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Treatment – Episode 2

Welcome

The episode opens with Corinn sitting in the processing room, by her father's body, with a buff covering her face. She is holding his hand. Her eyes are red and swollen from crying. Heath's body is already decomposing. His skin is starting to bloat and discolour in places. He has an autopsy 'Y' across his chest and abdomen. His body has already been processed and prepared for the ceremony. Corinn seems composed as she speaks to Heath's corpse. Her words are muffled by the buff over her nose and mouth, which she keeps adjusting. Eventually, she starts to weep. Keeping the buff over her mouth and nose, she kisses her father on the forehead and leaves the processing room.

As she leaves, behind her, we can see the processors starting to work on the rest of the meat. They are processing another body. Corinn passes lines with drying meat on hooks. Outside, she thanks another processor, blood stains on his shirt and sleeves. His hands are crusted with dried blood and dirt. He embraces her and wishes her good luck with the upcoming ceremony.

Flashback: We return to a time before the formation of the community.

Heath is in an Enforcement Squad for the National Liberal Alliance, a political party who has initiated a holocaust. All those who have been found guilty of racist speech or acts by the Public Censor Division, is to be executed. We are introduced to the NLA party leader on a television set. A young Corinn, with black, shoulder length hair, is watching as the man speaks on one side of a split screen, opposite footage of the Enforcement Squad executing citizens.

Heath arrives at home and switches off the television, angry at Corinn for watching. He sits down with her and tells her of all the arrangements that have been set in place. They are going to escape. The place has already been prepared and they expect that it will sustain them until the NLA are snuffed out. Heath believes that nobody is safe and that the Public Censor Division will find anything that can be used to prove guilt. They plan to leave the next day on 'payed leave' that Heath has logged for a 'family vacation'. They will be leaving with two other families.

Heath and Corinn arrive at an unfinished mall, seemingly in the middle of nowhere, between two of the cities that are governed by the NLA. They go underground and meet others who have already housed themselves. The community of people is quaint and comfortable. They expect they won't be hiding for long.

Heath introduces Corinn to Robyn, a beautiful, red-haired woman who had worked alongside him on the Enforcement Squad. There is a suggested future relationship between the two characters. Corinn sees a young black girl in a corner with a candle and a very dense book. Corinn and Kamille make eye contact for the very first time.

Treatment – Episode 3

A Meaty World

The episode opens with Corinn kneeling before the feet of a decomposing body. She looks up at Heath. Around his neck is a necklace made of lint with his destroyed Enforcement Squad badge as a pendant. His body is positioned upright in a high-backed, wooden chair with arm rests, on top of which his arms are splayed, palms facing upward. He is naked. The autopsy ‘Y’ has started to swell outward and pull apart from the bloating. His pelvic area is covered with a dark sheet and on his lap rests a copper dish with dried meat.

Corinn takes a piece of the thinly sliced, still moist, meat and places it on her tongue as if in communion. She closes her eyes and swallows. Kamille is standing behind her and has her hands resting on Corinn’s shoulders. A single tear rolls down Corinn’s cheek. It drips to her father’s feet, leaving a dark, magnifying spot on the grimy floor. Corinn stands and, with Kamille’s arm draped around her shoulders, she leaves an assembly of people who have gathered for Heath’s memorial ceremony. They are all gathered on either side of an aisle. One by one, people kneel before Heath’s body and place dried meat in their mouths.

At the back of the assembly, Corinn and Kamille meet with Robyn, who extends her condolences and thanks them for allowing her to proceed with the ceremony and ritual. Corinn is distraught and, in their room, breaks down. She pleads with Kamille to go above ground with her, arguing that it has been decades since the executions and that things should have changed by now. Kamille argues that it would be too dangerous and that they would have to be sure of what is out there before doing anything rash. Corinn decides to get Kamille the proof and assurance she needs and attempts to leave the underground parking lot in search of that proof.

