

HANNIBAL
"Ko No Mono"

TEASER

SNOW

Uniform and unadulterated... until CAMERA finds a single line of HOOF PRINTS. But then, abruptly, something joins them --

SPOTS OF BLOOD

Glaring and stark against the whiteness. The prints continue and the drops of blood become SPLOTCHES.

EXT. WINTER WOODS - DAY

Through trees, black and vertical, a BLACK STAG charges in distress. Pursued by what we can't see. It REARS UP --

ON THE FOREST FLOOR

-- and its HOOVES slam down as MORE BLOOD SPATTERS the snow.

CLOSE ON THE STAG'S EYE

Wide, addled, rolling in its socket. Then:

WIDE AGAIN

The creature BELLOWS one last time and COLLAPSES to the forest floor with a resounding FWUMMP. All is still, until --

PUSH IN ON AN ANTLER POINT

As it PIERCES the motionless stag's gut, FROM INSIDE. MORE ANTLER POINTS CUT THROUGH and then HUMAN HANDS APPEAR, pulling at the flesh...

WIDE SHOT

A man tears from its belly, out onto the soiled snow. AN ANTLERED WILL GRAHAM -- THE WILDIGO, naked and slick in a visceral sheen. The stag that birthed him, gone. Vanished.

The Wildigo lies alone, eyes closed, unmoving. Then his mouth snaps open to DRAW A HUGE GASPING BREATH.

HARD CUT TO:

INT. WILL GRAHAM'S HOUSE - BEDROOM - DAY

Will twists in the throes of his fevered dream. An O.S. KNOCKING competes with his pathetic moan. Will finally awakens, disoriented. The KNOCKING comes again.

CUT TO:

INT./EXT. WILL GRAHAM'S HOUSE - DAY

Will in T-shirt and sweats as he opens the front door.

ALANA BLOOM

Is on the stoop with APPLESAUCE. Will's DOGS mill around them, saying hello. Will watches as she bends to pet them.

WILL GRAHAM

Do we do friendly visits anymore?

ALANA BLOOM

This isn't a friendly visit.

WILL GRAHAM

What kind of visit is it?

ALANA BLOOM

I guess I'm trying to convince myself of something. Or maybe I'm trying to convince you.

Alana is pensive, thoughtful, struggling with confrontation.

ALANA BLOOM (CONT'D)

(then)

Or maybe I don't know why I'm here.

WILL GRAHAM

I know why. You're worried I killed Freddie Lounds.

The statement is matter-of-fact and sits there between them.

ALANA BLOOM

Did you?

WILL GRAHAM

What do you think?

ALANA BLOOM

I think that's the wrong answer to tell somebody who is already wondering what you're capable of.

WILL GRAHAM
Been wondering that for a while.

ALANA BLOOM
I know you're lying to me. You've slipped into some kind of skin and I think it fits a little too well.

WILL GRAHAM
I told everyone Hannibal was a killer and no one believed me. Just like no one would believe you if you said I was a killer.

Will's tone chills Alana. But she's brave and persistent.

ALANA BLOOM
I'm afraid, Will. But not of you. I'm afraid for you. I don't think Hannibal is good for you. I think your relationship is destructive.

WILL GRAHAM
Hannibal's good enough for you.

Alana reacts to that, stung. Will tries to soften his remark.

WILL GRAHAM (CONT'D)
You should be afraid. You're right to be afraid.
(then)
I have something for you.

Will quietly goes inside and returns, brandishing A HANDGUN.

WILL GRAHAM (CONT'D)
Whoever you're afraid of... don't be afraid to use it.

Alana reacts in fear, then Will SPINS the gun on its TRIGGER GUARD and offers it to her. He holds her gaze. Alana takes the gun. And her certainty about him wavers. She sees the old Will for a second.

WILL GRAHAM (CONT'D)
Takes 9mm rounds. Buy a box and find a range. Practice.

And he goes back inside. The door swinging closed behind him, leaving Alana alone in the cold.

ON WILL GRAHAM

As the FLICKERING LIGHT of an APPROACHING FLAME illuminates his face, CAMERA PULLS BACK to reveal we are now --

INT. HANNIBAL LECTER'S HOUSE - DINING ROOM - NIGHT

CLOSE ON A FLAMING COCOTTE, the fire flickering wildly. CAMERA PULLS BACK to reveal HANNIBAL placing it on the table in front of Will. As the flames die down, we reveal TWO THUMB-SIZED BIRDS sizzling in their own fat and flesh.

HANNIBAL

Among gourmands, the ortolan bunting is considered a rare-but-debauched delicacy. A rite of passage, if you will.

Each of the birds resembles an oval of butter with wings, feet and head still attached.

HANNIBAL (CONT'D)

Preparation calls for the songbird to be drowned alive in Armagnac. It is then roasted and consumed whole in a single mouthful.

WILL GRAHAM

Ortolans are endangered.

HANNIBAL

Who amongst us is not?

WILL GRAHAM

I haven't been gorged, drowned, plucked and roasted. Not yet.

HANNIBAL

Traditionally, during this meal, we're to place shrouds over our heads, hiding our faces from God.

Hannibal picks up one of the birds by its head.

HANNIBAL (CONT'D)

I don't hide from God.

Will picks up his own bird. Raises it in a toast.

WILL GRAHAM

Bones and all?

HANNIBAL

Bones and all.

Following Hannibal's lead, Will places the bird in his mouth.

As the flavor fills his mouth, Will nods in appreciation. It's clearly delicious, despite the CRUNCHING of tiny bones.

