

"Unity"
The Secret of St Kilda, Episode 10

Content Warnings:

- Sounds of suffering and illness
- Discussions of chronic condition
- Discussions of death
- Explicit expression of cult beliefs
- Innuendo
- Major character deaths
- Ritual sacrifice
- Graphic descriptions of gore
- General warning for cult indoctrination

[THE SECRET OF ST KILDA'S THEME MUSIC BEGINS TO PLAY]

NAOMI

What you are about to hear... is not for you. Sometimes we see things and we cannot draw our eyes away. Sometimes we do things, and we cannot stop ourselves. I'm sorry, but I've begun this, and I cannot desist until I reach its final, sombre end. I've written you warnings, and I ask you to heed them, my darlings. Think, my dear Hirtans, are you safe? Are you content? Are you sure? Yes? Well then, unfortunately, we welcome you once again to The Secret of St Kilda.

[THE SECRET OF ST KILDA'S THEME MUSIC PLAYS. IT IS IN A MINOR KEY WITH STRONG CELTIC FOLK VIBES. IT FADES OUT INTO PACING FOOTSTEPS, A CRACKLING FIRE, AND GENTLE MUSIC. A DOOR OPENS]

LOCKIE

So?

FINDLAY

It's too late.

ROBBIE

You're not gonna do anything?

FINDLAY

(soft)

She'd never make it to a hospital. She wouldn't even make it to the boat.

ANGELIQUE

(upset)

Oh, Dubrach and the After.

FINDLAY

It's the same as her mother, I'm afraid. I'd... I'd say your goodbyes if you have them.

WEE MARY

Thank you, Elder Findlay.

FINDLAY

It's Doc Findlay today, Mary, but I'll inform the other Elders once the sun is up and we'll start the Parliament process, since Mathias is gone.

LOCKIE

So, what, you're going to let her die?

FINDLAY

Let her?

LOCKIE

Well, if you're in charge, you do something, okay? You call Dubrach and you fix this!

FINDLAY

Lauchlan, I know you're upset but it doesn't work like that. Andromeda would want us to take care of the island.

LOCKIE

She's not dead!

FINDLAY

(sadly)

No, but son, it won't be long.

LOCKIE

Oh yes, it will! She asked me to be her second last night. No Parliament required. I, no, we- We will handle this.

FINDLAY

Come on now...

ANGELIQUE

Yes! She did! She did! We heard her, didn't we, Mary?

WEE MARY

Aye! So that means Lockie's in charge and we're his counsel.

FINDLAY

For now.

LOCKIE

Then thank you for your help, Elder Findlay, but I have work to do.

FINDLAY

Alright. Well.

[THE DOOR OPENS]

You know where to find us.

[THE DOOR CLOSES]

WEE MARY

I guess I'd better put the kettle on again.

[FOOTSTEPS. A SOFT, TRILLING VOICE ACCOMPANIES THE BACKGROUND MUSIC. ANDROMEDA BREATHES, SHAKY AND SOFT]

NIYATHI

Terrible fussy man, Findlay. I wish he'd leave well enough alone. I'll make up a draught to help you sleep.

[THE SOUND OF WATER BEING POURED]

Oh, Ani, I wish this fever would break, you're burning up.

[THE PAT OF A DAMN CLOTH]

Once we find the Sigh we'll be so close to finding the Tear that separates us from Dubrach. I just know it.

Lately I can hear him, too. Just small things. Whispering dreams about us all being together. No more leaving. Hari can feel it too, I think. Oh, he'll go spare if he loses you. He won't want to stay without his Auntie. I *need* you to just hold on a little longer. I know it's hard, but Lockie and I? It's like you knew.

We're a perfect balance. Together we're going to rip it open, bring back Dubrach for real. No more toiling in hot anything, Ani. No more creams, no more aches.

[ANDROMEDA STOPS STRUGGLING TO BREATHE]

No more dying.

[ANDROMEDA BEGINS TO STRUGGLE AGAIN]

I just need you to be here to see it. Please, Ani. Please.

ANDROMEDA

(raspy)

Niya....

NIYATHI

Oh, Ani, I'm right here.

[THE GENTLE MUSIC BECOMES A PIANO TUNE]

ANDROMEDA

Niya, I didn't- I didn't tell him...

