

THE DAEMON WITHIN

Written by

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INT. ROBERT'S APARTMENT - BATHROOM - NIGHT

ROBERT, 23, wears a white t-shirt and black gym shorts, sits up against the bathtub. Blood streams from cuts on his wrists.

ROBERT
Just take me. I'm ready.

Lights flicker on and off. Robert looks up at the mirror.

LUCIFUGE, CENTURIES OLD DAEMON, stares back with red reptilian eyes, black wings and two spiral horns coming from his forehead.

LUCIFUGE
Not yet, you insolent mortal!

The dark red eyes disappear. Robert gets up and puts his hands on the counter.

Beads of sweat run down the side of Robert's face. He turns on the faucet and rinses the blood from his wrists.

Robert shuts off the faucet and looks back up into the mirror. Lucifuge glares back at him and grabs Robert by the neck.

LUCIFUGE (CONT'D)
In time, your soul will be mine in
my infernal realm of torture!

Robert nods. Lucifuge releases him, and Robert steps back from the counter, grabbing at his neck. He looks up to only his own reflection.

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ROBERT
Just leave me alone! I'll do
anything.

A knock on the front door interrupts the silence. Robert shuts the light off.

INT. ROBERT'S APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Robert walks to the door and looks through the peephole.

He opens the door and CHASE, 33, wearing blue jeans and black button down shirt, stands with his suitcase.

CHASE
Brother! Long time, no see.

Robert hugs Chase.

ROBERT
It's been too long, brother. Come
in, come in.

Chase grabs his bag and walks into the apartment. Robert
shuts the door and locks it.

CHASE
So whatcha been up to, bro?

Chase sits on the couch. Robert walks to the kitchen
refrigerator and opens it and grabs two sodas.

ROBERT
Not much.

Robert hands Chase a soda and sits opposite him.

CHASE
How you get those cuts on your
wrists?

Robert hangs his head and hides his wrists.

ROBERT
I just.. I need help, bro. This
depression and... This entity is
getting the best of me.

Chase sets his soda on the coffee table and puts his arm on
Robert's shoulder.

CHASE
Look, no matter what we're up
against, we'll face it together and
beat this together. That's what
family is for. You got that?

Robert nods.

CHASE (CONT'D)
Now, tell me more about this entity
that you say is haunting you. I've
traveled to some interesting lands
and collected some fascinating
books, too.

INT. ROBERT'S APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - MORNING

Robert and Chase sit.

ROBERT

So, that's that. I didn't mean to talk your head off all night, but he just won't leave me alone. I even attempted suicide to get away from him.

Chase reaches out to pat Robert's arm.

CHASE

Well, I'm glad you didn't kill yourself. Besides, an entity this powerful is nearly impossible to be rid of, even in death.

Chase reaches into his bag and pulls out an old book with an ancient seal on the front.

CHASE (CONT'D)

Along my travels, I interacted with various healers, shamans, and other mystics. I managed to nab this book that goes in detail of all entities, gods and goddesses throughout recorded history.

Robert takes the book and runs his fingers along the seal.

ROBERT

How much did you pay for this? The detail is incredible.

CHASE

You might say I got a five finger discount.

Robert stares at him.

ROBERT

You're kidding, right? Surely someone will come looking for it.

CHASE

I doubt it. Besides, I've traveled several places since I obtained this grimoire. Now let's take a look at this daemon you speak of.

Chase opens the book and a strange HOWL is heard. Both Chase and Robert look at each other. Chase turns the pages.

ROBERT
Hey, right there, that's his name.
Lucifuge Rofacale.

Robert and Chase read the passages on Lucifuge. As they near the end of the page, a BANG is heard on the wall.

ROBERT (CONT'D)
These are the types of things I've been talking about.

CHASE
Okay, well it gives some rituals to try to invoke or evoke or banish him. Not sure which is which.

ROBERT
What do you suggest we do?

CHASE
I guess we don't have any choice but to contact a mystic to help with the translation.

ROBERT
Let's get to it then.

Chase smirks at Robert.

CHASE
That's the brother I know. We'll get you feeling better in no time.

EXT. OLD TEMPLE - DAY

Robert and Chase stand on the steps and watch the clouds grow dark.

ROBERT
Are you sure this is the place?

CHASE
Yea, I'm sure. I know it looks abandoned but trust me. These black magic magicians will help you.

Robert looks up the steps and sees an OLD MAGICIAN, 70, wearing black robes standing atop.

Once at the top of the steps, Chase puts out his hand to shake the old man's hand. The old magician just looks at him.

CHASE (CONT'D)

Hello there, we're the ones that
contacted you about Lucifuge
Rofocale.

OLD MAGICIAN

Follow me, the Grand Maester
Atlantes is waiting.

Robert and Chase look at each other and follow behind.

INT. OLD TEMPLE - DAY

Robert and Chase follow the old magician through the halls of
the temple. Several magicians walk past with books in their
hands.

OLD MAGICIAN

This way, you two. Through these
doors sits the oldest of our order.
You will speak when spoken to[,]
and if you have any issue, you can
turn back now.

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Robert nods and walks into the Grand Maester's room.

INT. OLD TEMPLE - GRAND MAESTER'S CHAMBERS - DAY

GRAND MAESTER ATLANTES, 90, sits on a throne wearing black
and red robes. Robert and Chase approach with caution.

GRAND MAESTER ATLANTES

They tell me you're the ones in
contact with Lucifuge, correct?

CHASE

Well, uh, that would be my brother,
sir.

GRAND MAESTER ATLANTES

Then why did you come? This is only
meant for the person. Approach boy
whom Lucifuge seeks after.

ROBERT

Yes, sir?