Never taking his eyes off of Will, Hannibal draws in the bird's head and beak, blithely crushing them between his molars before continuing.

HANNIBAL (CONT'D)

After my first ortolan, I was euphoric. A stimulating reminder of our power over life and death.

WILL GRAHAM

I was euphoric when I killed Freddie Lounds.

HANNIBAL

Tell me, Will, did your heart race when you murdered her?

WILL GRAHAM

No. It didn't.

HANNIBAL

A low heart rate is a true indicator of one's capacity for violence. One might say you are genetically predisposed to it.

WILL GRAHAM

This is my design?

HANNIBAL

Your design is evolving. Your choices affect the physical structures of your brain.

WILL GRAHAM

Killing's changed the way I think.

HANNIBAL

You must understand that blood and breath are only elements undergoing change to fuel your radiance. Just as the source of light is burning.

OFF Will taking this in --

CUT TO:

INT. OFFICE BUILDING - PARKING GARAGE - NIGHT

A uniformed GARAGE ATTENDANT sits in his Plexiglas booth, highlighting a textbook. He lifts his head, listening. He steps from his booth and then we hear A SOUND:

EEK. EEK. EEK.

The shape of the underground car park and the conducting power of the cement walls, the sound travels around him.

EEK. EEK. EEK.

The sound grows louder and the attendant pirouettes, trying to pinpoint the source. He stops, eyes on the ramp leading down from the street exit and --

A YELLOW LIGHT

Descending the ramp. A light that fast reveals itself to be a BALL OF FLAMES. A BURNING WHEELCHAIR --

WITH A BODY STRAPPED INTO IT.

Wheels EEK-EEKING faster and faster as it hurtles down, trailing smoke and sparks, the flames blown back like wings.

THE ATTENDANT

Leaps aside as the flaming wheelchair and its occupant ROARS by him and past CAMERA. An O.S. CRASH, and the attendant grabs the booth's FIRE EXTINGUISHER and leaves FRAME toward the fire. BLACK SMOKE roils by as --

CAMERA CONTINUES MOVING

The opposite direction... past the attendant's booth to arrive at a RESERVED PARKING SPACE. Vacant now, painted white against the oil-stained cement floor -- a name:

F. LOUNDS.

CUT TO BLACK.

END OF TEASER

ACT ONE

CLOSE ON A DEATH GRIN

All teeth, starkly white in the chiaroscuro of blackened, scorched skin. With lips shriveled back, it's almost as though this death mask is grinning at us.

BRIAN ZELLER (O.S.)
Orthodontics confirmed. It's
Freddie Lounds.

We're --

INT. BAU - MORGUE - NIGHT

The slab bears the burned body of an adult woman. Hair crisp like black hawthorn. Skin charred and cracked open. JIMMY PRICE and BRIAN ZELLER attend to the body. Will, Hannibal and JACK CRAWFORD are there as well.

BRIAN ZELLER (CONT'D)
A little kerosene and *fwoomp*.
Incendiary journalism. If she were
burned alive, blood would have
boiled out of her mouth.

JIMMY PRICE
No scabrous crust on her chin.
Dead before the match was struck.

BRIAN ZELLER
Blood already pooled to the lowest
points of her body. She'd been
dead at least twenty-four hours.

JACK CRAWFORD
Freddie Lounds's ultimate failing
was her inability to keep herself
out of her own stories.

WILL GRAHAM
Freddie had the longing need to be
noticed. She was noticed.

Hannibal then leans close to inspect her corpse.

HANNIBAL
Severely-burned bodies tend to
split along lines of musculature --

He points to a JAGGED OPENING along the corpse's back.

HANNIBAL (CONT'D)
-- but this looks like an incision.

BRIAN ZELLER

Cut out her psoas muscles. Looks like he used a hunting knife.

HANNIBAL

A peculiar trophy.

Hannibal glances innocently at Will who averts his eyes.

JACK CRAWFORD

Why did he burn her?

BRIAN ZELLER

How many people has Freddie Lounds burned in her career?

HANNIBAL

Whoever did this was not striking out against Miss Lounds's exploitative brand of journalism.

(then)

This is something else. This is something sacred.

Will considers the charred corpse in front of him, then:

WILL GRAHAM

Freddie Lounds had to burn. She was fuel. Fire destroys, creates. It's mythical. She won't rise from the ashes, but her killer will.

HANNIBAL

He's the one to be noticed now.

OFF Jack Crawford studying Will and Hannibal...

CUT TO:

EXTREME CLOSE-UP ON A ROUGH WHITE SURFACE

Filling the FRAME. Then slowly, the white surface CHANGES like litmus paper. Color spreads like Cabernet on a linen napkin -- except it's BLUE. And the color forms a symbol:

A "+" SIGN. We are --

INT. VERGER ESTATE HOUSE - MARGOT'S BATHROOM - DAY

And the EXTREME CLOSE-UP of the "+" of a pregnancy test. The test wand droops in FRAME so that the positive result icon looks like an "X" and that image...

DISSOLVES TO:

MARGOT VERGER'S unblinking gaze, but, for a few seconds, the two images OVERLAP... putting an "X" between her eyes.

CUT TO:

MARGOT VERGER

Center punched in FRAME. We are --

INT. HANNIBAL LECTER'S OFFICE - DAY

Margot sits opposite Hannibal.

MARGOT VERGER

There's no baby. Isn't even an embryo yet. I've got hormones in my pee. That's the extent of it. But here I am, feeling maternal.

