audience-- a solemn expression. All eyes on him. Then--

ROY

Because I hunt them.

LAUGHTER ripples through the audience. They perceived Roy's statement as a joke. But the look on Roy's face might make you think otherwise.

Off Roy, dead serious.

FLASH TO:

EXT/ESTAB. SUBURBAN NEIGHBORHOOD- DAY(FLASHBACK)

A peaceful, sunny suburban neighborhood. Residents enjoy outside pool events and brisk jogs. It's like something out of the perfect dream.

EXT. SUBURBAN HOUSE- DAY (FLASHBACK)

CLOSE ON a "FOR RENT" sign. Now WIDEN just in time to see a WOMAN walk past the sign. She is followed by two INDIVIDUALS.

The Woman walks towards the front door of a lovely TWO STORY HOUSE. She STOPS at the door. Then turns to face the individuals. She is--

LESLIE(32), a woman with flawless skin and an award winning smile. But her attire and posture indicate that she's serious about her work.

LESLIE

I think you two are going to absolutely love this house. It use to belong to a very happy couple and their three beautiful kids. And as you can see, they took very good care of it.

Now we see the two individuals that Leslie is talking to. It's a MAN and a WOMAN. A married couple. The Man is-

CONOR(27), handsome, but a slightly nervous looking guy. He always seems to be a little on edge. It's seen in his movements.

And the Woman is KATLYN(26), cute. Confident. Intelligent. One might say that she wore the pants in that relationship.

KATLYN

(jokingly)

Yes. I see the outside of the house was very well kept... But we're more interested in the inside. After all, that's where we're gonna be spending most of our time.

They all LAUGH.

LESLIE

Of course. Well then, right this way.

Leslie walks into the house. Katlyn follows. But Conor hangs behind for a brief moment. He turns his head to look behind him--

He's looking at a black SUDAN parked across the street. Tinted windows.

CUT TO:

INT. BLACK SUDAN- DAY(FLASHBACK)

Roy sits in the drivers seat -- staring intently at Conor. Conor stares back, a nervous expression. They must know each other.

CUT TO:

EXT. SUBURBAN HOUSE- DAY (FLASHBACK)

Conor FOLLOWS the other two woman into the house.

INT. SEMINAR ROOM- DAY

Roy PACES the stage--

ROY

Now, when an individual decides to participate in witchcraft it will more than likely be for one of two reasons.
...Reason number one, revenge. We've all found ourselves in situations where we wish we can take action against someone that has wronged us. Some of you do. Whether it's through physical confrontation... Slander... A brick through a car window.

The audience LAUGHS.

ROY (CONT'D)

But there are people that choose a different route. Maybe they're too weak to action themselves. Or maybe they'd rather keep their hands clean. Personally, I find these kinds of people repulsive. But I guess that's where the term "witch' comes in.

EXT. SUBURBAN HOUSE- DAY (FLASHBACK)

Leslie EXITS the house. Followed by Conor and Katlyn.

KATLYN

Well, it certainly is a beautiful home.

CONOR

I agree. Perfect for raising a family.

LESLIE

Oh?...

(looking to Katlyn)

Are you expecting?

Conor and Katlyn look at each other -- awkward expressions.

KATLYN

Oh... No.

CONOR

Not at all.

KATLYN

(holding her stomach)
Why? Does it look like it?

Off Leslie-- oops.

INT. SEMINAR ROOM- DAY

A MALE STUDENT raises his hand--

MALE STUDENT

What's reason number two?

ROY

Reason number two is probably the more common out of the two reasons.

ROY (CONT'D)

And that reason is of course, personal gain. ... Money. Affection. Promotion. Fame. Superiority. The list goes on and on. When these people can't obtain these things with they're own capabilities, they turn to witchcraft.

FLASH TO:

INT. FAST FOOD RESTURANT- DAY(FLASHBACK)

Conor and Katlyn sit at a table near the window. They are joined by Roy-- he takes a seat across from them.

ROY

Okay. So what did you learn?

A beat. Conor shakes his head in disappointment.

CONOR

Nothing unfortunately. Leslie Caine seems completely normal. Well...at least as far as real-estate agents go.

KATLYN

We did all the usual test. But got nothing. Either she's simply not a witch or... She's one of the most experienced witches we've ever come across.

CONOR

Yea--but I'm sure it's not the latter. I mean honestly, she just seems like an over-enthusiastic real-estate agent--

ROY

(snapping)

Looks can be deceiving, Conor. That's the first rule of witch hunting. Forgetting this rule can cost you your life.

A beat of dead silence. Conor--regretful. Roy sighs. Then places a local NEWSPAPER onto the table.

CLOSE ON the newspaper -- the front page. A PICTURE of Leslie - shaking hands with an unknown individual in front of what looks like a new home.

The top of the paper reads: Local Real-Estate Agent Sells 16 Homes in One Week.

Roy Taps his finger on the number "16".

ROY

That's two-- sometimes three houses a day. Does anything about that seem normal to you?

CONOR

I-I admit it seems a little strange, but--

KATLYN

Conor, I think we need to focus less on the "what" and more on the "how".

ROY

Exactly. If we can't prove she's a witch with the usual test then we'll just have to catch her in the act.

CONOR

Catch her in the act?... You don't mean--

KATLYN

That's right. We'll have to catch her casting the spell. And then take counter-measures to prevent it from being complete.

CONOR

Yea--but, we don't even know what spell she's using. I mean... How can we take the proper counter-measures without knowing the spell?--

ROY

It's not hard. Just think about it. How is that she's able to sell all these houses in such a short time? What variable would she have to alter in order to sell?

A beat. Conor sits back-- arms crossed. Thinking. Then--

CONOR

Well, let's see.

At the end of the day, the decision on whether to buy the house or not ultimately lies with the buyer. So if Leslie really wanted to make the sale, she would have to...

A frightful thought occurs to Conor. His expression turns desperate.

CONOR (CONT'D)

Wait a minute! It's us. It's- it's me and-- me and Katlyn. We're the buyers. We're the variable that she'd have to alter. ...An obedience spell!

ROY

Conor, calm down. Now listen closely, it's possible that she's already put you and Katlyn under her spell. So from this point on we've gotta tread lightly.

Katlyn-- a concerned expression.

KATLYN

Roy... That's a dangerous spell. Reserved for high-level witches.

A beat.

ROY

I know. But don't worry. I'm not gonna let anything happen to either of you. We're gonna hunt this witch down. And then we're gonna kill her.

Blackout.

TO BE CONTINUED...