NIYATHI

Lockie? Tell him what, dear heart?

ANDROMEDA

It has to be a perfect offering.

NIYATHI

An offering?

ANDROMEDA

A... sacrifice...

NIYATHI

I'll do it, don't worry. Rest, Ani.

ANDROMEDA

No! It has... it has to be him. Please, Niya.

NIYATHI

Yes, of course, I'll sort it all out. Save your strength.

ANDROMEDA

His perfect... offering.

[WATER IS SQUEEZED OUT OF A CLOTH. ANDROMEDA BREATHES SHAKILY. THERE IS A SOFT KNOCK AT THE DOOR. IT OPENS]

LOCKIE

How is she?

NIYATHI

Bad.

LOCKIE

We need to find this healing Sigh place now.

NIYATHI

Darling, I'm sorry, but Andromeda has asked me to prepare. There's an offering that has to be made.

LOCKIE

Oh, is that... normal?

NIYATHI

Maybe once a year; good harvest and the like. Messy, but essentially it's just cooking with extra steps. But this can't be any old ewe, it has to be perfect.

LOCKIE

Okay, do what you have to do. Hari's still asleep and one of us can stay here to watch him.

NIYATHI

Find it. Find it for me.

LOCKIE

I will.

NIYATHI

I love you, did you know that?

LOCKIE

(chuckles)

I had an inkling. Tell me again once today is over.

[HE KISSES HER FOREHEAD]

Then tell me again every morning after that.

NIYATHI

As long as you say it back.

LOCKIE

I will, and I do, by the way. Now go, before I keep you any longer.

[SOFT FOOTSTEPS. THE DOOR CLOSSES]

Andromeda, I owe you so much. I never got to tell you, but if I hadn't ended up here, I don't know what I would have done. The shame, you know? I mean, you stood by me since I got here and just took me in without question.

I am sorry I left you yesterday. I'm going to try and help you now. Just, just hold on, okay? I know you're suffering.

Dubrach, I know I don't deserve your help, but she does. Please, let me help her. Ease her pain for me now, we just need a little more time.

[A SOFT RUMBLING PASSES]

Thank you.

[THE DOOR OPENS. FOOTSTEPS. THE PIANO MUSIC FADES OUT]

GEORGIE

Finally! We're on a time clock here!

WEE MARY

What were you doing in there?

[FABRIC RUSTLE. TOAST PURRS]

LOCKIE

Well, this is gonna sound mad, but- Oh! Ah, ah! Gentle with the claws, Toast! Come on! But, uh... I was healing her.

ANGELIQUE

You're going to need to learn to do that a lot quicker.

SACHA

Lockie, the egg.

MARY

The sne-

SACHA

I am not calling it that!

LOCKIE

Aye, here.

SACHA

Hm. It's not an egg at all.

ANGELIQUE

No, it's a stone.

SACHA

It's not a stone, it's a *path* stone.

WEE MARY

Agh, get to the point, you pompous git.

SACHA

You should have come to my summer lecture series and then I would not have to explain everything to you, Small Mary. This is a Viking path stone.

ANGELIQUE

Ah! I was once a Viking in The Valkyrie, I played a very good Sieglinde!

[QUIET BUT UPBEAT ACTION MUSIC BEGINS TO PLAY]

SACHA

Not relevant as ever, Angelique. When Vikings made their way across they would use crystals just like this one to navigate in dense cloud. They would use it when the moon and the sun were in equal measure, to set their heading.

ROBBIE

Like the balance between Solsaich and Dubrach! Guess it's hard to navigate at night.

SACHA

Sure. Once believed to be magic items we now know them to have birefringent qualities.

WEE MARY

(sighs)

Alright I'll bite; bi-fringed-what-now?

SACHA

Birefringence: light is polarised and split. You see how this is shaped?

WEE MARY

Like an *egg*, yes.

SACHA

This will be to focus the split light. It will point the way.

LOCKIE

Perfect! So we just take this out before dawn and it'll show us the door!

SACHA

It's like a compass, you need to begin in the correct place. You retrieved this from the cliffs at Ruival?

LOCKIE

Aye, Mary was the one who figured it out; it was in a puffin's nest.

