

DEMONEXUS

Written by

Richard F. Russell

Wordmstr007@gmail.com
910-285-3321
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FADE IN:

INT. BETH'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

BETH, 20s, plain but not ugly, comes through the door and tosses her purse to the side. As she walks, she unbuttons her blouse.

INT. BETH'S APARTMENT - BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

Light pops on. Beth sets her cell phone on the nightstand before sheds her blouse and bra, leaving them on the bed. Unzipping her tight skirt, she enters the bathroom.

Sound of RUNNING WATER.

A moment later, she emerges from the bathroom, tosses aside her skirt and panties and goes back in the bathroom for a shower.

From the closet slips CARL, 40s, fit and handsome. He goes to the bed, grabs her panties, and sniffs.

INT. BETH'S APARTMENT - BEDROOM - 30 MINUTES LATER

Hair in towel, wearing a robe, a gold cross around her neck, Beth leaves the bathroom. She starts to gather her clothes and frowns. Where are her panties?

CARL (O.S.)
Looking for these?

She turns to Carl who stands by the window. He twirls the panties around his finger.

BETH
Who are you, and what are you doing
with my panties?

CARL
I think you know who I am.

BETH
I know you're a sick fuck. Get
out. Take those with you.

Carl morphs. Horns grow from his head. His hands turn into claws. His eyes turn red. He literally grows bigger, more menacing. A demon.

CARL
 (voice guttural)
 Enjoy pain? When I'm done with
 you, you'll crave it.

He takes a step toward her

BETH
 Stop! Stop right there! You can't
 do that.

CARL
 (laughing)
 You're going to stop me?

She drops the clothes and grabs her phone. He watches as she
 taps it and talks into the mic.

BETH
 Demonexus.

CARL
 It won't do you any good.

BETH
 We'll see.

A hologram appears next to Beth. MINERVA, 50s, dressed like
 a Greek goddess, armed with a tablet hovers next to Beth.

MINERVA
 What is it?

BETH
 He broke the law of cross
 protection.

CARL
 I did no such thing.

BETH
 (pointing to the gold
 cross on her chest)
 He can't get within 10 feet, right

CARL
 The second law applies only to
 crosses wielded in a menacing
 manner.

BETH
 (to Minerva)
 Is that true?

MINERVA

The law is vague. In some cases,
if the cross merely touches skin,
it's deemed locus in quo, retaining
its protection.

BETH

Hah!

CARL

I don't think that's right.
LILITH!

LILITH, 40s, beautiful, in all black, another hologram
appears next to Carl.

LILITH

Hello, Minerva.

MINERVA

Lilith, I should have known.

LILITH

What do we have here?

MINERVA

Cross protection and how to apply
it.

LILITH

(to Carl)

You violated the second law?

CARL

She wasn't brandishing.

BETH

I was wearing it.

LILITH

If she wasn't brandishing--

MINERVA

We have some fog on this one.
Brandishing is not strictly
required.

LILITH

Let's not split hairs, was she
touching it?

CARL

No.

BETH
It was in clear sight.

MINERVA
I'll refer you to Blackman, volume
two, chapter six.

Beth sits on the bed.

LILITH
That old cite? That was overcome
by Agiel V. Francis. I can quote
if you like.

MINERVA
Please, Agiel was negated by Pius
V. Ronove which defined the power
of crosses in plain sight.

Carl comes over and leans against the wall by Beth.

BETH
That's what I said.

MINERVA
(to Beth)
Please, let me handle this.

LILITH
We need to back up.
(to Carl)
You had already displayed?

CARL
Of course, I can't very well menace
without full demon regalia.

LILITH
(to Minerva)
That complicates don't you think?

MINERVA
How? Displayed or not, the second
law applies.

BETH
(to Carl)
You get his often?

CARL
Only with women like you who know
something.

BETH

Just a little. That's why I got the app.

LILITH

I think the cross needs to be blessed to work during full display.

MINERVA

Only if the wearer knows it's not been blessed. We're talking good faith here.

LILITH

(to Beth)

Did you think the cross was blessed?

BETH

Why else would I wear it?

CARL

Please, no one goes to the trouble of getting a cross blessed anymore.

LILITH

Carl, please, let us work through this.

CARL

I don't have all night.

BETH

Me either. I have to go to work tomorrow.

CARL

There will be no tomorrow for you after they settle this.

BETH

You're going to be banished, hog breath.

MINERVA

Beth, you're not helping.

(to Lilith)

I do believe that proximity to the neck applies here.

LILITH

That's the vampire sub-legem. Carl is a class A demon.

MINERVA

Class A? Then ejusdem generis is
in play. Beth here is a Category 3
victim.

BETH

Category 3?!

CARL

I had no idea.

LILITH

Carl exhibited bona fide intent.

MINERVA

Ignorantia juris non excusat,
ignorantia juris non excusat!

Carl wags a finger at Beth and nods his head toward the door.

INT. BETH'S APARTMENT - MAIN ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Carl stops by the front door. Beth some steps behind.

CARL

They'll argue all night.

BETH

From my point of view, they need to
get it right.

CARL

I have a schedule. Know how long
I've been stalking you?

BETH

That's not my problem.

He takes a step toward her, and she brandishes her gold
cross.

CARL

You learn fast.

BETH

For a category 3?

CARL

If I had known that, I wouldn't be
here.

BETH
3's aren't good enough? I like
that.

CARL
I don't think you understand victim
hierarchy.

Beth pages through her phone.

BETH
I think I have an app for that.

CARL
Gorgon! (to phone) BETH
Portia!

Two holograms appear.

GORGON, 60s, hag, ugly, leering and evil.

PORTIA, 30s, pretty, trustful, smiling.

GORGON
What have we here?

CARL
Please explain victimology to this
cat 3.

PORTIA
The quality of mercy is not
strained.

BETH
Lower level vics have special
protections if I'm not mistaken.

FADE OUT.