

## "Metaplogic: A Drama in Three Acts" (Script Writing)

### Act 1: The Disruption

#### Scene 1: Jacob's Home – Evening

*Jacob enters the house, holding a bag with a pair of new boots.*

**Jacob:**

(calling out)

"Emma! I'm home! I got your new boots! Where are you?"

*He moves down the hallway, his pace quickening as he receives no response. His breath lowers, alongside a sense of uneasiness. Jacob reaches for the doorknob to her room. The door creaks as it opens. Inside, the room is a disaster: broken picture frames, a shattered diffuser, blood-soaked sheets.*

**Jacob:**

(frantic)

"Emma!"

*He rushes forward, but stops in his sights, as he sees her motionless body. Jacob lifts his head up to the corner. A dark, shifting shadow hovers in it, followed by a slithering sound.*

**Metaplogic (Demon):**

(mocking)

"You shouldn't have come home. Emma is one with I now."

*The creature lunges toward Jacob. In an act of desperation, he grabs the broken lamp and swings. The demon's form melts into shadows, reforming on the other side of the room.*

**Metaplogic (Demon):**

(hissing)

"Too late... Just like with your parents."

*Jacob, freezes right on spot. In front of his, the monster melts into the shadows, with it, Emma's body..*

**Jacob:**

(whispers)

"Emma... no."

*He stumbles back, breathless , and rushes out of the house toward the police station.*

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#### Scene 2: The Police Station – Night

*Jacob bursts into the station. His car, not even properly parked, bursts through the doors.*

**Jacob:**

(shouting)

"My sister! She's gone! A demon took her!"

*Two officers, at the reception, glance at each other. Approaching Jacob however, in an attempt to help.*

**Officer 1:**

(skeptical)

"A demon? As in a gang? "

**Officer 2:**

(confused)

"They must be from out of town, Denvar is the only place that has gangs, not our town"

**Jacob:**

( shouting, speaking hurriedly)

"No! You don't understand! A DEMON. A monster, it was real. I saw it with my own eyes. it was.....I....I...."

*As the officers prepare to escort Jacob outside, a woman wearing red, has been silently observing the situation. She stands up, approaching Jacob and the officers.*

**Mrs. Yang:**

(calm but concerned)

"Jacob, dear, what's going on?"

**Jacob:**

(frantic)

"The demon...it took her. She's gone, Mrs Yang, I'm not going crazy. "

*Mrs. Yang's eyes narrow slightly, understanding dawning on her. She places a hand on Jacob's shoulder.*

**Officer 1:**

"Do you know him ? You two know each other?"

*They step outside the station, back to Jacob's car.*

**Mrs. Yang:**

(quietly)

"Yes. He's my friend. It's alright. Come with me, Jacob. We need to go to the church."

**Jacob:**

(laughing, giggling)

"Church? To do what ? Pray "

**Mrs. Yang:**

(firmly)

"Something like that. You said it was a demon, right? Trust me."

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## Act 2: The Revelation

### Scene 3: Outside the Church – Night

*Jacob and Mrs. Yang arrive at the church. Mr. Yang stands outside, waiting, his face solemn.*

**Mr. Yang:**

(calmly)

"Jacob. I know what took Emma. You're not the first to see this... creature."

**Jacob:**

(confused, angry)

"What do you mean? What was it?!"

**Mr. Yang:**

(steady)

"The Metaplogic. It's a demon, a manifestation of someone's own trapped emotion. In particular, guilt. It took Emma."

**Jacob:**

(hesitant)

"Guilt ? Guilt from what ? What are you on about ? How do you know this?"

**Mr. Yang:**

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"Jacob, calm down. You have your answers for now, we must get going before the sun comes back up, or she'll be taken. And that could be dangerous for the entire town."

*Without too much hesitation. Mr Yang grabs Jacob, getting him into the car. They make their way to the intersection.*

**Jacob:**

"The intersection. This is..."

**Mr. Yang:**

(firmly)

"Where your parents died. The creature knows that. It's almost here, we have to intercept it."

**Jacob:**

(frustrated)

"Why here? And now. You're saying this is my fault? I... I couldn't have done anything!"

**Mr. Yang:**

"It's not your fault. But the grief is real, and that's how it works. If you didn't think it was, than the creature wouldn't be here."