HANNIBAL

We're discussing a small group of cells. Barely life, but immediately seen to be life-changing.

MARGOT VERGER

I feel like everything that was done to me can almost be undone.

HANNIBAL

Through children we can disrupt our own sense of the past. We can protect them in ways we weren't.

MARGOT VERGER

Life eventually bounces back.

HANNIBAL

You can reclaim yours, Margot.

(then)

But your capacity to care about this child will incur a cost to yourself. How much will you give?

MARGOT VERGER

I could be good to a child. I'll go to parenting classes.

HANNIBAL

You've conspired with your unborn child to liberate yourself. You've made Will an unknowing accomplice.

MARGOT VERGER

I got what I wanted from Will, but I
didn't understand what I was taking
until the strip turned blue.

She turns and CAMERA reveals Will Graham has been in the room
the entire time, somewhat shell-shocked.

MARGOT VERGER (CONT'D)
I'm not proud of myself.

WILL GRAHAM
Nor should you be. You said--

MARGOT VERGER
(cutting him off)
I lied.

WILL GRAHAM
(to Hannibal)
Did you know?

HANNIBAL
I was aware of Margot's goal of
having a child. I was not aware
you were the means to achieving it.

WILL GRAHAM
(to Margot)
What do you want from me?

MARGOT VERGER
Little or nothing or as much as
you'd like to give.

WILL GRAHAM
As much as I'd like to give?

MARGOT VERGER
Always thought men were an optional
extra in childrearing, but I'm not
opposed to a male influence.
(then)
As long as it's not my brother.
He's not good with children.

OFF Will appraising Margot --

CUT TO:

INT. MUSKRAT FARM - STABLES - DAY

MASON VERGER watches as an ADULT GUARDIAN guides A HANDFUL OF
YOUNG CHILDREN past the Verger HORSES and through the
stables, each one wearing FLORAL WINNERS' WREATHS.

Mason glances down and sees one straggler, a boy, FRANKLIN (6), staring at him. Mason smiles, charmed and charming.

MASON VERGER
What's your name?

FRANKLIN
Franklin.

Mason pulls an APPLE from his coat pocket and hands it to Franklin. The boy looks uncertain. Mason nods to the horse. Franklin lets the animal eat from his palm. He smiles.

MASON VERGER
Where do you stay, Franklin?

FRANKLIN
With Mama and Shirley.

MASON VERGER
Mama's not your real mama, is she?

FRANKLIN
She's my foster.

MASON VERGER
She's not the first foster you've had, is she, Franklin?

FRANKLIN
No.

MASON VERGER
Do you love Mama and Shirley?

FRANKLIN
And Kitty Cat.

Franklin nods. Mason kneels beside him and shakes his head.

MASON VERGER
Franklin, you can't live there anymore with Mama and Shirley and Kitty Cat. You have to go away.

FRANKLIN
Who says?

MASON VERGER
The government says. Mama lost her job and her approval as a foster home. You can't see her anymore after this week. Can't see Kitty Cat after this week, either.

FRANKLIN

No.

MASON VERGER

Or maybe they just don't want you
anymore, Franklin. Is there
something wrong with you?

Franklin nervously picks at the tail of his shirt, trying to
hide the TEARS hanging in his eyes. He shakes his head no.

MASON VERGER (CONT'D)

Do you know what will happen to
Kitty Cat? The policemen will take
Kitty Cat to the pound and a doctor
there will give her a shot. She'll
be so scared when she sees the
needle. They'll stick it in and
Kitty Cat will hurt and die.

Tears brim in Franklin's eyes despite Mason's cheerful tone.

MASON VERGER (CONT'D)

You can save Kitty Cat from getting
the shot if you give Kitty Cat some
rat poison yourself.

Tears STREAM down Franklin's face now. Mason smiles.

MASON VERGER (CONT'D)

Aw, here now.

Mason removes a sterile swatch from what appears to be a
vintage cigarette case and dabs at Franklin's tears.

EXTREME CLOSE ON THE STERILE SWAB

It SWELLS with tears.

ON MASON AND FRANKLIN

Mason carefully places the tear-soaked swab back in the case
and fishes a foil-wrapped chocolate from his pocket. He
tosses it to Franklin, who catches and holds it.

MASON VERGER (CONT'D)

Have some chocolate.

ON THE STERILE SWAB

It's dropped into a martini and stirred.

CUT TO BLACK.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

INT. HANNIBAL LECTER'S OFFICE - DAY

Hannibal watches as Mason casually paces his office, anxiety feigning as interest in the decor.

MASON VERGER

You have a beautiful things, doctor. I grew up with huge wealth, but my father was self-made from rough stock. He was a hard man, proud of his rise, so he bought things that rich people buy, ugly things. When he died, I threw it all away. He had no eye for the exquisite. But you do.

Hannibal watches Mason pace, finally settling into his chair.

MASON VERGER (CONT'D)

I want to tell you about camp. It was a wonderful childhood experience that I've come back to. My father would pay for the whole thing, every summer, all 125 campers on Lake Michigan.

HANNIBAL

Your father was a generous man.

MASON VERGER

I continue his charitable work today. Most of these campers are unfortunates and they will do anything for a candy bar.

The bait dangles a moment, but Hannibal doesn't take it. He studies Mason inscrutably until he continues:

MASON VERGER (CONT'D)

Maybe I took advantage, maybe I was rough with them if they wouldn't take the chocolate and do what I said. I'm not holding anything back. It's all okay now. I got a walk on all the charges.

HANNIBAL

Your penance?

