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EXT. FIELD - NIGHT 1

Khoma ritualistically preys over his bible in the obscurity of a rainy night. "One must, at times, be distant to see God." He falls to the ground. Black overcomes him.

2 EXT. FIELD - MORNING 2

Khoma lays outstretched, battered from a night of storm. Pages flutter high over his body and across the open fields. He follows.

3 FIELD - LATER DAY 3

Khoma catches a rabbit and eats out of starvation.

4 EXT. HILLSIDE - LATER DAY 4

Bloodied and worn Khoma climbs over a hillside.

5 EXT. FIELD - LATER DAY 5

Khoma stops by a tree. He digs for water under its roots.

6 EXT. ENTRANCE TO FOREST - SUNSET 6

Khoma find himself in a labyrinth of wilderness. The path disappears into the forest.

7 EXT. FOREST - NIGHT 7

White moonlight shines upon a dark forest. SHADOW of a wolf tracks Khoma parallel in the twilight.

8 EXT. DEEP FOREST - NIGHT 8

WOMAN runs in fear through the brush. She holds her arm as blood trickles from a wound. The painful breathing is short with grief and timidity.

9 EXT. FOREST - NIGHT 9

Dark Shadow follows close behind Khoma. The silhouette of a woman glimmers in the wolf's eye. Khoma looks over his shoulder. No one is there, but something lurks.

## 10 EXT. DEEP FOREST - NIGHT 10

Dark Shadow is close. Treetops spin as the Woman falls to the ground. Vapor escapes from her body in the cool night.

## 11 EXT. FIELD - SUNSET 11

A dark house lays on the outcropped hills in penumbra. SHARP WAILS ECHO into the distance. Khoma approaches.

Khoma begins to part through the field like a deserted sea. Wind smooths over his face. Human skeletons lay a glimpse away buried in the tall grass.

## 12 EXT. FIELD WITH ROCKS - NIGHT 12

Khoma walks to the stone house. Dead chickens are strung upside down by their necks.

## 13 EXT. BARBAROGA'S HOUSE - NIGHT 13

Khoma KNOCKS on the door. No response. Floorboards CREEK. Khoma peers through a dirty window. Warm candlelight flickers against the darkness. CREAK. Khoma rams his body against the door. It SWINGS OPEN. BAM.

## 14 INT. BARBAROGA'S HOUSE - NIGHT 14

Shadow rocks back and forth. Khoma freezes with a moment of embarrassment. BIRDS nest in the ceiling beams.

Flickering light against dirty walls with handprints. A chain with a ball and tools rest in the corner.

CREAK. A small wooden table with bowls. Candelabra lamp holds candles. It SWINGS back and forth. Wax drips. CREAK.

The figure is cloaked in black. Bony fingers TAP the rocking chair arm.

Barbaroga throws a bone with meat to his feet. Khoma kneels to the ground and tears the meat off the bone.

They speak. Khoma tells her he was once a messenger of God, but no more.

TAPS her fingers on the chair. She points to the next room. Her bony finger curls back into the cloak.

## 15 INT. BARBAROGA'S HOUSE - HALLWAY - NIGHT 15

Candle flicker illuminates a thin wooden passageway. Khoma's tunnel vision is bleak.

## 16 INT. BARBAROGA'S HOUSE - SMALL ROOM - NIGHT 16

Khoma grabs a candle and shines it over the room. He lies on a bed of hay. Khoma is about to drift off to sleep.

Barbaroga suddenly appears out of the lurching darkness. Face to face. Khoma sits up. Barbaroga pushes her body against his to the wall. Her long fingers wrap around his rough face. Her eyes appear youthful and loving. Khoma is entranced. She whispers softly in the voice of a young woman. "The only one who can release me."  
"Khoma closes his eyes. Barbaroga continues in the voice of an old witch. Barbaroga falls to the ground dead. Stabbed.

## 17 EXT. BARBAROGA'S HOUSE - NIGHT 17

Khoma runs from the isolated house through the field. His breath turns to frost as he pants. He turns in fright. Watching over his shoulder for anything to follow. The dark, cool night envelopes him. Over and over again he peers.

## 18 EXT. TOWN SQUARE - NIGHT 18

Blinding white lights. Saturated blue hue. CHIMES RING SOFTLY in the air. Obscure images twinkle. The fog thins.

A small dimly lit village lies in front of him. He is in the town square standing beside a fountain. The fog continues to dissipate. Old, iron village gates CREAK closed. He is a prisoner of the gloomy village.

ECHO of a CHOPPING BLOCK fills the street.

## 19 EXT. BUTCHER'S SHOP - NIGHT 19

Khoma peers through a window. A BUTCHER chops meat on a table. The stench of death overwhelms him.

## 20 EXT. LAILA'S HOUSE - NIGHT 20

He peers through another window. LAILA, 8, with braided hair sits with her back to Khoma. She swings a clacker toy against the light of a fire.

