Below is an excerpt from A Dark Light Shivers. You can use this <u>link to watch the scene</u>, or take a look at the <u>podcast on Spotify</u> or <u>IMDb</u>.

## EXT. CRIME SCENE - DAY

A crime scene with several FBI agents roaming around alongside the press trying to snap some photos. Two agents stand outside the gates of a suburban apartment building.

AVA (tired, curious) begins massaging her temple, groaning. CHARLES (untrusting, interrogative, fatherly) notices Ava's distress.

CHARLES

Everything alright, Ava?

AVA

Fine, just a headache.

CHARLES

You were saying?

AVA

Yeah, umm, I had the victim ID'd. His name is Victor Selzer, a senior accountant for KPMG, with no previous criminal record.

Falcon comes by. (stern, military, upright)

FALCON

Sir, ma'am.

CHARLES

You got anything for us, Falcon?

FALCON

I had a chat with the forensics team. Victim was exposed to extreme heat while in chains, in what seems to be a cult related ritual.

CHARLES

What cult?

FALCON

They call themselves the Endseekers. I've checked in with

the archives department, they've performed similar rites in the UK and Europe.

CHARLES

How do we know they are the same ones?

FALCON

They always leave the same book and an immolated victim in the crime scene.

CHARLES

Can I see the book?

FALCON

Here you go, sir.

A book is opened and closed.

CHARLES

Hm, The Book of Darkness. Are there any known religions connected to this?

AVA

There are many cults that follow something related to Darkness, I don't think any of them come up with a book like that.

FALCON

I took a quick look, first think it describes is their sacrificial ceremonies, it's disturbingly detailed.

CHARLES

You said the previous murders all took place in the UK.

AVA

And Europe.

CHARLES

So these lunatics decided to travel across the pond?

FALCON

I don't know what intel our counterparts in Europe have on these guys.

AVA

Well, to me it seems like they are expanding their activities.

CHARLES

Possibly, anything else Falcon?

FALCON

No, sir, I'll get the body loaded.

CHARLES

Thank you Falcon, you do that and get going, we'll join you after the autopsy.

FALCON

Yes, sir. Ma'am.

Falcon walks away.

CHARLES

Ava?

AVA

Yes?

CHARLES

Do you know if we are the only agents assigned to this case, Ava?

AVA

Yeah...?

CHARLES

Then who the hell is that?

AVA

No idea...

CHARLES

Hey, you can't be here, sir, this is a crime scene.

WILLIAM

A crime? Oh yes, of course, a crime of unspeakable brutality I suppose?

AVA

Do you live here, sir?

WILLIAM

Ah, forgive my manners, but it was a long flight you see.

AVA

Your accent, are you from the UK?

WILLIAM

I am indeed. Agent William Enfield, A.M.I. I'm guessing you didn't get the memo.

CHARLES

No, we most certainly did not and what the hell is an AMI?

AVA

Is it a branch of the MI5?

WILLIAM

Oh, no. I'm afraid it's much more boring than that.

AVA

What does it stand for?

CHARLES

Can we see some ID, please?

WILLIAM

Quite certainly you can.

William takes out his wallet.

WILLIAM (CONT'D)

There you go. And as for your question ma'am...

CHARLES

(demeaning)

Administration of Metaphysical Investigations... is that a real thing?

WILLIAM

Well, I heard that the FBI has an excellent Identity and Document Frauds department, so you tell me, detective.

AVA

Seems legit to me, Charles.

CHARLES

Perhaps. Would require further analysis, be it as it may, Mr. Enfield, this is our case and we are not notified regarding a joint agency operation.

WILLIAM

I wouldn't have minded waiting until you cleared that up with your superiors, but due to the, umm, delicacy of this case, I believe we should act as quickly as we can.

AVA

The case? What do you know about it?

CHARLES

Ava!

WILLIAM

I know that it hasn't made the headlines yet and that you intend to keep it that way. A wise move, you wouldn't want to display a cult to the public, especially one that seems like they're on a recruitment crusade.

CHARLES

Recruitment? How can you tell?

WILLIAM

The books, Detective. It's not just an MO or a signature. It's a manifesto. And to all who will listen, it's practically an invitation.

CHARLES

How do yo- who did you say you were?

WILLIAM

You can call me William, but please, if we are going to

cooperate on this, I need to show you something, urgently.

Footsteps of William walking away.

AVA

I think he wants us to follow him.

CHARLES

And, are we gonna just follow the random British guy that appeared out of nowhere?

AVA

(enigmatic)

Well, this is an investigation, Charles and he is a person of interest, so yes, following him would be following a lead, of some kind.

Footsteps walking away.

## INT. WILLIAM'S CAR - LATER

The low hum of an engine signals a change in location. Other cars whizz by occasionally.

CHARLES

This organization of yours, does it operate under a section of Scotland Yard, or MI5?

WILLIAM

Well, they are aware of our existence.

AVA

Unlike us.

CHARLES

Hold on, so you are not working for the British government.

WILLIAM

No, but they are also aware of our existence.

CHARLES

Right...

AVA

Do you share intelligence with them?

WILLIAM

Sometimes, in cases like this.

CHARLES

Like what?

WILLIAM

Cases of supernatural potential.

CHARLES

Supernatural? I mean, yes they are a cult and they seem creepy as fuck, but we have hundreds of them (cont'd)

here in the States, most of them are just a bunch of racist clowns playing dress up.

WILLIAM

I'm sure most of them are.

AVA

Are you suggesting this cult, the...

WILLIAM

Endseekers.

AVA

Yes- umm, are you implying they are related with a supernatural occurrence of some sort?

WILLIAM

Implying, no. I know they are,
but I guess your partner wouldn't
be very fond of that notion?

CHARLES

Depends.

WILLIAM

On what?

CHARLES

Do you have any proof to back up that kind of a theory?

WILLIAM

Well... I have something.

Engine stops. The car comes to a sudden halt, the car lurching forward.

## INT. A WAREHOUSE - SAME

A storage gate slides open. Footsteps.

CHARLES

What is this place, Enfield?

WILLIAM

A storage unit Agent Maynard.

CHARLES

I mean, besides the obvious.

William turns on a switch. Lights are turned on.

WILLIAM

Unlike our counterparts in the Yard or MI5, we never had a very big budget to organize vaults or safehouses. So, we've had to get a little more ingenious with our concealed goods.

CHARLES

Fancy way to justify being cheap.

WILLIAM

Perhaps.

AVA

You didn't answer the question though. What is this place?

WILLIAM

It's a hideout; and an operations base.

AVA

You work in here?

WILLIAM

Not very often, my work keeps me traveling around. I use this place to store some documents, and inspect them when necessary.

CHARLES

Like the proof you mentioned.

WILLIAM

Yes, like that.

AVA

Can we see it?

WILLIAM

Certainly. That's why I brought you here.

CHARLES

Well, where is it?

William's hand delves into a box, items bang into each other.

WILLIAM

We have a mole within their cult, this is the recording she provided last time we were able to contact her.

William pushes a button, an old recorder starts playing.