MASON VERGER

I did five hundred hours of
community service, worked at the
dog pound and received court-
ordered therapy.

HANNIBAL

Was therapy helpful?

MASON VERGER

I got the doctor involved in
something unethical so he'd cut me
some slack.

HANNIBAL

That's not helpful.

MASON VERGER

I was aware at a very early age of
my willingness to inflict damage on
those around me. Papa called it
"altruistic punishment."

HANNIBAL

More commonly referred to as
"spite."

MASON VERGER

Papa was a prodigy in the field of
meat. But his real genius was for
human nature. He could look at a
man and see his weakness.

HANNIBAL

Could he see yours?

MASON VERGER

He saw my sister's.

HANNIBAL

Yet he shaped Margot as clearly and
certainly as he shaped you.

(then)

Your father is dead. A boy's
illusions are no basis for a man's
life, Mason. Margot is the only
family you have left.

MASON VERGER

My sister loves me, Dr. Lecter.
She has to -- or she's destitute.

HANNIBAL

Vergers are noted expansionists.

MASON VERGER
I am the sole Verger heir.

HANNIBAL
Unless biology provides another.

OFF Mason sensing an insinuation in what Hannibal offers...

CUT TO:

CAMERA MOVES DOWN THROUGH SKELETAL TREES

Black and stark in winter. A snow-shrouded cemetery.

EXT. CEMETERY - GRAVESITE - DAY

The freshly-dug GRAVE and its MOUND OF EARTH are dark against the surrounding snow.

CLOSE -- a WREATH commemorates Freddie Lounds, sat atop a COFFIN at the graveside.

An intimate group of MOURNERS are seated under a canopy -- family and colleagues. They face the PRIEST who presides over Freddie's inhumation.

PRIEST

Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies. Thou anointest my head with oil, my cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

ALANA BLOOM

She is watching the intimate group of mourners. But more interested in the cemetery beyond.

She waits. At last, she sees what it is she's searching for:

WILL GRAHAM

He's mostly obscured by a tree a dozen yards away. He notices Alana's gaze and approaches her.

WILL GRAHAM
Funeral was long at the chapel and it's long at the graveside.

ALANA BLOOM
I'm here to mourn Freddie Lounds.
Can't imagine it's why you're here.

WILL GRAHAM

All sorts of reasons why I would go to Freddie Lounds's funeral. All sorts of reasons why you would go.

ALANA BLOOM

Which reason are you here for?

WILL GRAHAM

It's common for a killer to revisit their victims after death. Attend funerals, return to crime scenes.

Alana eyes Will, not amused.

ALANA BLOOM

Anyone suspicious?

WILL GRAHAM

Besides me?

ALANA BLOOM

That was implied.

WILL GRAHAM

You were expecting me.

ALANA BLOOM

It's common for a killer to revisit their victims after death.

WILL GRAHAM

I'm not here to dance on Freddie Lounds's grave, if that's what you're getting at.

ALANA BLOOM

Not here looking for her killer, either. Don't seem particularly interested in the crowd.

WILL GRAHAM

Are you profiling me, Dr. Bloom?

ALANA BLOOM

A psychological profile is nothing more than statistical probability. You here makes it that much more probable you're Freddie's killer.

Despite her doggedness in pressing Will, Alana looks away. By the same token, it pains Will to maintain his cover with the person who cares for him the most.

WILL GRAHAM

I'm here because my psychiatrist
suggested it would be therapeutic.

As one, the mourners start away from the gravesite and Alana
starts after them. She continues away in the cold.

OFF Will, alone --

CUT TO:

INT. HANNIBAL LECTER'S OFFICE - NIGHT

Will observes the amber light trapped in a tumbler of Scotch.

WILL GRAHAM

I've been so preoccupied with
taking a life, I'm having trouble
wrapping my head around making one.

HANNIBAL

When men become fathers, they
undergo biochemical changes that
affect the way they think.

WILL GRAHAM

You said the same thing happens
when men become killers.

HANNIBAL

Fatherhood is not always a
nurturing role. Fathers can be
killers. In protecting a child,
things trapped inside a man for
years fly free, ready to explode in
pain. And dangerous behavior.
(then)

What sort of father would you be?

Will reflects on that, imagining a different life.

WILL GRAHAM

I would be a good father.

Hannibal smiles warmly. He imagines Will would.

HANNIBAL

Do you see a life flashing before
your eyes that's not your own?

WILL GRAHAM

Yes.

HANNIBAL

How quickly we form attachments to something that does not yet exist.

WILL GRAHAM

I'm not attached. I'm only anticipating attachment.

HANNIBAL

We have a deep-seated need to interact with our children. It helps us discover who we are.

WILL GRAHAM

Have you ever been a father?

HANNIBAL

I was to my sister. She wasn't my child, but she was my charge.

(then)

Abigail reminded me so much of her.

That derails Will's train of thought, almost sobering.

WILL GRAHAM

Then why did you kill her?

HANNIBAL

What happened to Abigail had to happen. There was no other way.

WILL GRAHAM

There was. But there isn't now.

HANNIBAL

Would you protect this child the way you couldn't protect Abigail?

Will studies Hannibal, then:

WILL GRAHAM

I still dream about Abigail. I dream I'm teaching her how to fish.

HANNIBAL

I'm sorry I took that from you. I wish I could give it back.

WILL GRAHAM

So do I.

HANNIBAL

Occasionally, on purpose, I drop a teacup to shatter on the floor.

(MORE)

HANNIBAL (CONT'D)

I'm not satisfied when it doesn't gather itself up again. Someday perhaps a cup will come together.

