

Raccoon Man - Episode 1

Trapper Hanson's Mansion

1 EXT. TRAPPER HANSON'S DERELICT MANSION GROUNDS - EVENING 1

F/X: Outside, evening, far off traffic, wind in trees, footsteps shuffling in dirt shuffling on dirt. Breathing as if slightly out of breath.

DAVID: I still don't know why you decided to come here.

ASHLEY: You didn't have to come as well.

DAVID: I wasn't going to let you come alone...here...not at this time of night.

F/X: Footsteps stop. Lock and chains being cut

DAVID: You can't snip the lock!

ASHLEY: I'm going in-it's up to you what you do.

F/X: Footsteps. Glass breaking beneath feet. Footsteps catching up.

DAVID: Wait up.

ASHLEY: Look at the size of this place. All built on death and suffering.

DAVID: You wont find anything.

ASHLEY: You're afraid of him, aren't you?

DAVID: You're crazy, going in at night-

ASHLEY: -Stop whining-

F/X: Footsteps halt-door being forced open.

ASHLEY: Come on.

2 INT. TRAPPER HANSON'S MANSION -- CONTINUOUS 2

F/X: Footsteps on old floorboards.

DAVID: Ugh-it stinks! No one's lived here, for like, centuries and stuff.

ASHLEY: That's what Ive been saying!- No one comes out here- but this is where Dad was killed, and no one is looking to find out why.

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2

DAVID: But dogs-they said it was wild dogs that got him...or coyotes.

ASHLEY: You don't believe that anymore than I do. Dad was here because he mixed up in some hunting crap again-

DAVID: Just because you're some animal rights nutter doesn't mean-

F/X: Shuffling footsteps far off.

ASHLEY: -shhh-You hear that?

F/X: Shuffling stops. Wind through house.

DAVID: Just rats-or no, even worse-coyotes.

F/X: Door opening. Footsteps.

ASHLEY: Listen

F/X: Footsteps getting louder.

MUSIC

DAVID: (whisper)
We need to get out.

ASHLEY: (whisper)
I'm not scared-he won't harm me.

F/X: Footsteps quicker-door opens.

CUNNINGHAM Hey! What you doing here?

DAVID: We...we saw a light on. We thought we better-

CUNNINGHAM -Thats just bull-crap!- Why are you here? ... David? Is that you?

F/X: Creaking of floorboards-scurrying movement.

CUNNINGHAM How many others are here?

F/X: Scurrying getting heavier, closer-growling, animal sounds.

CUNNINGHAM Hey-come out! I've got a gun.

F/X: Gun being cocked. Crashing of breaking door and destruction. Louder growling.

CUNNINGHAM What the..?!

F/X: Roaring and destruction. Cunningham is screaming for help and mercy.

DAVID: Run! For god's sake don't watch.

2 CONTINUED: (2)

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F/X: Cunningham's pleading as he is torn apart.

DAVID: Run, Ashley-run!

MUSIC: Opening Theme

INTRODUCER Raccoon Man, by Daniel j Williams.
: Episode one: Trapper Hanson's Mansion

3 INT. POLICE OFFICE -- MORNING

3

F/X: Background office noise.

LENNY: David and Ashley Fitzpatrick. They reported the death of Travis Cunningham, local guy, killed at old Hanson's place out by Smitt's Creek last night.

HARRY: Trapper Hanson's Mansion? Man, I remember going there as a kid and we'd dare each other to go in

LENNY: It's still derelict. No one's bothered to take it on. Here's the initial report.

F/X: Chair moving, papers shuffling

HARRY: Jeez-face torn right off...neck and torso savaged...severe loss of blood...

LENNY: The girl says she saw who-or what-killed him- said it was Raccoon Man.

HARRY: Raccoon Man? Sounds like I heard that somewhere before-

LENNY: Yeah-some legend, tale. Used to say Hanson's Place was where he was at. "He'll take your skin if you come in"

HARRY: Yeah-I remember. I guess I did get a nasty bite from a raccoon once, but Jesus....

ENNY: Don't take it too seriously-This girl's got some tribal tattoo on her wrist and those discs as big as quarters in her ears. Who knows what else she believes
(laughs)
She's only 20, already got a record.

HARRY: What for?

LENNY: Couple years back she was protesting the building of a fur processing farm, sliver fox or mink I think, called Premiere Pelts, out on County
(MORE)

3 CONTINUED:

3

LENNY: Line. Resisted arrest when she wouldn't move on. Anyway- the boy is waiting for you in room 3.

HARRY: For me? Can't you see I'm kinda busy.

LENNY: Yeah-What are all those files?

HARRY: Something

LENNY: Come on Harry-Julie is waiting for me, hoping I'd get away for early lunch- Ali's All You Can Eat buffet-I gotta stuff enough calories to feed a small African village-

HARRY: -Ok-but you owe me.

