

## EPISODE 8

FADE IN:

INT. DINING HALL - NIGHT

LAURA

I told you to stay in bed.

SHANE

You also said you'd be back in a few minutes.

LAURA

Okay, well you're here now. Come. Sit.

SHANE

Thanks.

Shane walks into the dining hall and takes a seat. Everyone is silent and staring at Shane as he sits in the chair uncomfortably.

SHANE (CONT'D)

(nervously)

(clears throat) Well I guess I should introduce myself.

LUTHER

Good place to start.

SHANE

(nervously)

Okay, well, hi...again...I'm Shane.

DAVID

Where you from Shane?

SHANE

California.

IZZY

You're a long way from California.

SHANE

Yea, I mean I'm originally from California.

SHANE (CONT'D)

I was in Massachusetts with my boyfriend when Judgement Day happened. We were visiting his family, got lost and eventually joined a community of survivors in Boston.

CHRIS

Closer. But you're still a ways from there.

SHANE

Yea. I traveled a long way searching for help.

LUTHER

Help for what?

SHANE

Okay. Uhhh. This is gonna sound crazy but you've got to believe me. This is real.

LENA

We'll believe you. We've seen some crazy things as well.

SHANE

(deep breath out) Zombies.

David, Izzy, Chris and Luther all burst out laughing.

DAVID

Zombies aren't real.

TANYA

(serious)

Who said?

DAVID

Tanya, you can't be serious.

TANYA

We've had this conversation before. You should think everything is real until told otherwise.

DAVID

And I told you that's not how this works.

TANYA

You'll learn one day, but yes. Zombies are indeed real. But the singular idea of them is flawed. Before I explain, Shane, tell us what happened.

CHRIS

What?! No! Just tell us.

TANYA

No. What I say could influence his memory. And I need to know everything as he remembers it. Every detail matters.

LUTHER

Well you heard the lady. Go ahead.

SHANE

Sure...ummm, I don't really know where to begin.

TANYA

Start a little before it all began. Was there anything significant that happened?

SHANE

Well, no one really knows when it all began, I can tell you when I first started feeling something was off. Like I said, my boyfriend and I came over from California. Students at UCLA, we were on break and came over to visit his family. On the second day of our visit is when judgement day happened. I don't really like that name but that's what his parents called it, and well, I had no better name for it. So it just kinda stuck. We stayed by ourselves for a little, but as the weeks passed it became harder to survive. None of us were prepared for anything like this. So we went out looking for help. We found some, but the first group didn't last long. Everybody wanted to be the leader. Eventually the fighting within the group became too much and caused a civil war. We snuck out as the fighting

## SHANE (CONT'D)

was happening. It wasn't long after that, that Mike, my boyfriend, lost his mom. I still don't know what that thing was, but it dragged her into the darkness. No one really spoke for a while after that. There wasn't much to say. It was just clear that we needed to be on the lookout at all times. Eventually we hooked up with another group. They didn't work out either. They'd been through a lot so they were paranoid about everything. I understood. I mean we saw things that we thought were just stories, but too much paranoia becomes dangerous. You never know who to trust and you end up trusting no one. We went through a few other groups after that. Mike lost his dad during that time. His health just diminished. I think it was because of a broken heart. He tried not to show it, putting on a brave face for Mike, but I could see through it. He was devastated when he lost his wife. A piece of him was dragged into the dark that day too. So now it was just me and Mike, surviving together. I wish I could've taken his pain away, but I was there for him and that's the best I could do. Seeing them go had me thinking about my own parents. I hope one day to see them again, or at the very least know what happened to them. Anyway, so we eventually found asylum in Boston with Tami in her community. She's strict but she means well and wants to keep everyone safe. So we follow her rules. And for the first time in a while we both felt at peace. Started making friends and learning the ins and outs of the community. We made a life there. So all of that was my way of saying, I learned to trust my instincts. When something didn't feel right, I could feel it and I would act on it. There was one day in particular where I felt something bad. See Tami's community became a safe haven for a lot of people. As long as you were willing to follow the rules, you were welcomed in.