OFF Will considering Hannibal's words --

CUT TO:

EXT. CEMETERY - NIGHT

ON ROWS OF HEADSTONES

Reflecting bone white in the moonlight. Time-lapse TRACKING across them shows their eerie shadows GROW IN LENGTH before GRADUALLY DISAPPEARING as the world opens a new day.

THE SUN

Fills FRAME, cresting horizon, a hot, shimmering ball.

CAMERA TILTS UP to find --

A figure looming, silhouetted in the morning rays, the definition of its outline inexplicable until CAMERA ROTATES AROUND to its sunlit front, a ghoulish representation of --

SHIVA

In multi-armed splendor, the god of the Hindu pantheon. FOUR ARMS fan out on each side of the torso -- eight arms in total. The composite deity made whole via composite body parts strapped to pose in a state of *après-mort* meditation.

THE HEAD

Appears much larger than a normal human skull -- a result of THREE HEADS being strapped together to create a singular monstrosity. The center head faces forward as the ones flanking it point in opposite directions.

A THIRD EYE

Leers sightless from a HOLE gouged into the forehead of the center head.

As the sun continues rising, its light reveals the impromptu Shiva's many additions and accoutrements adorn and emanate from a SINGLE BODY at its core --

The charred corpse of the late-but-not-so-lamented...

FREDDIE LOUNDS.

CUT TO BLACK.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

EXT. CEMETERY - FREDDIE LOUNDS'S GRAVESITE - DAY

BRIAN ZELLER

Moves to reveal the RICTUS GRIN of Freddie's corpse. He and Jimmy Price are processing the grotesque Shiva.

Will Graham watches them silently.

BRIAN ZELLER
Extra parts were harvested on-site.

JIMMY PRICE
Just one night in the ground. That beats Jesus by forty-eight hours.

BRIAN ZELLER
Never thought Freddie would make it to heaven, much less get deified.

ALANA BLOOM

Is walking toward the gravesite with Jack Crawford.

ALANA'S POV -- Will Graham standing before the Shiva.

Jimmy and Brian see Jack and Alana and nod greetings. Will is impassive. Alana holds his gaze. Neither looks away. Then Alana's eyes are drawn back to the Shiva.

JACK CRAWFORD
This killer is trying to get somebody's attention.

ALANA BLOOM
I don't think he wants to be found. He has direction. His chaos is getting more orderly.

JACK CRAWFORD
First he burns effigies, then he assembles them.

ALANA BLOOM
Burning Freddie Lounds wasn't his first effigy.
(off Jack's look)
Whoever killed Freddie killed Randall Tier. Mutilated him, dismembered him, put him on display.

JACK CRAWFORD
What connection do Freddie Lounds
and Randall Tier have?

ALANA BLOOM
Will Graham. Randall Tier was his
suspect and Hannibal's patient.

Will reacts to this and crosses to Jack and Alana.

ALANA BLOOM (CONT'D)
Freddie was investigating his
murder when she died.

WILL GRAHAM
Freddie was investigating a lot of
things when she died.

ALANA BLOOM
This is a psychopath who has
incubated fantasies of killing and
is translating them into action.
(then)
He's building himself up. Or
somebody's building him up.

WILL GRAHAM
He could have a benefactor who
admires his destruction.
(off her look)
Hindus believe that destruction
leads to new life. Shiva is
destroyer and benefactor.

ALANA BLOOM
He's being guided.

JACK CRAWFORD
(re: Shiva Freddie)
This is a signpost?

ALANA BLOOM
Maybe Freddie's killer didn't do
this. Maybe his benefactor did.

JACK CRAWFORD
Why?

ON ALANA dawning realization.

ALANA BLOOM
It's a courtship.

Alana watches Will intently now, determined.

CUT TO:

CLOSE ON A PATCH OF HAIR

Short and chestnut brown, its color darkens as a stream of water dampens it. We are --

INT. MUSKRAT FARM - STABLES - DAY

PULL BACK to reveal Margot giving her horse a bath. As she works her prize horse's coat into a lather, CAMERA catches a REFLECTION in the HORSE'S EYE -- of a man approaching Margot from behind. The horse SNORTS. Margot turns to --

MASON VERGER

Closing rapidly.

MASON VERGER
Good morning.

He kisses his sister on the cheek.

MASON VERGER (CONT'D)
Riding agrees with you. Puts color
in your cheeks. You have a bloom.

MARGOT VERGER
It's chilly.

MASON VERGER
You're frequently chilly, Margot.

MARGOT VERGER
Time to talk about what Mason wants?

MASON VERGER
I want to talk about the future.
(then)
I was lying in bed, composing in my
mind like the deaf Beethoven, and
it occurred to me, for a family who
owns breeding stock worldwide, we
are not doing much of it ourselves.

MARGOT VERGER
Breeding?

MASON VERGER
I'm concerned about the next
generation of Vergers. Aren't you?

MARGOT VERGER
I'm trying to survive this
generation.

MASON VERGER
Meat is, at base, a people business.
Nobody understood that better than
Papa. Except now for me, of course.
(then)
Papa would pull me out of school
for weeks at a time while he
conducted my real education in the
stockyards and slaughterhouses.

MARGOT VERGER
What a wealth of information and
resources you have in your skull.

MASON VERGER
Indeed. I need to share that
wealth with a little Verger.

MARGOT VERGER
"A little Verger."

MASON VERGER
Don't you want an heir, Margot? I
want a Verger baby. My own baby.
I've got viable sperm. I think I
would have a son. It'd be your
heir, too, Auntie Margot.

