

VESSEL

Written by

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EXT. ALLEY - NIGHT

Brick walls tower over the filthy concrete ground. A rat scurries out from beneath a dumpster.

FATHER BART (Early 40's) sits on a milk crate and smokes a joint. He slowly exhales. *He's had a rough night.*

Bart wears all black, except for his white collar. The uniform of a Catholic Priest.

He has thick stubble and a few scattered tattoos peeking out from his rolled up sleeves. Calloused both physically and emotionally, Father Bart looks more like a retired fighter than middle aged priest.

A CAR screeches to a halt. A door swings open and a MYSTERY WOMAN (Mid 20's) jumps out of the vehicle. She's fuming.

MYSTERY WOMAN

Don't you ever touch me again!

She slams the door shut and marches toward the alley. The engine revs loudly as the car races off.

The Mystery Woman enters the alley. This young lady is a mixture of sexy-as-hell and tough-as-nails. She clearly had to grow up way too fast.

FATHER BART

Hey, you okay?

The Mystery Woman turns and is about to give Bart a tongue lashing. And then, she spots his white collar.

She's instantly calm.

MYSTERY WOMAN

Are you a real priest?

FATHER BART

I am.

MYSTERY WOMAN

What are you doing out here?

Bart hesitates. *Should I tell her?*

FATHER BART

You wouldn't believe me.

MYSTERY WOMAN

Okay, now you have to tell me.

FATHER BART
I just finished an exorcism.

The woman laughs.

MYSTERY WOMAN
You're right, I don't believe you.
Can I have a puff.

FATHER BART
It's weed.

MYSTERY WOMAN
Good.

Bart hands it over. She inhales and passes it back.

MYSTERY WOMAN (CONT'D)
I don't think you're really a
priest.

FATHER BART
Tell me why.

MYSTERY WOMAN
You're getting high in an alley in
the middle of the night.

Bart surveys his surroundings.

FATHER BART
(joking/ sarcastic)
Huh, I guess you're right.

MYSTERY WOMAN
See. I knew you weren't a priest.

FATHER BART
Or, I'm just taking a break from a
tough day at the office.

MYSTERY WOMAN
Because of the exorcism...

FATHER BART
Bingo.

MYSTERY WOMAN
Do you really expect me to believe
that?

FATHER BART
Believe what you want. I'm telling
you the truth.

She reaches for the joint. Bart hands it back over.

FATHER BART (CONT'D)
I'm Bart.

MYSTERY WOMAN
Nice to meet you, Father Bart.

FATHER BART
Nice to meet you...

Bart waits for her name. But she only smiles.

And then, a door to the alley bursts open. A LATINO FAMILY rushes out. They hurry to Bart.

FAMILY
Gracias! Gracias!

The Mystery Woman takes a step back as Bart is surrounded by the thankful family.

The FATHER shakes Bart's hand. The MOTHER kisses his cheeks. Bart steps away from them, a little overwhelmed.

FATHER BART
De nada. Gracias. Dios las bendiga.

As the family implores Bart to come back inside, he continues backing away.

FATHER BART (CONT'D)
Gracias. Lo siento. Buenos noches.

Bart creates distance. The Family lets him go on his way.

Bart walks through the alley and heads toward the main road. The Mystery Woman keeps pace with him.

MYSTERY WOMAN
What was all that?

FATHER BART
I knew you wouldn't believe me.

She grabs his arm and locks eyes with him.

MYSTERY WOMAN
What really happened back there?

FATHER BART
I removed a demon from their son. I asked them to tell me when he woke up. You saw the rest.

MYSTERY WOMAN
You're not fucking with me?

FATHER BART
I'm not fucking with you.

MYSTERY WOMAN
Holy shit...

FATHER BART
Tough day at the office.

CUT TO:

EXT. LOS ANGELES STREETS - MOMENTS LATER

Bart and the Mystery Woman exit the alley. The street is empty. They're all alone.

The Mystery Woman gestures.

MYSTERY WOMAN
I'm this way.

FATHER BART
You want me to walk with you?

MYSTERY WOMAN
(playfully)
I don't have any demons living
inside me.

FATHER BART
Then I won't try to save you.
(then)
Are you headed home?

MYSTERY WOMAN
Yeah. Why?

FATHER BART
How far away do you live?

MYSTERY WOMAN
That's none of your business.

Bart studies this mysterious young lady.

MYSTERY WOMAN (CONT'D)
You gonna tell me I need Jesus?

Bart considers.

FATHER BART
Do you have a pen?

Mystery Woman is curious. She retrieves a pen from her purse and hands it over.

Bart gently takes her arm and jots something on her skin.

MYSTERY WOMAN
Why Father Bart, are you giving me
your phone number?

Bart finishes writing. The Mystery Woman reads it.

FATHER BART
That's the address to my church.
You ever need anything, all you
have to do is show up.

That hits her in the chest. She looks to Bart with sincerity.

MYSTERY WOMAN
I thought you weren't trying to
save me.

FATHER BART
Stay safe, mystery woman.

Bart walks away. She watches him go.

CUT TO:

INT. HOSPITAL - EARLY MORNING

EMT's push a gurney through the emergency lobby with a heightened sense of urgency.

An unconscious CRASH VICTIM lies on top of the gurney. His clothes ripped. He's covered in gashes and blood.

DOCTORS and NURSES take in the broken man as they hurry out of the way. *This man is pretty much DOA.*

And then, the Crash Victim sits straight up. He opens his eyes. They're PITCH BLACK.

The EMT's step back as the Victim jumps off of the gurney.

EMT
Sir, you need to--

CRASH VICTIM
I need a phone!

The Victim marches down the hall. His broken arm swinging wildly. His broken legs crunch with each step. He leaves behind a trail of blood.

The EMT hurries to him.

EMT
Sir please!

And then, the EMT sees the Victim's black eyes. He stares, dumbfounded. The Crash Victim shoves him away.

CRASH VICTIM
Get away from me!

The EMT stumbles back and keeps his distance.

As the injured man struggles to make his way down the hall, the blood spilling from his wounds changes from a deep red to a midnight black.

The Doctors, Nurses, and EMT's watch in shock. *What do we do?*

INT. E.R. MAIN ENTRANCE - CONTINUOUS

Injured and sick PEOPLE sit in seats. ADMINS sit behind the RECEPTION DESK.

The Crash Victim marches in and scans the area. The black in his eyes noticeably fading to gray.

The entire room locks onto the Crash Victim. They stare in disbelief. He slams his bloody hand against the wall.

CRASH VICTIM
Phone!

The PEOPLE recoil.

The Crash Victim spots the reception desk. He marches forward. The Admins stare in stunned silence.

ADMIN
Sir, I think you're--

CRASH VICTIM
Fuck off!

The Victim grabs the phone, smearing it in blood. He dials and puts the phone to his ear.

CRASH VICTIM (CONT'D)

Bart? It's Beelzebub. I... I want to go home.

And then, his eyes fade into the lightest shade of gray. The Crash Victim drops the phone and falls to the floor, dead.

Doctors, EMT's, and other People surround the broken and bloody man. *What the hell did they just witness?*

CUT TO:

INT. HOSPITAL LOBBY - LATER

Bart walks into the hospital. He's still in his full catholic priest attire.

He scans the area, studying every single person.

Bart locks eyes with the MEDICAL ADMIN sitting at the front desk. The Admin smiles. Bart looks away. *It's not her.*

Father Bart continues scanning other people moving around the hospital. He stops on a TEENAGE GIRL. Bart watches as she talks on her phone.

The girl notices Bart and shoots him a disapproving look. Bart immediately averts his eyes.

He moves to the waiting area and collapses into an armchair.

An OLD LADY approaches him. She's wearing big, thick, old-lady-sunglasses.

She sits across from Bart. They exchange a smile.

FATHER BART

Good morning.

OLD LADY

It is now. You wouldn't believe how much shit just came out of me.

FATHER BART

I'm sorry?

OLD LADY

Shit. A ton of it. I must have lost ten pounds.

Bart stares at her. *What the hell is this lady talking about?* The Old Lady lowers her sunglasses revealing BLACK EYES. Not even a sliver of white remains.

OLD LADY (CONT'D)
Hey Father Fart.

Bart realizes.

FATHER BART
Beelzebub?

She smiles.

INT. CAFETERIA - MOMENTS LATER

Bart and the Old Lady enter the sterile room. A few solemn PEOPLE sit at tables eating cheap deli sandwiches and drinking diet soda.

OLD LADY
I always love coming up to this realm. The sights. The smells. *The shady massage parlors...*

The Old Lady breaths in deep and stretches. And then, a sharp pain. The Old Lady winces and grips her back.

FATHER BART
And you just had to possess the bloodiest guy here...

OLD LADY
It's not my fault he was leaking like that.

FATHER BART
Less than twenty four hours and you're already on your second possession.

The Old Lady pinches and jiggles her flabby arm.

OLD LADY
She's a vegetable Bart. She can't feel a thing.

FATHER BART
She's a person Beelz.

The Old Lady nods. *Yeah yeah.*

Bart and the Old Lady reach the counter.

A middle aged MANAGER, who should have left this job years ago, stands at a cash register.

MANAGER
How can I help you?

OLD LADY
Jack on the rocks por favor.

The Manager gives her a look. *Was that a joke?*

MANAGER
I'm sorry ma'am, we don't serve
alcohol...

The Old Lady is actually appalled. She looks to Bart.

OLD LADY
What kind of fucking place is this?

EXT. HOSPITAL - MOMENTS LATER

Bart and the Old Lady stand behind an outdoor wall. They pass
a joint back and forth. Smoke bellows from their mouths.

FATHER BART
Why didn't you signal me before you
came up?

OLD LADY
Escaping the Nine Rings unnoticed
wasn't the easiest task on my To-Do
list. It was now or never.

FATHER BART
If I knew, I could have done a
ritual. We could have met in Rome.

OLD LADY
Rome?!
(then; re: her body)
I'm not going to Rome in this.

FATHER BART
Neither of us are. I can't afford
two plane tickets.

OLD LADY
Please tell me I'm not stuck in
this realm forever.

FATHER BART
There's a church in Santa Fe we can
go to.

OLD LADY
There isn't one in L.A.?

FATHER BART
Only a few churches hold "Key
Crucifixes". Santa Fe is the
closest. There's another one in New
Orleans and the east coast has--

The Old Lady perks up.

OLD LADY
New Orleans! Let's go there!

Bart considers. *That actually sounds fun.*

And then, the Old Lady coughs. She coughs again and again.
She might literally cough up a lung.

Finally, she hocks a loogie and spits. She wipes her mouth
and shuffles away from Father Bart.

OLD LADY (CONT'D)
Let's go. I'm chilly...

INT. HOSPITAL LOBBY - A LITTLE LATER

Bart and the Old Lady are back in the lobby area. It's busier
than before. PEOPLE flow in and out of the doors. More PEOPLE
sit in nearby armchairs.

OLD LADY
(sotto; hopeful)
I hope Storyville hasn't changed.

FATHER BART
This isn't a vacation.

The Old Lady ignores Bart as she looks down at herself.

OLD LADY
And I'm gonna need a new body.

FATHER BART
What's wrong with that one?

OLD LADY
You kidding me?!

Bart is unsure.

OLD LADY (CONT'D)
She's old Bart! That's what the
fuck is wrong with her!

FATHER BART
Then why'd you jump into her?

OLD LADY
I WAS FUCKING DESPERATE!

Everyone in the lobby stops and stares. The Old Lady giggles.

OLD LADY (CONT'D)
Desperate to bake my yummy cookies!

She turns back to Bart. She speaks in a hushed tone.

OLD LADY (CONT'D)
I want a body that's young and can
fuck. I haven't been in this realm
in so long and daddy needs nookie.

Bart locks onto the Old Lady. He's dead serious.

FATHER BART
Why are you here?

OLD LADY
To get back into the Kingdom.

FATHER BART
Exactly. But if you keep acting
like a demon, I'll exorcize you the
fuck back to the Nine Rings without
thinking twice.

The Old Lady instantly gives in. She's apologetic.

OLD LADY
I just need someone who's under a
century old.

FATHER BART
You can't keep possessing whoever
you want.

OLD LADY
Her hip is about to pop out of
place!

Bart remains resistant.

OLD LADY (CONT'D)
Please Bart! Anyone but her!

FATHER BART
Fine. But I get final say.

OLD LADY
Thank you!
(then)
And it's no biggie if I watch a
little porn... right?

Bart bottles his frustration.

CUT TO:

INT. HOSPITAL - LATER

Bart and the Old Lady walk down the sterile hallway. She continues wearing gigantic sunglasses to hide her black eyes.

DOCTORS, NURSES, and other HOSPITAL WORKERS pay no mind to the Catholic Priest and eighty year old woman.

The duo look inside each patient room as they pass. They're searching.

OLD LADY
He doesn't have to be a Ninja
Warrior or anything.

They pass another room and hear a patient screaming in pain. The Old Lady winces.

OLD LADY (CONT'D)
Pass...

FATHER BART
What if you just possess me?

OLD LADY
I need you by my side.

FATHER BART
This is the exact reason why I
wanted to meet at the church.

OLD LADY
This will be the last person I ever
possess. And that's pretty much
because of you.

The Old Lady can see Bart's apprehension.

OLD LADY (CONT'D)
I'm not torturing anyone. I'm just
hitching a ride.

Bart still doesn't like this, but he doesn't push.

OLD LADY (CONT'D)
Man, I'd love to get my hands on an
overdose. They have no clue what's
going on. I can drive one of those
around forever.

(then)
The down side is overdoses are
almost always surrounded by
heartbroken family members, so it's
difficult to leave the hospital
unnoticed. But if we're super
sneaky...

FATHER BART
I'm not kidnapping anyone.

OLD LADY
I'd expect that from you.
(then; sotto)
Damn, I really wanted an overdose.
(then)
We'll have to find a John Doe.

FATHER BART
Why not find a John Doe that
overdosed?

The Old Lady lights up.

OLD LADY
If you find me that Unicorn, I'll
take my teeth out and suck your
dick right here in the lobby.

Bart pauses. He studies the Old Lady.

OLD LADY (CONT'D)
It's a joke! Lighten up!

But Bart is still lost in thought.

FATHER BART
I grew up thinking that you and
Satan were the same.

OLD LADY

You and everyone else. He's only ever seen me as an extension of himself.

FATHER BART

You gonna miss him?

OLD LADY

Satan?

Bart nods. The Old Lady is dead serious.

OLD LADY (CONT'D)

No. Not even a little.

CUT TO:

INT. HOSPITAL - LATER

Bart sits asleep in the waiting area.

The Old Lady approaches him. She has a huge smile. She reaches for Bart's crotch and gives it a squeeze.

Bart shoots awake. He looks to the Old Lady. He calms.

