

INT. NICHOLAI'S SMALL APARTMENT -INT -NIGHT

SFX NICHOLAI SINGING SOFTLY

SHOT IN BLACK AND WHITE-GRAINY. THE ONLY COLOUR WILL BE RED WHERE INDICATED IN SCRIPT.

CAMERA ON DOOR

CAMERA SWEEPS TO DOOR HANDLE

Door handle moves slightly-ever so slightly so that the viewer isn't sure if it has moved at all.

CAMERA SWEEPS ACROSS THE ROOM TO REVEAL

NICHOLAI, a has-been half-vampire, dressed in a tired and soiled black velvet suit singing. He is securing his tie so it fits while standing in front of a mirror.

CAMERA ON NICHOLAI FROM BEHIND AS VIEWER SEES HIM LOOKING AT HIS REFLECTION PEERING BACK AT HIM-TRANSLUCENT. NOT A NORMAL OPAQUE REFLECTION NOR TRANSPARENT.

NICHOLAI
(singing Puccini's Che Gelida
manina from La Boheme)
blah blah blah.

He stops and peers at himself. Looking at his reflection closely he leans against the mirror in despair.

CAMERA ON NICHOLAI AS HE MOVES FROM THE MIRROR TO HIS TABLE.

He sits with his head anchored in his arm, resigned to his unhappy life and then a thump is heard at the door.

SFX LOUD THUMP O.S.

CAMERA ON NICHOLAI AS HE MOVES FROM TABLE TO KITCHEN AND BACK TO TABLE AGAIN.

NICHOLAI, wiping his eyes, ignoring the thump, he gets up and walks into the kitchen. He bring a knife back from the kitchen and sits back down, tracing the inside of his arm with the knife.

SFX LOUD THUMP O.S.

Another thump is heard. Leaving the knife on the table, he lethargically walks to the door and opens it. A package slides on the floor in through the gape of the opened door into the apartment. Footsteps are heard leaving; a steady gape but not running.

SFX FOOTSTEPS O.S.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

NICHOLAI picks up the package and sets it on the table. Sitting in front of it, he holds it between his unkempt, long fingernails and caresses the package, stroking it with love and affection. He turns the package over and over in his hands looking at the **red**, wax stamp with the initial "Q".

CUT TO:

CLOSE ON STAMP AS NICHOLAI'S

Fingers run over the stamp, gently tracing the letter until he touches the centre of the letter and pulls away as if he's been burnt.

CAMERA FOLLOWS NICHOLAI AS

He pushes himself away from the table in a hurry and paces wildly in a frightening gape.

NICHOLAI (CONT'D)
The foul beast. Knows no
mercy. If these walls could
speak, they would say unkind
things.

Walking around the package, he gives a frightening scowl/hiss -showing his small fangs for the first time.

CAMERA ON DOUBLE SPEED AS

He violently tears the package open.

CUT TO:

The package opened revealing a box.

CAMERA ON NICHOLAI'S HANDS AS

He opens the box and it glows **red**. Inside the box are six **red** dice.

CAMERA ON NICHOLAI'S FACE AS

He scowls again at the package bearing his fangs.

NICHOLAI (CONT'D)
Ah, QANDRE, finally! You grant me the
chance for freedom. Why now I wonder?
After so many years.

He picks up the dice.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

NICHOLAI (CONT'D)

Six chances it is. Then might I shall
be free from the curse of your foul
ways. My veins soon to pulse
bloodless and turn to dust. The
beating of my wicked heart free from
the lusting perils of murderous
thoughts and cries for help.

CAMERA ON NICHOLAI-TORSO UP-AS

He paces again, thinking and talking out loud to himself as
he relives his story.

THE CAMERA GOES TO BLACK AS

Animation tells the story in the following frames:

NICHOLAI (CONT'D)

(V.O.-numbers only there to
indicate framing of
animation)

1) I was a famous opera singer nearly
400 hundred years ago. 2) In my prime,
I fell in love with a man nearly 50
times my age-as I was to find out
later. 3) An exciting, romantic future
lay ahead of me. 4) Sexual escapades
with both men and women. 5) After
parties lasting for days.