**Jacob:**

"But I was just, I didn't mean...I didn't want it to"

**Mr. Yang:**

"It knows how you feel. You have to face the demons, physical and metaphor. "

**Mr. Yang:**

(serious)

"The way to defeat it, is by defeating you mind. Physical weapons, will break the connection between it and Emma"

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#### **Scene 4: The Intersection – Night**

*Jacob, Mr. Yang, and Mrs. Yang arrive at the intersection where Jacob's parents died. The air is heavy, the night unnaturally quiet. Fog rolls in as the temperature drops, a coldness settling in Jacob's bones.*

**Mr. Yang:**

(warning)

"Stay strong, Jacob. The Metaplogic will try to break you. Don't let it."

*Suddenly, the air shifts. Darkness descends, and the Metaplogic materializes before them, its form flickering like a shadowy flame.*

**Metaplogic (Demon):**

(taunting)

"You think you can save her, Jacob? You've already lost. Your parents... your sister... they're all dead because of you."

*Jacob's hands tremble. A machete in his grip*

**Jacob:**

(shaken, shouting)

"No! You're lying!"

**Metaplogic (Demon):**

(sneering)

"You killed them all, Jacob. You're too weak to save anyone."

*Jacob hears Emma's voice faintly in his head.*

**Emma (in Jacob's mind):**

(softly)

"Fight, Jacob. You can save me."

*With a burst of resolve, Jacob lunges at the demon, the knife gleaming as it cuts through the shadows.*

**Jacob:**

(determined)

"No! I couldn't save my parents, because I didn't kill them. But I will kill you"

*A fierce battle ensues, the demon's taunts growing louder, but Jacob fights through the fog of his guilt, remembering his parents' accident for what it truly was—an accident. Finally, with a cry of defiance, he strikes the final blow, the demon dissipating into smoke.*

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### Act 3: The Resolution

#### Scene 5: The Church – Dawn

*The battle is over. The demon is gone. Jacob drops the machete and rushes to Emma's side. She lies motionless, but Mr. Yang kneels beside her, checking for signs of life.*

**Jacob:**

(pleading)

"Emma... please, no."

**Mr. Yang:**

(relieved)

"She's alive. The demon didn't take her fully. She's weak, but she'll recover."

*Jacob collapses to his knees, overwhelmed with relief.*

**Jacob:**

(whispering)

"Thank God..."

*Mr. Yang stands, his expression grave.*

**Mr. Yang:**

(serious)

"This was just the beginning, Jacob. The Metaplogic is gone, but there are more demons out there. This town is not as peaceful as it seems."

*Jacob looks up, his expression one of grim determination.*

**Jacob:**

(resolved)

"So much for being a deer hunter Mr. Yang?"

**Mr. Yang:**

"Well, it was a bit of mistruth. But I do hunt. You're not just a victim anymore, Jacob. You're one of us."

*As the first light of dawn breaks, the scene fades, with Jacob and Mr. Yang walking back toward the church, ready for what lies ahead.*

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**End.**

**Journal**

Adapting the story into a three-act drama, was a nice experience. I liked the challenge that were discussed in the module content, about some stories not translating well into different mediums because of how they're inherently made.

**Major Differences Between the Original Story and the Adapted Drama**

1. Format: The original story is presented in prose, in particular written to be adapted as a film, while the adaptation follows a dramatic structure with defined acts and scenes, emphasizing dialogue and stage directions.
2. Character Interactions: The adapted drama places greater emphasis on the interactions between characters, with the idea being to help build tension quicker and more effectively, which are very important in the structure.
3. Pacing and Structure :The pacing is altered in the adaptation, with scenes designed to maintain a steady rhythm and engagement, suitable for live performance. In contrast, my prose is more in line with wanting exposition and slower buildup to introduce the viewer/reader to the characters.

While I think the adaptation succeeded in dialogue and pacing, there could've been more opportunity with the stagecraft aspect of drama. I think maybe perhaps describing the metaplogic visually on stage could have added a bit more impactful element to the performance. The conclusion in this also felt rushed. While I think I succeeded in conveying Jacob's transformation inline with the originals structure, I could've used more time to how they've possible healed together. This part of course in dramas is usually one of the best parts in my opinion, so I should've taken more time with this.

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