SHANE (CONT'D)

But first you needed to go through an indoctrination. You weren't left alone for any reason until you learned the rules and proved to be trustworthy. There was this one group that came in, and immediately as they walked through the gate I felt, I don't know, something off. There was this movie with Samuel L. Jackson and in it, he said something about lions in the zoo and knowing which ones were caught in the wild by the look in their eyes. This is how I could tell the groups that came looking for asylum had been through a lot. You could see the relief in their eyes. But this group was different. It was like they hadn't been through anything. I wanted to turn them away but the rules state that we had to give them a chance. So they came in, and the process started. This is where things start getting weird. They only did two days of the process, then was released. Indoctrination normally lasts about 2 weeks. Once they were let loose to roam freely that's when everything started going south. And that led to the zombies. I told a few people how I felt, but they thought I was being paranoid. I thought it was obvious but no seemed to be connecting the dots. It's like they're under some spell. And because of this spell we're forced to fight zombies. We've killed a lot of them but for every one we take down it seems like 3 more pop up. At that rate I'll have no home to go back to. So I came out here looking for help. What do you think?

TANYA

I think you may be right.

LENA

Tanya, what do you think this is?

TANYA

Well I think he telling the truth about the zombies.

SHANE

Of course I'm telling the truth! Why would I lie about this?!

LENA

So what? They just rose out of the ground to eat brains?

TANYA

(small laugh) No. They're not like in the movies. Well, not generally. They can be just like you've seen in the movies.

CHRIS

So they eat brains but they don't eat brains?

TANYA

How much do you know about the origin of zombies?

LUTHER

I know for me, it's whatever I've seen in movies.

IZZY

Me too.

TANYA

So not much. Well as you all know zombies are reanimated corpses, but they don't have to be. Technically anyone of you could be made a zombie right now. But if you're truly twisted, you can use the dead for this spell. Although, to make a corpse rise and move about freely requires a high level of skill and knowledge, but playing with life and death in this way disrupts the natural order. Now, knowing this there are 3 people in the world who have the skill to use such a complicated spell on such a large scale. One is my mother, who I can easily rule out. She would never inflict this type of chaos on people. The second one is a man in Haiti, but he's a hermit who wants

TANYA (CONT'D)

nothing more than to be left alone. He's about as likely as my mom, but we can't totally rule him out since no one's seen him in years. And the third one, and most likely person behind this, Vetr.

DAVID

What makes you so sure it this Vetr?

TANYA

She's had a troubled past, and she enjoys causing this sort of chaos. She must have been part of the group that recently joined the community.

LUTHER

Okay. So we just go in there, find this Vetr, and make her stop.

TANYA

Well that's another problem. Vetr has gained a reputation, which in turn has put her on the most wanted list. She's probably changed her appearance with a spell. So even if I told you what she looked like.

LUTHER

We wouldn't be able to point her out.

TANYA

Exactly.

CHRIS

Wait! Who said we're gonna help?!

IZZY

Are you serious?

CHRIS

Yes! At this point there must be hundreds of zombies. What can we do against that?

IZZY

They don't know what we do. We have to help.

CHRIS  
Y'all trippin'.

LUTHER  
Chris I get what you're sayin'...

CHRIS  
See!

LUTHER  
But, Izzy's right.

IZZY  
(mockingly)  
See.

LUTHER  
Because we have this knowledge it's on us to  
help when we can.

CHRIS  
Do all of you feel this way?

There is silence as Chris looks around at all the determined  
faces.

LENA  
It looks like we do.

CHRIS  
Fine. So what do we do?

DAVID  
Well first we need more information. We  
need to know who we're up against.

CHRIS  
Well Tanya, that's all you.

TANYA  
I guess I'll start from the beginning. Vetr  
is the daughter of Grimhildr, a respected  
member of the Grand Coven. She is also the  
twin sister of Sumarr. The commander of the  
Bureau of Magic Enforcement.



CHRIS

Wow. The apple fell far from the tree with that one.