1)-stick figure singing

2)-a calculation of 1200 years divided by 24 years = 50

3)-two stick figures (both with penises) shagging in
several different positions.

4)-more and more stick figures (both with penises and
boobs) come into the shagging action

5)-stick figure drinking stick martini glass and then
falling flat on its face

CUT TO:

CAMERA BACK ON NICHOLAI AS

He walks over to the box again and looks at the dice
without touching them.

NICHOLAI (CONT'D)

(V.O.)

1) Everything (angrily) going my way
until 2) QANDRE moved in. (pause)
His ways eccentric. 3) Slept in a
coffin. 4) Didn't eat.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

NICHOLAI (CONT'D)

5) The sight of garlic made him
scream. 6) The crosses that drove him
into a frenzy- I took them down.
(ponders) 7) It was love. Or so I
thought.

1)-a bling, bling homie with big chains and diamonds on
stick man

2)-a stick figure dragging a box inside a door.

3)-stick figure in coffin

4)-plate of food crossed out

5)-garlic crossed out and then stick face with stink fumes
coming from it

6)-a holy cross hanging on a wall being turned into an "x"
and then a hand coming to take them down as an angry face
peers down at it

7)-a heart beating

SFX BEATING HEART LOUD AND
THEN FADING

CAMERA BACK ON NICHOLAI AS

He takes one of the **red** die out and rolls it.

CAMERA ON THE FLOOR AS THE DIE ROLLS TOWARDS IT.

CUT TO:

CAMERA SHOWING NUMBER ON THE DIE AS IT LANDS.

A six shows.

CUT TO:

NICHOLAI

(screams)
You trick me!

CAMERA ON NICHOLAI

He starts pacing again.

NICHOLAI (CONT'D)

Foul fiend and friend of the devil.
Six is your number not mine. (ponders
and suddenly excited) Yes, yes, it's
a three! I must roll a young number
three to set my soul free.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

NICHOLAI breaks out into an opera song filled with hope.

SFX NICHOLAI SINGING

CAMERA ON NICHOLAI AS

He sits at the table in front of the dice.

NICHOLAI (CONT'D)
(continuing the story)
We lived together in bliss. (pause)
Opening night; I'm adjusting my tie.
Taking one last look at perfection.
(whispering) I feel him coming up
from behind me. His ice cold hands
wrap around my neck. Tight, close to
a strangle but not. His lips burn
with desire for me.

CLOSE ON NICHOLAI AS

He opens his mouth to camera showing fangs and frightening growl.

NICHOLAI (CONT'D)
His fangs pierce my skin. He groans
in ecstasy while...

Sitting before the glowing box, he talks into it.

NICHOLAI (CONT'D)
...my life line feeds his ravenous
hunger. I pull away unable to collect
my thoughts. Dizzy...

BACK INTO ANIMATION

NICHOLAI (CONT'D)
(V.O.)
1) ...I fall to the floor. I look up
through 2) glassy eyes and I see him.
3) Towering over me. I see his beauty
as never before.

1)-stick figure falls to the floor

2)-stick figure goes blurry

3)-a tower grows and looms up in front of the stick figure
sprouting arms and legs and big fangs.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

CAMERA ON NICHOLAI

NICHOLAI (CONT'D)

(V.O.)

My senses over-powering me as I smell him for the first time. His clothing filthy, stained with blood. My blood.

NICHOLAI reaches in the glowing box for the second **red** die. rolls it.

CAMERA ON DIE UNTIL IT STOPS ON ANOTHER SIX.

NICHOLAI (CONT'D)

(screams)

I curse you to damnation and hell for all eternity. You and your foul ways!

NICHOLAI breaks out into yet another song. Quietly he sings as if defeated. And then with wicked and frightening anger and speed he grabs another **red** die and rolls it.