FATHER BART

If I had some holy water...

OLD LADY

I found our unicorn!

Bart takes that in. *Really?*

CUT TO:

INT. HOSPITAL - MOMENTS LATER

The Old Lady leads Bart into a patient's room. As Bart enters, his eyes grow wide.

OLD LADY

She's a Jane Doe. But I'm into it.

Bart takes in the Jane Doe, overdose victim. He can't believe it. It's the MYSTERY WOMAN he talked to in the alley.

OLD LADY (CONT'D)

I'll hop in her, we fly to the church, open a gate. Bing-bang-boom.

Bart remains locked onto the Mystery Woman.

FATHER BART
I just talked to her a couple
nights ago...

OLD LADY
You know this girl?

FATHER BART
It was random. But she was nice.

Bart moves closer to the bed. The Mystery Woman is on oxygen
and an IV. Monitors beep.

Bart takes in her face. His heart breaks.

FATHER BART (CONT'D)
Not her Beelz.

OLD LADY
She's a unicorn Bart. Horn and
everything.

FATHER BART
It's my choice.

OLD LADY
Bart please!

But Bart is done discussing this. He stares at the Mystery
Woman with sad eyes.

The Old Lady watches him. She knows it's a lost cause.

OLD LADY (CONT'D)
Fine. But while you wrestle with
your savior complex, I'm going to
empty this lady's bladder again. I
swear her body is fifty percent
prune juice.

The Old Lady leaves. Bart stays focused on the Mystery Woman.

FATHER BART
(sotto)
Why didn't you come to the church?

Behind him, a NURSE runs past the doorway.

NURSE (O.S.)
Doctor! We need a doctor!

Bart notices the commotion and approaches the doorway.

He looks into the hall and he sees a DOCTOR shining his small flashlight into the Old Lady's eyes.

FATHER BART
Is she okay?

DOCTOR
She's breathing...

The Nurse looks to Bart.

NURSE
The life just left her body.

The Old Lady's sunglasses lie on the floor. Bart looks into her eyes. They are no longer pitch black.

Bart instantly realizes. He marches toward the Mystery Woman's room.

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - CONTINUOUS

The Mystery Woman lies in bed. Bart enters. He's pissed.

FATHER BART
What the fuck Beelz?!

The Mystery Woman sits up and opens her eyes. They're pitch black. BEELZEBUB HAS POSSESSED THE MYSTERY WOMAN.

BEELZ
Horn and everything!

FATHER BART
I said she was off limits!

BEELZ
But why?!

Bart hesitates, unsure of how to respond.

BEELZ (CONT'D)
You can't just make the rules up as we go!

Bart knows she's right. He calms.

FATHER BART
Please be careful with her.

Beelz settles into her new body.

BEELZ
I'll treat her better than my
favorite piranha.

CUT TO:

INT. FATHER BART'S HOME - LATER

Bart walks into his kitchen. Empty boxes of food lay on the counter. A stack of dirty dishes sit in the sink.

Bart grabs a glass from the cabinet. He turns to the sink, but the faucet is wrapped in a black plastic bag. *The sink is clearly not for use.*

A STONE MASK is affixed to the wall above the sink. Bart places the glass under the mouth of this Mask.

FATHER BART
In nomine Patris, et Filii, et
Spiritus Sancti.

Crystal clear water pours from the mask and fills the glass.

FATHER BART (CONT'D)
Amen.

The water stops. Bart takes his glass of water into the living room.

A BRIGHT LAMP dangles from the ceiling over a small dining room table. There's only one chair.

The shower runs in the bathroom.

Bart plops onto the couch. He grabs a joint from a nearby ashtray sitting on the coffee table. He places the joint in between his lips.

Bart brings his hand toward his face. A GOLD RING WITH CROSS EMBLEM is wrapped around his middle finger.

The ring GLOWS. Heat radiates from the emblem.

Bart presses the tip of the joint against the glowing ring. Smoke rises. Bart takes a hit.

The shower in the bathroom turns off. Beelz steps into the living room drying her hair. She's only wearing a robe.

BEELZ
Hey Bart, when's the last time you
saw a vagina?

FATHER BART
Leave me alone Beelz.

BEELZ
Really? You have zero interest?

FATHER BART
In exploiting this poor woman?

BEELZ
Oh whatever. I just wiped her ass
too. Is that exploitive?

Bart doesn't respond. Beelz smiles mischievously.

BEELZ (CONT'D)
Do you want to wipe it next time?

FATHER BART
Shut up.

BEELZ
Come on Bart, don't you want to
slide some soft TP through these
poopy cheeks?

Bart continues ignoring her.

BEELZ (CONT'D)
Last chance at seeing a vagina...

FATHER BART
Put on some clothes!

Beelz laughs playfully as she disappears into the bathroom.

Before the door closes, Bart steals a glance at the curvature
of her ass. He's very attracted to her body.

Beelz shuts the door. Bart snaps out of it. His sexual
frustration consumes him.

He takes a long hit from the joint.

Beelz reemerges wearing sweatpants and a size XL "WORK HARD
PRAY HARDER" t-shirt. She looks to the bright lamp.

BEELZ
Does that have to be so bright?

Bart focuses on the lamp.

FATHER BART
Lux perpetua Requiescat in pace.

The light dims to a gentle glow. Beelz studies the "lamp". It's a BLACK GLASS DAGGER hanging by a string.

BEELZ
Is that a Divine Crystal Dagger?

FATHER BART
I got sick of changing bulbs.

Beelz has to laugh.

She joins Bart on the couch and reaches for both the joint and the TV remote. She presses play as she takes a hit.

BEELZ
Where were we?

A brain-cell-killing reality show plays on the screen. Beelz watches with a desperate thirst.

BEELZ (CONT'D)
When did TV get so excruciatingly painful...? I love it.

FATHER BART
Our flight leaves at nine A.M.

Beelz lets that wash over her.

BEELZ
I can't believe it's finally over.
I owe you.

Bart studies her.

FATHER BART
It was that bad, huh?

Beelz nods emphatically.

FATHER BART (CONT'D)
What happened down there?

BEELZ
Can't a fallen angel seek redemption without getting asked a million questions?

FATHER BART
Not when that fallen angel was a member of the unholy trinity.

Beelz considers. *Point taken.*

BEELZ

It was Satan. Living with him felt like getting my insides scooped out with a rusty spoon over and over.

(then)

If he made me angry- I had to hide it. If something other than him made me happy- I had to hide it. But if I ever upset him, he'd torture me like I was any other soul damned to the Rings.

Bart locks onto Beelz. His empathy showing.

BEELZ (CONT'D)

Am I going to miss butt fucking Hitler with my donkey strap on? Absolutely. But I get to return to the place where I'm free to be myself no matter what.

(then; light hearted)

Maybe I can take you with me. Get you outta this place.

FATHER BART

I'm fine right here.

Bart pats his couch. Beelz laughs. Bart gives her a look.

FATHER BART (CONT'D)

Why'd you laugh?

BEELZ

That wasn't a joke?

FATHER BART

What's wrong with where I'm at?

Beelz scans his apartment.

BEELZ

You're not miserable here?!

Bart's anger begins to rise.

FATHER BART

Am I supposed to live in a mansion or something?

BEELZ

No, I wasn't saying that--

Bart stands as he explodes with rage.

FATHER BART

Then what the fuck Beelz?! You sat on a throne of tortured souls but you're going to judge me?!

BEELZ

Judge you...?

FATHER BART

Not everyone has the luxury of choosing between two kingdoms! But you're a Prince so of course you get whatever-the-fuck-you want! But you know what?! All that extra shit makes you fucking weak!

Beelz cowers.

BEELZ

What is your problem?!

Bart snaps out of it. He takes in Beelz's scared expression. He's consumed with guilt.

FATHER BART

I'm sorry.

Bart turns and walks toward his room. Beelz just stares.

FATHER BART (CONT'D)

I'm gonna go to bed.

(then)

I really am sorry.

Bart enters his room and closes the door behind him. Beelz is still processing. Finally--

BEELZ

Oooohkaaaaaay.....

CUT TO:

INT. LAX - MORNING

Cars are packed together. PEOPLE unload bags and hug goodbye.

Bart stands away from the hustle and bustle. He smokes a joint in the "designated smoking area".

A VAPING MAN stands near Bart. He sniffs. *Is that weed?*

Bart takes another hit. Beelz walks up with a huge smile. Bart looks at his watch.

FATHER BART
Hey, if you're still mad at me...

BEELZ
About last night?

Beelz laughs.

BEELZ (CONT'D)
I'm way crazier than you.

FATHER BART
I do want to apologize though--

Beelz pulls out two airline tickets. She has a huge smile on her face. Bart pauses. He's unsure.

FATHER BART (CONT'D)
I already bought our tickets.

BEELZ
But these will take us to Vegas.

Beelz is still smiling. Bart is dumbfounded.

FATHER BART
Give them to me.

BEELZ
What are you gonna do?

Bart reaches. Beelz keeps them away.

FATHER BART
Hand them over Beelz!

BEELZ
Do you know how hard it was to get these?!

Bart stops.

FATHER BART
(suspicious)
What did you do?

BEELZ
I didn't fuck anybody.

The VAPING MAN chokes. He's obviously eavesdropping.

BEELZ (CONT'D)
I made up a sob story and they gave me these to shut me up.
(MORE)

BEELZ (CONT'D)
 (then; proudly)
 I cried real tears.

FATHER BART
 So you lied...

BEELZ
 They had available seats!

FATHER BART
 Do what you want. I'm going to New Orleans.

Bart takes another hit from his joint and tosses it in the ashtray. He marches off, clearly frustrated.

Beelz takes off after him.

BEELZ
 Is this because I wanted you to look at my vagina?!

The Vaping Man watches them go. And then he shifts his focus to Bart's still-lit joint.

He grabs it and takes a satisfying hit.

CUT TO:

INT. LAX - A LITTLE LATER

Bart and Beelz wait to step through the body scanner.

BEELZ
 I have a friend who lives there...

FATHER BART
 What friend do you have in Vegas?

BEELZ
 His name's Alastor. I haven't seen him in centuries.

FATHER BART
 So Alastor's a demon?

BEELZ
 A former Demon...

FATHER BART
 That's what they all say.

A TSA AGENT motions for Beelz to walk through. He stops her.

TSA AGENT
(re: sunglasses)
You can't wear those.

Beelz shrugs. She takes them off revealing her pitch black eyes. The TSA Agent takes a nervous step back.

BEELZ
I have a medical condition.

TSA AGENT
Keep em'.

Beelz casually slides her shades back on. She steps through the scanner and raises her arms. Everything checks out.

Bart's next. He enters and stands with his arms raised. Beelz watches him with a smile.

BEELZ
Wow Father. You were right, they
have no clue that all that stuff is
shoved up your ass.

Bart and the TSA AGENT lock eyes.

FATHER BART
She's joking.

The TSA Agent sizes up the Catholic Priest.

TSA AGENT
You're gonna have to come with me.

Bart shoots Beelz an angry look. She smiles.

BEELZ
See you at the gate.

CUT TO:

INT. LAX - A LITTLE LATER

A COUPLE sits at a bar drinking Bloody Marys. The MAN and WOMAN (both 40's) wear matching Disneyland shirts.

The BARTENDER (50's) wipes down the counter and laughs at their jokes.

BARTENDER
Secretly, I've been planning my
escape for years.

MAN

Not bad Shawshank. Where are you
escaping to?

BARTENDER

I'm going to open a wine bar. I'm
already a Sommelier. Now I just
need the money...

The woman snickers playfully.

WOMAN

That's all any of us need.

The Bartender nods. *Ain't that the truth.*

WOMAN (CONT'D)

We saved a whole year for this
trip. And it did not disappoint!

The couple exchanges a sweet smile.

BARTENDER

I keep hearing that patience is a
virtue. But I have a hard time--

And then, the Bartender's eyes turn PITCH BLACK. The couple
stares at him in confusion.

The black in his eyes extend to the veins in his face. His
skin unable to hide the darkness pumping below the surface.

The Man and Woman stare in shock.

MAN

Are you okay?

The Bartender walks away as if he's in a trance.

The Couple watches him go.

WOMAN

Should we call some--?

And then, the Man and Woman's eyes turn PITCH BLACK too. They
stand and follow the Bartender out of the bar.

INT. LAX - CONTINUOUS

Bart hurries past shops, restaurants, and lots of PEOPLE.

FATHER BART
 (calling out)
 Beelz?

There's no sign of her.

FATHER BART (CONT'D)
 BEELZ!

BEELZ (O.S.)
 You're embarrassing yourself.

Bart sees Beelz sitting in a waiting area. He approaches her.

FATHER BART
 You're worse than a toddler.

And then Bart spots the destination: LAS VEGAS

FATHER BART (CONT'D)
 You get on that plane and you will
 never see me again.

BEELZ
 What's your urgency? It's not like
 anyone's chasing us.

Behind Bart and Beelz, a dozen PEOPLE gravitate toward the center of the massive walkway.

Some have neck pillows, others wear baggy shirts, some wear leggings. But, every single one of them have BLACK EYES.

The other People steer clear of this strange group. Bart and Beelz still don't notice them.

FATHER BART
 Everything's an argument with you.

BEELZ
 Because you try to control
 everything!

A LITTLER GIRL (10 years old) catches eyes with a POSSESSED OLD MAN who happens to look like Santa Clause.

She smiles. The Old Man smiles back with big, disgusting, jagged teeth. The Little Girl SCREAMS.

Bart and Beelz look. They instantly spot the Possessed People standing in a row.

The Bartender and the vacationing Couple are front and center. The Possessed People march forward.

Everyone else watches the strange group in stunned silence. Some leave in a hurry. Others back away slowly.

FATHER BART

I've never seen this many at once.

Bart looks to Beelz.

FATHER BART (CONT'D)

Should we--?

BEELZ

Yes we should.

Beelz sprints away. Bart takes off after her. The group of Possessed People pick up their pace.

The abrupt movement causes everyone else to scatter in fear.

INT. LAX - MOMENTS LATER

Bart and Beelz rush through the crowd, searching for a safe place to hide.

And then, the crowd of people in front of them parts like the red sea. It feels as though time is slowing down.

With big smiles and eager eyes, the People are locked on to one specific person. It's as if they're hypnotized.

Beelz sees him too. She's filled with terror.

Approaching them is a beautiful young man in his mid twenties. His soft skin stretches over high cheek bones and a perfect nose. His lips rest above a well sculpted chin and chiseled jaw. His pitch black eyes are precisely symmetrical.

But this beautiful boy's face is filled with sorrow. *His perfect existence a tragedy.*

FATHER BART

Who is that?

BEELZ

It's him. It's Satan.

Bart let's this wash over him for only a moment. And then, he grabs Beelz and pulls her to the exit.