On her way toward the level above ground, on the upper underground level, she encounters two gatherers. One is unconscious and bleeding from a wound in his back. She helps the other to carry the body to the infirmary. There, Corinn is told that the man was hit by an aerial shot. They suspect that it was the NLA who are still looking for the community. An emergency meeting is held with the remaining gatherers, Robyn, Corinn and Kamille. Robyn does not seem genuinely worried or shocked

with what has happened. Robyn calmly warns them: “This is why we don’t go up there. They will never stop looking for us.

The rebels hold a meeting of their own. They suspect Robyn and her lackeys of corruption. Collin doesn’t believe that the NLA are still out there. He reveals that he has been into the cities on his own at night and things seem to have gone back to what it used to be. They decide that they would seek out confirmation of what Collin suspects to be the truth, both in the cities and inside the community. Reginald is given permission to include his daughter, in the light of dire straits on the horizon. He leaves to find her and take her to the electrical room. Wayne follows Mecca and her father to the room and eavesdrops on what they tell her inside.

Treatment – Episode 4

Meat Orgy

The episode opens with jovial preparations for a ‘festival’. Corinn and Kamille are in good spirits, lighting candles and draping cloth for the event. We see the processors from the first episode, the one teasing the other about giving in and not following his previous resolve of staying home. The ‘festival’ starts. There is a procession of adults, nude. They gather in the prepared and decorated ceremonial area. Robyn gives a speech about the ritual that they are about to engage in – one that the community has always looked forward to and cherished as a way of maintaining their strength and love for one-another. Robyn says that after Heath’s death and the loss of one of their gatherers, there is need for strengthening.

Young men and women surround the gathering of adults. They start to beat on drums, both gathered and handmade. Large, bowls of miscellaneous materials are brought into the area. They are filled with raw cuts of meat. The adults engage in a grotesque, erotic orgy following ritualized gestures and the slathering of bodies with raw, bloody meat. The orgy is a mound of red, gyrating bodies in ecstasy. Robyn watches the orgy with a smile. She sees George in the mound of bodies and joins into the action.

After the event, Corinn and Kamille have washed. Corinn goes to storage to get drinking water for their room. She tries to scrape residual blood from her finger nails as she approaches the dimly lit stairwell. Near their room, from a distance, she sees Wayne’s little sister. The girl is playing with a rag doll. She looks sickly, malnourished and is twitching uncontrollably. Before Corinn can change her route, two guards find the girl, pick her up and take her toward the stairwell. Corinn assumes they will take her to the infirmary, but decides to follow them anyway. They do not stop at the infirmary, but go above ground and into the opposite underground lot’s basement level. Corinn watches as they take the girl in to a fabricated tent, lit from the inside. She listens as they kill her.

Wayne tells Mecca that he had eavesdropped on the rebel meeting. He pleads with her to speak to her father about including him. She promises him that she will do whatever she can to take him with her. Reginald comes home, finds the two of them and tells Wayne that Corinn has been looking for him. He goes to Corinn's room. She ushers him inside and, painfully, tells him what she saw.

Treatment – Episode 5

Kuru

Continued from the previous episode:

Wayne is staring blankly at Corinn. She tries to get a response from him by apologizing and trying to embrace him, he shoves her away and scolds her for telling him something so terrifying. He is angry and she suggests they go straight to Robyn. In shock, Wayne doesn't speak, but simply follows Corinn to Robyn's office. When they get there, they've stormed in on Robyn writing in a journal, which she closes hastily and gets up from her desk ready for the attack. Corinn accuses her of being negligent and allowing her lackeys to execute little girls. Before Robyn can ask her to elaborate, Wayne asks her, calmly, to see his sister's body. Robyn acts confused, as she usually does. She is, however, genuinely confused about Wayne's behaviour. He lastly asks if his mother is also dead. Robyn doesn't answer, but turns questioningly to Corinn, who tells her what she had witnessed.