SACHA

Did you stand on the Mistress Stone to prove your balance before descending?

LOCKIE

Uuh, we climbed up, actually.

SACHA

No Hirtan would do such a thing! The Mistress Stone is at the top of the cliff, and the precursor to the climb down. And... it stands perfectly due east of the island, aligned with the sunrise.

LOCKIE

(urgent)

Mary, what time is it?

WEE MARY

We have maybe... half hour before sun up?

LOCKIE

Georgie, quick, start the van. One of us needs to stay behind with Hari while the rest of us find the Sigh.

WEE MARY

I'm coming with, I know this place better than you.

SACHA

I have no interest in this excursion. Toast and I have Andromeda's items for translation.

ROBBIE

See you soon then, love. God, you're so clever!

GEORGIE

Disgusting. Van! Now! before I start chundering at these newlyweds.

ANGELIQUE

Didn't stop you sobbing like a baby at the wedding.

GEORGIE

Yeah, that was a special occasion, weren't it? Now he's just my regular, gross brother, int he?

ROBBIE

(pretending to cry)

'What you have, it's just so beautiful!'

GEORGIE

Yeah, yeah, groomzilla.

ROBBIE

Hey! My husband deserves only the best.

WEE MARY

(humourous)

Ugh, I'm with Georgie on this one. C'mon, let's scarper before they start making moon eyes at one another.

[THE DOOR OPENS. FOOTSTEPS]

LOCKIE

Come on, lads, Andromeda is counting on us.

[FOOTSTEPS FADE INTO THE RUMBLE OF THE VAN]

NARRATOR

So close now. Can you feel it? There's a layer between the strange and the real, waiting to be torn open. All you have to do is get to it.

[THE VAN RUMBLES TO A STOP AND THE DOOR IS SLID OPEN]

The sun is rising slowly, dawn is breaking, the truth will be revealed.

[THE ACTION MUSIC STOPS. FOOTSTEPS CRUNCH ON STONE]

GEORGIE

There it is! The Mistress Stone!

LOCKIE

So, uh... Pop the snegg on top, you think?

[CRUNCHING GRASS]

ROBBIE

There's a hole! I've never noticed before?

WEE MARY

That was right camouflaged! I don't know how you even spotted it!

ROBBIE

Got that newlywed luck, I guess.

GEORGIE

Oh, vomit.

ROBBIE

Ha ha! Yeah, I love you too, brother!

LOCKIE

Alright, here goes nothing...

[STONES SCRAPING]

ANGELIQUE

It fits perfectly!

LOCKIE

Stand out of the light!

[BUILDING MUSIC, INDICATIVE OF A REVELATION, PLAYS]

NARRATOR

Then, as if on cue, the moon looking passively on, the sun shifts itself over the horizon, climbing out of the sea to begin the day. A ray skims across the water and makes its way directly into the stone. Then another, then another...

LOCKIE

It's reflecting! I can see it!

NARRATOR

The beam of light, small at first, snakes its way across the landscape, and then, as more sunlight hits the stone, it becomes stronger and stronger and points northward.

ANGELIQUE

Aah! It's working! It's working!

GEORGIE

What's over there?

WEE MARY

The Gap, it's pointing towards the Gap! Robbie, can you see?

ROBBIE

I think I know what it is! There's a cleit just left of the Gap!

GEORGIE

One of those little stone huts?

LOCKIE

Are you sure?

ROBBIE

I'm sure!

LOCKIE

Oh ho! What a team! Oh, Andromeda would be proud of all of you.
Georgie, take us over!

[THE VAN DOOR CLOSSES AND IT DRIVES AWAY. MUSIC STOPS.
BIRDSONG FADES IN]

NIYATHI

Morning, wee babo. It's time to go home.

[CURTAINS BEING OPENED]

HARI

(grumpy)

I'm still sleepy.

NIYATHI

I know, dear heart, but mumma has some very important plans she needs to go home for. I'll wrap you up again once we're home, okay? Slippers.

HARI

It's early?

NIYATHI

I know, but I missed you so much while you were away from the island.

HARI

I wasn't even gone very long.

NIYATHI

Too long!

HARI

Mumma, is dad on the mainland now?

NIYATHI

Yes, darling.

HARI

Why did he want to leave us so bad?