SATAN turns to his POSSESSED FOLLOWERS.

As Satan speaks, two voices emerge. One sounds like an average young man. But the voice underneath is low and evil. It's as if Satan's voice has a shadow.

SATAN
Bring her to me.

The Possessed People charge after their prey.

CUT TO:

EXT. LAX - CONTINUOUS

Bart and Beelz escape out an exit and run down the sidewalk.

They rush past FAMILIES and FRIENDS saying goodbye near the line of parked VEHICLES.

The Possessed People erupt from the exit. They spot Bart and Beelz and charge. Every Person scurries out of their way.

FATHER BART
 Do you see any water?

BEELZ
 What?!

Between the many vehicles, Bart spots a FIRE HYDRANT. He runs to one of the vehicles. Beelz watches in shock.

BEELZ (CONT'D)
 Where are you going?!

A MAN unloads suitcases from the rear of his SUV. The engine still running.

Bart hops inside the car and hits the gas. The vehicle launches forward. The Man watches as his SUV rockets away.

MAN
 Hey!

Bart rams the fire hydrant and throws the car in reverse.

As he backs away, water explodes from the hydrant drenching everyone and everything in the vicinity.

People scatter. The Unpossessed People collide with the wall of Possessed. The Possessed toss them out of their way.

Bart jumps out of the SUV. He drops to his knees in front of the hydrant. The water showers him.

BEELZ

Bart?

FATHER BART

Get away from the water!

Beelz hurries away just as she's told.

Bart closes his eyes. He prays. He does the sign of the cross over the water spewing from the hydrant.

The Possessed are close. The water covers them.

FATHER BART (CONT'D)

Amen.

And then, the Possessed scream out in agony.

Bart and Beelz cross the busy street and disappear.

The Possessed People drag themselves away from the water. Steam rises from their skin. Their pain excruciating.

Satan calmly approaches. The same look of sorrow chiseled into his youthful face.

He passes by his tortured followers without giving them a second look.

Satan bends down and touches a puddle. His finger sizzles. Satan rubs the moisture away.

The Dark Lord then lifts his arms and closes his eyes. An invisible force pushes against the water. Satan moves forward, continuing to push the liquid out of his way.

Once he's reached the fire hydrant, the water pressure dissipates and shuts off.

Satan scans the area with his midnight black eyes. There's no sign of them. His rage builds.

CUT TO:

INT. FATHER BART'S HOME - LATER

Bart yanks open a closet. Religious artifacts sit on shelves. He grabs a FIRE LANCE with a CROSS as a sight, a IRON HELMET with RELIGIOUS CARVINGS, and a STONE CHEST PLATE.

FATHER BART

How is he up here without a vessel?!

BEELZ
He's that powerful.

FATHER BART
So are Archangels but you don't see
them bothering us!

BEELZ
When has Satan ever followed rules?

Bart lays his HOLY ARMOR on the floor. Beelz judges as she
watches. She's not impressed.

BEELZ (CONT'D)
Those won't work against him.

Bart's anger rises. He grabs the heavy Iron Helmet and throws
it back into the closet creating a loud THUD.

FATHER BART
And how the fuck did he find you?!

BEELZ
(sotto)
I bet Mephisto told on me. That
little cunt.
(then)
Satan knows that if I escaped the
Rings, It'd be to find you.

Bart looks to Beelz in complete shock.

FATHER BART
Satan knows who I am?

BEELZ
Are you really that clueless?

Bart is unsure.

BEELZ (CONT'D)
You're the only human to ever kill
a demon. Everyone knows you.

Bart freezes as those words wash over him. All of a sudden,
his world is caving in.

Bart's mind races. He tries to subdue his panic.

FATHER BART
Did you even think about what you
were doing?

BEELZ
I've been thinking about it for
centuries.

Bart finally explodes.

FATHER BART
To ME Beelz! Did you think about
what you were doing to ME?!

BEELZ
I didn't have a choice...

FATHER BART
The most evil entity in existence
is hunting me down because you
realized that maybe the Nine Rings
isn't such a good place after all?!
(then)
No fucking shit!

BEELZ
I'm sorry... I didn't mean--

FATHER BART
Oh great! You're sorry! That fixes
everything!

BEELZ
Maybe I should leave.

FATHER BART
Maybe?! How about definitely?! How
about GET THE FUCK OUT OF MY
APARTMENT?!

Beelz's face fills with pain. Her heart breaks.

BEELZ
Fuck you Bart.

Beelz storms out and slams the door behind her.

Bart stands in the middle of his apartment. His anger
subsides. His guilt consumes him.

FATHER BART
(sotto)
You stupid piece of shit...

CUT TO:

EXT. LOS ANGELES STREETS - MOMENTS LATER

Beelz marches down the street. Her emotions still pouring from her. She obsessively wipes her teary eyes.

BEELZ
(re: her tears)
Why the fuck do you all leak so much?!

Bart hurries out of his building and spots her.

FATHER BART
Beelz wait!

BEELZ
Leave me alone!

Beelz doesn't stop. Bart catches up to her.

FATHER BART
I shouldn't have lost it like that.

BEELZ
I'm sorry that I made a mistake!
I'm sorry that I need your help! I
had nowhere else to go!

FATHER BART
You're right. I'll help you.

BEELZ
I don't want your help anymore!

Beelz picks up the pace. Bart keeps up with her.

FATHER BART
I'll drive us.

Beelz ignores him.

FATHER BART (CONT'D)
Please talk to me.

BEELZ
You're just like him.

That hurt.

FATHER BART
Come on. I'm the only one who can
get you back up there.

Her sadness remains, but Beelz considers.

FATHER BART (CONT'D)
Let me make this up to you. Please.

BEELZ
You'll really drive me all the way
to New Orleans?

FATHER BART
It's got to be Santa Fe now. But
yeah, I'll drive you.

Beelz softens. She nods.

BEELZ
We have to stop in Vegas.

FATHER BART
I'm trying here Beelz.

BEELZ
My friend has Liquid Ember.

That hits Bart.

FATHER BART
Bullshit.

Beelz nods. *It's true.* Bart considers.

FATHER BART (CONT'D)
If you're lying...

BEELZ
Scouts honor.

Bart considers some more. He nods.

FATHER BART
Fine. But we're in and we're out.
That's it.

Beelz SQUEALS and hugs Bart tight. Bart tries to wiggle out.

CUT TO:

I/E. FATHER BART'S CAR - EARLY AFTERNOON

Bart cruises down a long, empty stretch of highway. The
desert goes on for miles.

Next to him, Beelz has her window down and her eyes closed.
The wind whips through her hair.

She opens her eyes and turns to Bart.

BEELZ
Have you ever had sex?

FATHER BART
I'm sorry... what?

BEELZ
Just curious.

FATHER BART
You have lost all conversation
privileges.

Beelz rolls her eyes. She reaches for the radio and turns up the volume. "Baby" by Justin Bieber plays.

Beelz lights up and starts singing her heart out.

BEELZ
*Said there's another, and looked
right in my eyes. My first love
broke my heart for the first time,
and I was like--*

Bart immediately turns the radio off.

FATHER BART
No.

BEELZ
Are we really going to sit in
silence the entire way?

FATHER BART
Hopefully.

Beelz turns the radio back on and covers the buttons with her hand. She sings at the top of her lungs--

BEELZ
*BABY BABY BABY OH! LIKE BABY BABY
BABY NO!*

Bart shoves her hand out of the way and turns the music off.

FATHER BART
Yes. I've had sex. Not a lot, but
it's happened.

BEELZ
But you're, like, kinda hot.

FATHER BART

Thank you...?

BEELZ

Why not quit this and find a nice girl. Or boy. Or farm animal. Something to get you out of this lonely life.

Bart grits his teeth.

FATHER BART

You are making it impossible for me to not to lose my shit.

BEELZ

Would it kill you to make some friends?

FATHER BART

Honestly? It might.

Beelz studies him.

BEELZ

How old were you when you were possessed?

Bart loses himself. Beelz instantly regrets her question.

BEELZ (CONT'D)

Okay, I admit it, that was too far.

But Bart remains calm.

FATHER BART

I was six.

BEELZ

What a fucking monster. Do you remember it?

Bart is still lost in thought.

FATHER BART

I remember all of it.

FLASH BACK:

YOUNG BART (6 years old) sleeps in his bed. The gentle light from the moon drapes him in blue.

And then, a shadow covers him. Young Bart shifts uncomfortably.

FATHER BART (O.S.) (CONT'D)
 He kept laughing at me from inside
 my head. I can still hear it.

Young Bart convulses as if he's having a seizure. His eyes
 turn PITCH BLACK. Darkness flows through his veins.

FATHER BART (O.S.) (CONT'D)
 It felt like I was drowning.

Young Bart sits up and screams out in agony. Black goo
 explodes from his mouth and drips down his face.

FATHER DEAN (60's) kicks the door open. He holds a crucifix.
 Young Bart looks to him and HISSES.

Father Dean approaches the young man, ready for a fight.

END FLASH BACK.

FATHER BART (CONT'D)
 Father Dean saved me. After that, I
 never left his side.

BEELZ
 Father Dean was the priest that you-
 Bart interrupts her.

FATHER BART
 Beelz. Don't.

Beelz studies Bart. He's obviously in a dark place. She
 places her hand on his, but Bart pulls his hand away.

FATHER BART (CONT'D)
 I'm fine.

CUT TO:

I/E. FATHER BART'S CAR - MID AFTERNOON

Bart and Beelz cruise down the LAS VEGAS STRIP.

Beelz is glued to her window. She studies every TOURIST, SHOW
 GIRL, and ELVIS IMPERSONATOR.

FATHER BART
 You look way too excited about a
 ten minute pit-stop.

Beelz ignores Bart. She won't let him ruin this for her.

CUT TO:

EXT. PARKING LOT - A LITTLE LATER

Bart and Beelz walk through an empty parking lot toward a windowless black brick building.

A sign over the bright red door reads: THE VENUS SALOON

This place isn't even nice enough to be called a dive.

BEELZ

(re: Bart's White Collar)

You're not going to make any friends wearing that.

FATHER BART

Good.

INT. VENUS SALOON - CONTINUOUS

Bart and Beelz enter. The bright sun a stark contrast to this dim and dreary place.

The door closes. The room goes dark. Bart's eyes adjust.

Dim lamps hang over tables. There's a thick smell of ancient cigarettes. And everything is layered in a blanket of dust.

Two PATRONS play a game of pool in the middle of the place.

A BARTENDER stands behind the bar. Another PATRON sits on a stool and drinks a double whisky.

A group of FIVE MEN sit in a lonely corner. Each of them at varying stages of middle age. Each of them SOMETHING ELSE.

Empty pitchers and full glasses spill onto dominos laid out across the table.

One of the men spots the priest. He's chubby, balding, and disheveled. He looks like he hasn't slept in years. This is MAMMON (50's).

MAMMON

Hey Padre, I think you zigged when you shoulda zagged.

BEELZ

We're looking for Alastor.

MAMMON

And who the fuck are you?

BEELZ

Beelzebub.

MAMMON

Fuck you. No you're not.

A thin man slides away from the table. ALASTOR (30's) wears a slinky dress with spaghetti straps. He's effeminate and makes big, flamboyant gestures.

ALASTOR

Beelzebub? Is it really you?

BEELZ

Alastor!

ALASTOR

Oh my god Beelz!

Alastor runs to Beelz. They hug. Alastor steps back and studies her.

ALASTOR (CONT'D)

Where did you get this body?

Beelz does a little spin to show off.

ALASTOR (CONT'D)

(re: Father Bart)

And you're fucking a priest?
Scandalous.

BEELZ

I've missed you so much.

Alastor locks eyes with Beelz. *Same.* And then--

ALASTOR

Come meet my friends!

Alastor skips back to the table. He grabs two chairs for Beelz and Bart and scoots them up to the table.

Alastor slides back into the booth next to Mammon--

ALASTOR (CONT'D)

Move over darling.

Mammon does as he's told. Alastor kisses the air.

ALASTOR (CONT'D)
 Guys, this is my dear old friend
 Beelz. You may know him...
 (then)
 Her...?

Beelz shrugs.

ALASTOR (CONT'D)
 You may know *her* as part of the
Unholy Trinity. The great, and
 always stunning, Beelzebub!

Alastor does a big, exaggerated bow from his seat.

ALASTOR (CONT'D)
 Your majesty.

The four men nod their heads in respect and a tinge of fear.

Next to Mammon sits three more former demons. ELIGOS (50's).
 MURMUR (70's) and GREMORY (50's).

All of these men are disheveled and overweight. Their hair
 thinning. Their wrinkles deep. Their teeth close to rotting.

MAMMON
 Forgive me for my doubts Beelzebub.

Beelz shrugs. *She couldn't care less.*

BEELZ
 Are you guys all like Alastor?

MAMMON
 We don't have his... style. But
 yeah, we traded in our demonic
 spirits for these bags of flesh.

FATHER BART
 How long have you been possessing
 these men?

ELIGOS
 No possession. We manifested these
 bodies when we escaped.

MAMMON
 And we'll remain in them until end
 times. Our physical manifestation
 has left us soulless.

ELIGOS
 Just like the gingers!

The two men explode with laughter. Bart watches them. Alastor leans toward Bart.

ALASTOR
Do we scare you priesty?

FATHER BART
Not even a little.

Alastor is shocked and excited. He turns to Beelz.

ALASTOR
I'm stealing him from you.

BEELZ
You can have him.

ALASTOR
Allow me to formally introduce you to Mammon, Eligos, Gremory, and Murmur. The Nine Rings runaways!

ELIGOS
Alastor always gives everything a dumb little nick-name.

ALASTOR
Oh you love it.

Alastor drapes his arm over Mammon's shoulder.

ALASTOR (CONT'D)
Mammon was the first of us to leave the Rings.

MAMMON
The screams no longer aroused me.

ELIGOS
(smiling)
You sick fuck...

MAMMON
(playfully)
I'm not the sick fuck who fell in love with a serial killer.

Eligos loses himself. He smiles longingly.

ELIGOS
Edward... His self-loathing was tragically erotic.
(then)
(MORE)

ELIGOS (CONT'D)

Once the other demons noticed my
obsession. They forced me to watch
as they devoured him into oblivion.

MAMMON

(sad; sincere)
The sick fucks.

BEELZ

Cheers to never going back to that
horrible place.

ALASTOR

You're not going back?

Beelz shakes her head. Alastor is in shock.

ALASTOR (CONT'D)

But you're royalty...

Beelz leans in close to Alastor and lowers her voice.

BEELZ

Can you take me to the dungeon?

Alastor shoots Beelz a curious look.

BEELZ (CONT'D)

I'll tell you everything. Promise.

Alastor exits the booth.

ALASTOR

Right this way your highness!
(then; to the others)
Keep our new friend entertained.