GRAND MAESTER ATLANTES

So you seek to commune with
Lucifuge? To invoke his presence to
do thy bidding?

ROBERT

No.. Not at all sir. I wish to
banish this daemon to the far
reaches of hell!

GRAND MAESTER ATLANTES

Ha! You have spirit my boy, that is
good. But daemons don't just go
quietly into that night. They must
be conversed with, bargained with,
and after their wishes complete,
then and only then can you have
yours.

ROBERT

Then teach me what I need to know.
I offer you my mind, body and soul
in these rites.

The Grand Maester motions for his apprentice ALEXANDER, 30,
wearing a brown robe.

GRAND MAESTER ATLANTES

This is Alexander, he will guide
you in learning the first rituals
and knowledge that you will need.

ROBERT

Thank you, sir.

The Grand Maester takes a sip from his wine goblet.

Robert follows Alexander out of the Maester's chambers. Chase
follows.

GRAND MAESTER ATLANTES

You there, the brother. Come here
real quick.

Chase turns to the Grand Maester with a look of confusion.

CHASE

Yes sir, what can I do for you?

GRAND MAESTER ATLANTES

Since you are here. If you want, I
can teach you a ritual or two
myself while your brother trains
with my apprentice.

Chase looks surprised and then smiles.

CHASE

Let's do this then.

The Grand Maester motions for Chase to follow in the other direction.

INT. OLD TEMPLE - GRAND MAESTER'S TRAINING CIRCLE - EVENING

Chase stands in circle surrounded with fire and incense.
Sweat pouring from his chest as he breathes heavily.

GRAND MAESTER ATLANTES
Now, now, that has been quite a
session. You learn quickly, I am
pleased. I just hope your brother
is the same.

CHASE
Oh he is, we're one in the same.

Grand Maester smirks and grabs a dagger on the wall and
places it under his robe.

GRAND MAESTER ATLANTES
Now, for this ritual, you must
conjure up a daemon from within
that will assist you in your
further tasks.

CHASE
Which one will I be invoking?

GRAND MAESTER ATLANTES
The name escapes me at the moment
but this one will no doubt help.
Repeat after me.

Chase nods and readies his stance.

GRAND MAESTER ATLANTES (CONT'D)
"Ho drakon, ho megas, Ho ophis ho
archaios, Ho kaloumenos diabolos,
Kai ho Santanas."

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Grand Maester Atlantes repeats the words for Chase to focus
and repeat back. A dark energy erupts from the center of the
circle and throws the grand maester up against the wall.

Chase sees this and stops the ritual and runs over to help.
The maester's dagger appears to be in his thigh.

CHASE
Oh my god, I swear, I didn't know
that would happen. I'll go get
help.

Chase runs to find Robert, but before he exits, a dagger comes from behind in his back.

GRAND MAESTER ATLANTES
No, I don't think you'll be going anywhere. You didn't think we find you? No one takes our books without paying a price. Now your brother will pay for your mistake as well.

Chase falls on his back. His blood runs from his side across the floor.

INT. OLD TEMPLE - TRAINING QUARTERS - EVENING

Robert and Alexander stand in opposite circles.

ALEXANDER
You're doing well. Keep it up.

ROBERT
Thanks, what made you want to learn the occult?

Alexander looks away.

ALEXANDER
I was just like you, trying to get away from a daemon. I finally succeeded, but as a result my family was sacrificed.

ROBERT
Wha.. Why do you stay if that happened?

ALEXANDER
I feel I must stay to help those on this path and to try to not let my mistakes affect them.

Robert nods, and prepares his next stance.

ALEXANDER (CONT'D)
So, you ready to banish Lucifuge?

ROBERT
Yes.

ALEXANDER
You know, he is just is another mask of the almighty light bringer, Lucifer, correct?

ROBERT

No, I did not know that. Tell me more.

ALEXANDER

You'll learn more as you go. It's just interesting that one of Lucifer's masks would be contacting you. This next ritual will invoke the light bringer himself. Ready?

ROBERT

I am.

Alexander motions the sigil to visualize. Robert sits in deep ritual pose. The energy around darkens. A fire figure stands tall. LUCIFER, AGELESS, golden wings and robe stands above Robert.

LUCIFER

My child, it is I, thy father. My apologies for my darker mask. I needed to test you and to see if you would come to embrace me.

Robert gazes above at the golden figure.

ROBERT

Somehow I know this to be true. Let me embrace you father and learn thy will to make it so on all the lands.

LUCIFER

In time my son. But first there is a falsehood in our midst. Your brother is in trouble.

The Grand Maester runs into the training chambers.

Robert looks at the Grand Maester and nods.

Grand Maester turns to exit. Chase holds his side and blocks the way.

Robert brings forth Lucifer's essence unto him and turns his fury on the grand maester and sends his soul into the fiery depths of the Earth's core.

Chase walks with Alexander to Robert.

Robert looks at Chase and to Alexander.

ROBERT
You okay, brother?

CHASE
Just a scratch. I'll be fine. It
seems you found yourself.

Robert nods.

ROBERT
Alexander, take my brother to get
bandaged up.

Alexander nods and helps Chase out of the chamber to the
infirmary ward.

ROBERT (CONT'D)
Father, I embrace thy nature.
Unlock my true potential as your
son, that I can bring forth our
kingdom on all the lands.

LUCIFER
It is done, go forth and bring all
under one banner.

EXT. OUTSIDE TEMPLE - DAY

Robert walks the street leading to the city. His minions
following behind.

Robert walks to a nearby chapel and places his hand on the
steps. The chapel collapses in rubble.

ROBERT
It is finally our time, father.

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FADE TO BLACK.

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