NIYATHI

Sometimes people just can't be happy here, and that's just the way it is.

HARI

I'm never going to leave.

NIYATHI

Are you sure?

HARI

Umm...

NIYATHI

There are lots of things out there you've never seen; your dad wanted you to go to university.

HARI

Mister Torrance says aversity is a formation experience?

NIYATHI

I'll be sad when you leave.

HARI

Can't you come to aversity too?

NIYATHI

No, babo, the only world I want is right here.

HARI

Well then, I want to stay here, too.

NIYATHI

I'm glad to hear that. Maybe we just need to make the most of every day we have together, huh? What would you like to do today?

HARI

Ice cream!

NIYATHI

Ice cream?

HARI

For breakfast!

NIYATHI

For breakfast?

HARI

And lots of drawings, and I want to give Mister Lockie my diggings.

NIYATHI

What a good list! Let's go home and do those things right now!

HARI

Yes! Best mumma ever!

[BIRDSONG FADES OUT INTO THE DISTANT SOUND OF WAVES AND BIRD CALLS]

GEORGIE

S'not very big, is it?

ANGELIQUE

Well, you should know, it's not about the s-

WEE MARY

Angelique! Don't look at me like that, Lockie...

LOCKIE

Pretty small hole there, too...

WEE MARY

No.

LOCKIE

Ock, come on, none of us will fit.

WEE MARY

(mutters)

Ugh. Bastard. I hope your socks all get holes in.

[WEE MARY HUFFS AS SHE CLIMBS INTO THE CLINET]

LOCKIE

Ock, away with you. What are these things for, anyway?

ROBBIE

So, Sacha says they're like fridges, I guess? Kinda like cold stores for food, originally.

LOCKIE

Ah.

ROBBIE

The wind rushes down the landscape and is forced in the hole and then out the other side.

LOCKIE

Clever.

ROBBIE

Mm.

ANGELIQUE

(calling down)

Can you see anything inside?

WEE MARY

(echoing, distant)

Oh, aye! It's got four bedrooms and a swimming pool.

ANGELIQUE

Uh, wha-

WEE MARY

No, you daft bint! Now hand me a torch!

GEORGIE

Needs her sleep, don't she...

WEE MARY

I heard that!

[A TORCH CLICKS ON]

LOCKIE

What's in there?

WEE MARY

I think it's... a wheel?

ROBBIE

Like, for a cart?

WEE MARY

No, it's a big metal jobby. It's stiff, but I think I can... Oh, it's going!

[MUSIC BEGINS. CLUNK]

GEORGIE

What was that?

ANGELIQUE

Shh. Do you hear it? Listen!

[A SOFT WHIRRING, AND THE SOUND OF RUSHING WATER]

ROBBIE

Is that... water?

LOCKIE

Oh, Mary, I think you did it!

ANGELIQUE

It's underneath us!

WEE MARY

Georgie, be a dear and pull me out.

ROBBIE

It's headed towards the Gap!

LOCKIE

There must be some kind of underground mechanical system. Well done you!

[ROCKS SKITTER]

WEE MARY

I'm never crawling in anywhere again.

[THE SOUND OF STONE GRINDING]

ROBBIE

Dubrach's Powers! You have to see this!

ANGELIQUE

观世音菩萨圣, 我的天呐!

GEORGIE

Not so close to the Gap!

ROBBIE

There is no gap!

GEORGIE

What?

ANGELIQUE

The Gap is gone!

NARRATOR

And she's right. Where the cavernous expanse of the Gap used to be, you look down and instead see grating stone stairs coming out of the rock face. Debris and streams of spring water are pushing their way through the overgrown earth as you make your way down the steps. You test them, carefully, making sure the stone can take your weight, and it does. In fact, it does perfectly, just like it was supposed to.

[THE GRINDING GEARS STOP]

Your back facing the sea, you see it. The opening to a cave that is perfectly arched and unnatural. You know it wasn't there before. This is it. This is the Acaid.

LOCKIE

We found it. Thank Dubrach. We found it.

[THE WAVES AND MUSIC FADE OUT SLOWLY. BIRDSONG AND A CRACKLING FIRE CAN BE HEARD]

LOCKIE

(impatient)

What's taking so long?