LENNY: Sure-hey-Just one thing-it happened before you came here, but it's the second killing at that property within the last six months.

HARRY: You what?

LENNY: And that person was these kids' father-Ed Fitzpatrick-same cause of death-ripped to pieces.

HARRY: Your'e kidding me?

LENNY: Nope-not at all. Welcome back to Huron City, Harry.

4 INT. INTERVIEW ROOM -- CONTINUOUS

4

F/X: Door opening and closing, chair moving.

HARRY: Detective Harry Stewart, Huron City Police. Mr Fitzpatrick-Let's start at the beginning-why were you at Trapper Hanson's place last night?

DAVID: It was my sister-she wanted to go.

HARRY: And why's that? It's not exactly a scenic destination?

DAVID: She wanted...she wanted to see if she could find anything, anything to do with Dad's death.

HARRY: What did you hope to find?

DAVID: I don't know; she was the one who wanted to look around.

HARRY: And you were being a good big brother?

DAVID: It could be dangerous-it was late-

4 CONTINUED:

4

HARRY: Did you know the man who was killed-
had you arranged to meet him?

DAVID: ...no...no I'd never seen him before.
He wanted to know what we were doing
there.

HARRY: Was he already in the building?

DAVID: I dunno-it's a big place-

HARRY: What did you see of his attacker?

DAVID: Nothing...I saw nothing.

HARRY: Nothing?

DAVID: Look man, I heard the growling and I
turned and ran. My Dad, they said he
was ripped to death by dogs, wolves,
or something. I wasn't going to stay
hang around.

HARRY: (quicker-direct)
You think it was dogs, wild dogs in
Hanson's place tonight?

DAVID: (increasingly agitated)
I don't know-I didn't see no dogs-but
the growling-the screaming...hell, I
had to get out.

HARRY: You must have seen something before
you ran?

DAVID: I tell you, I saw nothing. It came
through the door so fast I got out
quick as possible-you woulda too if
you'd heard that noise-please.. I
just want to go home now.

Pause.

HARRY: All right Mr Fitzpatrick. We'll be
in touch.

Paper shuffling doors opening and closing.

HARRY: Detective Harry Stewart, Huron City
police. Miss Fitzpatrick-

ASHLEY: -It's Ashley.

HARRY: Ok-Ashley-can you tell me why you
were at old Hanson's place yesterday?

ASHLEY: Aren't you going to ask me about the
killer?

HARRY: First I'd like to know why you were
there.

ASHLEY: I'm sure my brother has already told
you that.

4 CONTINUED: (2)

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HARRY: (big sigh)
He said you were there because you wanted to see if you could find anything about your Father's death. What did you hope to discover?

ASHLEY: Anything that may help me find the truth as to why he was killed.

HARRY: But you know why-Wild dogs, the report said. Sounds horrific-I'm sorry.

ASHLEY: I didn't say how, I said why. Raccoon Man killed my dad and I want to know why.

HARRY: Ah yeah, this...Raccoon Man. You want to tell me 'bout him?

ASHLEY: It's the spirit of all those hunted and slaughtered animals, back for revenge.

HARRY: Revenge?

ASHLEY: Raccoon Man is ancient. He comes for the skins of those who hunt for greed, profit, and for pleasure. Raccoon Man tore that man to pieces last night because he obviously hunted beyond his needs. He got what he deserved.

HARRY: Deserved?

ASHLEY: Human's are the worst animals there are-

HARRY: And your Dad, did he deserve it too?

ASHLEY: My dad never hunted more than the odd deer- but if Raccoon Man killed him, then he was involved in something far worse.

HARRY: Your brother said he didn't see anything last night-he ran. Why didn't you?

ASHLEY: Raccoon Man wouldn't hurt me- I'm not a hunter.

HARRY: So, your brother, he hunts?

ASHLEY: A little-he used to go with my Dad now and then. I went when I was 10- just the one time.

HARRY: Not for you then?

ASHLEY: I turned vegan that day. Do you hunt, Detective Stewart?

4 CONTINUED: (3)

4

HARRY: No-I've never hunted, but that's not important-

ASHLEY: Harry Stewart you said? Your name sounds familiar-I've just remembered where I heard-

HARRY: I'm new to the force here-

ASHLEY: -But you are not knew to Huron City-I remember, at college, there's a photo of you, opening the counseling center, by the plaque on the wall. Much younger of course, but the name, I remember it, as it's such a sad story-

HARRY: (unsettled)
-Ashley, I need you to describe what you saw-

ASHLEY: -It was in memory of your sister, Francis, wasn't it? Frankie she was called-

HARRY: (trying to gain back authority)
-Miss Fitzpatrick-

ASHLEY: -She went missing, into the Lake, and her body was never found.