CAMERA CLOSE ON NICHOLAI'S FACE

NICHOLAI (CONT'D)

(whispering)

Six.

REPEAT ABOVE CAMERA AND ACTION.

NICHOLAI (CONT'D)

(defeated)

What curse have you spat upon me to all eternity? (as if to QANDRE-he continues the story as if he has never stopped) I watched you QANDRE!
(screaming) Are you watching me now?

CAMERA OFF. BACK TO ANIMATION

NICHOLAI (CONT'D)

(V.O.)

1) I curled up, 2) pushing myself as far away from you as I could into a corner. 3) Repulsed by your stench yet I yearned with a 4) burning desire 5) for you as I never had before. (pause) 6) Weaving in and out of consciousness. I saw that you had 7) spilled my blood out of your lust and greedy hunger onto the floor. 8) You bent down and lapped it up like some foul beast that I could no longer recognize. 9) Darkness fell. Darkness-my comforter was all I had left.

1)-stick figure curled up

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

- 2)-figure drags himself into a corner
- 3)-another figure with "stink" fumes come from figure 2
- 4)-pulsing heart
- 5)-stick figure with erection
- 6)-figure weaving and then falling down
- 7)-patch of blood
- 8)-stinking stick figure #2 on all fours lapping up the blood
- 9)-screen gets coloured in black by stick figure #2

He reaches slowly into the box and takes the fifth **red** die and rolls it in his hands and hisses frighteningly at it before he throws it with all his might against the wall.

CAMERA ON DIE REVEALING ANOTHER SIX.

NICHOLAI (CONT'D)
(screaming)
No! This can't be happening. Just
one three. It can be done.

NICHOLAI paces and continues the story.

CAMERA OFF OF NICHOLAI AS ANIMATION STARTS AGAIN

NICHOLAI (CONT'D)
(V.O.)
1) Hours turn into 2) days. 3) I wake
up more tired and drained than I have
ever been in my life. 4) A burning
consumes me 5) and I wish I was dead.
I beg him to kill me. 6) I feel sores
on my neck.

- 1) -Hour Glass
- 2) Calendar flipping pages
- 3) Stick figure sitting up in bed and then collapsing.
- 4) Flames on figure
- 5) Figure Nicholai hands Figure Qandre a knife
- 6) Figure Nicholai has bright red holes on neck.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

CAMERA ON NICHOLAI

NICHOLAI (CONT'D)
(screaming)
God help me! I hear him coming
towards me. He leans in.

CAMERA BACK ON ANIMATION

NICHOLAI (CONT'D)
(v.o.)
1) I look up at him pleadingly. His
laughter rings loud as he turns from
me.

1) Figure on knees

SFX SINISTER LAUGHTER

CUT TO:

CAMERA ON NICHOLAI'S HAND

NICHOLAI (CONT'D)
(VO)
I can hear him laughing as he places
the six dice in my limp hand and I
drop them.

CAMERA ON NICHOLAI'S FACE

NICHOLAI (CONT'D)
Suddenly he screeches. I'm frightened
now, for his laughter has turned to
anger and he sweeps the dice up in one
of his fists. He leaves me. Neither
dead nor alive. Neither human or
vampire. Yet I breathe. I live on
and (screaming) all I want is to die!

NICHOLAI moves to the box and picks up the one remaining
red die and rolls.

CAMERA ON FLOOR AGAIN AS THE DIE ROLLS ON FLOOR WE SEE THE
DIE STOP. CAMERA REVEALS A NUMBER ON THE SIDE OTHER THAN A
SIX.

Nicholai stumbles and shakes and makes his way back to the
table to steady himself. Tears fall from his eyes onto the
table.

CUT TO:

CAMERA ON **RED** TEAR DROP.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (5)

CAMERA ON NICHOLAI'S PROFILE.

NICHOLAI turns his head slowly at first and then hisses his new full vampire fangs at the camera.

Black out. Roll credits.

THE END