WEE MARY

Och, quit fretting. We're all in it with you. We're going to make sure it all goes perfectly, ya hear?

LOCKIE

I should probably go and help them-

WEE MARY

There's already four of them in there, just take a moment's breather.

LOCKIE

(exhales)

Almost there.

WEE MARY

You wibbling in your wee boots?

LOCKIE

Aye. Have you, uh, done one of, umm...

WEE MARY

You can say sacrifice. It's not a dirty word.

LOCKIE

Is where I come from.

WEE MARY

It's just a sheep. You're not a veggie, are you?

LOCKIE

Uh, with these guns? This is pure protein.

WEE MARY

Oh, aye?

LOCKIE

I wish there *was* a veggie option.

WEE MARY

If I could take the burden off you I would. Just pays to do it quick.
Once in, once out. No mess.

LOCKIE

Something's gotta die if someone else wants to live? Bit mediaeval,
isn't it?

WEE MARY

Well, you know the rules: no change without sacrifice. Otherwise,
you'll upset the balance. One in, one out, just like a nightclub.

LOCKIE

Uuh, *who are you?*

WEE MARY

Oh ho, I know how to boogie.

[WEE MARY MAKES BOOGIEING NOISES]

LOCKIE

(laughs)

I can see that.

WEE MARY

Got you to crack a smile, though.

LOCKIE

Aye.

WEE MARY

Are you sleeping?

LOCKIE

Mmh. Are you?

WEE MARY

Not without a little help. Just see his wee face sometimes. I didn't
even know him.

LOCKIE

Yeah. I'm not so sure I really knew him either. I, I just wish... Ugh, you know.

WEE MARY

Aye.

LOCKIE

Can't get forgiveness from a dead man.

WEE MARY

Not everything can be undone. Some things we just have to carry with us and hope we do it better round two.

LOCKIE

Round two. Ah, he'd have done it for Esther.

WEE MARY

Now you can do it for Andromeda. We do strange things for family, eh?

LOCKIE

Aye, tell me about it.

WEE MARY

Och, it'll be alright. Wee chant, wee lamb hokey pokey, and then thank Dubrach, hello Andromeda!

LOCKIE

I hope so. I really hope so.

[THE IDLE RUMBLE OF A VAN'S ENGINE. OMINOUS MUSIC BEGINS]

NARRATOR

As they cradle the precious burden, it becomes hard to look at her. You force yourself to watch as they laboriously deliver her to you.

It's barely been an hour, but Andromeda's skin now looks tight as a war drum, prepared to herald her onwards. Her previously luminous hair is now a damp, funerary shroud sticking against her forehead, shielding her eyes from the morning sunlight.

As she's passed to you to carry she feels diminished, small.

[TYRES CRUNCHING STONE]

Here, in the light of day, gone is the strange draw of her soldier's surety. She just looks like a lost and forlorn young woman, soon to be burdened by eternity.

ROBBIE

Go gently, Georgie, or she's not going to make it...

GEORGIE

Smoother than Angelique's arse, promise.

ANGELIQUE

Georgie. Just get us there. Fast.

LOCKIE

Andromeda, we found it. You just have to hold on.

NIYATHI

I'm so proud of you, Lockie.

LOCKIE

Team effort.

WEE MARY

The boy's going to pull this one out at the last minute, I know it.

ROBBIE

You left Hari behind?

NIYATHI

He's all wrapped up, he'll sleep through the whole thing.

WEE MARY

As he should. Kid doesn't need anymore nightmares.

[THE ENGINE STRUGGLES]

WEE MARY

Georgie, watch it!

ANGELIQUE

Precious shipment here!

GEORGIE

You wanted fast! I'm trying!

ANGELIQUE

Is that the lamb you're clutching, then?

NIYATHI

Dubrach's perfect offering.

WEE MARY

Poor thing. Guess that's just the way of it. Something has to be given up to get something back, eh?

ROBBIE

Ugh. I hate sacrifices.

LOCKIE

Needs must. But don't worry, Robbie, this one's my responsibility.

GEORGIE

Ready back there? One Sigh, coming up!

SACHA

Actually, I was just telling Niyathi, that is not the Sigh.

LOCKIE

What do you mean? It has to be!

NIYATHI

No, not like that.