Margot remains silent. He places a hand on her shoulder.

MASON VERGER (CONT'D)
Maybe a child is what we need to
bring us together.

MARGOT VERGER
Maybe it is.

He smiles at the corners of his mouth, studying his sister.

MASON VERGER
I said it before, you've got a
bloom, Margot. Rosy. Positively
radiant. What's your secret?

OFF Margot realizing Mason is on to her plan...

CUT TO:

INT. HANNIBAL LECTER'S OFFICE - DAY

Will sits with Hannibal.

HANNIBAL
Every creative act has its
destructive consequence.

Will considers that and is compelled to ask:

WILL GRAHAM
What you did to me, what you did to
Abigail, was that a creative act or
destructive consequence?

HANNIBAL
The Hindu god Shiva is simultaneous
destroyer and creator. Who you
were yesterday is laid waste to
give rise to who you are today.

WILL GRAHAM
Rise and rise again and again,
until the lambs have become lions.

HANNIBAL
Yes.

Will studies Hannibal a moment, then:

WILL GRAHAM
How much reality has had to be
slandered? How many lies have had
to be sanctified? How many
consciences devastated?

HANNIBAL
As many as were necessary.

WILL GRAHAM
You sacrificed Abigail. You cared
about her as much as I did.

HANNIBAL
More.
(then)
But then, how much has God
sacrificed?

WILL GRAHAM
What god do you pray to?

Hannibal regards Will as though the answer is obvious.

HANNIBAL
I don't pray.
(then)
(MORE)

HANNIBAL (CONT'D)

I have not been bothered by any considerations of deity, other than to recognize how my own modest actions pale beside those of God.

WILL GRAHAM

I prayed I would see Abigail again.

HANNIBAL

Your prayer did not go entirely unanswered. You saw part of her.

(then)

Should the universe contract, should time reverse and teacups come together, a place could be made for Abigail in your world.

WILL GRAHAM

What place is that?

HANNIBAL

You've lost a child, Will. It seems you're likely to gain one.

From behind Hannibal, the WENDIGO RISES UP IN SILHOUETTE.

HANNIBAL (CONT'D)

God is beyond measure in wanton malice and matchless in His irony.

But the Wendigo itself has TRANSFORMED as it raises its arms revealing, Shiva-like, FOUR ARMS per side -- A FAN OF EIGHT.

OFF Will entranced not by Hannibal, but the thing behind him.

CUT TO BLACK.

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

INT. HANNIBAL LECTER'S OFFICE - DAY

Hannibal faces Mason who grasps his armrests tight.

MASON VERGER

I remember walking the swine fairs with my father, looking over the competition. Papa's little silver knife ever ready to slip out of his waistcoat and into a pig's back to check the depth of fat.

HANNIBAL

Your education was an odd one.

MASON VERGER

Oh, those were some good, funny times. Papa would stick 4-H show pigs who thought everyone was their friend, scrubbed in milk and baby powder. Such coddled things.

HANNIBAL

Part of a show pig's consideration is its happiness.

MASON VERGER

If we were truly considerate of a pig's happiness, we wouldn't eat them.

HANNIBAL

What about Margot's happiness?

MASON VERGER

Papa taught me how to stick the knife in only as deep as necessary to test the thickness of her skin.

HANNIBAL

You miscalculated, struck a nerve.

MASON VERGER

Margot would love to stick a knife in me, but it wouldn't be to test the thickness of my skin.

HANNIBAL

She tried to kill you once already.

MASON VERGER

"To a male heir confirmed as my
descendent..." It's a very clever
loophole Margot's found in Papa's
will. Clearly, he didn't take into
account how resourceful she is.

HANNIBAL

Neither did you.

MASON VERGER

I can be very resourceful, too.
(then)
If she's not pregnant, she will be.
Margot's very tenacious that way.

HANNIBAL

The child would be a Verger. You
would have an heir to carry on the
family name, to carry on your name.

MASON VERGER

I'd have an heir, only if I die.

CUT TO:

CLOSE ON A WINE BOTTLE

It pours.

CLOSE ON A WINEGLASS

The wine splashes inside, filling the glass. We are --

INT. HANNIBAL LECTER'S OFFICE - DAY

Alana is at a loss and Hannibal holds her white wine out to her. ALANA'S POV -- via the ICE WINE'S REFRACTION she sees Hannibal's face DISTORTED slightly -- BENT at the edges.

HANNIBAL

Eiswein. Produced in Niagara
Falls. The grapes are left on the
vine until nearly winter, a slight
freeze before harvest. Its nectar
is fresh, sweet and pure,
unaffected by the noble rot that
attacks other grapes.

ALANA BLOOM

I've had enough of the rot, noble
or otherwise.

Hannibal enjoys his wine. Alana doesn't raise her glass.

HANNIBAL

One can only see what one observes,
and one observes only things which
are already on the mind.

(then)

What's on your mind?

ALANA BLOOM

What I keep seeing are pictures of
Freddie Lounds. They flash in
sudden color, too much color.

HANNIBAL

The color that leaps out of black
when lightning strikes the night?

ALANA BLOOM

Yes.

(then)

I'm feeling pressure to believe
something that I don't trust and
that pressure's making me paranoid.

HANNIBAL

Who is pressuring you?

ALANA BLOOM

Will.

Hannibal reacts, disappointed at the mention of Will's name.

HANNIBAL

We'll never really be alone, will
we? He'll always be in the room.