Bart grabs Beelz's hand. She stops.

FATHER BART

Don't leave me alone.

BEELZ

You'll be fine.

Beelz follows Alastor out of the room, leaving Bart alone
with the former Demons.

Bart sizes them up. They size him up right back.

MAMMON

You a real priest?

Bart gives Mammon a look. *If I had a nickel...*

CUT TO:

INT. VENUS SALOON - BASEMENT - CONTINUOUS

Alastor leads Beelz down a set of concrete steps. He pushes open a heavy, solid oak door with brass fittings. The ancient door grinds on the floor as Alastor shoves it open.

Alastor takes Beelz's hand as they enter the dark room.

The move away from the doorway and enter the darkness. Beelz looks around anxiously.

Alastor flicks a lighter and holds the flame under a torch affixed to the rough stone wall.

The torch erupts in a BLACK FLAME that drapes everything in a dark-purple hue.

The black light reveals A grand altar pressed against a stone brick wall. Antique shelves and glass cabinets fill the space around the altar.

Religious artifacts, relics, and antiquities line the shelves. Beelz is amazed. She turns to Alastor.

BEELZ

Your collection's gotten bigger.

Alastor beams with pride.

CUT TO:

INT. VENUS SALOON - CONTINUOUS

Mammon and Eligos share stories. Gremory and Murmur sit quietly with nervous expressions. Bart remains guarded.

MAMMON

The third ring, where the gluttons are sent, that was my favorite.

(then)

A life of privilege makes them so soft, like fresh veal.

Mammon's mouth actually begins to water.

MAMMON (CONT'D)

The exquisite look of *disfacere* on these fat cats' faces when it finally hits that all of their lies and exploitation has finally caught up to them.

(then)

They're staring eternity in the face, and it's worse than their most terrifying nightmares.

Mammon sits back in his seat as if he just mainlined heroin. He groans with pleasure.

Eligos smiles at Bart. It's evil.

ELIGOS

Mammon, the sick fuck...

MAMMON

And you believe all of these people deserve redemption, don't ya priesty.

FATHER BART

Call me Bart.

All four of the mens' eyes grow wide.

ELIGOS

It can't be...

GREMORY

No...

MAMMON

You're not thee Father Bartholomew?

Bart looks to them, confused. He stops on Gremory. The old man trembling with fear.

Murmur scans the room, looking for an escape. But, Mammon and Eligos are elated. They're almost frothing at the mouth.

ELIGOS

You're the priest that killed Focalor. That's you isn't it?

FATHER BART

Focalor?

MAMMON

He was one of Satan's Guards.

ELIGOS

He was strong. So strong.

MAMMON

And quite the sick fuck.

ELIGOS

Tell us how it happened.

MAMMON

Yes. Tell us.

The disgusting men salivate at the thought of this gruesome story. Bart's panic begins to rise.

FATHER BART

I didn't kill that demon.

Mammon and Eligos explode with laughter. But Murmur has had enough. He slips out of his seat and scurries away.

Murmur looks back. He locks eyes with Bart for only a moment. And then, the shriveled old man hurries out of sight.

Bart considers. *That was strange.*

MAMMON

Focalor's screams echoed throughout the Nine Rings as you ripped him to shreds. What did it feel like to destroy such a powerful creature?

ELIGOS

It must have been euphoric.

Bart is consumed by this memory--

FLASHBACK:

TEENAGE BART (18 years old) enters a dark room. He's holding a crucifix. He scans the room with a horrified expression.

Father Dean is crouched in the corner. He rocks back and forth, mumbling to himself.

Teenage Bart takes slow, careful steps toward his mentor.

And then, Father Dean looks up with PITCH BLACK eyes. He locks onto Bart and leaps from his crouched position.

Bart tries to run, but Dean lands on top of the young man. Father Dean's jaw extends. He's ready to devour.

Bart screams out in horror.

END FLASHBACK.

Bart fights against his panic. Mammon and Eligos eagerly lean in towards the anxious priest.

FATHER BART
That wasn't me.

ELIGOS
You can't hide your true self.

MAMMON
How did you do it?

ELIGOS
Tell us your secret.

Bart vibrates in his chair. He makes a fist. His knuckles turn white. He's about to lose it.

Gremory watches the priest. He can't take anymore. Gremory pushes his way out of the booth.

Eligos smiles wide as he watches Gremory hurry away.

ELIGOS (CONT'D)
Even Gremory stopped doing possessions after that.
(then)
He always had a thing for little boys. The sick fuck...

GREMORY
Shut up Eligos!

Realization sets in. Bart's panic turns into rage.

FATHER BART
"Little boys"?

Bart turns to Gremory.

FATHER BART (CONT'D)
You recognize me, don't you?

Gremory is frozen.

GREMORY
You gonna kill me?

Bart considers. He shakes his head.

GREMORY (CONT'D)
I always knew this day would come.

CUT TO:

INT. VENUS SALOON - BASEMENT - CONTINUOUS

Beelz examines each item in Alastor's collection.

Alastor plays with the fire from the torch. He runs his hands through the flame daring the black fire to burn him.

ALASTOR

How long are you and priesty in town? Do you need a place to stay?

He spins toward Beelz. He's so excited.

ALASTOR (CONT'D)

Can we have a sleep over?!

Beelz looks to Alastor. She's gentle.

BEELZ

I'm going back to the Kingdom.

Alastor studies Beelz for a moment. *That can't be true.* But Beelz doesn't waver.

And then, Alastor lets out a big laugh, hiding his pain.

ALASTOR

Could you imagine? We spend all that time in the Rings and one day they just open the gates for us.

(then; mocking)

"Thanks for letting us in. Sorry about the torturing."

Alastor's laugh fades.

BEELZ

I was born in the Kingdom. I'm just going back home.

ALASTOR

Lucky you.

BEELZ

If I could bring you with me...

ALASTOR

But I'm a spawn of Satan. And I'll always just be a spawn of Satan.

BEELZ

That's not true.

ALASTOR

It isn't?

Alastor's heart breaks. Tears fall down his cheeks.

ALASTOR (CONT'D)

The celebration they'll have for you, I can't even begin to imagine.

Alastor moves to a shelf and reaches for one of his artifacts. It's an ANGEL FEATHER.

The bright white feather emits a glow that's a stark contrast to the purple hue filling the space. Alastor picks it up and runs it along his skin. His sadness grows.

ALASTOR (CONT'D)

What kind of sick joke is it to create a demon that dreams of being an angel?

BEELZ

But you're not a demon.

ALASTOR

I'm far from an angel.

BEELZ

You can be whatever you want here. And maybe start by moving to a place that doesn't have "Sin" in its name.

ALASTOR

Of course you don't get it, you're royalty in both realms.

BEELZ

I've suffered too.

Alastor's had enough. He locks eyes with Beelz.

ALASTOR

Why are you here Beelz?

BEELZ

I need something from your collection.

Alastor is apprehensive. *Which item?*

BEELZ (CONT'D)

Do you still have Liquid Ember?

Alastor's eyes grow wide.

ALASTOR
Satan's on Earth?

Beelz nods.

CUT TO:

INT. VENUS SALOON - CONTINUOUS

Gremory and Bart sit in a booth that's tucked away from the rest of the bar. They have complete privacy.

Gremory sips a Whisky neat. It's a double. Bart stays sober.

FATHER BART
I thought you'd look different.

GREMORY
More handsome?

Gremory smiles at his own joke. Bart remains stoic. Gremory's smile fades. He's consumed with guilt.

GREMORY (CONT'D)
You don't know what it's like to serve Satan. I thought I was one of the good guys.

FATHER BART
You possessed little boys and you thought you were good?

GREMORY
I know it sounds crazy.

FATHER BART
I could feel you swimming around inside me. I was only six.

Gremory is haunted by his past actions.

GREMORY
I was serving my lord.

FATHER BART
You destroyed me.

Gremory looks away. Bart grits his teeth.

FATHER BART (CONT'D)
Look me in the eyes.

Gremory's eyes meet Barts. Bart is seething.

FATHER BART (CONT'D)
Do you remember it?

GREMORY
I remember you.

FATHER BART
Do you remember what you did to me?

Gremory shakes his head. Bart's rage builds.

FATHER BART (CONT'D)
I slept in the church for an entire
year. Prayed the rosary every
single night.

GREMORY
Those days are behind me.

Bart leans in, fighting the urge to pounce.

FATHER BART
Don't tell me you grew a
conscience.

Gremory cowers. The former Demon clearly terrified of the
priest. Bart realizes--

FATHER BART (CONT'D)
You're scared of me...
(then)
It was when I killed that demon
wasn't it?

GREMORY
You said you didn't kill Focalor.

FATHER BART
I didn't.
(then)
But something inside me did.

Gremory's fear builds.

GREMORY
You said you weren't going to kill
me? Remember? You said that!

FATHER BART
I'm not going to kill you.

Bart softens. He takes a breath. He finds peace.

Bart reaches for Gremory's hand. Gremory watches unsure.

FATHER BART (CONT'D)
I forgive you.

Those were the last words that Gremory expected to hear.

GREMORY
Don't say that.

Bart nods but Gremory can't accept it. Tears fill his eyes.

GREMORY (CONT'D)
Don't you say that to me!

And then, the front door swings open. The bright sun pours into the dark bar.

Gremory wipes his tears away and squints toward the door. As his eyes adjust, he's filled with terror.

Bart sees the look on Gremory's face. He turns. The same terrified expression comes over him.

CUT TO:

INT. VENUS SALOON - BASEMENT - CONTINUOUS

Alastor keeps the glowing feather in his grip as he frantically scours the rest of his collection.

Alastor grabs a GOLDEN CHALICE filled with BLOOD. He pours out the liquid and watches as it magically FILLS BACK UP.

Alastor hands it to Beelz.

ALASTOR
Careful. That'll burn you.

BEELZ
What about the Liquid Ember?

ALASTOR
It's too dangerous...

BEELZ
That's exactly why I need it!

Alastor hesitates. And then--

FATHER BART (O.S.)
Beelz! Satan's here!

Beelz and Alastor exchange a panicked look.

Alastor hurries to a dark corner and rips a burlap bag off of a CORKED BROWN GLASS BOTTLE. A glowing bright liquid splashes around inside. It looks like Lava. This is LIQUID EMBER.

Alastor gives it to Beelz.

ALASTOR
Don't do anything stupid.

CUT TO:

INT. VENUS SALOON - CONTINUOUS

Beelz and Alastor rush into the room. Alastor holds the Angel's Feather tight in his grip.

Beelz carries the Gold Chalice in one hand and the Brown Glass Bottle in the other.

Bart, Mammon, Eligos, and Gremory join Beelz and Alastor.

Satan stands at the doorway across the room from them. He blends in perfectly with the shadows surrounding him.

Satan steps forward, revealing his full form. He looks to Beelz with a broken heart. *Satan misses Beelzebub so much.*

SATAN
Come home Beelzebub.

BEELZ
No.

Satan is about to explode.

SATAN
Come home or I will destroy you.

Beelz shakes her head.

SATAN (CONT'D)
I won't give you a third chance.

BEELZ
I wasn't expecting a second.

Satan's face twists into rage. The room begins to shake.

Alastor holds up the Angel Feather. The bright light from it surrounding the priest and former demons.

ALASTOR
Smash the bottle Beelz!

Beelz raises the corked bottle high over her head.

Time seems to slow as Satan watches the glowing liquid splashing around inside the brown bottle.

He realizes, a moment of fear from this all-powerful being.

SATAN
Liquid Ember...

In a flash, the door flies open. Satan ejects from the bar. It's as if the evil entity vanished into nothing.

ALASTOR
Stop!

Beelz stops the bottle from hitting the ground.

Everyone looks around, unable to let their guard down.

And then--

TOURISTS, PIT BOSSES, SHOW GIRLS, and ELVIS IMPERSONATORS charge into the bar. Every single one of them has PITCH BLACK EYES and DARKNESS PUMPING THROUGH THEIR VEINS.

Mammon and Eligos yell for them to get back. Gremory holds a chair, ready to fend them off.

Alastor moves forward, stabbing at the air with the Angel Feather.

The Possessed attack. The former Demons fight back.

Bart makes a fist. His Gold Ring with Cross sits just below his knuckle. He's ready to go to blows.

BEELZ
Bart--

Beelz hands the CHALICE to Bart. He looks at it, stunned.

FATHER BART
A Christblood Chalice?

Beelz nods.

FATHER BART (CONT'D)
What about you?!

BEELZ

Don't worry about me.

The black from Beelz's eyes pumps through her body. Her veins turn dark. She cocks her head violently, as if her neck is breaking. Her jaw extends. Her teeth twist and grow as they extend from her gums.

Beelz has morphed into a nightmare.

She joins the fight, attacking with ferocity. Her strength and power greater than her enemy's. She tosses a POSSESSED PIT-BOSS across the room.

A POSSESSED SHOWGIRL lunges for Bart--

He splashes the red liquid from the chalice into her face--

She drops to the ground and sizzles in pain.

Bart continues splashing the holy liquid on every Possessed Person he sees, inflicting as much damage as possible--

Two POSSESSED TOURISTS jump onto Eligos--

They bite and tear at his flesh-- He screams out as he's devoured.

Mammon smashes a chair into them, trying to save his friend--

Gremory watches from the corner, too scared to help.

Mammon continues slamming the chair into the Tourists--

One of the Possessed Tourists attacks him-- Mammon swings the metal chair, sending the Tourist to the floor--

Alastor uses the glowing Angel Feather like a knife, slashing and stabbing wildly at the Possessed--

A POSSESSED PIT-BOSS leaps forward, testing Alastor--

Alastor slashes at the monster-- The feather slices his skin--

The Tourist screams out as BLACK BLOOD erupts from the gash--

Two POSSESSED ELVIS IMPERSONATORS jump on Mammon-- They rip the chair from his hands-- Mammon is defenseless.

Gremory charges from the corner and tackles one of the Elvis Impersonators--

The other Impersonator bites into Mammon's neck-- Mammon cries out in agony as the life leaves his body.

Gremory and the Impersonator tumble to the ground-- Gremory quickly picks himself up and tries to escape--

The Elvis Impersonator grabs his leg-- Gremory can't move-- He punches at the Possessed Elvis--

The Impersonator yanks him to the floor--

GREMORY

Help me!

Bart hurries to help Gremory-- He splashes the Christblood wildly as he moves through the chaos--

A Possessed Showgirl bites a chunk out of Gremory's arm-- Gremory screams out in pain--

Bart reaches Gremory and sprays his attackers with Christblood-- The Possessed recoil and hiss--

Bart helps Gremory up. Gremory locks eyes with Bart.

GREMORY (CONT'D)

I thought I was gone forever...

