

MONSTROUS BEINGS: EPISODE 18 "CREEDENCE REVIVAL"

EXT. NILBOG WOODS - DUSK

Joshua walks out from the cover of woods. Dusk is beginning to settle, and the forest surrounding lay in near darkness. In front of him, about fifty yards, is the house that looks like a church: the library. It's wide front door is open.

Joshua walks towards the library, very slowly, cautiously.

The lights inside the library grow suddenly very bright (liken to his dream). Then reduce back to normal again.

INT. HOUSE THAT LOOKS LIKE A CHURCH (LIBRARY) - DUSK

Joshua walks inside. There's a pulpit on a small platform stage area. To the right there are old books on dusty bookshelves. There is a balcony where there are more books on bookshelves, and nothing else.

To the left of the pulpit, Joshua notices what looks like a piece of a mountain against the wall (the mountain *is* the wall), as if cut out from nature and placed here. (This is where the Stonehenge piece had been years earlier.) (It resembles one of those fake rocks for rock climbing school, only real.)

Suddenly, the lights turn off. The door slams shut behind him.

After two beats of darkness, the lights turn back on, only much brighter (like when he saw them from outside).

Joshua sees, standing behind the pulpit, the back of a woman wearing a long white wedding gown (liken to his dream). The woman turns, and is wearing a veil. She slowly lifts the veil to reveal, in all her wretched glory: Creedence Lenore Geilgud. Her face is bloodstained and ghostly pale; she's no longer in the guise of Librarian Jane.

CREEDENCE

Welcome back to my kingdom... It's been a while, sweetie pie.

Creedence walks out in front of the pulpit. Gets a better look at Joshua.

CREEDENCE (CONT'D)

Oh yes, you've grown very much since I last saw you.

(MORE)

CREEDENCE (CONT'D)  
You should come with me upstairs,  
and I'll make a real man of you.

JOSHUA  
No thanks... I'd rather die first.

CREEDENCE  
That can be arranged.

JOSHUA  
(rolls his eyes)  
I've been locked up most of my  
life, and even I know that's one of  
the most cliched and overused  
villain lines in history.

CREEDENCE  
It matters not. There are no rules  
to what I say. And why do you speak  
to me with such disrespect? After  
all, I am your master.

JOSHUA  
You may have controlled my father  
with that spell. But you don't have  
ties on me... Bitch.

CREEDENCE  
That's where you're wrong... But I  
shouldn't use the word wrong.  
You're simply misled. You don't yet  
realize the power I have over you.

JOSHUA  
(impatient)  
Come on already, just tell me where  
my father is, you smelly wench.

Creedence points to the mountain wall.

CREEDENCE  
He's inside that rock, which is  
called The New Wall of Nilbog.

Joshua looks over, then back at Creedence.

JOSHUA  
How could there be anything inside  
when it's about two feet thick?

CREEDENCE  
The New Wall leads to another  
dimension. You cannot see it...  
yet.

JOSHUA

Tell you what. If you don't get my father out of there, I'll rip your ugly head right off.

CREEDENCE

And if you destroyed me, I'd be more powerful than ever.

JOSHUA

Hey, wasn't that in a movie?

CREEDENCE

What does it matter... In this life, everything repeats itself, does it not?

Joshua walks over, looks at the New Wall. Then looks over at Creedence, who is walking slowly from the pulpit towards him.

JOSHUA

(motions to Wall)

Okay, Witchface, are you gonna explain what this stupid thing *really* is?

Creedence is now standing near the side of the Wall, about ten feet from Joshua.

CREEDENCE

That, my son, is one of the missing pieces of the Grand Canyon... It holds many magical powers within.

Joshua has an expression like he can't believe what he'd just heard.

JOSHUA

Wait a second... I can buy that Stonehenge had magical powers, but the Grand Canyon? Isn't that a bit of a stretch?

CREEDENCE

It doesn't matter what you believe. All you have to do is walk inside, and your father and the family will be let out: freed from their captivity.

JOSHUA

What do you mean, walk inside? I don't even see an opening.