Alana reads Hannibal, then:

ALANA BLOOM

Do you feel like you're helping
him? Making progress?

HANNIBAL

Will's finally finding himself.
He's getting better.

Alana wishes she could believe Hannibal in this moment, but
is beginning to realize maybe she can't.

ALANA BLOOM

Doesn't seem to be getting better.
Seems to be getting much worse.

HANNIBAL

(good-natured)

Are you questioning my therapy?

ALANA BLOOM

I'm questioning everything. It's all blurry and subjective. I feel empty. Like I've given blood.

HANNIBAL

You've given more than blood.

He pulls her close to him and she touches his cheek. He takes her hand in his and kisses it sensually.

CLOSE ON ALANA'S FINGERS

Hannibal's lips enter FRAME, gently kissing them.

CLOSE ON HANNIBAL'S NOSE

He takes in a breath, smelling the flesh of Alana's hand.

A SERIES OF SLOW-MOTION REVERSE-TIME SHOTS

GUNPOWDER rises from Alana's hand like black snow.

Scattered particles of GUNPOWDER in a cloud condense and the CLOUD BLOOMS in a small FIREBALL that shrinks to its source.

An EXPLODING BULLET is pulled back down the gun barrel where it rests in the chamber, not yet fired.

BACK TO:

HANNIBAL

He looks adoringly at Alana and kisses her gently on the lips. She returns the kiss, but it's clear she's distracted.

HANNIBAL

Have you been firing a gun?

ALANA BLOOM

Yes.

She makes a point of kissing him more sincerely, then:

ALANA BLOOM (CONT'D)

Told you I was feeling paranoid.

CUT TO:

EXT. DRIVEWAY - NIGHT

All CLOSE SHOTS -- location undefined.

GLOVED HANDS CARRYING EXPENSIVE LUGGAGE.

THE LUGGAGE is placed on the ground.

KEY FOB is pressed and a TRUNK POPS OPEN.

LUGGAGE goes in the TRUNK.

TRUNK is SLAMMED CLOSED.

DRIVER'S DOOR OPENS.

The KEY starts the IGNITION.

ROAR of an ENGINE.

CUT TO:

INT. MARGOT VERGER'S CAR - NIGHT

Margot glides down the dark country road, her face lit by her dash display.

She slows the car as it approaches a BLINKING RED STOPLIGHT.

EXT. COUNTRY HIGHWAY - CONTROLLED INTERSECTION - NIGHT

No other cars at the four-way intersection, but Margot makes a full stop all the same.

INT. MARGOT VERGER'S CAR - NIGHT

ON MARGOT'S HEAD

In profile, eyes on the road ahead. She pulls forward, starting to accelerate when --

A PAIR OF HEADLIGHTS

FLARE, perpendicular to and HURTLING STRAIGHT AT the car.

MARGOT'S HEAD

Spins to face the lights, silhouetted, and for an instant, the BLINDING WHITE fills the car like floodwater, before --

SMASH.

EXT. COUNTRY HIGHWAY - CONTROLLED INTERSECTION - NIGHT

The other vehicle -- A PICKUP TRUCK -- BROADSIDES Margot's car full force, plowing it sideways across the intersection, powerful enough TO FLIP IT OVER ENTIRELY.

Then all is silent again. The red stoplight keeps FLASHING.

INT. MARGOT VERGER'S CAR - NIGHT

Margot hangs upside down, suspended by her shoulder strap, dotted with SPARKLES of shattered safety glass. Slowly, she looks out the hole where her driver's window had been.

MARGOT'S UPSIDE DOWN POV

A PAIR OF WORK BOOTS

Shuffle unhurriedly toward her window. When they arrive, the other driver stoops to survey the damage and finally look Margot in the eye.

CARLO

Grins in at her. Just a man about his daily work.

END OF ACT FOUR

ACT FIVE

ALANA BLOOM

She takes a breath, her heart racing. She very consciously calms herself before she confesses:

ALANA BLOOM
The most-terrifying thing in the world can be a lucid moment.

CAMERA reveals we are --

INT. BAU - JACK CRAWFORD'S OFFICE - DAY

Alana stands opposite a curious Jack Crawford.

ALANA BLOOM (CONT'D)
What are you up to?

JACK CRAWFORD
I'm not sure I know what you're talking about, Dr. Bloom.

ALANA BLOOM
I think you know.
(then)
You're not fooling me, Jack.

JACK CRAWFORD
I'm not trying to fool you.

ALANA BLOOM
You're lying. You're all lying.
Will. Hannibal. You're lying to each other and they're lying to you. This isn't in my head. You are hiding something and this will end badly for all of us.

Jack considers Alana's state and carefully asks:

JACK CRAWFORD
What do you believe is happening?

ALANA BLOOM
What do you believe? Do you believe Will killed Freddie Lounds?

JACK CRAWFORD
I do not.

ALANA BLOOM
Do you believe Dr. Chilton's the Chesapeake Ripper?

JACK CRAWFORD

There was overwhelming evidence--

ALANA BLOOM

Stop lying. You think you've moved
all your pieces around so cleverly.

Jack's eyes narrow, studying Alana.

JACK CRAWFORD

What's changed, Alana?

ALANA BLOOM

I have no confidence that I know
Hannibal Lecter anymore. Even with
as much as you know or think you
know Hannibal, you don't know him
either. And you don't know Will.

(then)

You're going to lose, Jack. If you
haven't lost already.

Jack stares a long moment, then:

JACK CRAWFORD

I want you to come with me.