In a flash, Bart is tackled by a POSSESSED PIT-BOSS--

Bart immediately pours the Christblood over the Pit-Boss's face-- The Pit-Boss screams--

Gremory is grabbed by three POSSESSED TOURISTS-- He claws at the floor as he's dragged away-- He begs for help--

Bart jumps to his feet-- He reaches for Gremory-- A POSSESSED ELVIS IMPERSONATOR swings his claws at Bart-- Bart evades--

Gremory is dragged to a corner--

Bart tries to fight his way through--

And then, the Chalice is knocked away from Bart--

GREMORY (CONT'D)

Help! I don't want to die! I do--

Gremory's cries are cut off-- Bart can only watch as Gremory is devoured into nothing.

Bart spots the Chalice-- He lunges for it-- Another POSSESSED TOURIST lunges for it too--

Bart grabs it first-- The Possessed Tourist grips Bart's hand and squeezes-- Bart yells out in pain--

Beelz appears-- She grabs the Tourist and throws him across the room-- She grabs Bart and brings him to his feet--

It's just Bart, Beelz, and Alastor now.

The Possessed regroup. They're eager to finish the job.

Bart, Beelz, and Alastor charge back into battle--

Alastor cuts at the Possessed-- Beelz overpowers them with her strength-- Bart splashes them with the lethal liquid--

The remaining Possessed lock onto Beelz and attack only her--

Beelz is overpowered and thrown behind the bar-- The Possessed jump onto her--

A pack of Hyenas taking down a lioness. Beelz lets out an eerie howl--

Bart and Alastor rush to Beelz's aid--

Beelz is getting torn apart-- She doesn't stop fighting-- She tears at them with dark claws and contorted teeth--

Alastor jumps onto the pile and stabs wildly-- Bart pours the liquid over the evil People--

The Possessed scream out and scatter--

Beelz lies on the ground. She's weak. Black blood pours from her lacerations.

Bart grabs Beelz and pulls her to safety as Alastor continues to slash at the Possessed, keeping them away.

Bart thinks quick. He grabs a brown bottle of whisky.

BEELZ

What's that for?

FATHER BART

Hide the Ember.

Beelz is unsure, but she nods. She tucks the Liquid Ember under her arm, hiding it the best she can.

Bart grabs Beelz and lifts her over his shoulders.

ALASTOR

Get behind me!

Bart and Beelz do as their told.

Alastor raises the feather over his head and brings it down hard, stabbing it into the floor.

The Angel Feather EXPLODES. The Possessed are thrown into the walls. They're dazed. The path to the door is clear.

ALASTOR (CONT'D)

Come on!

They charge toward the door. The Possessed get to their feet.

Alastor reaches the door first, he pushes it open, letting Bart and Beelz through first.

Alastor takes a step, but a demonic hand grips his ankle.

Bart looks back. Alastor already knows his fate.

ALASTOR (CONT'D)

Get that queen to her Kingdom.

Alastor is ripped away from the door. It slams shut.

BEELZ

Alastor!

And then, a cold breeze blows. Shadows change shape. A shiver goes up Bart's spine.

FATHER BART

Satan's watching us.

Beelz nods. She knows. She keeps the Liquid Ember hidden.

The shadow from Bart's vehicle moves like a sundial over the concrete. The shadow grows into a three dimensional shape.

Satan reveals himself. He's blocking the path to Bart's car.

SATAN

Give her to me.

FATHER BART

Go fuck yourself.

Bart raises the bottle of whisky. Satan's eyes grow wide.

Bart slams the bottle onto the concrete ground. As the bottle shatters, Satan disappears in a flash.

Whisky soaks the pavement. Satan is nowhere to be seen.
Bart's trick has worked.

Bart races to the passenger side and swings the door open. He gently lays Beelz down.

Beelz grabs Bart. Her eyes pleading.

BEELZ
We can't leave Alastor.

FATHER BART
I'm sorry.

Bart slams the door shut and hurries to his side. Bart jumps in, hits the gas, and races out of the parking lot.

Weak and wounded, Beelz watches the Saloon fade into the distance. Bart swallows his pain as he focuses forward. His stoic demeanor cracking.

CUT TO:

INT. VENUS SALOON - A LITTLE LATER

Alastor is stretched out on the pool table.

He kicks his legs violently, causing his skirt to rise. Possessed surround him. They're frothing at the mouth.

Satan hovers over Alastor. He scans the former demon's body.

SATAN
Disgusting...

Alastor stops struggling. There's no point. Satan runs his clawed finger across Alastor's skin.

SATAN (CONT'D)
Where is Beelzebub going?

Satan smells his finger. *Putrid.*

Alastor doesn't say a word. He closes his eyes and prepares for what's to come.

Satan moves in close. His lips inches from Alastor's ear. Both voices slither into the former demon's psyche--

SATAN (CONT'D)
**I remember you Alastor. I watched
you dance around the Rings when you
thought you were alone. And you
were always alone.**

Satan stands and continues to study Alastor's human form.

SATAN (CONT'D)

**I wanted to reach out to you, but
you didn't want that, did you?**

(then)

**You felt superior to the rest of
us. Isn't that right?**

Alastor struggles to control his fear. He doesn't respond.

SATAN (CONT'D)

**Your dancing... It looked so
familiar. Like something I
remembered from a previous life.
And then it finally hit me.
"Alastor dreams of being an angel".**

(then)

**Your obsession grew until you
eventually became... this.**

(then)

**Envy. It's destroyed you. I'm so
proud.**

Tears trickle from Alastor's eyes.

SATAN (CONT'D)

**My little angel boy, tell me where
Beelzebub is going.**

ALASTOR

No.

Satan nods. He places his finger against Alastor's chest. The claw at the end of his finger puncture's Alastor's skin. Blood pools from the cut.

Murmur pops his head out from the hallway.

MURMUR

Satan my lord!

Satan looks over to Murmur, unsure.

A look of sick obsession fills Murmur's face. He rushes toward his master.

MURMUR (CONT'D)

I was the one who summoned you!

Satan studies Murmur.

SATAN

You worship me?

MURMUR
Of course my Lord.

SATAN
But you left the Rings?

MURMUR
The biggest regret of my existence.

Satan is annoyed by this old man.

He turns back to Alastor. He presses his scalpel-sharp claw into Alastor's skin and slices him open like a zipper.

SATAN
Where is Beelzebub?

The exposed muscle tissue from the laceration is quickly flooded with blood. Alastor screams in pain.

MURMUR
My Lord. I heard them talking.

Satan stops and turns back toward Murmur.

MURMUR (CONT'D)
Beelzebub is going to Santa Fe. He plans to return to the Kingdom.

An honest moment of heartbreak from Satan.

SATAN
No...

The entire structure rattles. Murmur trembles.

MURMUR
Please forgive me for this message.
I only wish to serve you.

Satan locks onto Murmur. He moves forward. Murmur cowers.

Satan gently touches Murmur's cheek. Murmur is terrified. And then, he starts to feel different.

In an instant, this seventy year old man becomes twenty five years old again.

Murmur touches his face. He already knows. He rushes to a mirror behind the bar and takes in his own beauty.

Murmur cries. He turns to Satan.

MURMUR (CONT'D)
 Thank you my lord! Thank you a
 thousand times!

Satan looks back to the young man, annoyed.

SATAN
Enough.

Murmur nods and returns to the mirror. He's locked onto his reflection with sick elation.

Satan turns back to Alastor. He studies the tortured man again. He places his claw against the fresh cut.

SATAN (CONT'D)
**Now tell me, Angel boy. How did you
 obtain Liquid Ember?**

Alastor watches in horror as Satan's claw presses back into his skin.

CUT TO:

EXT. MOTEL ROUTE 66 - EVENING

Overlap: Alastor screams out in agony.

Bart exits his car with a bag of fast food. He walks through the parking lot of a Route 66 Motel.

The large, colorful signs displaying the highway name are old and worn, but they've maintained their charm.

As Bart approaches his motel room, he sees a MAN smoking a cigarette. Bart gives him a nod and a smile, but the Man quickly looks away. *That was strange.*

INT. MOTEL ROUTE 66 - CONTINUOUS

Two queen beds sit side by side. A TV rests on top of a dresser. Framed Route 66 themed pictures decorate the walls.

Bart enters and sets the bag of greasy food next to the TV.

FATHER BART
 Bad news, their ice cream machine
 was broken--

Bart turns to Beelz. He looks over her deep wounds covered in bandages. Black blood already soaking through. Her breathing is slow. Bart looks worried.

FATHER BART (CONT'D)

Beelz?

Beelz opens her eyes and groans.

BEELZ

I fell asleep. Did you say something?

And then, a SCREAM from outside. Bart rushes to the door and swings it open.

BEELZ (CONT'D)

Bart wait...

Bart locks onto the Man in the parking lot who was just smoking a cigarette.

The Man shakes, terrified. He scans the parking lot for danger. He feels around his body, making sure he's okay.

Bart continues watching as the Man's GIRLFRIEND hurries out of the motel. He runs to her. She brings him back inside. She rubs his back, comforting him the entire way.

Bart closes the door. He turns to Beelz.

FATHER BART

Was that you?

Beelz hesitates.

FATHER BART (CONT'D)

Don't lie to me.

BEELZ

I'm in so much pain...

FATHER BART

You can't possess anyone else!

BEELZ

Bart...

FATHER BART

I don't care!

(then; calming)

If you need to. Jump into me.

BEELZ

I'm sorry. I'll stay put.

Bart calms. He brings her the fast food.

Beelz watches him. Her once pitch black eyes have faded to a dark gray.

She scoots over and pats the bed. Bart hesitates. *This woman is so beautiful.*

BEELZ (CONT'D)
I won't bite.
(then; reconsidering)
I won't break skin.

Bart kicks off his shoes and sits. They dig through the brown paper bag and gobble up french fries.

FATHER BART
I'm sorry you're in so much pain.

BEELZ
Yeah, me too...

FATHER BART
How worried should we be?

BEELZ
I can't hold on too much longer.

FATHER BART
What does that mean? Minutes?

Beelz looks at the clock radio's digital display. It reads:
8:17 PM

BEELZ
I can make it til morning.

FATHER BART
Morning?

BEELZ
How much time do you need?

FATHER BART
We still have to drive the rest of
the way...

BEELZ
Bart. How much time?

Bart thinks. He quickly goes down his mental checklist.

FATHER BART
If you can give me until noon...

Beelz closes her eyes and feels her body. She breaths. She opens her eyes.

BEELZ
I can do that.

They exchange a look of respect.

FATHER BART
You really took a beating.

BEELZ
No shit. And now that she's pushing back...

FATHER BART
She's conscious?

BEELZ
She's aware.

FATHER BART
Is she scared?

BEELZ
A little. She's more confused.

Bart is at a loss. Beelz takes in his concern.

BEELZ (CONT'D)
She'll calm down when she realizes that she's not in danger.

But that's not good enough for Bart.

BEELZ (CONT'D)
Bart. She's okay.

Beelz places her hand on Bart's hand.

EELZ
Look at you, cutie pie, being all empathetic.

Bart pulls his hand away and rolls his eyes.

BEELZ
It's actually really sweet that you care so much.

FATHER BART
What are you buttering me up for?

BEELZ
I can be nice without wanting
something in return.

FATHER BART
Yeah right.

Beelz locks onto Bart. She's sincere.

BEELZ
Bart, you...
(then)
You're able to find the good in
even the worst of the worst.
(then)
I never imagined that when we met
it would lead to me returning to
the Kingdom.

That hits Bart. He remembers that night well.

FLASH BACK:

Bart stands over a bed holding a crucifix.

FATHER BART
Leave this body!

A CLOWN (Mid 40's) in full makeup, red nose, and PITCH BLACK
EYES stares up at Bart.

CLOWN
Fuck off Father Fart!

END FLASH BACK.

Bart shivers--

FATHER BART
I hate clowns...
(then)
That's all it took to convince you
to leave the Rings?

BEELZ
You put a spotlight on pain that I
didn't even know I had. And I
eventually had no choice but to
heal that pain.
(then)
How did you do that?

FATHER BART
Find your pain?

Beelz nods.

FATHER BART (CONT'D)

The night I was possessed, I felt all of that demon. Even the tender parts. The parts he didn't want me to see.

(then)

Father Dean started bringing me to exorcisms, and it only helped me develop that ability even more.

Beelz nods. *That's exactly her experience.*

FATHER BART (CONT'D)

By the time I was eighteen, I had helped Father Dean with so many exorcisms, I thought I was ready to do one by myself.

(then)

Until that day finally came.

FLASH BACK:

TEENAGE BART (18 years old) shakes with fear as he slowly walks across a dark room. His lip quivers. He cries.

Father Dean is crouched in the corner. He rocks back and forth as he mumbles to himself.

And then, Father Dean looks up with PITCH BLACK EYES. He locks onto Bart and leaps from his crouched position.

Bart screams out.

Father Dean lands on top of the young man. His jaw extends. He's about to feast.

Bart raises a Crucifix and buries it into Father Dean's face. His skin sizzles. Father Dean screams in agony.

And then, AN ARM ERUPTS FROM FATHER DEAN'S MOUTH. It rips the priest's jaw wide open.

Father Dean's pitch black eyes turn light gray. He goes limp. The life leaves his body.

The demonic hand knocks the crucifix away. Bart pushes Father Dean's body away and jumps to his feet.

The Demonic Arm extends further out of Dean's mouth, ripping his jaw even wider. The clawed hand grabs Bart's ankle.

Bart falls to the ground. The demonic hand pulls itself up Bart's body, dragging Father Dean's corpse with it.

Bart claws at the floor, trying to escape, but he doesn't have the strength.

The Demon's shoulder pops out of Father Dean's torn apart mouth. The priest's head hangs on by a thread.

The arm wraps around Bart's neck, choking him. Bart fights with everything he has, but the Demon's arm is too strong.

Finally, Bart's breathing slows. His eyes close. He's losing consciousness. The life is leaving his body.

And then, Bart's eyes open wide. They're BRIGHT WHITE.

END FLASH BACK:

Bart stares at nothing. Beelz listens.

FATHER BART (CONT'D)

When I blacked out, I knew it wasn't a possession. I felt like I was floating on a cloud.

(then)

But when I woke up, that feeling quickly left.

FLASH BACK:

Teenage Bart sits on the floor of the blood soaked room. Blood covers Bart's face and drips from his chin.

He wales loudly as tears pour from him. He's losing his mind.

FATHER BART (O.S.) (CONT'D)

There was only a small part left of Father Dean. And I held it tight.

Father Dean's BLOODY SKULL sits in Bart's lap.

Muscle and skin tissue dangling from bone. Missing teeth. The bottom jaw completely gone.

Bart gently rubs the skull. *He's comforting it.*

END FLASH BACK:

Bart fights a battle in his mind. Beelz remains focused on her friend. She reaches for him. He hesitates.

