

SANCTUARY NIGHTMARES:
2. A NEW ADDITION

THE HUSBAND AND
WIFE WERE PERFECT.

DESPITE THE
DANGER AND
CHAOS AROUND
THEM...

...THE FEAR AND
UNCERTAINTY...

...THEIR LIFE WAS
WONDERFUL.

SO VERY IN LOVE, THEIR
HOUSE FILLED WITH
LIGHT AND LAUGHTER.

A PERFECT
COUPLE.

BUT EVEN FROM THIS IDEAL LIFE
THEY WANTED MORE, FOR THEY
DESIRED CHILDREN, WHAT THEY
DEEMED THE PERSONIFICATION
OF THEIR PERFECT LOVE.

YEARS PASSED
AS THEIR
PRAYERS WENT
UNANSWERED.

THEY VENTURED OUT
LESS AND LESS AS THEIR
GRIEF ALLOWED THEM.

SOME
NEIGHBORS
VOICED
COMPASSION FOR
THE COUPLE...

...WHILE OTHERS
RESENTED THEM. THEY
WERE LUCKY ENOUGH TO
FIND EACH OTHER IN THIS
DIMMING WORLD.

THEY SHOULD
BE HAPPY WITH
WHAT THEY
HAD.

THE PERFECT
COUPLE PAID
THESE UNKIND
WORDS NO MIND...

...FOR THEY WERE
DESPERATE TO HAVE A
CHILD, TO SEE THEIR
PERFECT LOVE REFLECTED
IN ANOTHER.

WITH EACH DAY
THEY LOST HEART,
FEARFUL THAT WHAT
THEY WANTED WOULD
NEVER BE.

UNTIL TODAY...

...A REMARKABLY
BRIGHT AND SUNNY
DAY...

...THE HUSBAND,
RETURNING TO THE
VILLAGE FROM A LONG
DAY OF WORK...

...HEARS A LOUD CRY.

INSIDE A
SIMPLE BOX...

...A NEWBORN
BABY IS CRYING.

A BLESSING, A
STROKE OF LUCK!

REGARDLESS OF
HOW IT CAME TO BE,
THE COUPLE HAS THEIR
WISH. THEY HAVE THEIR
PERFECT CHILD.

HE RUSHES INSIDE...

...TO SHARE THIS
WONDERFUL GIFT
WITH HIS WIFE.

FROM WITHIN THE
COUPLE'S HAPPY HOME...

...THE HEALTHY CRIES
OF A BABY CAN NOW
BE HEARD.

ASSUMING THAT
THE COUPLE'S WISH
WAS FINALLY MADE
MANIFEST...

...THE VILLAGERS VISIT
THE COUPLE'S HOUSE TO
CONGRATULATE THEM.

HOWEVER...

...WHAT THE
VILLAGERS FIND...

...IS A BABY OF
INHUMAN ORIGIN.

IT IS IMPOSSIBLE
NOT TO SEE...

...THAT THIS IS NOTHING
BUT THE HUSK OF A
BABY, A CREATURE OF
MALICE, BETRAYED BY
ITS UNFEELING FACE.

"THAT IS NO
HUMAN CHILD!"

"HE BROUGHT A
WOUNDED DEMON INTO
HIS HOME!"

STILL THE COUPLE DOES
NOT HEED THE VILLAGERS'
WARNINGS.

FOR THEY ARE
SO IN LOVE
WITH THEIR NEW
ADDITION...

...THEY CAN'T
HELP BUT SMILE.

FROM THAT DAY ON, NO ONE DARES APPROACH THE COUPLE'S HOUSE.

OR PERHAPS...

...IT IS THE COUPLE WHO ISOLATE THEMSELVES FROM THE VILLAGE.

RUMORS SPREAD, BUT NO ONE KNOWS FOR CERTAIN.

UNTIL A SHORT TIME LATER, WHEN NEITHER THE CRYING OF THE BABY...

...NOR THE COUPLE'S LAUGHTER CAN BE HEARD.

SOMETIME AFTER THE SILENCE...

...THE DOOR CRACKS OPEN, REVEALING THE FAMILY.

NO WORDS ARE SPOKEN...

...BY THE THREE BLANK FACES PEEKING THROUGH THE DOOR.

A BIZARRE SIGHT, TO SAY THE LEAST.

SHIVER

THE THREE REMAIN MOTIONLESS...

...WITH THE EXCEPTION...

GLANCE

...OF THEIR EYES. THEIR EYES FOLLOW THE NEIGHBORS PASSING BY THEIR HOUSE.

MOST ARE TOO SCARED TO LOOK, RUSHING PAST THE HOUSE QUIETLY...

...WHILE OTHERS CURSE AND SWEAR AT THEM.

REGARDLESS...

...THE FAMILY DOES NOT STOP.

THE WELL-MEANING NEIGHBOR BRYNNA JUST CAN'T BEAR TO WATCH THIS TRAGEDY.

"THAT POOR COUPLE...THEY WERE ALWAYS SO KIND..."

SHE CANNOT TURN HER BACK ON THEM LIKE THE REST OF THE VILLAGE HAS.

IT TAKES TIME TO WORK UP THE COURAGE...

...THE HOUSE IS EERIE, MORE SO NOW THAT THE VILLAGERS AVOID IT.

THE COUPLE AND THE CHILD...THEY HAVE NOT MOVED FROM THE DOORWAY FOR SO LONG NOW.

IN SILENCE... UNRESPONSIVE...

...SURELY THEY WILL STARVE IF NO KIND SOUL INTERVENES.

AS BRYNNA WATCHES THEM...

GULP

...ONLY ONE THING SEEMS TO CHANGE.

THEIR EYES ARE SOMEHOW EVEN MORE EXPRESSIONLESS THAN BEFORE.

NO, CALLING IT EXPRESSIONLESS ISN'T QUITE ENOUGH.

GLANCE

EYES SET DEEP IN A FACE DEVOID OF LIFE...

...YET STILL BURNING BRIGHT, AS IF POSSESSED BY ANOTHER.

BRYNNA IS CONVINCED THAT SHE IS URGENTLY NEEDED. ONLY COMPASSION AND CARE CAN SAVE THE FAMILY.

RESOLVE

"I MUST BE BRAVE, NOW."

"AS LONG AS I CAN HELP THEM, I'VE NOTHING TO FEAR."

BRYNNA WAS ALWAYS TOO KIND FOR HER OWN GOOD.

INSIDE THE FAMILY'S ONCE HAPPY HOME...

BRYNNA IS UP ALL NIGHT.

CARING FOR
THESE POOR
SOULS, NO DOUBT.

GRANTED, THERE IS
SOME COMMOTION
WITHIN THE HOUSE...

...BUT SURELY NOTHING
MORE THAN A HEATED
CONVERSATION, BORN
OF LOVE.

BRYNNA IS TAKING MUCH
LONGER THAN THE VILLAGE
EXPECTED.

BUT IF ANYONE CAN HELP
THIS ONCE-HAPPY FAMILY,
BRYNNA CAN.

ANOTHER
BLESSED DAY,
THE SUN SHINING
BRIGHT.

A VILLAGER
PASSING BY GOES
ON TO TELL
EVERYONE ELSE...

...THAT THE
COUPLE AND THE
CHILD...

...AND THEIR NEW
ADDITION...

...BRYNNA...

...ARE ALL
TOGETHER NOW.
ONE HAPPY
FAMILY.