SACHA

Andromeda mistranslated it, it's Achaid! It's the way the N is written - it's not A C H A I N, it's A C H A I D!

WEE MARY

So, what is it? And does it even matter what it's called as long as it works?

NIYATHI

It's the Tear.

SACHA

Yes. That's one translation, it can also be translated as 'the Pain'.

LOCKIE

(gritted teeth)

Oh. Good to know. Hold on, Andromeda. Don't let go.

[THE VAN'S ENGINE FADES OUT, THEN SO DOES THE MUSIC. WAVES CAN BE HEARD BREAKING IN THE DISTANCE, AND DRUMMING. LOCKIE BREATHES HEAVILY. METAL CLATTERS TO THE FLOOR]

WEE MARY

It's... it's okay if you want to stop.

NIYATHI

He's come this far. He's one of us now.

LOCKIE

I'm ready. Bring the sacrifice.

WEE MARY

It's always better if you just do it quick.

[GRADUALLY THE DRUMMING FADES OUT TO BECOME OMINOUS MUSIC]

NARRATOR

You are barely focussing on the small, brown sack as it is placed in front of you. It seems insignificant compared to Andromeda's ghostly figure, draped across the large, stone altar.

The hollows in her cheeks shift in the candlelight. With each flicker she turns from woman to corpse and back again. The truth only revealed in the rattle of her slow breaths.

In this place, something shifts. Even in this state, she radiates otherworldly power. You can barely take your eyes away to take in the rest of it. The impressive standing stones, covered in carvings. The towers of ancient tomes. The racks of eyeless, staring skulls. A view that could carve a man out of his own body. But, there are also figures of your new found family. Standing. Anticipating. Together.

Niyathi looks at you. She nods, imperceptibly.

It begins, as terrible things often do-

[THE MUSIC BREAKS]

- with a knife.

[A WET SOUND]

You strike down. Straight in the middle. Go for the heart.

[OMINOUS MUSIC, LIKE WHISPERING WIND, BEGINS TO BUILD AGAIN]

You don't expect it to writhe in response.

LOCKIE

(gasping)

No. No, no, no, god, no, no, no!

NARRATOR

You peel back the sack. It sticks to its bloody cargo-

[A WET PEELING SOUND]

LOCKIE

Oh! No! Oh no, no, no!

NARRATOR

- trying to save you from seeing. Don't look, Lockie. Don't look.

LOCKIE

Oh god, Niyathi!

[LOCKIE BEGINS TO CRY AND WAIL]

NARRATOR

You touch his face but all you feel is cold wax. His head lolls sideways to rest against you, affections parody as the blank eyes look straight through you.

LOCKIE

Hari? Hari!

NARRATOR

You can't help yourself. Frantically, you pull his too small frame from the cramped sack, and you feel clots of warm blood slop out behind him. His limbs dragging and dangling like a perverse puppet show. It's too late.

[VIOLINS BEGIN]

LOCKIE

No, no, no! Hari! Hari! Come on, come on, come on, wee man, come on, wee man.

NARRATOR

We expect the dead to look like us: just sleeping, soul intact. But they don't. What you cradle in your arms, what you pull to your chest, searching for signs? It's nothing. Just meat and eggshell.

Lay it down, Lockie. Hari is gone.

LOCKIE

I'm sorry, I'm sorry, I'm so sorry. Please stay with me! Come on, come on, wee man!

NIYATHI

Ani? Andromeda?

LOCKIE

(sobbing)

Hari!

NIYATHI

(panicked)

It didn't work? Why didn't it work? We just need to try again. Let's reset everything.

LOCKIE

Niyathi... What did you do?

NIYATHI

I did everything right! Ani said a perfect offering, I did what she asked.

LOCKIE

On Dubrach and the After, Niyathi, he's your *son*.

NIYATHI

Was, Lockie. He's dead.

LOCKIE

(retching)

I think I'm going to be sick...

NIYATHI

(light, then bitter)

No, no, no, no, darling, you did everything right! I'm so proud of you. I should have known, this is Mathias' fault. Of course he couldn't be perfect, half of him was already spoiled.

LOCKIE

(furious)

You get away from him!

NIYATHI

I know you're surprised, but we can try again in a little bit. I'll take care of Ani 'til we're ready.

