

INT. JACK-O-LANTERN - NIGHT

Sweat beads down Brandon's forehead. He GASPS, suddenly alert. He knows/

BRANDON  
(whispers)  
Momma...

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INT. JACK-O-LANTERN - NIGHT

He grits his teeth, GROWLING out.

BRANDON  
You're all going to die you fucks!  
You hear me!? Meeeeelviinnnn! I'm  
going to break your fucking head  
open and drink your goddamn brains!

INT. BASEMENT - NIGHT

Brandon's hands pulling the ties tightly. His muscles strain.

He BOUNCES up and down in his chair, his hands helplessly tied behind his back, the smiling jack-o-lantern wobbling back and forth on his head.

BRANDON  
Pray for me! Help me Melvin, oh God  
please I need your help please  
don't leave me here, I'm scared!

INT. HALLWAY - NIGHT

Richard and Melvin lean against the door listening. Melvin is exhausted, conflicted.

MELVIN  
Dear God, Richard...I have to do  
something.

RICHARD'  
You said it yourself. He's a  
wartime marine. Melvin. He's not  
scared. He's not even Brandon  
anymore.

INT. BASEMENT - NIGHT

Brandon furiously struggles, one hopping the chair until finally it gives. He falls onto the floor, the chair snapping underneath. He freezes, breathing heavily.

INT. JACK-O-LANTERN - NIGHT

His eyes are wild, looking about and listening. Chuckles.

BRANDON

(whispering)

You're going to kneel before the  
Old Gods before the bastards who  
rule now...your faith will be  
spoken in the blood that spills out  
from your mouths as I reach in and  
rip your hearts out through your  
assholes...

INT. BASEMENT - NIGHT

Brandon braces his knees up to his chest, and uses them to create pressure on the ties around his wrists.

The plastic begins to cut into his skin, blood running down.  
POP! They snap.

INT. HALLWAY - NIGHT

Melvin presses his ear to the door. Richard looks on, exacerbated.

MELVIN

I don't hear him anymore.

RICHARD'

Fuck him.

MELVIN

Maybe he passed out.

INT. BASEMENT - NIGHT

The Jack-o-lantern rises into view, it's crooked smile facing us. Brandon's bloody hands remove it. He is sweaty and grimacing.

BRANDON

Momma...I'm coming.