Kamille is in a private meeting with an older man. He was a traditional healer before they went underground. Kamille asks him to help her and Corinn start a family, whether it be by magic or by finding a man who would be willing to impregnate either of them. He warns her that change is close by and those changes will endanger both their lives, not to mention an unborn child, should he help her. She asks him to start finding someone who would be willing to help them conceive or speak to the spirits he consults and then she would make the decision when it's closer to the time and the future looks clearer to him.

Corinn has taken Wayne to her own home, gave him some strong alcohol, which she keeps stashed away for just such occasions, and hushes him to sleep. She leaves the room and sneaks into Robyn's office, where she rummages through her documents and finds records of a disease that the girl, her mother and the old flower making lady had. None of them would have survived and were a danger to the community. The records show that they were executed. Enraged, Corinn leaves the documents to fall to the floor and runs to the recreational area. There she announces to the community what had

happened to these women and a little girl. She tells them that Robyn had kept it hidden that there was a disease killing people in the community. This disease affects anyone who eats the brain matter from the processed bodies' offal. There is uproar and chaos in the recreation area.

Wayne has woken and is looking for Mecca, who he finds is in another meeting with the rebels. He demands that they open for him and, once they do, he tells them what has happened. They realize that they have prepared for threats above ground when the threat has been with them all along.

The community start to move into retorts of denial, which is flamed when Kamille and Robyn arrive. Kamille attempts to subdue Corinn, while Robyn tells the community that Corinn is having trouble overcoming the grief for her father and that she would be well soon enough. She reiterates the line: "Rumours are the deadliest of poisons. Our survival depends on truth and cohesion."

Treatment – Episode 6

New Command

Kamille is instated as vice-head of the council in the ceremonial area. The entire community watches and cheers after Robyn has given a decadent speech. When Kamille speaks, she makes promises to better the community and always strive to make life safer and more comfortable for them. With a look toward Corinn in the audience and Robyn by her side, she states that change can only happen with the truth and she will make sure that change happens.

Corinn is convinced that Kamille doesn't believe her about the executions and the disease. She had tried to find the documents again, but Robyn had moved them.

Wayne and the rebels are planning an escape and debating how safe it would be to tell the community. They expect that people would either follow them, or incarcerate them to keep from exposing their whereabouts to the NLA. Wayne makes it clear that he wants to kill Robyn and leave everyone behind. Mecca agrees with him, which causes a conflict with her father, who believes they should avoid resorting to revenge.

Kamille, aware that Corinn feels betrayed, knows that she needs to maintain a certain facade in order to fool Robyn and hold sway over as many people as she possibly can. She sneaks into Robyn's office and searches in all the places she can find to look. When she doesn't find anything, she sneaks into Robyn's home and finds, tucked underneath her clothing, with a pack of cigarettes, all the files that Corinn said she'd discovered. In addition, Kamille finds Robyn's personal journal. In the journal she writes that she had ordered one of her lackeys, and a member of the council, George, to smother

Heath in his sleep. When they discovered the disease and what it could do to the community, he threatened to make the knowledge public. Robyn knew that they would lose control over the people and lose the practices that were keeping them cohesive. She killed Heath to “Keep the people together”. In another entry she writes about killing the gatherer and trying to convince whomever might read it, that it was a necessary measure to keep people from wanting to go above ground and put their lives in danger.

Corinn is caught by Robyn’s lackeys, trying to go above ground, again. After the gatherer’s death, people had a renewed fear of what waited for them outside. Robyn incarcerates her and says that she should be punished for risking the lives of everyone underground by exposing them. Robyn refuses to release Corinn until they can agree on what her punishment should be. Kamille threatens Robyn with finding her secrets and exposing them if she should hurt Corinn. That same night, Kamille is violently attacked and mutilated in her sleep.