CREEDENCE

Have faith, dear boy... It *will*  
open.

JOSHUA

This is all a trap. There's no one  
inside that thing.

CREEDENCE

Then I will prove you wrong, and  
give you a couple free samples.

Creedence touches a part of the wall. Thunder sounds outside,  
and the lights turn off.

Then go on again.

Like something out of an illusionist act, Phil, Margo, Reggie  
and Connie Gates are now outside the wall.

Connie looks at Joshua.

CONNIE

Joshua... You saved us.

Connie runs up, hugs him.

Phil, Connie and Reggie join her.

PHIL

Thank you, Joshua. We thought we'd  
be stuck forever. It was horrible.

REGGIE

Yeah. It was even worse than  
downtown Chicago.

MARGO

And so unkept.

Joshua walks towards Creedence, ignoring the Gates.

JOSHUA

This is the family my father and I  
picked up... that much I remember.  
But where is my father?

CREEDENCE

He's still inside, of course... But  
now you know I speak the truth.

Thunder sounds again. The lights go on and off, on and off.

And then, all of the sudden, the face of Grandpa Seth appears on the stone, as if projected.

GRANDPA SETH  
(in wavering voice)  
Joshua? Joshua?

Joshua's eyes widen. He steps back from the Wall to have a better look.

JOSHUA  
Grandpa Seth? Is that really you?

GRANDPA SETH  
Yes, Joshua? It is me.

There is awkward silence for three beats.

JOSHUA  
Well... weren't you going to say something to help me out?

GRANDPA SETH  
Oh, yeah... I'm sorry. I'm a bit out of it... But I can tell you this: the witch speaks the truth. Your father is locked in another dimension, and can only be freed if you come inside to replace him.

JOSHUA  
So then you're saying I *should* walk inside that thing?

GRANDPA SETH  
No, I'm not saying that at all. Because if you do, you'll be in the kingdom of shadows, a place called Shadowdom, where I lived for a long time after my death. It's not hell, but it's not heaven either. It's kind of like being in detention class, or at the DMV on a Monday afternoon. And I don't want you to have to live in that dark place, because I love you, Joshua... And you deserve much better.

JOSHUA  
But what about my father? He's in there now, isn't he?

GRANDPA SETH

Yes... But who cares about him? You know I always thought he was a good-for-nothing. My advice is that you save yourself... Go now, you and that family, leave Nilbog and it's horrible evil behind, never to return.

JOSHUA

But Grandpa Seth... I just can't do that. I must save my father... And if I have to give my life for his, I would... Because he'd do the same for me.

GRANDPA SETH

There's nothing heroic or biblical about your actions. You will not be giving your life for anyone, because you won't be dead... Being dead in Purgatory is bad enough, but at least it makes sense... Being alive in Purgatory, on the other hand, would be a real bummer, don't you think?

JOSHUA

I cannot turn my back on my father, not after all the things he's done for me.

GRANDPA SETH

And what did he do for you? Think about it... During a bright and beautiful summer vacation, when you could have been playing with all your neighborhood friends and finally getting over the death of your favorite grandpa...

(clears throat)

He takes you all to this rotten, demon-infested town for an entire month on a house swapping exchange. My first question is... What idiot trusts a total stranger who wants to swap houses? My second question: who ever heard of swapping houses in the first place? My third question is, how could a middle-class dentist take a month off work? What happened, did Utah suddenly run out of teeth?

JOSHUA  
 (shaking his head)  
 I still *must* save him, Grandpa.

SETH  
 (sighs)  
 I knew that would be your choice...  
 But I have to warn you, I only  
 appear as an illusion. I will not  
 be in Shadowdom to guide you, for I  
 have graduated to the Cloud Zone,  
 which is much nicer... And they  
 have shuffleboard here. But where  
 you're going, they don't even have  
 checkers.

JOSHUA  
 It doesn't matter... I have no  
 other choice.

Thunder strikes.

Seth's image vanishes. The library is in darkness.

Then, the lights turn back on.

Joshua walks towards the New Wall. Creedence is watching, an  
 anticipating grin etched across her bloody-chapped lips.