FATHER BART (CONT'D)

Oh Beelz, even if I wanted to...

BEELZ

Shut up and come here.

Beelz wraps her arms around Bart in a hug. She rubs his back. After a moment, Bart returns the hug.

And then Bart buries his face into Beelz's shoulder. He sobs. *A heavy cloud letting go of an ocean's worth of rain.*

CUT TO:

I/E. FATHER BART'S CAR - MORNING

The sun is bright. The windows are down. The air rushes past. The vast south western plain stretches on forever.

Beelz's hair is kicked up by the wind. The brown bottle sits in her lap. Her eyes are gray. Bandages wrap her arms and legs. But in this moment, she looks relaxed.

FATHER BART

You look well rested.

BEELZ

I'm barely holding on. This bitch started her period last night.

Bart winces. Beelz remains at peace. She feels the warmth of the sun on her face.

BEELZ (CONT'D)

And yet, there are things about this realm that makes the bullshit worthwhile.

FATHER BART

You'll forget about us as soon as those gates close behind you.

Beelz rolls her eyes. *Whatever.*

FATHER BART (CONT'D)

Why would you ever leave the Kingdom in the first place?

BEELZ

It wasn't just one thing.

FATHER BART

It never is.

BEELZ

It started with Lucifer.

(then)

When he fell and became Satan, it cast so much doubt around the Kingdom. Satan's blind confidence was intoxicating. Here was this powerful being telling me everything I wanted to hear. All of a sudden, the Kingdom became suffocating. Following Satan into the Nine Rings felt like survival.

(then)

When all you preach is chaos and confusion, your followers will cling to you for dear life.

FATHER BART

You must have had doubts.

BEELZ

Right before I left, Michael came to me and said "You'll be missed." In that moment I considered that I was a making a mistake, but I had already made up my mind.

FATHER BART

Archangel Michael?

BEELZ

We used to be really close.

FATHER BART

And then you left.

BEELZ

And then I left. But we right that wrong today.

Bart looks to the clock. 8 A.M.

CUT TO:

EXT. SANTA FE - MORNING

The sun shines on happy TOWNSPEOPLE. They walk down Santa Fe sidewalks. They smile. They wave.

THE CATHEDRAL BASILICA stands at the center of this small yet beautiful city. Lush gardens surround the grand structure.

Six MIDDLED AGED WOMEN exit the church. They slowly make their way toward the street as they chat.

At the same time, a POLICE OFFICER approaches the church.

The Women smile and wave, but this cop doesn't stop. He marches through the group, bumping into one of the ladies.

They all look back in shock. *How rude!*

And then, FIVE MORE POLICE OFFICERS walk past the women, bumping into them as well. The Cops enter the church with zero apologies.

INT. THE CATHEDRAL BASILICA - CONTINUOUS

The Officers spread out and search the large church.

A CHUBBY MAN (40's) wearing a short-sleeve, button-up shirt and tie approaches the Cops. He's very chipper.

CHUBBY MAN

Excuse me officers, what can I do
you for?

But each Cop ignores the Chubby Man. He is no longer chipper.

CHUBBY MAN (CONT'D)

Are we in any sort of danger?

Still nothing from the Cops. The Chubby Man is annoyed. He taps one of the Officers on the shoulder.

CHUBBY MAN (CONT'D)

Excuse me. I'm talking to you.

The Police Officer turns. The Chubby Man nervously looks into the Officer's mirrored sunglasses.

The Police Officer leans in close and lifts his lips, revealing yellow and jagged teeth. He lets out a low growl.

The Chubby Man takes a scared step back.

CHUBBY MAN (CONT'D)

The Chubby Man hurries away allowing the Cops to continue searching the premises.

CUT TO:

I/E. FATHER BART'S CAR - SAN MIGUEL CHAPEL - MORNING

Bart pulls up to SAN MIGUEL CHAPEL, the oldest church in America. The sign out front proudly displays the year 1610.

The entire area matches the Adobe architecture of this four hundred year old church.

Beelz grunts in pain.

FATHER BART

What is it?

BEELZ

She's pushing back harder.

FATHER BART

Please don't hurt her.

BEELZ

I'm definitely the bottom in this situation...

Bart gets out and goes to the trunk. He grabs his duffle bag and slings it over his shoulder.

He goes to Beelz's door and helps her out. She pulls herself up. Every movement is excruciating.

CUT TO:

INT. SAN MIGUEL CHAPEL - MOMENTS LATER

Bart helps Beelz into the small church.

A few PARISHIONERS sit in wooden pews and silently pray.

Wood carvings depicting the crucifixion hang on the walls. Large windows sit just below the twenty foot tall ceilings. They let in heaps of sun.

At the front of the church stands an ornate altar. It's made of a combination of wood and stone.

Above that is a large REREDOS that stretches to the ceiling.

This altar screen contains historic statues and paintings depicting religious figures. The image at the top center is of the church's namesake, Saint Michael.

Bart leads Beelz to a row of pews and sits her down. Beelz never lets go of the bottle of Liquid Ember. Bart puts his duffle down next to her.

FATHER BART
Take it easy. I got this.

Bart turns toward the Parishioners and raises his voice--

FATHER BART (CONT'D)
Sorry everyone. We're closing the
church. You all need to leave.

FATHER ANTONIO (mid 20's) enters. This young priest is dashing and strong. A young warrior eager for battle. And right now, his sights are set on Bart.

ANTONIO
Who are you? Why are you disrupting
these people?

FATHER BART
I need to commandeer your church.

ANTONIO
That is not happening.

FATHER BART
You're going to be a headache,
aren't you?

ANTONIO
Unless you leave right now, I am
going to be so much more than that.

A tense moment between the priests. An OLD MAN watches from a pew. He attempts to keep the peace--

OLD MAN
It's okay Father Antonio. I can
come back later.

ANTONIO
Stay where you are. It's not you
who's causing trouble.

FATHER BART
Fine. I'll tell you everything, but
we have to clear the church first.

Antonio gets in close and lowers his voice to a growl.

ANTONIO
I haven't been to confession in a
month and I'm proud of that streak.
Please don't make me break it.

FATHER BART
Was that a threat Father?

ANTONIO
You're disrespecting my church and
my community. You determine what
happens next.

Bart sizes Antonio up. Antonio stares right back.

FATHER BART
Listen you little--

BEELZ
I'm sure I can convince you.

Bart and Antonio turn to Beelz.

ANTONIO
I highly doubt that.

Bart and Beelz exchange a knowing look.

CUT TO:

INT. BACKROOM SAN MIGUEL CHAPEL - MOMENTS LATER

A more modern room with a couple of couches and a computer desk. Mismatched carpet and wallpaper. More Catholic decor rests on shelves.

Beelz sits across from Father Antonio. Bart stands in the corner by himself.

ANTONIO
And you want to open that gate in
this church?

BEELZ
That's the plan.

Antonio considers. And then--

ANTONIO
You two are going to have to leave.

FATHER BART
After everything she told you?!

ANTONIO
I don't know what you're after, but
I do not believe your story.

FATHER BART
We're not leaving until we open
that gate.

ANTONIO
It will be very hard to do with a
broken arm.

FATHER BART
I'd love to see you try.

Bart marches toward Antonio. Antonio stands tall. Beelz steps
in between them.

BEELZ
Wait. Let me show you.

Antonio eyes her curiously.

Beelz removes her sunglasses revealing her gray eyes. Dark
blood flows through Beelz's veins and stripes her face. Her
teeth extend into jagged fangs.

Antonio looks on in horror. He does the sign of the cross.

ANTONIO
You're really Beelzebub?

Beelz returns to normal. She steadies herself. She's weak.

FATHER BART
She doesn't have much time left. We
need to do this now.

ANTONIO
I can't help Beelzebub into Heaven.

BEELZ
You don't think I deserve
redemption?

ANTONIO
You're a demon...

BEELZ
I'm not a monster. I just want a
better life.

Antonio's heart is heavy. *He relives a moment from his past.*

A BOY (14 years old) opens the door and peeks inside.

BOY
Father. The police are here.

The group exchanges a concerned look.

CUT TO:

INT. SAN MIGUEL CHAPEL - CONTINUOUS

Antonio confronts the THREE POLICE OFFICERS.

ANTONIO
Excuse me gentlemen.

They pass Antonio as if he's not there.

Antonio stares down one of the Officers. As the Cop passes by, Antonio sees behind his mirrored aviators. *His eyes are black too.*

Antonio realizes. He hurries toward this Cop.

Antonio dips his fingers into a nearby holy water basin. He reaches for the Cop and wipes the blessed liquid across the Officer's neck.

The Police Officer's skin sizzles. He grips his wound and spins toward Antonio. Antonio doesn't flinch.

ANTONIO (CONT'D)
You and your friends need to leave.

The Police Officer takes a step forward. Antonio moves back toward the basin. He dips his fingers. *He dares the Officer to come closer.*

The Police Officer stops. He looks to the other Cops. They all shake their heads. *They didn't find anything.*

The Officer eyes Father Antonio as he joins the other two and exits the church.

CUT TO:

EXT. SAN MIGUEL CHAPEL - MOMENTS LATER

Bart and Beelz huddle behind the exterior dried-mud wall of the chapel. They hear footsteps on the gravel. They freeze.

A shadow emerges. It grows larger. Father Antonio turns the corner.

ANTONIO
They are gone.

A look of relief. Bart assists Beelz as she moves forward. Antonio helps as well.

They make their way around the corner and stop.

They see one of the Police Officers standing near the road at the front of the church. He surveys the area.

ANTONIO (CONT'D)
I will take care of this.

Antonio takes a step. Bart stops the young priest. Bart stares forward like a lion in the brush.

FATHER BART
This one's mine.

CUT TO:

EXT. SAN MIGUEL CHAPEL - MOMENTS LATER

Antonio exits the front of the church and marches toward the Police Officer.

ANTONIO
Excuse me? Hello?

The Officer turns.

ANTONIO (CONT'D)
Now you have to listen to me. I
will not put up with you--

As the Cop sets his sites on Antonio, a plastic bag is pulled down over his head. The Cop instantly fights back.

Bart wrestles with the Possessed Officer. Antonio hurries to his aid and grips the Cop's arms.

Bart's ring glows. He presses it into the Officer's hand. A tiny plume of smoke rises from the searing flesh. The Possessed Cop HOWLS in pain.

The priests over power the Officer and drag him away.

CUT TO:

INT. BACKROOM SAN MIGUEL CHAPEL - MOMENTS LATER

The Possessed Police Officer's hands are cuffed. His feet are tied together.

His sunglasses gone, his midnight black eyes exposed. Blackness flows through his veins as he tries to fight his way out of the restraints.

Father Bart stands over the Possessed Officer. A crucifix in his grip. The Officer looks into Bart's rage-filled eyes. *He already knows he's fucked.*

FATHER BART
This is going to hurt.

The Officer hisses. Antonio and Beelz watch from a couch at the back of the room. The Possessed Officer locks onto Beelz.

POSSESSED OFFICER
You're not far behind me, your highness!

The Possessed Officer laughs. It's evil.

Bart mocks the Officer's evil laugh. The Officer stops. A look of confusion.

FATHER BART
Nah see, once I'm done with you, I'm going to turn around and open a gate for my friend back there. We already have everything we need.
(then; smiling)
You're too late.

POSSESSED OFFICER
(sotto; realizing)
Crucifix Keys are held here...?

The Evil Officer looks back to Beelz. She waves goodbye sarcastically. The Cop regains his confidence. He lets out another evil laugh.

POSSESSED OFFICER (CONT'D)
At least we have the famous Father Bartholomew!
(then)
The celebrations we'll have once we've dragged your soul into our realm will be legendary.

FATHER BART
You can try.

POSSESSED OFFICER
And we will succeed. We've already possessed all of them.

Bart is unsure.

FATHER BART
All of them?

Another evil laugh--

POSSESSED OFFICER
We've possessed the entire police
department! You'll never escape us!

The Officer laughs even harder.

BEELZ
Shut him up!

FATHER BART
Gladly.

Bart shoves the crucifix within an inch of the Possessed Officer's face. Bart speaks in Latin--

FATHER BART (CONT'D)
Sicut déficit fumus defíciant;
sicut fluit cera a fácie ignis, sic
péreant peccatóres a fácie Dei.

The Cop extends his jaw and hisses. Bart forces his open palm against the Cop's face and pushes his head into the ground.

FATHER BART (CONT'D)
Exsúrgat Deus et dissipéntur
inimíci ejus: et fúgiant qui
odérunt eum a fácie ejus.

The Police Officer HOWLS.

FATHER BART (CONT'D)
Shut up!

In an instant, the Possessed Police Officer is silent. It's as if he's in a trance.

Bart moves the crucifix over different parts of the Officer's body. SCREAMING VOICES echo out from everywhere within this possessed man. All of them pleading. All of them terrified.

Bart moves the crucifix near the Officer's abdomen.

And then, a SOFT VOICE breaks through the chaos. It's the voice of a MIDDLE AGED MAN. The voice trembles with fear--

MIDDLE AGED MAN (V.O.)
MOM? Where are you mom?!

Bart closes his eyes and listens closely. He turns the crucifix just slightly, as if he's tuning a radio.

POSSESSED OFFICER (V.O.)
You'll never see mommy again!

MIDDLE AGED MAN (V.O.)
She's sick! She'll die without me!

The Possessed Officer flinches as if he's breaking out of Bart's spell. Bart grips the crucifix even tighter.

As Bart's muscles strain, the Officer's body is pushed harder against the floor.

The voices emitting from the Officer become more penetrating--

MIDDLE AGED MAN (V.O.)
No one was supposed to get hurt!
Please! I'm all she has!

And then, the sound of evil laughter fills Bart's head. Bart winces but remains focused.

The laughter turns into dozens of low, demonic voices.

DEMONIC VOICE (V.O.) DEMONIC VOICES (V.O.)
Hurt him! Consume his pain!

DEMONIC VOICES (V.O.)
Do it slowly! So very slowly!

POSSESSED OFFICER (V.O.)
I can't...

DEMONIC VOICES (V.O.)
DO IT!!

Still in the trance, the Officer's face fills with pain.

MIDDLE AGED MAN (V.O.)
No! Wait!

A LOW AND VISCERAL GROWL crawls up Bart's spine.

MIDDLE AGED MAN (V.O.)
Mom! Mommy! Please no! Mommy plea--

Bart JAMS the crucifix into the Officer's side. The Officer YELLS in pain.

FATHER BART
 Sicut déficit fumus DEFÍCIANT!
 Sicut fluit cera a fácie IGNIS! Sic
 péreant peccatóres a fácie DEI!

The Officer opens his eyes. With his last ounce of strength--

POSSESSED OFFICER
 I'll see you soon Demon Killer...