LENA

Yea. What happened to her?

TANYA

From what I heard, it was nothing.

LAURA

What do you mean nothing? No one just starts doing this type of stuff.

TANYA

Literally nothing happened that made her follow that path. They both received love from their mother. They trained and received the same instruction, but Vetr just always had a liking for chaos. At one point in every witches life, it's time to go out and experience the world. Learn from it. Develop your magic through experience. Her sister Sumarr decided to stay near the castle and learn from the wilderness. Vetr went out and found a new master. One who gave her the tools to instill fear through the dead. That person was Erictho. A very powerful witch who made necromancy her life. Vetr learned all she could from Erictho and when she grew powerful enough, Vetr killed her.

IZZY

That's messed up.

TANYA

What's really messed up is that rumor goes that Vetr used Erictho's own spell to make her a zombie. So Erictho is now forced to follow Vetr everywhere.

DAVID

So not only did she kill her, but she won't let her rest.

TANYA

No she won't. And since then, she's been moving around doing things like this.

LUTHER

So we go there, kill the zombies, we find her, despite her magical disguise. How do we stop her?

TANYA

(with conviction) You don't. (calmer) If Arana were here, I'd leave it to her, but in her absence this task falls to me.

LUTHER

Will you be able to handle it?

TANYA

I'll be fine. I'm more worried about all of you. Shane. Has the curse been spreading?

SHANE

Yes. We've had to kill a lot of our friends because they were infected.

TANYA

Do you know how they became afflicted?

SHANE

Yes. They were bit.

TANYA

(thinking to self out loud) She's really having fun with this one. (to Shane) And I'm assuming the way you've been killing them is by destroying the brain. Like in the movies.

SHANE

Yes.

TANYA

She's playing on the cultural fear of zombies, but at least she's given you

TANYA (CONT'D)  
fighting chance.

SHANE  
I don't understand. What fighting chance?  
That's how zombies are killed.

TANYA  
Not always. I've heard of times where you  
could destroy the brain and chop them up,  
and they'd still move.

DAVID  
So what do you need us to do?

TANYA  
Two things. You need to clear out as many  
of the afflicted as possible. And two,  
don't get bit. I know of no way to remove  
the spell.

LENA  
Sounds easy enough.

DAVID  
Lena?! You're gonna help clear out the  
zombies?

LENA  
(unsure)  
I don't know...I mean...Yea. What do you think?

DAVID  
I mean I'm cool with it if you are.

LENA  
Then yea, I guess I am.

Silence as Lena looks around the room.

LENA (CONT'D)  
Don't look at me like that.

IZZY  
Sorry mom. I think we're all just  
surprised.

LENA  
Well don't be.

IZZY  
(trying to avoid an argument)  
Okay.

LENA  
Everyone get some rest. We'll leave first  
thing in the morning.

Lena walks out the room.

DAVID  
Uhhh. Well you heard the lady. Go get  
some rest.

FADE OUT:

FADE IN:

INT. EXT. VAN - DAY

The group is driving in the van through the streets of Boston.

LUTHER  
Where to?

SHANE  
Turn left here.

Luther continues driving the car.

SHANE (CONT'D)  
Stop at the end of the road.

LUTHER  
Okay.

Luther begins slowing down and stops the car.

SHANE  
Okay, we're here.

LUTHER

What kinda game are you playing? There's nothing here.

SHANE

Just follow me.

Shane opens the door and exits the van. Everyone else follows.

DAVID

Yo. What's goin' on? I don't see any zombies or a safe community.

SHANE

We wouldn't make it in if we tried to drive any closer. There's too many of them. We need to go around.

DAVID

Okay. So how do we do that?

SHANE

The same way I got out.

DAVID

How's that?

Shane squats and grunts as he pulls the man hole cover off the sewer.

IZZY

Yo gotta be joking.

SHANE

I'm not. Let's go.

LUTHER

There's no light in there.

DAVID

Are you sure this is the best way?

SHANE

No. It's not the best way. It's the only way.

IZZY

It's been a while since you've been down there. How do you know the zombies haven't made there way down?