The Gates family watches too. Connie is in tears.

When Joshua is very close to the New Wall, thunder bellows;  
 lighting shows outside, where it is no longer dusk, but  
 complete night.

The lights turn off and on again.

Joshua Waits is gone - and Michael Waits has taken his place  
 outside the Wall.

CONNIE  
 Michael!

Connie runs to him, as if he were her own father. Michael  
 opens his arms, embraces the girl.

Soon, the entire Gates family are surrounding Michael.

CREEDENCE  
 Well, well... Isn't this a sweet  
 little reunion?

Michael parts from the family, glares at Creedence.

MICHAEL

Okay you medieval bitch, where's my son?

CREEDENCE

He has crossed over into limbo,  
just to free your worthless soul...  
But all that doesn't matter,  
because I'm going to take your life  
away, right now - along with that  
stupid family.

Michael, with his firm chest out, walks briskly towards the Troll Queen.

MICHAEL

Not if I can help it.

Creedence holds out her arm, and when Michael reaches her, she grabs his shoulder.

Michael falls to his knees.

Blades of what look like white lightning are coming off her fingertips, pouring down into Michael. Michael's entire body is being electrocuted.

Just then, Mayor Arnold walks inside the library, carrying Dr. Cooper.

He drops him on the ground. (Elliott begins to wake up, rubbing his head.)

Mayor Arnold points a finger at Creedence.

MAYOR ARNOLD

No! This wasn't in the plan, you over-the-top Gothic bitch!

Creedence drops her hand. The currants vanish.

Michael falls to the ground. He is still alive, but doesn't look like he can take much more of the electricity.

CREEDENCE

(to Mayor Arnold)

So... I lied? What else is a Troll Queen supposed to do?

Just then, there is pounding from outside. It seems as if the church itself were a giant drum being beaten on by giants. The windows all are breaking. Long green arms are reaching inside.

## CREEDENCE

Oh yes, here comes my babies: the trolls I created to make up for the fact I was known as the Troll Queen even though I ruled a kingdom of goblins. I was the laughingstock of the netherworld, but no longer... They are coming in to save me, and soon, you'll all be dead.

Creedence looks down at Michael, who is starting to stand up.

## CREEDENCE

Beginning with you, Michael Waits.

Creedence aims her fingers at Michael. More electricity pours through her, striking Michael down again.

## MAYOR ARNOLD

(drawing out the word)

No!

Mayor Arnold runs to Creedence. He grabs her, lifts her up. As he does, the electricity is running through him and Creedence both.

He carries her to the New Wall. He is standing in front of it, as if he's about to throw Creedence inside.

The drumming continues; the walls start to break apart.

## MAYOR ARNOLD

(shouting at the Wall)

By the powers invested in me, as Mayor of this town, I now pronounce us together... FOREVER!

With that, Mayor Arnold jumps forward towards the Wall. There is a sudden flash, like an explosion.

The lights go out, for three beats, during which the drumming on the walls cease.

The lights go on again.

Michael is still on the floor, writhing in pain.

Dr. Cooper has gotten up, and has joined the Gates family, all of whom are gathered near Michael.

Dr. Cooper kneels down.

DR. COOPER  
Dad... Are you alright?

Michael slowly sits up, looks over at Dr. Cooper.

MICHAEL  
Yes... But without Joshua, how will  
I live?

DR. COOPER  
Joshua saved your life, and the  
lives of this family... So please,  
don't let his sacrifice be in vain.

Michael looks around. Sees the family, and the broken walls  
behind them. The forest can be seen under new moonlight, but  
there are no Grolls in sight.

MICHAEL  
Help me stand, Elliott.

Dr. Cooper helps Michael stand.

Michael looks at Dr. Elliott Cooper.

MICHAEL  
You're right... Joshua's sacrifice  
will *not* be in vain.  
(puts hand on Cooper's  
shoulder)  
Son.

Dr. Cooper smiles, happy to hear that word coming from  
Michael Waits.

He embraces Michael, who is now, to him, a real father.

FADE TO BLACK.