

DARK WHISPER ANTHOLOGIES

EPISODE 1: THE BIRTHDAY WISH

Written by

Ryu Reeves

INT. NARRATOR'S LOUNGE - NIGHT

The narrator sits as comfortable in his chair as he can be. Ready to tell a dark tale for the audience.

NARRATOR

What is the loudest noise one might hear? Is it the roar of a human voice? Or is it the silence of darkness? The answer to what is right or wrong in this world depends merely on perspective. How can you be so sure everything you've ever known is the truth? There is always a deeper meaning than what appears on the surface.

The narrator turns the lights off. He gives a creepy laugh and we immediately go into the story scene. Leaving the narrator's lounge behind, for now.

INT. ZACK'S BIRTHDAY PARTY - DAY

Zack is having his 10th birthday party. His parents Paul and Meredith are bringing out a cake. They sing him "Happy Birthday".

PAUL
Alright, make a wish!

Zack blows out his candle.

MEREDITH
What did you wish for, sweetheart?

ZACK
I can't tell you, mama. The wish
won't come true.

GRANDPA GEORGE
I'm happy we could all come
together. A very rare sight,
indeed. Paul and Meredith, working
14 hours a day. Zack, in school.
Me, living on the other side of the
country.

In that moment, everything flickered in Zack's vision. As if someone had changed the channel on a TV show.

ZACK
What was that?

MEREDITH
What was what?

ZACK
Everything went dark for a second.

PAUL
Are you feeling alright, sport?
Maybe you should lie down for a
bit.

MEREDITH
I guess I'll have to call your
school tomorrow and tell them
you're taking a day off.

GRANDPA GEORGE

The boy's just excited for his birthday! All those presents and sugar would make any boy feel overwhelmed.

ZACK

No, I'm fine. Maybe I was just seeing things.

GRANDPA GEORGE

Hey, I know what will cheer you up. Your favorite game of...

Before George could finish his sentence, he disappears in front of Zack's very eyes. Zack turns back to his mom in a panic.

ZACK

Mom! Dad! What happened to Grandpa!?

PAUL

Grandpa? You've never met your Grandpa. He passed away just before you were born. Are you feeling alright, sport? Maybe you should lie down for a bit.

MEREDITH

I guess I'll have to call your school tomorrow and tell them you're taking a day off.

ZACK

You guys already said those things!

Zack runs upstairs and grabs a family photo to show his parents, but notices Grandpa George is not in the photo.

INT. ZACK'S BEDROOM

Zack is on his bed and his mom walks into the room.

MEREDITH

It's time for supper, sweetheart.

Zack notices Meredith has an unsettling smile on her face.

ZACK

Dad and I were supposed to go fishing with Grandpa next month! You have to believe me, mom!

MEREDITH

Dad? I've been a single parent since you were born. You never met your father. He died in a car crash.

ZACK

NO! We just saw Dad downstairs! You and me and Grandpa!

Zack runs back downstairs to get his Dad, but Paul is nowhere to be found. Zack falls to the floor and begins to cry. He is greeted by a stranger walking into the living room.

STRANGER

Hello, Zack.

ZACK

Who are you!? Stay away from me.
MOM!

STRANGER

I'm afraid your mom is no longer here. Neither is the rest of your family.

ZACK

What did you do to them!?

STRANGER

I didn't do anything. You did. You wished for this didn't you, Zack? For your family to disappear forever. Your Dad never bought that bicycle you wanted. Your mom was more worried about her work than taking care of you. You barely saw them. Grandpa? You just wanted him to hurry up and die, didn't you? Your wish was for them to disappear.

ZACK

Are you the voice in my head?

STRANGER

Yes. I am your voice from the future. 34 years from now to be exact. Hey, I have a present for this very special birthday.

The stranger gives Zack a box with a ribbon on it.

STRANGER (CONT'D)

Go ahead. Open it.

Zack opens it and sees a knife. He looks up with a smile on his knife. He puts the knife in his hand.

ZACK

I'll make them all disappear.
Forever.

THE END