SHANE

I don't know that, but I do know what to expect if we stay up here trying to get in. Believe me when I tell you, we don't have enough ammo for that.

DAVID

Okay. Well everyone make sure your lights are working. Be prepared for anything.

David walks away from them.

DAVID (CONT'D)

Lena. You good?

LENA

I'm fine.

DAVID

Okay. But you know it's okay if you're not.

LENA

I know.

SHANE

We ready to go?

DAVID

Yea. Appears so.

SHANE

Good. I'll go down first.

Shane begins his descent in the sewer followed by the group. The sound of their feet touching the deep floor echoes through the sewer.

SHANE (CONT'D)

Okay follow me.

The mood changes to ominous as they begin walking.

IZZY

How do you know your way through here?

SHANE

Tami wanted us to have an escape plan in case anything happened. So for months, groups of us traveled through these sewers, mapping as far as we could go. Where we entered is the farthest my group was able to go.

IZZY

How far is it from the community?

SHANE

Umm, about two miles.

IZZY

Why'd we start so far away?

SHANE

When we realized we had a problem on our hands, we tried to reach out to other communities to see if they'd been going through anything similar. No one had. We didn't know what to do. Until we heard from some guy who goes by Watchtower. He said he would meet me in the area I was found in. He said we would find answers from a group he knows. I got there. I waited. But he he never showed.

IZZY

So you've talked to Watchtower too.

SHANE

Yea. You know him?

IZZY

Yea. The group you two were going to meet is most likely us.

SHANE

If that's true then my luck definitely turned for the better. Which I needed,

SHANE (CONT'D)  
'cause it's been a hard month.

IZZY  
I bet.

SHANE  
When the zombies first attacked it didn't really phase us. Everyone there had been through so much that fighting another supernatural thing was more of an annoyance. But then we started losing so many people.

IZZY  
How many?

SHANE  
I stopped counting after thirty. It got too hard to remember the amount of friends I lost.

IZZY  
I'm sorry.

SHANE  
It's fine. Life goes on.

IZZY  
It does, but it's okay to mourn. It's actually good.

SHANE  
Oh I did. But you can only mourn for so long. Especially with all that's going on.

IZZY  
Yea. I guess.

A metallic clank sounds from the distance.

SHANE  
Shhhh!

There's an ominous silence as Shane sharpens his listening to hear any little sound off in the distance.



IZZY  
(loud whisper)  
What is it?!

SHANE  
(loud whisper)  
I thought I heard something!

More ominous silence.

SHANE (CONT'D)  
I guess not.

DAVID  
(loud whisper)  
Everything good?!

SHANE  
Yea. False alarm. Let's keep moving.

The group continues walking.

IZZY  
Do you know of any other communities like  
this one?

SHANE  
We've been in contact with several others.  
Even traded with a few.

IZZY  
Any of them we need to know about? Like to  
stay clear of.

SHANE  
Yes. There's two we actually tried to build  
relationships with. They tried to take our  
home by force. Almost did. But we were  
lucky enough to make it through. Took a  
while to rebuild though.

IZZY  
Do you think you could make us a list?

SHANE  
I can do that.

IZZY

Thanks.

SHANE

My turn to ask some questions.

IZZY

Shoot.

SHANE

When I was walking around your bunker I almost got lost. I would've if I didn't

SHANE (CONT'D)

hear all the talking. How prepared were you?

IZZY

Oh! Well let's just say whatever situation did happen we were ready for it.

SHANE

All of it seems expensive? How were you able to build all that?

IZZY

Honestly, that's all from my dad. He made some great investments. Started a successful business and did some amazing things with it. It really all started with this mysterious inheritance from his father.

SHANE

Why was it mysterious?

IZZY

Well he says he's never met him. His mom never mentioned him either. When she passed suddenly it was there.

SHANE

Maybe his mom was just hiding it. It could've been in her will to reveal everything upon her death.

IZZY

Maybe. But near the end, my dad was taking care of her affairs. He had access to everything, he says he never saw it.