Bart remains focused--

FATHER BART
 EXSÚRGAT DEUS ET DISSIPÉNTUR
 INIMÍCI EJUS!

One final agonizing SCREAM emits from the Police Officer. And then, silence. The Officer has gone limp.

Bart checks for a pulse. It's there. Bart nods, relieved.

Bart turns back toward Beelz.

FATHER BART (CONT'D)
 Let's get you home.

Beelz is scared. She stares into Bart's eyes.

BEELZ
 They possessed the entire police
 department Bart.

FATHER BART
 He's full of shit Beelz.

Bart walks to her and extends his hand. Beelz hesitates.

BEELZ
 What if he's telling the truth?

Antonio is still staring at the unconscious Police Officer.

ANTONIO
 (re: Officer)
 Is that man okay?

FATHER BART
 Probably. Won't know for sure until
 he wakes up.

Bart reaches for Beelz's hand. She pulls it away.

BEELZ
 If you don't leave now...

FATHER BART
The quicker we do this, the quicker
I can get out of town.

Beelz gives in. She takes Bart's hand. He helps her up.

Antonio is still locked onto the Police Officer.

ANTONIO
(sotto)
That was truly amazing...

As Bart helps Beelz out of the room--

FATHER BART
Come on kid.

CUT TO:

INT. SAN MIGUEL CHAPEL - A LITTLE LATER

Antonio places prayer candles on the floor at the base of the alter, creating a five foot wide circle formation.

Bart holds a stick of RAILROAD CHALK. He draws a circle around the candles. He adds religious symbols and shapes.

Beelz sits uncomfortably in the front pew. Bart and Antonio go to her. They help her up and lead her to the altar.

FATHER BART
(to Beelz)
Whatever you do, don't leave this
circle.

Beelz steps into the circle. Every little step painful.

BEELZ
(annoyed)
Do I have to stand?

FATHER BART
(smiling)
You can sit.

Beelz lowers herself into a comfortable position.

FATHER BART (CONT'D)
Antonio, I need you to bless about
a quart of holy water--

Father Bart pulls a JOURNAL from his duffle. He flips through and finds the page. He hands the journal to Antonio.

FATHER BART (CONT'D)
 --using this prayer. And then douse
 the walls.

Antonio nods and jumps into action. Bart appreciates the young priest's eagerness.

Bart grabs the thick stick of chalk. He walks to the front entrance of the church and draws an INFINITY KNOT on the door as big as possible.

Beelz watches him with concern.

BEELZ
 Bart...?

FATHER BART
 Just in case.
 (then)
 Keep that Ember handy.

Beelz tightens her grip around the glass bottle.

Antonio returns with a large PITCHER of water and a HOLY WATER SPRINKLER.

He dips the metal rod into the pitcher and flings the water around the church, dousing the walls.

Bart returns to the altar and pulls a hammer from his duffle.

He turns to a glass panel in the floor. A sign underneath the glass reads: FLOOR OF INDIAN DWELLING - 1300 AD

Bart smashes the glass. Antonio turns and marches toward him.

ANTONIO
 I never said you could break
 anything!

Bart reaches toward a dirt brick underneath the floorboards. He moves the brick revealing THREE GOLD CRUCIFIX'S. Each of them with a large white pearl at their center.

Antonio watches in stunned amazement.

ANTONIO (CONT'D)
 What are those?

FATHER BART
 Key Crucifixes. The only way to
 open a gate.

ANTONIO
How long have they been there?

FATHER BART
Long time.

Bart places one of the golden crucifix's in a holder at the altar. The holder is made out of SOLID COPPER.

Bart reaches in his duffle bag and pulls out a small box. It's labeled COPPER NAILS.

Bart goes to grab one. His fingers search. A look of worry covers his face. He looks inside. The box is empty.

Bart drops the box and frantically searches his duffle bag.

ANTONIO
What's wrong?

FATHER BART
I can't find the copper nails.

Bart continues to search. His panic rises. Antonio and Beelz watch him with concern. Finally, Bart accepts the truth.

FATHER BART (CONT'D)
Do you have any here?

ANTONIO
Do they need to be copper?

Bart has his answer.

FATHER BART
Is there a hardware store nearby?

ANTONIO
Further into town, yes.

BEELZ
You can't...

FATHER BART
I'll be quick.

BEELZ
The entire police department Bart!

FATHER BART
What do you suggest we do?!

BEELZ

You have to leave! They're going to drag you to hell with me!

FATHER BART

We're opening that gate.

Bart turns to Antonio.

FATHER BART (CONT'D)

Will you help me?

Antonio nods proudly.

ANTONIO

It would be my honor.

BEELZ

They're going to possess you two.

Bart reaches into his duffle bag. He pulls out a velvet sack and retrieves a silver necklaces with CHI RHO symbol pendant.

He hands it to Antonio.

FATHER BART

They can't possess you if you're wearing this.

ANTONIO

Please. Use it for yourself.

Father Bart takes off his white collar and loosens his shirt. He pulls out a silver chain. The same CHI RHO symbol pendant dangles from it.

Beelz's worry consumes her. She looks to her friend.

BEELZ

Bart, please don't die.

Bart winks at her as he takes his black button up off. Underneath, a simple white undershirt. The tattoos on his arms go all the up to his shoulders.

BEELZ (CONT'D)

(sarcastic)

They'll never recognize you now.

Bart rolls his eyes playfully and heads toward the main exit.

ANTONIO

Don't worry. I will keep him safe.

Antonio pulls at his collar and strips down to his undershirt as well. He quickly catches up to Bart.

Beelz watches them leave. *Her anxiety rises.*

CUT TO:

EXT. SANTA FE - A LITTLE LATER

The Capital City is bright and energetic.

TOWNSPEOPLE walk the sidewalks. They enjoy the warm sun.

Bart and Antonio cautiously make their way through the streets. They blend in seamlessly.

A police car turns down the street. Bart and Antonio hide their faces.

The car pulls along the side of the road and parks. TWO POLICE OFFICERS exit the vehicle.

FATHER BART

Shit...

Antonio grabs Bart and pulls him down a one-way back street.

They duck behind a dumpster and watch as the Officers walk past the alleyway.

ANTONIO

This way.

Antonio leads Bart further down the backstreet. Bart doesn't move

FATHER BART

Antonio, If you want to turn back...

ANTONIO

Like your friend, I fought to live in a better place and have a better life. It is my duty to help her.

Antonio continues forward. Bart is impressed.

CUT TO:

INT. SANTA FE - MOMENTS LATER

Antonio and Bart peek out from behind a row of buildings. They spot the HARDWARE STORE further down the street.

More TOWNSPEOPLE walk the streets. This area is crowded.

Sifting through the crowd are A DOZEN POLICE OFFICERS. They study each Townsperson, taking in every inch of their faces.

ANTONIO

We can do this. But we must maintain our focus.

FATHER BART

Let's enter this dragon. Lead the way Bruce Lee.

Antonio and Bart join a group of PEOPLE strolling down the sidewalk. Both priests inconspicuously keep their focus on the Police Officers searching the town.

A POLICE CAR cruises by. Antonio and Bart look away. *This feels like being inside a pressure cooker.*

ANTONIO

Stay the path.

Against his better judgment, Bart keeps moving forward.

Antonio and Bart reach an intersection. This intersection is like an open field compared to the safety of the sidewalks.

The priests are cautious but calm as they cross the street.

Antonio shifts his focus to the Cops standing on the other side of the street.

FATHER BART

Keep your head down.

Antonio looks to the ground without argument.

The Police Officers gesture toward Bart and Antonio.

Bart and Antonio make it past the intersection. The Hardware store is just up ahead. *They're going to make it.*

And then a Police Officer turns the corner. He's heading right toward the priests.

Bart's eyes dart from the hardware store entrance and back to the approaching Police Officer. *It's gonna be close.*

ANTONIO

We can make it.

The Police Officer is dangerously close. Bart fights against his panic. Finally, the priests reach the front entrance to the store and quickly slip inside.

INT. HARDWARE STORE - CONTINUOUS

The BELL over the door jingles as Antonio and Bart enter.

They duck behind a display showcasing new drills. They watch through the window as the Police Officer walks by.

A CASHIER in his mid 50's, heavy set, full beard, stands behind the counter.

CASHIER

Listen fellas, I don't want any trouble here.

FATHER BART

We just need to buy some nails and then we'll be on my way.

A moment of suspicion from the Cashier. He points--

CASHIER

Aisle two.

FATHER BART

Any of them copper?

CASHIER

A couple of em'.

Antonio and Bart make their way down the second aisle. They find a box of copper nails. Bart grabs them.

The BELL dings again.

Bart and Antonio peek over the aisle. They see a COP scanning the store. Bart and Antonio duck down and speak softly--

FATHER BART

Is there an exit in the back?

The Police Officer walks down the first aisle.

ANTONIO

(re: the nails)

We must pay for these first!

A moment of frustration from Bart. He scans the store again.

The top of the Police Officer's head moves to the end of aisle one. *He's about to turn down their lane.*

Bart and Antonio quickly move to the front of the store and escape the Possessed Police Officer.

The front of the store is clear. The Cashier gives Bart and Antonio a look but doesn't say a word.

Bart pulls a ten dollar bill from his wallet and places it on the counter. He holds up the nails.

FATHER BART

Keep the change.

The Cashier takes the bill as Bart and Antonio exit the store. The Cashier turns back toward the Police Officer. *Should I say something?*

EXT. SANTA FE - CONTINUOUS

Antonio and Bart walk briskly down the sidewalk. The closest Police Officers appear to be a block away.

It's smooth sailing from here on out.

And then, the Police Officer erupts from the hardware store--

POLICE OFFICER

Father Bartholomew!

Bart and Antonio lock eyes.

FATHER BART

Run!

The Priests take off. The Police Officer charges after them.

The other Officers see the commotion and join the chase.

Antonio leads Bart down an empty backstreet.

Bart looks back just as the GANG OF COPS enter the alleyway at full speed. They lock onto the priests, ready to destroy.

Antonio turns another corner and comes to an immediate halt.

In front of him stands another POSSESSED OFFICER. His gun aimed right at the young priest.

Antonio's eyes grow wide-- The Officer pulls the trigger--
And then, Bart TACKLES THE COP--

The gun fires into the air-- Bart tries to wrestle the weapon
away-- The Officer unhinges his jaw-- He sinks his jagged
teeth into Bart's shoulder-- Bart screams--

Antonio kicks the Officer in the head-- But the Officer's
teeth remain deep in Bart's flesh--

Antonio looks back-- The Cops are almost to them-- Antonio
grabs the collar of the Officer's uniform and yanks hard--

Bart is free-- He reels in pain--

The Possessed Officer spins around-- He grabs Antonio's neck--
He spots the silver necklace-- The Officer rips the necklace
off-- Antonio's eyes grow wide--

Bart gets to his feet, he sees the necklace in the Cop's
grip. The priests exchange a look. They know it's too late.

Antonio's eyes fill with evil. They're PITCH BLACK. The young
priest hisses at Bart.

With the box of copper nails firmly in his grip, Bart turns
and runs for his life.

The Gang of Cops reach Antonio and the other Officer. All of
them focus on Bart and chase after him.

INT. SANTA FE - MOMENTS LATER

Bart sprints up the street. He can see the San Miguel Chapel
up ahead. TOWNSPEOPLE lock onto Bart as he runs.

And then, a SCREAM. Bart looks to a TOWNSPERSON as their eyes
fill with DARKNESS. They have become POSSESSED.

More screams ring out as more TOWNSPEOPLE become possessed.

As Bart charges forward, every single person around him
becomes possessed one by one. They all chase after him.

Bart sprints up the sidewalk and finally reaches the San
Miguel Chapel.

Behind him, the ANGRY MOB doesn't let up. It looks as though
the entire city of Santa Fe is coming to kill him.

CUT TO:

INT. SAN MIGUEL CHAPEL - A LITTLE LATER

Bart hurries into the church and slams the doors shut.

Beelz stands. Her eyes barely have any color left.

BEELZ
Where's Antonio?

BOOM BOOM BOOM - Fists crash against the front entrance.

BEELZ (CONT'D)
(re: the pounding)
What is that?!

FATHER BART
We have to do this now.

Bart removes a copper nail from the box and sprints to the golden crucifix laying on his duffle bag.

Bart quickly nails the crucifixes into each wall.

BOOM BOOM BOOM BOOM - The pounding grows louder.

BEELZ
You can still save yourself.

Bart ignores her. He hurries to the middle of the church.

Beelz stands in the circle. She looks terrified.

BEELZ (CONT'D)
Bart, please...

Bart drops to his knees and prays.

Beelz watches as the three Gold Crucifixes affixed to the walls begin to glow.

KABOOOOM - The doors BURST OPEN and slam against the wall.

Beelz's eyes grow wide. Bart looks back. The gate to the Kingdom disappears.

Satan enters with his army of POSSESSED TOWNSPEOPLE. Antonio is at the front, eager to attack.

EXT. SAN MIGUEL CHAPEL - CONTINUOUS

Outside, THOUSANDS of POSSESSED PEOPLE surround the church and spill into the streets.

INT. SAN MIGUEL CHAPEL - CONTINUOUS

Bart sprints toward Beelz. She holds the bottle of Liquid Ember at the ready.

FATHER BART
Smash it!

BEELZ
Get in the circle!

Satan raises his hands forcing Bart to lift off the ground. Satan thrusts his hands to the side, sending Bart crashing into the wall. He falls to the ground, hard.

BEELZ (CONT'D)
Bart!

Bart picks himself back up. He sees Beelz step out of the chalk circle.

FATHER BART
Stay in there!

Beelz steps back in. She watches as Satan approaches Bart.

FATHER BART (CONT'D)
Smash it!

But Beelz knows what will happen to her friend.

BEELZ
I can't...

FATHER BART
SMASH IT NOW!

Satan studies Beelz. *He knows she won't hurt her friend.*

Satan smiles as he calmly approaches Bart.

Bart is exhausted. The blood from his shoulder soaks his white shirt. Scrapes line his face and arms.

Satan runs a single claw along Bart's cheek, slicing it open.

BEELZ
Leave him alone!

Beelz raises the bottle. Satan shifts his focuses to her.

SATAN
Careful with that, little girl.

BEELZ
I will destroy you.

SATAN
**I'll be gone before that bottle
touches the floor.**

Beelz shakes her head. Satan takes in her confidence.

BEELZ
You're not going anywhere...

Satan is unsure. He walks toward the main entrance. The Possessed people creating a path for him.

Now's his chance, Bart picks himself up and quickly joins Beelz in the chalk circle. They watch Satan closely.

Satan reaches the entrance and the doors instantly slam shut.

Satan sees the TRINITY KNOT symbol. His eyes go wide.

Satan waves his hands. The doors fly off their hinges.