## 21 EXT. FRANCIS' HOUSE - NIGHT 21

Khoma peeks through another window. A fully decorated table with food sits untouched in a dimly lit room.

FRANCIS sits at the head of the table motionless.

## 22 INT. FRANCIS' HOUSE - NIGHT 22

Khoma runs into the home. Candles simmer to smoke. Food lies fresh on the long dining table. No one exists.

## 23 EXT. VILLAGE STREET - NIGHT 23

Khoma walks the night screaming for help.

## 24 EXT. VILLAGE - MORNING 24

Sweet morning awakes on the hillside. The sun caresses the few houses in the town.

## 25 EXT. VILLAGE SQUARE - MORNING 25

Khoma stares into the sky. The rising sun casts a shadow across his face. White light beams into his pupils. He is blinded. Shadows of people surround him. They block the sun.

He tells them of the old woman's murder. They already know and tell Khoma her true identity. She was once Alina, the most beautiful woman in the world.

One fateful night she confronted Viy. Instead of killing her, Viy cursed her to remain as Barbaroga, a witch until a man of faith murders her in cold blood. Three days later, he would come to claim her soul and the souls of all the villagers. It is a cursed town soon to be dead.

26 INT. CAR - DAY 26

The weather turns gloomy. Khoma sits between two guards. Uncomfortable closeness. Commissioner watches Khoma with intense fondness. Khoma is forced to stare back. Mistrust fills his face.

27 EXT. STREET - DAY 27

The car wheels SLAP over the road.

28 EXT. CAPTAIN'S HOUSE - DAY 28

Car parks outside. Khoma steps out.

CUT TO:

29 INT. CAPTAIN'S HOUSE - DAY 29

Khoma moves through the house with an enormous speed. The door of a dimly lit room opens and SLAMS behind him.

30 INT. DANK ROOM - DAY 30

Dank room drips with dew as it hits the cold, stone walls. Stalactites form on the ceiling. Red cotton covers the floor.

CAPTAIN, late 50's, kneels with inconsolable sorrow in front of Alina's open coffin.

Holy book faces upward on a stand lost in heavy light. It reads "One must, at times, be distant to see God."

Painting of WIFE in dark green dress hangs on the wall. Captain confides in Khoma. The secret curse on Alina and the monster Viy that haunts the town he governs. He gives Khoma a mission to save his daughter by preying for three nights.

31 EXT. TOWN SQUARE - DAY/NIGHT - FLASH BACK 31

Almond-pink sky slides across the horizon like a fantasy. Clouds hurdle across the sky with an ungodly speed. Woman's back walks briskly to the Town Square. She walks with surreal slowness.

32 EXT. DANK ROOM - DAY - PRESENT DAY 32

Captain begs Khoma to save his daughter.

## 33 EXT. TOWN SQUARE - DAY/NIGHT - FLASH BACK 33

Alina turns her head slowly. Her face almost visible past her long, whipping, black hair.

## 34 INT. DANK ROOM - DAY 34

Khoma approaches Alina's dead body. Khoma SLAMS his open palm on the Holy Book with defiance. Captain gives him no choice, he must accept the mission.

## 35 EXT. FOREST PATH - DAY 35

SERVANT walks up a mountain. Khoma struggles not to lose him in the dense fog. Khoma notices the Servant's greenblack branding mark on his ankle. Servant disappears. Rats run alongside Khoma's feet. Large prehistoric animal-like footprints mark the ground.

Khoma kneels down as he trembles to touch them. They lead to a cave.

Khoma walks to a light emanating within the cave. Skulls are packed along the walls he holds to walk.

SOFT HARMONIOUS SOUNDS ECHO. BIRDS CHIRP. The softness becomes visible. Khoma stands straight and glances across the room. Glass reflects the brilliance of a sunny day. An aweinspiring glass crypt stands before him. Khoma stumbles forward into the light.

## 36 EXT. CRYPT - DAY 36

An obscure stone statue with wings rests on the top of the glass crypt.

## 37 INT. CRYPT - DAY 37

Khoma peers through the thick, molten glass to see a body outstretched on an altar in the center of the room.

## 38 INT. CRYPT - DAY 38

The angelic harmony of light that fills the room quickly fades to stale colors of death. Red roses bloom in large vases around a body on the altar turn grey. A spider steps across the petals as it weaves a web. Morning dew drops from a thorn. Khoma enters approaches Alina. Beautiful. Naked. Dead. SLAM. The glass doors close behind him.

39 EXT. CRYPT – SUNSET 39

Vines on the outside of the blackened crypt grow.

40 EXT. DARKNESS – N/A 40

SOUND OF THUMPING – BOOM.

41 EXT. VILLAGE STREET – SUNSET 41

GROUND SHAKES. CHILDREN run through the streets.  
VENDORS pack their goods. BUTCHER closes his gate.

