

Untitled [Redacted]: Episode 7

By Nicholas Tran

Distorted sounds of a busy household. Heavy breathing can be heard going in and out. This continues for an uncomfortable beat.

Household sounds come into focus. Heavy breathing quiets, but it still comes in and out of hearing. Heavy breathing increases in volume as time goes on.

JACK

Honey, I'm home!

JOANNE

Footsteps coming downstairs.

Welcome home Jack! I lost track of time, so I haven't gotten dinner started yet.

JACK/JOANNE kissing noise.

Give me a minute to get ready.

Footsteps going upstairs.

JACK

It's okay, I just want to rest for a bit.

How're you doing Ma?

MURIEL

Indistinctive grunting.

JACK

Better than usual eh? Did Benji or Alexis keep you company today?

MURIEL

Indistinctive Grandma noises.

JACK

Oh? Where are those kids, they should be spending more time with their grandma.

BENJI!

ALEXIS!

Beat.

BENJI!

ALEXIS!

Beat.

What are those kids doing?

BENJI!

ALEXIS!

JOANNE

From upstairs

I think Benji might be outside!

JACK

Didn't we tell him to not go outside? The weather's been mighty dangerous!

JOANNE

Boys will be boys!

Footsteps downstairs.

JOANNE (*cont.*)

Though, I don't know where Alexis is.

JACK

Well, she's been rather moody recently!

JOANNE

Screams.

Jack! Come here!

JACK

What's the matter?

Uncomfortable Beat.

Oh, my god. Is she okay?

JOANNE

Hysterically.

I don't know!

JACK

Alexis! Alexis! Get up!

ALEXIS

Muffled words.

JACK

Okay, calm down, she's awake.

Alexis? Sweetheart? Can you get up?

ALEXIS

Muffled words.

JACK

Huh? What's wrong?

Grunting noises.

She's stuck.

Beat.

JOANNE

What?

JACK

Grunting noises.

She's stuck.

JOANNE

WHAT? Should we call the police? The fire department?

JACK

Hang on, let's see if we can fix this. Get some oil!

JOANNE

Beat.

Here.

JACK

Okay, pour it all over her and I'll try lifting again.

Uncomfortable beat. Sounds of oil covering a person and JACK's grunting.

JOANNE

Jack, it's not working...

JACK

I know it's not working!

Okay, I'm going to get the chainsaw.

JOANNE

What? You are not bringing a chainsaw near my baby girl.

JACK

What other option do we have Jo? She can't be very comfortable like that right now.

JOANNE

We can call the pol-

BENJI

Door opening.

Mommy! Mommy! Look at what Mr. Biggs and I found!

JOANNE

Not now Benji...

BENJI

But loooooook!

JOANNE

Snapping.

Just go to your room and play with Mr. Biggs!

BENJI

Uncomfortable Beat.

Okay...

Footsteps heard walking away.

JACK

Beat.

Jo...It's okay...

JOANNE

It's not okay! Who knows what's happening with my baby girl right now, and my husband wants to bring a chainsaw to her face!

JACK

Quietly

It wouldn't be to her face...

JOANNE

Does that matter? Do you know how dangerous a chainsaw is? I don't even want our kids to go outside because of how crazy the weather's been!

Jack

Jo...

JOANNE

And maybe if you were home more often to bond with the kids, we wouldn't be here right now!

JACK

Snapping too.

You think this is my fault? All you do is sit at home all day and mope in your bedroom! You don't spend time with the kids, you barely even cook nowadays!

And I'm out there, breaking my back to feed this family!

JOANNE

No one asked you to be a farmer Jack!

JACK

What else am I supposed to do?

JOANNE

Anything else!

BENJI

STOP FIGHTING!

Beat.

JOANNE

Calmly.

We're not fighting dear...

BENJI

Sinking.

JACK

What?

BENJI

Alexy is sinking.

Beat.

Frantic noises and screaming coming from JACK and JOANNE.

An uncomfortable beat.

JACK

Jo, call the police! I'm going to get the chainsaw!

JOANNE

No! You are not getting the chainsaw! Just stay here and try to hold her up!

Beat.

Footsteps leading to a phone being picked up.

Hello? We have an emergency...

JOANNE's voice slowly fades to a quiet muffling.

JACK

Oh Jesus, I know I've done wrong in the past. But hear me out.

O God, You are the preserver of men, and the keeper of our lives. We commit ourselves to Your perfect care on the journey that awaits us.

BENJI

Daddy...

JACK

We pray for a safe and auspicious journey. Give Your angels
charge over us to-

BENJI

Daddy!

JACK

WHAT?

BENJI

Mr. Biggs says that no one is listening.

JACK

What?

BENJI

Mr. Biggs says that no one is listening.

JACK

Just go to your room!

BENJI

Fine...

Footsteps away.

JACK

Mr. Biggs...

Uncomfortable Beat.

JACK (*cont.*)

Ad te creatio est
principle forti,
spiritus et materia,
rationis et sensus
Superueniunt deinde his vinum,
gemma micat
sicut anima mea
in oculis
Et cum terra
sol commutationem
sua lenitate dulces sumus
Verba Dei caritate

JOANNE

They're saying they'll be here in an hou-
Jack...
What are you saying...

JACK

Et horruit
secreta ab amplexu discurrenti
de montibus; et
palpitat campo vitae
Ut tibi audacia,
invehitur, his versibus continentur:
Invoco te, Satan!
monarchae ad festum.

JOANNE

Jack, you're scaring me! Snap out of it!

Alexis, she's sinking even further!

*JACK and JOANNE's voices slowly
fade out, heavy breathing
intensifies.*

JACK

Pone aspersorio,
sacerdos, et laetantiasque!
Nemo, sacerdos satanas
non recedit?

JOANNE

Jack!

Jack!

Alexis!

JACK

Ecce! rubigo
roditur et mysticis
Michaelis gladio
et fidelis...

Static and Heavy breathing.

Uncomfortable Beat.

DISEMBODIED VOICE

Backwards.

Where did she fall?