Outside, the sea of Possessed stand at the ready. Satan remains focused on the entryway.

With the doors gone, the Trinity Knot Symbol floats in place. It's transparent and shimmers in the light.

Satan reaches forward. His hand hits the shimmering wall, unable to penetrate the energy.

SATAN
You locked me in.

Satan turns. He looks to Beelz. Sadness washes over him. His heart shatters. Beelz raises the bottle, ready to smash it.

SATAN (CONT'D)
After all I've done for you?

BEELZ
You only bring me pain.

Satan's face twists into rage.

SATAN
Don't make me destroy you!

Beelz shakes the bottle of Liquid Ember.

BEELZ
 You don't exactly have the upper
 hand.

SATAN
**I know you too well Beelzebub.
 You've never been a killer.**

BEELZ
 Don't push me.

Satan gestures to the hundreds of Possessed Townspeople surrounding him.

SATAN
**Is it worth destroying all of these
 innocent souls?**

A moment of hesitation from Beelz. Satan turns to Antonio.

SATAN (CONT'D)
Bring me that bottle.

Antonio charges.

FATHER BART
 Smash it!

Beelz hesitates.

BEELZ
 I...

Bart rips the bottle from her grasp. Antonio is too close. Bart locks eyes with the young priest. Guilt consumes him.

And then, Bart thrusts the bottle down toward the floor.

A hint of fear from Satan--

SATAN
 (whispering)
Protect me.

As the glass bottle smashes into the floor, the Possessed Townspeople throw themselves on top of Satan, protecting their evil master.

The LIQUID EMBER erupts from the shattered bottle like a fountain.

Bart drops the remaining glass in his hand. He turns and wraps his arms around Beelz.

They hold each other close while remaining inside the chalk circle. Around them, the church is engulfed by powerful, mystical energy. They shut their eyes and hold on tight.

The Liquid Ember spreads like a firework. Dazzling color capable of incredible devastation.

The Ember is unable to penetrate the chalk. Bart and Beelz stay huddled together inside the safety of the circle.

The Liquid Ember slams into Antonio. Bart watches as Antonio catches fire and is instantly reduced to bones.

Bart locks onto Antonio's skull. His heart breaks. *Not again.*

As the Ember fills the rest of the space, more of the Possessed Townspeople flood in from the main entrance and jump onto the enormous pile of bodies.

Even more Townspeople pour into the chapel from the open windows near the ceiling. They tumble to the floor. Some jump onto the pile. Others are instantly vaporized into skeletons.

Satan remains buried under the MOUNTAIN of POSSESSED BODIES.

The Ember hits the mound of bodies, it sizzles the skin of the possessed. They all scream out in agony.

More possessed continue the charge into the church, the powerful energy destroying each and every one of them as soon as they enter.

EXT. SAN MIGUEL CHAPEL - CONTINUOUS

The Liquid Ember spreads through the streets, engulfing every single Possessed Townspeople and reducing them to bone.

INT. SAN MIGUEL CHAPEL - CONTINUOUS

Finally, the Liquid Ember fades and dissipates until it dissolves into nothing.

Beelz and Bart let go of each other and open their eyes. They survey the devastation.

The walls are black and burnt to a crisp. The wooden pews have been reduced to ash. And there are piles of skeletons scattered everywhere around the church.

The mountain of bones at the front entrance reaches the ceiling. It looks like hell on Earth.

Bart jumps out of the circle.

BEELZ

Bart?

FATHER BART

Let's finish this.

Bart hurries to the center of the church and drops to his knees. He closes his eyes and prays. The whispered words rushing past his lips.

Beelz watches him. She shifts her focus to the piles of bone. She's devastated by the destruction.

Energy shoots out from the white pearls at the center of the Key Crucifixes affixed to the walls.

The beams of light intersect above Beelz's head.

Beelz watches as a white dot appears at the intersection point. It expands and swirls like a small galaxy.

This is the Gate to the Kingdom. THE RITUAL IS WORKING.

And then, Beelz shifts her focus back at Father Bart as he continues to pray.

Beelz takes in her friend one last time.

BEELZ

I'll miss ya Father Fart.

Beelz looks back at the white spiral spinning above her. She reaches for it. And then--

The mountain of skeletons EXPLODES sending bones every where.

Bart covers his head. Beelz ducks. The Gate disappears.

Satan stands at back of the church. Smoke rises from him. He's filled with blind rage.

FATHER BART

Oh fuck...

Bart jumps to his feet and runs toward the circle.

Satan extends his arm and curves his fingers as if he's holding something. A BLACK PITCHFORK forms in Satan's grip.

It's transparent and shimmers. It's made of pure dark energy.

Satan HEAVES the pitchfork forward. It's headed straight for Bart. Bart is so close to the chalk.

SHUNK - The mystical Pitch Fork impales Bart and drives him to the floor.

Bart tries to claw his way forward, but he's pinned to the ground. Beelz watches in horror. She takes a step.

Bart sees her. He roars--

FATHER BART (CONT'D)
Stay in the circle!

Beelz does as she's told, but it breaks her heart.

As Satan walks to Bart, TWO DARK WINGS erupt from his back. They're made from the same mystical dark energy.

The Dark Lord grips the pitchfork. He pushes it deeper into the priest. Bart screams in pain.

Satan studies the priest. A look of disgust and pity washes over his face.

SATAN
How could you leave me?

The Dark Lord shifts his focus to Beelz.

BEELZ
I was miserable with you.

Satan's anger rises. The walls shake--

SATAN
YOU RULED AN ENTIRE REALM!

BEELZ
But that's not what I wanted.

SATAN
What else is there?

BEELZ
The only thing I want, in all of existence, is to be free from you.

SATAN
I will destroy you before I let that happen.

BEELZ
Then do it. I don't care anymore.

Satan takes in Beelz's defeated face. *He believes her.*

Satan shifts his focus back to Bart.

SATAN

Fine. I'll destroy him instead.

Satan pushes the Pitch Fork deeper into Bart. Bart screams out in agony. He squirms, trying to fight his way out.

BEELZ

No!

SATAN

Will you come back with me?!

Satan pushes harder. Bart screams out again.

Beelz takes a step. Bart looks to Beelz. Every word that comes out of Bart's mouth is torture--

FATHER BART

DON'T LEAVE THAT FUCKING CIRCLE!

Beelz hesitates for only a second. And then, she gathers every ounce of her strength.

Her jaw and teeth extend. Claws extend from her fingers. Beelz ERUPTS from the circle and CHARGES Satan.

FATHER BART (CONT'D)

No!

Satan yanks the Pitch Fork out of Bart and aims it at Beelz.

Beelz lunges for Satan. Satan swings the Pitch Fork like a baseball bat. It connects with Beelz and sends her crashing into the wall. She falls to the ground in a heap.

Satan slowly approaches her.

SATAN

Look what you made me do.

Beelz's pain is immense. She tries to stand, but she's too weak. Beelz looks to Satan. Her worst nightmare coming true.

SATAN (CONT'D)

You will be punished for your disobedience.

Beelz lowers her head and accepts defeat.

And then, behind Satan, Bart rises to his feet. His chin held high. His arms extended out.

BEELZ

Just leave him alone! Please!

Satan is unsure. He turns and sees Bart standing with his eyes closed and arms extended.

Satan gestures toward Bart. But Bart stays in place. Satan gestures again, and again, nothing.

Satan doesn't understand. *Why can't I control this priest?*

And then, Bart's eyes open. THEY'RE PURE WHITE.

Satan raises his Pitch Fork and takes a step back.

Beelz is awestruck. She takes in Bart's glowing white eyes.

BEELZ (CONT'D)

Bart...?

Bart looks to her.

FATHER BART

Beelzebub. I've missed you.

Beelz instantly realizes.

BEELZ

Michael...?

ARCHANGEL MICHAEL has possessed Father Bart. Michael turns toward Satan. Eternal enemies ready for another battle.

Michael raises his head. White wings extend from his back. They're transparent and glowing.

Michael reaches for his waist. A glowing sword appears in his grip. He holds it up, ready to fight.

SATAN

Michael.

MICHAEL

Satan.

SATAN

I've waited millennia for this.

Satan leaps into the air. Michael charges him.

Michael swings his sword. Satan catches it. His hand burns.

Michael strikes Satan again, but Satan holds up the pitchfork, stopping Michael's blow.

Satan swings his weapon and connects with Michael. The Archangel goes flying into the pile of skeletons.

Michael is dazed. A skull falls into his lap. Michael looks up. His eyes fill with sorrow.

MICHAEL

What have you done?

SATAN

They forced my hand.

Michael is enraged. He lunges for Satan. Satan fights back.

Like two Eagles in an arial battle, the entities fly around the small church swinging their weapons.

Beelz watches from the safety of the chalk circle. She loses strength as she fights for possession of the body.

Michael swings harder. He's relentless. A true warrior, the Archangel doesn't understand defeat.

Satan knows he's out matched. He scans the chapel and targets the large REREDOS towering over Beelz.

Satan gestures for it and PULLS. The large Altar Screen falls toward the ground. It's going to crush Beelz.

Michael rockets to save her. He holds the Reredos up, preventing it from smashing into Beelz.

Now's his chance. Satan soars toward Michael and tackles the Angel from behind.

The epic foes crash into the ground. Satan lands on top. He uses his pitch fork to choke Michael.

Michael fights back, but Satan has the upper hand.

Beelz extends her claws. She fights through pain as she steps out of the circle.

Beelz walks right up to Satan. The Dark Lord continues choking the Archangel. He doesn't notice her.

Beelz pulls back and slashes at Satan, slicing his neck. Satan grabs his wound. This is all Michael needed.

With Satan distracted, the Archangel escapes and explodes into the air, high above his enemy.

Satan stares up at Michael. Michael's head tilted down, he stares right back. *Fear fills Satan's beautiful face.*

Michael rockets to the ground. The Archangel's foot connects with Satan's head and drives his entire body into the floor.

In this moment, they recreate the famous renaissance image of Saint Michael Defeating Satan.

Michael thrusts his sword into Satan's head. The Dark Lord screams. Every single pane of glass cracks.

Finally, Satan explodes into nothing. The energy erupts like a super nova from beneath Michael's feet.

And then, silence. Michael looks to Beelz with his glowing white eyes. Beelz looks back with her fading gray eyes.

He moves into the circle with her. Beelz relaxes as Michael cradles her. She's fading fast.

Michael prays. The remaining darkness in Beelz's eyes escapes through her tear ducts and trickles down her cheek.

After a moment, Beelz takes in a deep breath. She stares up at Michael with glowing white eyes.

MICHAEL

Hi old friend.

Beelz is beyond thankful. She's overcome with emotion.

BEELZ

Hi.

Michael helps Beelz to her feet. She's completely healed.

Michael shifts his focus to the piles of skeletons scattered around the church. A look of sadness washes over him.

And then, the Archangel raises his hands. He squeezes his eyes shut. Droplets of light fall from the ceiling. The golden rain drenches the bones.

The light from each skeleton becomes blinding. The light grows and engulfs the entire church in its brilliance.

As the light fades, it's revealed that the room is now packed with PEOPLE. All of them free from possession.

The UNPOSSESSED TOWNSPEOPLE take in their surroundings. They embrace one another.

Father Antonio checks himself for injuries. He sees Micheal. Antonio stares in amazement at his friend's glowing eyes.

ANTONIO

Father Bart? What happened to you?

Michael only smiles. Antonio studies him, unsure.

Michael turns and rejoins Beelz at the altar.

MICHAEL

Let's go home.

Relief washes over her.

Michael closes his eyes. The beams of light shoot out from each Key Crucifix.

The white dot appears. It swirls and expands until it's the size of a doorway. It is now large enough to pass through.

Michael and Beelz move forward. As they come in contact with the gate, their spiritual forms split away from their physical forms.

Bart and Mystery Woman drop to the floor.

After a moment, Bart jolts back to life. He swallows air. The Mystery Woman lies next to him still unconscious.

Bart crawls to her and checks her pulse. She's alive.

And then, Bart sees the Gate. SAINT MICHAEL and BEELZEBUB are in their true forms. Both angels beautifully androgynous.

Bart approaches the gate. He stops inches from the mystical, shimmering energy. He takes in Beelzebub's appearance.

Beelz smiles. Their eyes filled with appreciation. Bart takes a moment. This is bittersweet for him.

FATHER BART

Goodbye Beelz. I'm actually really going to miss having you around...

Beelz touches their ear. They can't hear him. Bart smiles and places a hand over his heart. He mouths--

FATHER BART (CONT'D)

Thank you.

Beelz smiles back. They hold up two fingers making a peace sign. Beelz brings their fingers to their mouth. Beelz flicks their tongue.

FATHER BART (CONT'D)
(laughing)
You're disgusting.

Beelz then places their hand over their heart. They smile with sincerity. And then, the gate closes and disappears.

Beelz and Michael are gone. Bart takes a moment for himself, silently letting his friend go.

ANTONIO
Father Bart? Are you hurt?

Bart looks down at himself. Blood soaks his shirt. He's covered in cuts and bruises. *He's clearly in pain.*

FATHER BART
I'll live. You?

ANTONIO
Thankfully I am unharmed.

Mystery Woman starts to groan. Antonio and Bart help her to her feet. She stares stunned at the scene in front of her.

And then, she locks onto Bart and instantly recognizes him.

MYSTERY WOMAN
Father Exorcism? What the fuck is going on?

Bart considers. He's unsure of what to say.

FATHER BART
This one's gonna be a little harder to explain.

Mystery Woman's confusion grows.

CUT TO BLACK.

FADE IN:

EXT. SKID ROW - MORNING

The sun is bright. The city is hot.

Father Bart opens the backdoors of a van. Cases of bottled water are stacked high.

The artist formerly known as Mystery Woman talks to a group of young VOLUNTEERS.

She has maintained her edge, but there's a tenderness to her that wasn't there before. She wears sunglasses.

FATHER BART
Hey Sophia?

SOPHIA sends the Volunteers on their way. She walks to Bart.

SOPHIA
We unloading all of these?

FATHER BART
(re: Volunteers)
I was going to have them do it.

SOPHIA
(playfully)
I think we can handle this.

Sophia reaches for a case. But then she stops.

SOPHIA (CONT'D)
Or, we could use all this crystal
clear aqua and have ourselves a wet
and wild car wash.
(then)
Me in a bikini. You in a banana
hammock.

Bart gives Sophia a look. She just smiles.

SOPHIA (CONT'D)
What do you say Father Fart?

Sophia lowers her sunglasses revealing glowing white eyes.
She has been possessed by Beelz.

FATHER BART
Beelz? What are you doing here?

BEELZ
I need your help... again.

Bart looks to her, unsure.

BEELZ (CONT'D)
What do you know about hauntings?

A look of concern fills Father Bart's face.

CUT TO BLACK.