HARRY: What did you see of the killer?!

ASHLEY: I'm so sorry, for your loss too.

HARRY: (irritated)
It was a long time ago-now about last night-

ASHLEY: -I'm sorry, have I struck a nerve?

HARRY: You're getting on my nerves.

ASHLEY: Why are you back in Huron City?

HARRY: I'm the one asking questions-!

ASHLEY: No one ever comes back here once they've left. Unless they are looking for something they lost.

HARRY: (growing irritation)
What are you talking about?

ASHLEY: You're looking to find out about sister-I could see it in your eyes when I mentioned her.

HARRY: This is ridiculous.

ASHLEY: You can't hide it from the world-

4 CONTINUED: (4)

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HARRY: (Angry and unsettled)
My sister drowned in the lake nearly
30 years ago...and I need to know who
or what you saw killing Travis
Cunningham, and don't tell me it was
some made up creature! You already
have a record for being stubborn,
don't make me write you up again for
wasting my time!

5 INT. HARRY'S OFFICE -- CONTINUOUS

5

F/X: Door opening, slamming, then opening
again.

HARRY: Chief.

CHIEF
TUCKER: Harry. Nasty mess at Hanson's place.
What did the brother and sister have
to say?

HARRY: Not much to be honest. He claims not
to have seen anything, while the girl
thinks some sort of fantasy boogie
man got him.

CHIEF
TUCKER: That Fitzpatrick girl is just odd.
She banged on about Raccoon Man and
revenge during the investigation into
her Dad's death.

HARRY: I had a look at Ed Fitzpatrick's file-
He was killed in the same way-

CHIEF
TUCKER: Yep-skinned alive- but no sign of
anyone else with him.

HARRY: So how did that end up?

CHIEF
TUCKER: Death by mauling-dogs, or coyotes.
That's what the coroner concluded-
that's what the paperwork says-so,
that's what happened.

HARRY: With Cunningham, we have another body
at the same place, same cause of
death. Hard to feel they are not
related in some way.

CHIEF
TUCKER: I'm not interested in how you feel
Harry-the paperwork is already done.

HARRY: Who owns the Hanson's Mansion?

CHIEF
TUCKER: Lexington Holdings-but-

HARRY: Where they at?

5 CONTINUED:

5

CHIEF

TUCKER: -I said but!-I think we'll have Lenny
or someone else go.

HARRY: Huh?

CHIEF

TUCKER: One of the partners is Michael
Kauffman.

HARRY:

(agitated)
As in William Kauffman's son, as in
rich kid without worries, as in-

CHIEF

TUCKER: -yes-as in the Michael Kauffman who
accused you, of, well...I just don't
think it's a good idea for you to be
the one going, do you?

HARRY:

(deep sigh)
Fine.

CHIEF

TUCKER: Harry, I know very well those files
on your desk are about your sister.
At your interview, I believed you
when you said that coming back to
Huron City had nothing to do with the
past-

HARRY:

It doesn't-

CHIEF

TUCKER: It better not be-Huron City isn't the
easiest place to persuade new people
to come, but I still took a chance
taking you on. At least you know how
odd this place can be-

HARRY:

Ok-I take your point.

CHIEF

TUCKER: You gotta move on. What was it, 30
years or more? Just keep working and
your head down.

HARRY:

I said I take your point-and if we
are speaking of work then I'd better
find out more about Trapper Hanson's
place.

CHIEF

TUCKER: Don't spend too much time on it. We
don't have the resources you had in
Detroit. Right now, I'd say another
coyote mauling looks the likely
outcome. No need to establish
motives with Coyotes.

6

INT. ASHLEY'S APARTMENT -- NIGHT

6

F/X: Background new age music, traffic outside.

DAVID: Thanks Ash, for letting me stay.

ASHLEY: No skin off my nose-I wanted to ask you some questions anyway.

DAVID: Really, do you have to? I'm tired what with the house, that guy, the cops-

ASHLEY: You knew him-that man we saw killed.

DAVID: What? No-I'd never seen him be-

ASHLEY: -"David-is that you?" Of course he knew you! How do you know him?

DAVID: I...I don't know-

ASHLEY: I know when you're lying, and this isn't even one of your better attempts. Tell me!

DAVID: He...he was someone who sometimes came hunting, with me and Dad.

ASHLEY: (Angry)
I knew it. Hunting. I'm right, I know I'm right- Dad was caught up in something bad. Why else would Raccoon Man kill him-

DAVID: -Your'e taking crazy Ashley.

ASHLEY: Am I? What did we just see David, hey? You tell me that!- and don't say you didn't see anything-I saw you looking, before you ran, so don't you try and lie again.

DAVID: All right, I saw it! Why do you think I ran! What was it though-Ash...what the hell was it?