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CRWR 404 - AS01 - Further Studies in Creative Writing: Playwriting - Seminar
Monologue Assignment
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Professor: Jacqueline Baker

Veil Down

Connor Turner: Look man... I mean, Officer Moralez. I know my reputation isn't the greatest, but you have to believe me—Layla fucking vanished.

You should ask the other guy. Buck? He's a cop too, isn't he? He showed up at my house last night in the middle of everything. He tried to reason with her but she was... possessed? I don't know. She jerked her arm in his direction and he flew across the room, rolling over the couch and hitting the TV. She pinned me to the floor with her hands around my neck and only stopped choking me when Agnes showed up... Agnes... I know how this sounds, trust me. She's been dead ten years, but she was there... I swear!

Look, I went to school with Layla and Agnes. They were best friends. Layla was always a little weird though. She claimed to talk to spirits and would sometimes stare at nothing in the middle of class like cats do sometimes, you know? The kids made fun of her, calling her a witch and all. I guess I did too. Agnes was always so beautiful... she could have been the most popular girl in school, but she and Layla were always hanging out reading those strange books that looked old and worn out. Some had leather covers or something that looked like fabric, like those books you see in the movies when hell is about to break loose, you know? I knew they got them at the old bookstore in town because we used to egg the windows of the place every once in a while...

Anyway, the thing with Agnes happened at a summer party at my parent's house. I guess the girls were giving her drinks, and they might have slipped her something to loosen her up. It wasn't me. I swear. I found her lying on my bed. I should have known better, but I was so drunk. I started touching and kissing her, and she didn't tell me to stop. I took pictures and texted them to my friends. I wasn't thinking straight. We woke up some hours later, and she started crying and grabbing her clothes off the floor. She asked me what happened, and I said we just cuddled for a bit until we both passed out. She left and, by lunchtime, I realized the whole school had received the pictures. My father told me to deny everything, so I did. I changed my name and moved away. The lawyer was able to get the rape charges dropped, but I was wrong. I should have never... It destroyed her... She killed herself in the fall.

Layla disappeared after that. We all thought she went to an asylum or something. I never saw her again until last night when she appeared inside my house. She looked me right in the eyes and said: veil down. Man... it was still my living room, but there was a black shadow hanging over it. Some shadows were moving, but I had no time to look around as I was being choked by whatever the fuck was inside her. That's when Agnes showed up asking Layla not to kill me as she would go into the veil forever or something. I have no fucking idea what that means. Layla released me and vanished. It's fucked, but it's the truth. You have to believe me.