

Alexandria Baker
Script Sample 1

A small greenbelt at night, dimly lit by glowing windows from nearby houses. Two boys stand over the body of a dead dog. One of them holds a book, the other looks around warily.

Garett:
"It won't work."

Caleb:
"Shh!"

Garett:
"I'm telling you, it's not going to work."

Caleb:
"Shut up! Do you want them to hear us?"

Garett:
(Sighs, then lowers his voice.) "No. I just wish you would hurry up."

Caleb:
"I'm doing my best. The incantations in the book are hard to read."

Garett:
"Give it here." (He takes the book from Caleb and studies a passage. A beat.)

Caleb:
"Well?"

Garett:
(Shakes his head.) "This is stupid. We shouldn't have taken Auntie Maria's grimoire. Plus, how do we know this will actually work?"

Caleb:
(Grabs the book back from Garett.) "Well it won't, with an attitude like that."

Garett:
"We're gonna get caught is all I'm saying. You know how my dad gets."

Caleb:
"Getting grounded is the least of our problems if you keep distracting me. I don't want to bring back a franken-dog."

Garett:
"You haven't even tried it yet. Stop staring at that stupid book and do something!"

Caleb:

“Okay!” (Caleb sighs, then begins to wave his hands over the book in an elaborate manner with his eyes closed.)

Garett:

(Sneering). “Oh, come on! That can’t be part of it.”

Caleb:

“Shut up! Auntie Maria won’t let us watch her work. I don’t know what it’s supposed to look like!”

Garett:

“It’s supposed to look like you bringing Trooper back to life!”

Caleb:

“That’s what I’m trying to do! I don’t see you doing anything to help.”

Garett:

“I bribed cousin Angela to distract Auntie Maria while you took the grimoire, and I came up with the cover story for our parents, and I helped you dig up his body!”

(Garett’s voice steadily raises as he yells as Caleb, but upon mention of the body, he falls suddenly silent. Both boys look down at the dead dog in front of them as the reality of the situation sets in.)

Caleb:

(Sighs). “He looks so small.”

Garett:

“Yeah. It’s weird to see him without his tail wagging.”

Caleb:

(Quickly wiping away tears). “I miss him.”

Garett:

“Me too.”

Caleb:

“This has to work. It has to.”

Garett:

“It will.”

Caleb:

“Okay. For real this time.” (The boys look at each other and nod, as Caleb begins reciting an ancient spell from the grimoire.)

*“O spiritus terreni et caeli antiqui, te rogamus audi nos.
Anima haec nimis cito erravit in solitudines tuas.
Reduc hunc spiritum ad nos. Fac ita!”*

Garett:

“Did it work?”

Caleb:

(Looks at Trooper’s body.) “I don’t know.”

Garett:

“I don’t think so.” (He tentatively pokes the still-dead body.)

Caleb:

“Don’t do that!”

Garett:

“Okay! Geeze.” (A beat). “I’m sorry it didn’t work. I really wanted to bring him back, too.”

Caleb:

“You do it.”

Garett:

“What?”

Caleb:

“You do it. Read the incantation.”

Garett:

“Why?”

Caleb:

“My Latin sucks. Maybe I said it wrong. Just do it!” (A beat.) “Please. For Trooper.”

Garett:

“Fine. But don’t blame me if it doesn’t work.”

Caleb:

“I won’t, I promise.”

Garett:

“Okay.” (Garett proceeds to read the same ritual from the grimoire.)

*"O spiritus terreni et caeli antiqui, te rogamus audi nos.
Anima haec nimis cito erravit in solitudines tuas.
Reduc hunc spiritum ad nos. Fac ita!"*

(Immediately, Trooper's tail thumps against the ground and he inhales a shuddering breath. The dog staggers to his feet and Caleb joyfully throws his arms around him.)

Caleb:
"Trooper!"

Garett:
"Holy shit. Trooper!"

Caleb:
(With tears of joy) "You did it! You brought him back!"

Garett:
(Looks down at his hands, stunned.) "It really worked."

Caleb:
"He's not even a zombie or anything. He's good as new! (to Trooper) Aren't you, boy?"

Garett:
"Huh. I guess Auntie Maria is the real deal after all."

Caleb:
"No, you are."

Garett:
"What?"

Caleb:
"Do you know what this means?"

Garett:
"We need to convince our parents that Trooper came back from the farm?"

Caleb:
"No. Garett, you're a necromancer."