INT. BAU - CORRIDOR - DAY

Jack leads Alana down the hall, toward the conference room.
Every step Alana takes is filled with dread.

Jack opens the door and he firmly ushers her through --

INT. BAU - CONFERENCE ROOM - DAY

ON ALANA as she comes through the door. Jack following
behind her. Alana follows his gaze and stops short, stunned.

ALANA'S POV

FREDDIE LOUNDS.

FREDDIE LOUNDS

How was my funeral?

Alana looks at Jack Crawford. Her eyes well up as the
gravity of its meaning WALLEOPS her. That she has been
putting Will Graham in terrible danger.

OFF Alana Bloom...

CUT TO:

ON MARGOT VERGER'S EYES

Closed. CAMERA PULLS BACK to see she lies face up. Angelic. At peace. Her eyes FLUTTER OPEN and they're glassy. She struggles to keep them open and blink at --

A GLARING WHITE LIGHT.

Is this heaven? But then a sound comes up -- a steady BLEEP. BLEEP. Indicating that this isn't the afterlife, but --

INT. HOSPITAL - OPERATING ROOM - DAY

The bright light -- overhead surgical fixtures. The sound -- a heart monitor.

MARGOT

Continues to push against anesthesia's narcotic pillow. BLEEP. BLEEP. A silhouetted head moves in to eclipse the light. A FACE WEARING A SURGICAL MASK.

It leans close and the mask is pulled down -- its LIPS nearly touching Margot's ear.

Mason Verger's lips. Then, calmly:

MASON VERGER
Poor Margot. You just can't win.

And for a second time, Mason kisses his sister's cheek. This time she is unable to recoil.

MASON VERGER (CONT'D)
As long as you have it in you to
produce an heir, you'll be tempted.
I have to remove that temptation.

Margot's eyes OPEN in alarm -- as wide as they can...

MASON VERGER (CONT'D)
They're going to find something
wrong with your lady parts, Margot.
Or so the record will state. The
doctor will advise me that it's
best if they take everything.

The O.S. BLEEP accelerates...

MASON VERGER (CONT'D)
I'm afraid the only one you'll be
celebrating Mother's Day with is me.

A flurry of SURGEONS and NURSES in scrubs move in to replace him, bustling about their duties like birds upon carrion.

CLOSE ON MARGOT'S FACE

Helplessly succumbing to the drug coursing through her veins.
Her eyes close.

WHEN CAMERA PULLS BACK --

We are --

INT. HOSPITAL - RECOVERY ROOM - DAY

WILL GRAHAM

Stands at Margot's bedside, looking over her.

We hear the AMBIENT HUM of his circulatory system. Chest pounding, BREATHING HEAVY. His face falls.

ON WILL

Numb, as another figure appears in the doorframe behind him --

HANNIBAL LECTER.

He remains there, but Hannibal's expression, for once, is not entirely inscrutable. We detect a MINUTE TRACE of emotion.

Of his own label of sadness.

Or of ire.

CLOSE ON WILL GRAHAM

As he pulls his car -- no lights -- to a slow stop amid snow and trees.

He kills the engine.

CUT TO:

WROUGHT-IRON FENCE

CAMERA PULLS BACK to reveal Will Graham is approaching.

EXT. MUSKRAT FARM - PIG BARN - NIGHT

As Carlo approaches the doors, CAMERA reveals Will very quickly closing in on him just outside his peripheral vision.

As Will is upon him...

CUT TO:

INT. MUSKRAT FARM - PIG BARN - NIGHT

The barn is dark, but LIGHTS BURN on the raised platform. And OPERA MUSIC drifts toward us from the speakers.

The maze is a BLACK MONOLITH in the center of the floor.

RAISED PLATFORM

Mason Verger sits in a wing-back chair, a SUCKLING PIG in his arms, and he listens to the music as he strokes it.

He stands and looks into the dimly-lit pit, at the rooting PIGS, SNORTING and GRUNTING below him.

ON MASON

He raises a REMOTE CONTROL and changes the music -- the SUDDEN HORRIFIC SCREAMS ring out!

MASON VERGER

Carlo, I don't think they've had enough to eat.

Mason turns and is surprised to see Will Graham standing behind him. Mason shuts off the recorded screams, then:

MASON VERGER (CONT'D)

You must be the baby daddy. Excuse me if I don't offer you a cigar.

Will PUNCHES Mason, bloodying his nose. Mason touches the blood and examines it, then laughs in Will's face.

MASON VERGER (CONT'D)

I'm going to feed you to my pigs.

Will violently grabs Mason by the scruff of his collar and drags him off his feet and over to the pigpen opening.

MASON VERGER (CONT'D)

(calling out)

Carlo? Carlo.

Will roughly pulls Mason to the edge and dangles him partially over the hungry, SQUEALING pigs below. Mason's eyes are more rage-filled than even Will's.

WILL GRAHAM

You think it was Margot's idea to have an heir? Think it was your idea to take it from her? My idea to come here and kill you?

(MORE)

WILL GRAHAM (CONT'D)

What you, your sister and I all have
in common is the same psychiatrist.

Will drops Mason on the metal grating, hard. Mason gathers his wits, debating lunging at Will's back... then Will turns with a gun pointed directly at the prodigal Verger.

WILL GRAHAM (CONT'D)

If Dr. Lecter had his dithers,
you'd be wrapped around a bullet.

Will tucks the gun back into his holster, adding:

WILL GRAHAM (CONT'D)

He's the one you want to be feeding
to your pigs...

CUT TO BLACK.

END OF EPISODE