SHANE

Oh well yea, that's weird.

IZZY

Yea.

SHANE

Well it seems like you're the type of people we want to deal with. I think it would be good to have you meet with Tami when we get there.

IZZY

That would be good. It was probably part of my dad's plan anyone.

SHANE

Does he think ahead a lot?

IZZY

He tends to.

DAVID

How much further?

SHANE

After this next turn we can go up to the surface.

The sounds of their walking echo off the walls. The sounds of guns firing comes into ear shot and grows louder as they walk.

SHANE (CONT'D)

(hurried)

The horde must've broke through the gate again!!

Shane starts running.

IZZY

Wait up!

Izzy begins running after Shane. Followed by the rest of the group. Shane begins climbing the ladder to the surface, he removes the cover and muffled sound of the battle becomes a thunderous roar.

DAVID  
Izzy! Wait!

IZZY  
We can't let him get away! He's our guide here!

LENA  
Don't run off!

IZZY  
Shane! Wait for - !

Izzy screams as she's attacked by a zombie.

IZZY (B.G.)  
Ahhhh! Get off me! Ahhhh! (improv)

LENA  
(scared)  
(yell up to David) David!!!

DAVID  
(hurried)  
I'm going! Izzy hold on!

David quickly climbs the ladder. The sounds of the battles grow louder.

IZZY  
I got it!

Izzy struggles to get the zombies off.

DAVID  
I can't get a clear shot!

LENA  
(yell)  
No!

Lena runs over to Izzy and with a loud heaving grunt throws the zombie off Izzy.

LENA (CONT'D)  
(grunt) Get...off...her!

The zombie flies through the air and hits a wall with a splat.

IZZY  
(shock)  
Wow, mom, what was that?

DAVID  
I'm wondering the same thing.

LENA  
What was what?

DAVID  
Is that how we're playing this?

IZZY  
Yea, we can't act like we didn't just see you throw a whole person. Where'd that come from?

LENA  
It was nothing. I saw my child in danger. It was adrenaline. That's it.

DAVID  
Yea ok.

LENA  
We have other things to worry about.

LUTHER  
(from down in sewer)  
We're coming up!

LENA  
(worried - quick)  
Are you okay? Are you hurt? Did that thing bite you?

IZZY

I'm fine. I'm fine.

LENA

(worried - quick)

Are you sure?

IZZY

Yes. I'm good. But how are you? You feeling okay?

LENA

I'm fine. You don't need to ask me that.

LUTHER

Whoa. What happened here?

LENA

Nothing. We need to go.

DAVID

Okay. Well let's help them clear this out.

LUTHER

I'll follow Shane.

CHRIS

Me too.

TANYA

I'm going to find Vetr.

LENA

Good, well then we'll meet back here when it's cleared.

LUTHER

Sounds good. Come on Chris.

Luther and Chris begin running after Shane. Shooting as they run.

CHRIS

I always thought it's be fun to shoot zombies! (gun shots) But this just feels

CHRIS (CONT'D)  
wrong!

LUTHER  
Yea! (gun shots) Because we know what we're  
fighting and what really caused this!

CHRIS  
How could anyone find doing this, fun?!

LUTHER  
There are some sick people in the world!  
(gun shots) (yell in distance) Shane!!!  
Duck!

A single gun shot rings out as Luther shoots a zombie after Shane. Luther and Chris run over to Shane, while he picks himself up off the ground.

SHANE  
Thanks for that.

LUTHER  
Don't mention it.

CHRIS  
They seem to keep going. How're we gonna  
stop this?

SHANE  
We need to see what happened.

LUTHER  
Okay. How do we do that?

SHANE  
We need to talk to Tami. That's where I was  
rushing off to.

LUTHER  
Okay. Lead the way.

Shane begins running, leading the way to Tami's home.

CHRIS  
(running)  
You haven't seen any friends I hope.

SHANE  
(running)  
No. Thankfully I haven't.

They run a little farther without talking.

SHANE  
(running)  
The town square is around this corner.

Gun fire rings out off the buildings.

