

Necessary Sacrifices

By

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A slash (/) indicates the following line interrupting the
current one.

A character name without dialogue indicates active silence.

Cast of Characters

Beth: mid-teens

Taylor: mid-teens

Maude: mid-teens

NECESSARY SACRIFICES

The woods at night. Three teenage girls.

MAUDE is on the ground, in a pool of blood, twitching. TAYLOR stands near her, horrified, bloody knife in hand. BETH stands back, shocked.

BETH

What the fuck have you done?!

TAYLOR

Me?! I did what/ you told me

BETH rushes over to MAUDE.

BETH

Maude? Maudie?

TAYLOR

You gave me the knife, you said it was/ all part of

BETH

Shut up,/ I'm trying to -

TAYLOR

Don't tell me to shut up!

BETH tries to measure MAUDE's pulse, feeling around her wrist, then her neck. She puts her face near MAUDE's.

TAYLOR

Don't kiss her.

BETH

What?

TAYLOR

I mean -

BETH

What the fuck? I'm not going to *kiss* her, you idiot!
I'm trying to see if she's breathing!

TAYLOR

Well I don't know, do I?!

TAYLOR gesticulates with the knife. She suddenly realises she's still holding it and throws it aside.

TAYLOR
Ugh!

BETH
Why would I be trying to kiss her,/ for fuck's sake.

TAYLOR
Look, is she alive or what?!

BETH
I don't know!

Pause.

BETH wraps her arms around herself, shivering.

BETH
Do you have a mirror?

TAYLOR
Why?

BETH
You can - if you put it near the nose it fogs up and -

TAYLOR
Oh! Right. Um. Shit. I think it's in the car.

BETH
Go get it, then.

TAYLOR
What if she wakes up?

BETH
I'll be here.

TAYLOR
You were the one who told me to stab her.

BETH
I didn't think you'd do it.

Pause.

BETH shivers again. She taps MAUDE's face.

BETH
Fucking freezing out here. Come on, Maude.

TAYLOR
Do you think it's -

BETH

What.

TAYLOR

BETH

TAYLOR

Him.

BETH

He'd only show up if she was dead. Like, actually dead.
And that's *if* he shows up. It's just a/ rumour

TAYLOR

Wha - do you not - do you not believe it anymore?! It
was your idea! Your asshole!/ You said

BETH

Stop shouting.

TAYLOR

that you were *sure* it'd work 'cause of that video! He
wants a sacrifice. A virgin. 'Cause he likes them best.
And I took my dad's car to drive us here, so he *better*
turn up.

BETH

He'd say something if he was here.

TAYLOR

Maybe he can't talk. You don't know about ghost rules.

BETH

Spirits. Ghosts sounds childish. Anyway, he'd give us
some kind of sign.

TAYLOR

You're cold. That happens when spirits are around.

BETH

We're in the woods. At night.

TAYLOR

So? I'm not cold.

BETH

Why would I be the only one feeling it?

TAYLOR

'Cause it was your idea?

BETH

You wanted it too. You love him just as much as I do.

TAYLOR

I don't think anyone loves him as much as you do.

*The girls wait. There's noises in the woods,
birds.*

BETH

Do you actually think he's here?

TAYLOR

I think he's coming, yeah. Maude's just his type. If you look at the crime scene photos, all the girls he killed look like her.

BETH

That's why I wanted to be her friend in the first place. She looks just like Lynda. He'd have loved to have her.

TAYLOR

Yeah.

BETH

Remember the boxes? You were the first person I showed. All those pages of cut-out bodies from magazines and dead bugs and animal bones.

TAYLOR

Me and Maude.

BETH

He'd get it. He will get it. I can't wait to talk to him. Make him feel like he belongs. Appreciate his - *mind* like he deserves.

TAYLOR

Maybe we need to...

*She holds out her hand. BETH takes it. They stand
side to side.*

BETH

Your hand's sweaty.

TAYLOR

I can't help it.

They close their eyes. There are more sounds from the surrounding woods - crackling leaves and swaying trees. The noises get louder. Their grip on each other tightens.

BETH
I - I think -

TAYLOR
I feel him.

BETH
Say something! Let us know! Tell us what you want!

MAUDE wakes up with a gurgling scream. TAYLOR and BETH jump.

MAUDE
fuck

BETH
Shit!

TAYLOR
Oh my God.

TAYLOR rushes over to MAUDE.

TAYLOR
Maudie! Hey!

MAUDE
help

TAYLOR
Oh my God, Maudie.

TAYLOR chokes up.

TAYLOR
Oh my God. I thought I'd - I'm so glad -

MAUDE
it hurts it hurts so much

TAYLOR
She's alive! Beth, she's alive! I gotta -

TAYLOR paws around her person for her phone. BETH watches, very still. MAUDE moans.

TAYLOR

I left my phone in the car. Beth, come here, okay? I'll be back in a second. Hold on, Maude.

MAUDE

please

TAYLOR rushes off. For a moment, it's just BETH and MAUDE.

BETH

He was here. He was close. He was close.

She notices the knife TAYLOR discarded. She takes it and goes to MAUDE. She strokes MAUDE's face.

MAUDE

beth?

BETH

You remember the boxes, don't you?

MAUDE

beth he's dead

BETH

Cut-out bodies and dead bugs and animal bones.

MAUDE

Beth, for fuck's sake! He's dead!

BETH kills her.

TAYLOR rushes in. She gawks at the scene. BETH and TAYLOR stare at each other.

BETH

Now he has to show up.

TAYLOR

W... what if he doesn't? What if he doesn't?

BETH

I guess.

Pause.

BETH

I guess we plead insanity.

TAYLOR

Like he did?

BETH
Yeah. Just like he did.

End.