42 INT. HOUSE – NIGHT 42

CHILDREN hide under a bed. MOTHER runs past them to lock the door.

PROSTITUTE in corner alleyway with a JOHN run in opposite directions.

HOMELESS MAN hides in a cubby under an exterior stairwell.

VILLAGERS run and hide inside their meager homes.

43 EXT. CRYPT – NIGHT 43

The crypt rests in the moonlight. Stillness.  
Silence.

44 INT. CRYPT – NIGHT 44

The stench of death, like Barbaroga, overwhelms the room. Khoma places his hands against the glass door. He tries to breathe through the cracks with desperation.

CRUNCH of FOOTSTEPS. Shadows surround the crypt and run in circles.

45 EXT. CRYPT – NIGHT 45

Shadow of a hand holding chalk rolls it across the rocky ground.

46 INT. CRYPT – NIGHT 46

SCRATCH on the ROOF. FOOTSTEPS. Dust falls from the ceiling beams. Khoma backs against the wall.

47 EXT. CRYPT — NIGHT 47

Chalk runs in circles. Snap of chalk. White dust fills the dark air.

48 INT. CRYPT — NIGHT 48

Khoma falls to the floor. He wraps his hands over his face.

49 EXT. BARBAROGA'S HOUSE — EARLY MORNING 49

Sun rises across the landscape of Barbaroga's house. Abandoned. The door is ajar. Calm.

50 EXT. CRYPT — EARLY MORNING 50

The stench of death, like vapor, steams off Alina's dead body.

51 INT. CRYPT — EARLY MORNING 51

Khoma suffocates. Veins in his neck bulge. The smell of death overwhelms his healthy lungs. He slithers across the floor as if he is paralyzed. He presses his hand to the vapor-covered glass.

52 EXT. CRYPT — EARLY MORNING 52

Anonymous hand presses against his from the other side.

53 INT. CRYPT — EARLY MORNING 53

Hand with a black branding mark on the wrist presses against the windowpane.

54 EXT. CRYPT — EARLY MORNING 54

Human figure hovers above Khoma.

55 INT. CRYPT — EARLY MORNING 55

Khoma falls to the floor. Rolls of sweat cover his face. He is suffocating. Khoma yells for the figure to open the door.

56 EXT. CRYPT — EARLY MORNING 56

The figure lights some incense. Smoke reaches the immense blue sky. It is ARTYOM, 26, feeble and boyish, continues to tell Khoma the story of Alina's past.

57 EXT. TOWN SQUARE - NIGHT - FLASH BACK 57

Alina's back approaches the Town Square. She kneels to her knees and throws her hands to the twilight sky. Stars fill the night. One by one they shine.

58 EXT. CRYPT - EARLY MORNING - PRESENT DAY 58

Artyom moves close to the glass with his lips. He tells Khoma to prey to survive. Khoma cannot.

59 INT. CRYPT - EARLY MORNING 59

Khoma gasps.

60 EXT. CRYPT - EARLY MORNING 60

Artyom's eyebrows crease. He preys in Latin.

61 EXT. TOWN SQUARE - NIGHT - FLASH BACK 61

Alina opens her arms to the stars.

62 INT. CRYPT - EARLY MORNING 62

Khoma wraps his hand around his neck.

63 EXT. TOWN SQUARE - DAY/NIGHT 63

Alina lays outstretched. Viy's feet, large prehistoric human-like with hooves, impound the muddy ground. They leaves marks. EARTH SHAKES. VIY'S LOUD BREATH SHRIEKS into the air. Artyom's voice preys.

64 EXT. CRYPT - EARLY MORNING 64

Artyom instructs Khoma how to expel the stench of death. The blurred image of KHOMA struggles across the ground.

65 INT. CRYPT - EARLY MORNING 65

Khoma struggles to the apothecary jars labeled, "Dove's blood". He pours into a bowl. Black blood fills to the rim. 55 Khoma grabs for the jar labeled "bee's honey". He opens 55 the lid. IT RATTLES with LIVE BEES. Khoma grabs a doctor's grinding mallet. Holds it in the air. Down. He crushes the bees. CRUNCH. Artyom laughs under his breath. WOMAN

SCREAMS.

66 EXT. LANDSCAPE — EARLY MORNING 66

BOY'S head rests at an angle against the dirt. Blue in the face with teal-cold lips.

MOTHER CRIES.

A single hand faces the sky with palm open. Foot with shoe off tilts implanted in the ground. Boy's body is in pieces strewn across the landscape. MOTHER kneels by the Boy. She claws her face. Villagers, in dark clothes, resolved in their unforgiving scatter.

67 EXT. FRANCIS' HOUSE — DAY 67

A homemade twig and precious metal WIND CHIME CHARM RINGS. It rests on a door frame outside a house. NANNY looks as it frays in the wind.