LUTHER  
(hurried)  
Who's that?

SHANE  
(hurried)  
That's Tami. Come on.

Chris, Shane and Luther run through the crowds of zombies shooting and slashing their way to Tami.

TAMI  
Shane! It's good to see you!

SHANE  
You too! What happened?!

TAMI  
Someone left the gate open!

SHANE  
What?! Who?! No one would ever forget that!

TAMI  
We don't know! We were on our way to close it, but there are too many needing help!



SHANE

Where's Mike?!

TAMI

They took a team to clear out the west sector!

SHANE

Okay, I'll go help him!

TAMI

No! Without that gate closed we're all screwed! No one can make it fast enough on the streets, we need to go through the tunnels. You know them best! You need to close the gate!

SHANE

There are others who know the tunnels! Where's Tom?!

TAMI

Tom's one of these things now.

SHANE

Damnit!

TAMI

Listen! I know you want to go help Mike, but if that gate doesn't get closed, Mike, Me, these people you brought with you, we're all dead!

LUTHER

Shane, she's right! We have to do this! You lead the way, we'll come with you!

CHRIS

We will?!

LUTHER

(annoyed)

You got somewhere else to be?!

SHANE

Okay, I'll go!

TAMI

Good! Use the tunnel entrance on the next street!

SHANE

Luther, Chris, follow me!

The three of them once again begin making their way through the horde of zombies.

TAMI

And Shane...!

SHANE

What is it?!

TAMI

Good luck!

SHANE

You too!

Shane, Chris and Luther run away to the next street.

CHRIS

How far is it?

SHANE

It's less than a mile to the gate

Shane slides the tunnel cover off the grate.

LUTHER

I'll go down first.

SHANE

I should go first.

LUTHER

No. If something happens to then everyone dies. I'll make sure it's clear. Wait here.

Luther descends down the ladder - an ominous tone starts.

SHANE

He's gonna be good, right?

CHRIS

Yea, he knows what he's doing.

The two stand there in eager anticipation of Luther's call to come down. The sounds of the fighting raging on in the background.

LUTHER

(yell up from inside the sewer)  
It's all clear!!

CHRIS

Oh thank goodness.

Chris and Shane descend the ladder.

LUTHER

Okay Shane, it's on you now.

SHANE

This way.

The three begin walking through the tunnel.

CHRIS

So how exactly do we close this gate?

SHANE

It's on a pulley system, so it's easy to move.

LUTHER

That means the hard part is stopping the zombies long enough to close it.

SHANE

Yea. Any ideas?

CHRIS

I have two.

LUTHER

That's two more than I thought you'd have.

CHRIS

Then you don't give me enough credit.

SHANE

What ideas do you have?

CHRIS

Right here.

The group stops walking to look at what Chris is showing them.

SHANE

Are those grenades?

CHRIS

Yes.

LUTHER

Well Chris, you were right.

CHRIS

About what?

LUTHER

I don't give you enough credit.

CHRIS

See! That's what I keep saying. I figure we use these to thin the herd.

SHANE

Then we can kill the rest and work our way back.

CHRIS

Exactly.

SHANE

We're here.

LUTHER

I'll go up and check it out. (nervous heavy breath out) (to self) Here we go.

Luther climbs the ladder and slides the grate to the side.

LUTHER (CONT'D)  
(loud whisper)  
Come up! But keep quiet!

Shane and Chris climb the ladder to join Luther.

LUTHER (CONT'D)  
(whisper)  
Chris, give me one of those grenades.

CHRIS  
Here.

LUTHER  
Okay, Shane. You got the gate. Chris and I will cover you. Go there now and wait til you hear the first explosion to start closing it.

SHANE  
Got it. Make sure they don't get near me.

Shane stays low and runs away.

LUTHER  
Chris, we need to quickly out as many as we can. You're gonna throw you're grenade short and I'll go long. We'll handle the stragglers. Got it?

CHRIS  
Yea.

LUTHER  
(to Chris) Good. (yell) Go!

CUT TO BLACK: