

## INN BETWEEN

*Episode: Season 3 episode 12 "The Possession"*

Audio length: 14:00

Transcript provided by Ria Couh.

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### **INTRO (00:00):**

HANNAH Hi, everyone. Hannah here.

Thanks for listening to Inn Between.

A quick content warning before we begin: this episode contains **forcible loss of agency through**, as the title suggests, **possession**.

If this is troubling to you, we recommend you check out the episode transcript, at [thegoblinshead.com/listen](http://thegoblinshead.com/listen).

Please take care of yourselves.

Let's go to the Inn.

### **RECAP (00:21):**

TESSA Previously on Inn Between...

AUDIO (00:22): INN BETWEEN THEME PLAYS IN THE BACKGROUND.

ROSIE We're a great team, we'll figure something out!

ZARA You say that, but what do we really know about each other?

SFX (00:33): SWORD BEING UNSHEATHED.

CARRIOR Are you friend or foe, stranger?

KNOWLES Ladies, you go to the east end.

ZARA This... can't be right.

ROSIE Why? What is it?

KNOWLES And gents, why don't you go to the docks?

TODE (*pained*)

The noise... the noise...

CASTOR Uh... What noise?

AUDIO (01:19): INN BETWEEN THEME FADES.

AUDIO (01:23): BACKGROUND SOUNDS OF TAVERN.

ADRINE (*venomous*)

Back off, Carrier, or you'll be tasting my blade.

CARRIOR (*taunting*)

Yeah, go ahead and try it, Adrine!

TESSA Oh, you'd like that, would you? Listen here, everyone. This inn is neutral ground, and anyone who thinks differently...

SFX (01:37): A FIRM THUD AGAINST A TABLE.

TESSA (*firmly*)

Is welcome to meet this club. Do you understand?

AUDIO (01:41): PAUSE AS THE CROWD TAKES THIS IN.

KNOWLES Alright, let's... let's inventory what we know, shall we?

ROSIE What did you find out, Knowles?

KNOWLES Nothing useful. Other than the fact that this town is made up of violent belligerents. It's like... as soon as they know you are not part of a faction, they ignore you in favor of attacking the nearest enemy.

ZARA There's a good reason for that.

ROSIE Tell them what you sensed.

ZARA I *am*, relax.

*(takes in a breath)*

I was casting Detect Magic to see if I could track down a source, but... I found something much worse.

CASTOR What did you find?

ZARA Dozens of people under a low-level enchantment. Not *everyone*, but nearly all your *belligerents*.

KNOWLES Not plain old hate, then.

ZARA Oh, there was plenty of that, too. Not everyone was enchanted, and this type of enchantment is only powerful enough to take advantage of existing feelings.

ROSIE But what about that other thing you said?

ZARA *(exasperated)*

I am getting to it.

*(beat)*

As far as I could tell, this isn't sorcery. It would take a whole team of them to enchant so many people and... I think it would look different. There were no... physical signs that I could see.

KNOWLES Tode, is that your observation too?

TODE *(pained, slightly disoriented)*

I can't say.

ZARA Why not?

TODE The *noise*...

ROSIE *What* noise?

CASTOR He's been saying that *all* day.

TODE (*slowly through the pain*)  
The noise of... the feeling. The thing I was sensing on our way here.

ZARA Oh, that.

CASTOR (*curious*)  
It's like *noise* to you?

TODE Yes. No. Sort of?

ROSIE Okay...

TODE I feel it now. It's... very strong and close. Constantly present. It is slightly irritating but otherwise untroublesome. Until I attempt to Detect Magic or any sort of thing, at which point it becomes so... *much*, and so strong, that I can't even see what's right in front of me.

ZARA So, it's an interference?

TODE Yes, exactly so. Like... a hive of wasps in my mind.  
(*apologetic*)  
I wasn't able to focus on anything else, I'm afraid.

ZARA Why can't I detect it?

TODE Not sure. Perhaps it isn't magic.

ROSIE There's got to be *some* kind of magic at play, though. While Zara was doing her thing, I did some sneaking to listen to what they say when they think no one's listening.

*(unsettled)*

All the feuding people kept saying the same things over and over again. It was like a script.

KNOWLES *(confused)*

Like a rallying cry or...?

ROSIE *No*, it was stranger than that. Not propaganda, more like their brains were *stuck*. Not just the enchanted ones either.

KNOWLES Stuck, you say?

ROSIE Mhmm. They meant what they said, I think, but it felt... rote.

KNOWLES I've... actually seen that before. People who have been enchanted multiple times sometimes fall back into the same patterns, over and over again.

ZARA You're saying the whole town's been enchanted, just... not all at once.

KNOWLES Sounds that way. Maybe repeatedly.

ROSIE *(shaken)*

Leaping Lolth.

ZARA *(disconcerted)*

The kind of power it would take to *do* this...

TODE What was it you said about taking advantage of existing prejudices, Castor?

CASTOR Uh, yes, I think it's obvious what's happening.

AUDIO (05:03): A PAUSE WHILE THEY WAIT FOR HIM TO ELABORATE.

CASTOR *(matter-of-factly, like crossing off items on a checklist)*

We have a pervasive presence that is sensed by a druid, but not a sorcerer, suggesting a living thing that is not a standard mortal. We have a powerful enough magical influence to enchant multiple people, repeatedly, and we have a blood feud that is deliberately and maliciously cultivated.

*(dramatic pause)*

The answer is clear. It's a demon.

ZARA I think he's right.

TODE If I could think a little more clearly, I might have an objection, but my inclination is to agree.

AUDIO (05:38): A PAUSE AS THEY ALL PROCESS THIS.

ROSIE *(unsure)*

Well... mission accomplished? We know what's causing the feud. We could go back.

KNOWLES I just... don't understand the reasoning here. Why would a demon *want* to do this?

CASTOR The machinations of demons are... ingenious. Beyond mortal ken. We might never really understand.

ZARA Don't we need more evidence before we go... waltzing off home? We have to be sure.

KNOWLES What do you think, Castor?

CASTOR There are a few more things we can look for, but I don't see any reason we couldn't leave town tomorrow.

ROSIE *(baffled)*

You... don't want to stay.

CASTOR Why should I want to stay?

ROSIE You don't think there's any way to help? Isn't the town in *immediate danger*?

CASTOR (*amused, disbelieving chuckle*)

It's not as though we can *fight* the demon.

ZARA Changing your tune from three days ago, huh?

CASTOR I have new information, don't I?

ROSIE I... guess.

TODE (*pained grunt*)

Noise.

ROSIE (*gently*)

Are you alright, Tode?

TODE I'm... not sure.

ZARA I would have thought you'd view this as an interesting observational experience, Castor.

CASTOR Does the real and present danger *not* alarm you?

KNOWLES (*conciliatory*)

Come now, a person is allowed to change their mind, aren't they?

ZARA (*scoff*)

I guess. But... isn't he acting—

KNOWLES (*firmly*)

He can act how he likes.

(*casually*)

Say, Castor, what's your favorite food?

CASTOR *(thrown off)*

I'm... sorry?

KNOWLES Your favorite food. What is it?

CASTOR *(baffled chuckle)*

I don't see how that's relevant.

KNOWLES I'm just... *curious* to know.

CASTOR *(annoyed)*

We don't really have *time* for this.

ROSIE *(with creeping horror)*

You don't know, do you?

*(pause)*

You have no idea.

CASTOR Just because I don't want to talk about this...

ROSIE You don't know!

*(with finality)*

Because you're not Castor!

AUDIO (07:41): A PAUSE.

NOT CASTOR *(amused chuckle)*

*(cruel, mocking, vicious laughter)*

*(laughter grows in intensity)*

*(taunting and droll)*

Oh, it took you *long enough!*

*(laughter)*

I've been in here *two* days!

ZARA Castor, this isn't funny.

NOT CASTOR Beg to differ, cousin.

TODE *(darkly)*

You're the noise.

NOT CASTOR *(derisive)*

I'm the noise, little man. Honestly, you four don't really know Castor at all, *do you?*

ROSIE *(scared)*

Who are you?

NOT CASTOR *(mocking, faux-thoughtful tone)*

I've got lots of names. Castor calls me The Gray One, which...

*(pleased)*

I rather like.

KNOWLES *(calmly, firmly)*

What happened to Castor?

GRAY ONE *(haughty, annoyed)*

Oh, he's still in here, kicking up quite the fuss. It's truly shocking. I can't read his mind, as you so *astutely* discovered, but... I can get a sense from him.

*(with fake pity)*

He honestly thinks of you as his *friends*.

ROSIE We *are* his friends!

GRAY ONE You didn't even notice he was gone! How sad...

*(smug)*

It's *delicious*.

KNOWLES *(forceful)*

Get out. Leave him alone.

GRAY ONE *(ignoring them)*

Did you even know he could do... *this?*

SFX (09:00): MAGICAL WHOOSH.

ZARA *(alarmed)*

That's... magic.

KNOWLES Castor can't *do* magic.

GRAY ONE *(cruel, cold laughter)*

You're all so *stupid*.

*(suddenly serious, humorless)*

Listen, adventurers, this town is *my* corner of Hell. It belongs to me. I've been cultivating it for a *long* time, and I don't need the four of you here being *pests* about it.

Now, I'm willing to let you take your intel back to whoever it is that hired you without... *killing* you.

*(with veiled menace)*

Isn't that a *good* deal?

KNOWLES How do you know we won't use our intel to destroy you?

GRAY ONE Oh, because *I* know everything *you* know.

*(smug, taunting)*

You just told it to me!

*(beat)*

It's not nearly *enough*. You're getting off here easy, kids. And, keep in mind, *this* is a one-time offer.

ROSIE What about Castor?

GRAY ONE *(dismissive)*

Castor's mine. He stays.

KNOWLES No. No deal.

SFX (10:01): BLADE BEING UNSHEATHED.

KNOWLES Let him go.

GRAY ONE What are you going to do, human? You hurt me, you'll be hurting Castor, too.

ZARA Is that a promise?

SFX (10:10): THE MAGICAL WHOOSH OF ZARA'S FLAMES IGNITING. THEY STAY BURNING THROUGHOUT THE EXCHANGE.

GRAY ONE *(dark chuckle)*

Nice bluff, cousin, but you wouldn't roast your friend alive *just* to get to *me*.

ZARA *(firmly)*

Don't call me cousin. And...

*(derisive snigger)*

Check that sense you get from him again. I don't *have* any friends.

AUDIO (10:27): A TENSE PAUSE. ZARA'S MAGIC IS STILL ALIGHT.

GRAY ONE (*considering*)

Mm, I suppose it'd be a shame to waste a perfectly good vessel.

(*serious, dangerous tone*)

Adventurers, you have twenty-four hours. You leave *without* Castor...

(*lightly, casually*)

...or you die. *That* is the deal. And if you're smart, this is the last you'll be seeing of me.

(*pleasantly*)

Goodbye!

AUDIO (10:52): PAUSE. ZARA'S MAGIC RUMBLES.

CASTOR (*heavy breathing*)

SFX (11:00): ZARA'S MAGIC DIES OUT.

CASTOR (*loudly, pained, determined*)

(*through clenched teeth*)

Get. Out of my. *Head!*

ROSIE Castor?

CASTOR (*surprised, scared*)

Rosie?

(*desperate*)

Ca—Can you hear me? Can you hear what I'm saying?

ROSIE (*small*)

I can hear you, yeah.

TODE The noise is diminished a bit. The demon is no longer close.

KNOWLES Your favorite food, Castor. Quick.

CASTOR *(slowly, in pain, scared, breathless)*

The... the black... trumpet mushrooms my cousin grows. It's... It's me. I swear it's me.

TODE *(gently)*

Are you alright?

CASTOR Uhm...

*(shaken)*

No.

ROSIE *(distraught)*

How did this happen?

CASTOR I don't know. It just... When we were walking up that big hill, we... when we could first see the ocean, it...

*(beat)*

*(dissolving into anxious panic)*

All of the sudden he was *there*. I... I could feel him, and none of you could hear me and—

KNOWLES Why didn't you tell us one of us could get possessed?

CASTOR *(loudly)*

I didn't *know!* I didn't think—

*(lowering his volume, apologetic)*

I didn't realize that... it would be... *him*. I—I'm... sorry.

ROSIE I can't believe you were going to kill Castor!

ZARA (*offended*)

I was not going to *kill* him! It was an obvious bluff!

KNOWLES You'll pardon us if we bought it, Zara.

ZARA Why are we so concerned with me? We're ignoring the *obvious* question here.

CASTOR (*panicked*)

Please... I can explain. I swear I *can*...

ZARA Castor. Are you a warlock?

AUDIO (12:17): A TENSE, LONG PAUSE.

CASTOR (*heavy sigh*)

(*helplessly honest*)

Yes.

AUDIO (12:25): BACKGROUND SOUNDS OF TAVERN FADE AWAY.

**OUTRO (12:26):**

AUDIO (12:26): INN BETWEEN THEME PLAYS IN THE BACKGROUND.

TESSA To be continued...

**CREDITS (12:31):**

HANNAH This episode, "The Possession", was written and directed by Hannah Wright with assistant director William Wright. The show is produced and edited by Katherine Ayers.

The voice of Castor is Caleb Del Rio. The voice of Zara is Quin Leigh. The voice of Tode is Anthony Morales. The voice of Rosie is Lucille Valentine and the voice of Knowles is JV Hampton-VanSant.

This episode featured the voices of Matti Mali as the Carrier and Marielle Madden as the Adrine.

Our theme song is by Eli Hamada McIlveen and our artwork is by Gabrielle Buxman. Our transcriber is Ria Couch.

Transcripts for this and every episode can be found on our website, [thegoblinshead.com](http://thegoblinshead.com).

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Thanks for listening!

AUDIO (13:40): MUSIC ENDS.

**POST-CREDITS (13:43):**

AUDIO (13:44): MUTED BACKGROUND SOUNDS OF CONVERSATION.

CARRIER (*whispered*)

Curse your family and your name, Adrine.

ADRINE (*whispered*)

Try my steel for a curse, Carrier.

TESSA (*disbelieving*)

Excuse me, this isn't a library. Quiet feuding is still feuding. Get out!

AUDIO (13:59): BACKGROUND SOUNDS FADE AWAY.

EPISODE ENDS.