Treatment – Episode 7

Processing

Kamille is found outside her home, badly beaten and mutilated. She had tried to get help, but collapsed before she got too far. She is taken to the infirmary by the older man who found her laying a few steps away from his own rooms. He waits with her as she is tended to and rests. When she wakes up, he is still by her bedside. She drifts back into unconsciousness. The older man goes to Robyn’s office and asks to release Corinn after what has happened to Kamille, temporarily postponing the legalities. She obliges, pretending to be outraged by the attack on their vice-head of council.

Corinn is furious and rushes to the infirmary, not too far from where she was held captive, on the same level. She bursts into tears when she sees the state Kamille is in. She asks the man if he could tell her anything about what happened, but he’s unable to help her. After some time, as they wait for Kamille to regain consciousness, he tells her of his son disappearing some time ago. He’d asked for help from Heath, who tried his best, but soon after, Heath passed away. After the news of Heath’s death, he went to Robyn, but she still hasn’t found his son. He says that, after what Corinn had said in the recreation area, he couldn’t help but wonder if she thought his son had met the same end. She unwaveringly says that his suspicions are very possibly true.

The rebels have decided to include Corinn and Kamille into their group. They plan to overthrow Robyn and tell the community about the disease and executions before going above ground, leaving the others to make their own choices about staying or leaving. Reginald tells Wayne that he can consider

himself his son and threatens to kill him if Mecca should ever want it. Reginald gives him an army knife and holster as a gift.

When Kamille comes to, she is immediately embraced and showered with kisses, tears and kind, loving words. She stops Corinn and immediately tells her that she had found the documents. She then says that there is more information in Robyn's personal journal, which she had stolen from Robyn's room and that she suspects it's the reason she was attacked. Corinn goes home to find the journal in their secret hiding place, usually for alcohol. Their room has been turned upside down.

Corinn can't help but read the entries.

Treatment – Episode 8 (Finale)

Hallowed Be Thy Flesh

Flashback to when Heath was alive and the leader of the community's council, consisting only of himself, Robyn and George, who served under her as the head of security. We trace the events that led up to George's discovery of the disease and the meeting with Heath and Robyn about what they are to do. Heath says that they should tell the community and get rid of the cannibalism. Robyn fights with him and says that it's not the meat because then everyone would be sick. She is of the opinion that they should leave it and try to see what the infected people have in common with one another, before they damage the cohesion of the community by taking away their ceremonies. Heath tells her that she can't toy with lives and makes it clear that he will tell the community the following day.

That night, Robyn conspires with George, to kill Heath before he kills their community. She convinces him, with little effort, that she can save everyone if she can study one or two of the necessary casualties. George smothers Heath in his bed, on Robyn's orders.

The following morning, Corinn finds Heath dead in his bed. The doctor at the infirmary says that he seems to have had some sort of asthmatic attack or repertory arrest but he could not say for sure. Heath's body is shown as he is opened and processed. His flesh is salted and hung on hooks. His body is closed back up and taken to the morgue, where he is covered with a sheet and marked.

Return to the present: Corinn has the journal in her hand. It is opened at the entry about Heath's murder. Corinn takes the journal with her to Robyn's office. Wayne sees her leaving her room and follows behind her. She storms inside the office, finds Robyn alone and throws the journal in her face. Wayne enters the office just as Robyn swats away the journal. Corinn spits in Robyn's face and starts to strangle her against one of the concrete columns around which her office is structured. Wayne

rushes forward, pushes Corinn out of the way and starts to beat Robyn with his fists. When the woman is whimpering on the floor, unable to move much, he hands Corinn a knife from his new holster. Corinn pulls Robyn up from the ground, forces eye contact and stabs her in the neck.

Blood jets in red sheets from the wound. Corinn and Wayne watch as the life drains from her.

In the recreation area, the rebel group are announcing to the community that what Corinn had told them is true. They also announce that they will be going above ground and that everyone else should consider doing the same. There is immediate chaos and the community, misguided by fear, starts to attack the rebels.

Wayne leaves Corinn in the room with Robyn's body. He rushes up the stairwells and reaches the ground level. He steps outside. The light of the sun blinds him. The empty landscape is white.