

DEMON'S DEAL

Written by

Deonitus Phoenix Black

INT. HOUSE BEDROOM - NIGHT

Lightning CRACKS and raindrops SPLATTER on top of the roof. ELIZABETH, mid 30s, mysterious beauty, sits in front of a red pentagram drawn on the floor. Lit red candles surround the pentagram. Elizabeth holds a pink crystal as she chants incantations from a beginner's spell book.

ELIZABETH

Ego conjuro te. Ego conjuro te.

Candle wax melts and accumulates in the center of the pentagram, forms into a humanoid shape, then cracks. DEMON, in the form of a man, appears from the wax.

He looks down at Elizabeth.

DEMON

You are brave to summon me, woman.

Elizabeth rises to her feet, backs away, drops her crystal.

She stumbles over one of her books and lands with a THUD.

ELIZABETH

You are . . . You are-

DEMON

If the mere sight of me instills this much fear, do you think it wise to utter my name?

Elizabeth stands.

ELIZABETH

I know what I'm doing. I've done my research.

Demon chuckles as he analyzes the different books scattered across the floor.

DEMON

Oh, yes. I see you've done quite the amount of work. "Beginner's Witchcraft" and "How to Deal With Demons?"

Demon frowns and stares at Elizabeth as he holds out his right hand with the palm faced up.

DEMON (CONT'D)

Your naïveté and arrogance is quite offensive.

A purple, spherical light forms in Demon's hand.

The light disappears.

A black crystal ball takes its place.

DEMON (CONT'D)
Is it a family trait?

ELIZABETH
That's him, isn't it?

Elizabeth walks towards Demon, reaches for black crystal. . .

But a purple light ZAPS and deflects her.

Elizabeth yelps, grasps and examines her hand.

DEMON
Now, now. There'll be none of that.

Elizabeth falls to her knees and begs.

ELIZABETH
Please give him back.

Demon scoffs and turns towards a desk with a framed picture.
He smiles as he counts the children in the photo.

DEMON
In order for the curse to stay at
bay, a soul from his lineage must
remain trapped inside the doll.

Demon puts down the photo.

DEMON (CONT'D)
Those were the terms your husband
agreed to for your sake.

ELIZABETH
Liar. He would never leave me
alone. You must have tricked him
somehow.

Demon waves his left arm and an invisible force knocks
Elizabeth backwards.

DEMON
Mind your tongue, woman, for you
know not of what you speak.

Blood drips from Elizabeth's head.

ELIZABETH

Monster.

DEMON

Monster? Me? I wouldn't be so quick to point fingers. I'll tell you why I took his soul.

Elizabeth struggles to her feet and wipes the blood from her head.

DEMON (CONT'D)

I will say this: you are correct. Your husband would not leave you alone. Originally, he offered me the soul of one of your children.

ELIZABETH

No. That isn't true.

DEMON

Indeed, it is. And I accepted. Not quite the prince you expected him to be, no?

Demon turns back towards the photo.

DEMON (CONT'D)

But, there was one issue.

Demon's eyes glow red and he smacks the photo into the wall. The glass frame SHATTERS and Demon glares at Elizabeth.

DEMON (CONT'D)

The boy's soul he offered wasn't of his lineage.

Elizabeth looks down and wrings her hands.

DEMON (CONT'D)

Can you just imagine that delicious expression of his, my dear?

Elizabeth cries as she looks at the black crystal in Demon's hand.

DEMON (CONT'D)

Well, I suppose everyone has secrets. Regardless, he did not keep up his end of the bargain. So, I helped myself.

ELIZABETH

What will it take? What do you want
for his soul? To make things go
back to the way they were?

Demon looks at Elizabeth and scoffs.

DEMON

Naive.

ELIZABETH

There has to be something. Can't
you take the soul of an animal?
Like a family pet?

DEMON

You've got the wrong type of demon.

Elizabeth picks up a knife from the ground. She flips through
the pages of one of her ritual books.

ELIZABETH

I know there's something. I know
there is.

DEMON

Why are you doing this? Delving
into this art with such lack of
knowledge is unfathomably foolish.

Elizabeth stops flipping through her book and looks up at
Demon.

ELIZABETH

Why? Because I love him.

DEMON

Even after--

ELIZABETH

It doesn't matter. And I know he
will still love me.

Demon's eyes stop glowing.

DEMON

Fascinating.

ELIZABETH

I guess demons wouldn't understand
anything about love. Now what do
you want?

Elizabeth places the knife on her wrist.

ELIZABETH (CONT'D)
Some blood? A hand? Foot?

Demon smiles as he looks at the dry blood on Elizabeth's head.

DEMON
I've already drawn blood tonight,
but, I will indeed take a part of
you.

Demon SNAPS his fingers.

A purple aura engulfs Elizabeth and her pink crystal.

The aura vanishes.

The pink crystal floats into Demon's hand and he tosses the black crystal towards Elizabeth.

ELIZABETH
What's this?

DEMON
The prize that you sought after.

ELIZABETH
What did you do?

DEMON
You offered a part of yourself to
me, yes? So, I took just that. A
single part.

Elizabeth examines her body. She feels the top of her head and counts all of her fingers.

ELIZABETH
What did you take?

Elizabeth glares into Demon's eyes.

DEMON
I took the single part of you that
gives your life so much meaning:
your ability to love.

The black crystal glows a bright purple and then SHATTERS. A purple light takes a humanoid shape and from the light appears HUSBAND, 30s, athletic but nerdy.

HUSBAND
Elizabeth . . .

DEMON

Well, now, I'm sure you two have
much to discuss.

The flames of the candles consume Demon and he vanishes.
Elizabeth and Husband stand alone in the dimly lit, silent
room and stare into each other's eyes.