LOCKIE

You, you killed him!

NIYATHI

Did I?

LOCKIE

Oh, Dubrach, no, *I* killed him...

NIYATHI

You don't have to feel upset! He was going to leave the island anyway, I could feel it.

LOCKIE

(sobbing)

Oh, Hari, I'm *so* sorry.

NIYATHI

Now he gets to stay with us and Dubrach. You found the Tear and now everything is going to be alright.

LOCKIE

(shouting)

How could anything ever be alright again? *How could it?*

NIYATHI

No need to yell...

LOCKIE

He's your son! He loved you!

NIYATHI

(bitter)

Yeah, for now?

LOCKIE

God, Niyathi, *I* loved you.

NIYATHI

No, no, no, no, no you *love* me. You promised. We have to be together, we'll just... We'll make a new Hari! The two of us! He'll really be perfect then, and-

LOCKIE

Oh ho ho, you are a *monster*. You're a monster!

NIYATHI

Lockie, it's just a kid! People make them every day.

LOCKIE

(breathing heavily)

You- No. No, no, no, no, no. You can't-

[THE SCRAPING OF METAL ON STONE]

NIYATHI

Put down the knife, Lockie. I forgive you! We can work this out.

LOCKIE

You... *You* forgive *me*?

NIYATHI

For killing Hari, and being rude. Love makes us do crazy things, huh?

WEE MARY

Dubrach, help us.

ANGELIQUE

Lockie... No, you're not a killer.

LOCKIE

You see, that's where you're wrong.

[LOCKIE GRUNTS WITH EFFORT. NIYATHI GASPS]

NIYATHI

(weak)

I thought it was my offering to give, but I was wrong. It's yours. I'm yours. Forever.

LOCKIE

Not like this.

NIYATHI

You had to do it with your eyes open.

[LOCKIE HUFFS, DRIVES THE KNIFE DEEPER]

I forgive you, Lauchlan. I forgive you. I forgive, I forgive you...

LOCKIE

Oh, god!

NARRATOR

You feel her slide off the knife and crumple to the floor, then your only thought is to get out.

Run, Lockie. Run and don't look back.

[A WHOOSHING SOUND REACHES A CRESCENDO THEN FADES OUT. A LOUD THUMP. PIANO MUSIC PLAYS. LOCKIE IS CRYING]

You kick in the door of the bothy. Once a home, now a cradle for your own misery. You see the erratically wrapped package on the table, and your heart drops.

[THE SOUND OF PAPER BEING UNFOLDED]

The handwriting on the card is much too heavy, the letters misshapen and misaligned. Hari.

HARI

Dear Mister Lockie.

NARRATOR

You, you can't. You just can't. Your body is empty of air and you can feel your dry bones grinding against each other as you try to breathe.

[LOCKIE SOBS]

HARI

Dear Mister Lockie, please stay with us forever.

NARRATOR

I'm so sorry you had to see this.

HARI

You saved me, and that means you're my hero. This is my best treasure, I hope it is expensive enough for you to stay. My dad is gone now. Everyone says he went to the mainland, but they won't look at me and I know what that means.

If you leave I think part of me will leave with you. And then I'll always be missing a bit. Or maybe that's just what it feels like.

Love, Hari.

[PAPER RIPPING]

NARRATOR

You tear the paper and see your own reflection accusing you. You go to wipe the surface clean but you just smear the blood from your fingertips across it. His blood. Niyathi's blood. Mathias'. Esther's. Preston's. Andromeda's.

LOCKIE

(shouting and crying)

Why? Why did you do this? Because you're evil! You're worthless! You're an utter failure! There's something deep inside you that's unfixable and broken and everyone can see it! You take everything good and you ruin it! You're a disease, Lauchlan! Infecting everyone you care about until they're like you. You're a coward, 'cause you won't even do anything about it!

Do something. Do something! Do something!

[LOCKIE YELLS IN ANGER. A SMASHING SOUND. LOCKIE SOBS. THE SOUND OF GLASS SHARDS BEING SORTED THROUGH]

Oh, Hari. I'm so sorry.

Dubrach, help me. Dubrach, if you can hear me, help me. Help me! Please, god, help me.

DUBRACH

I'll try, Lockie. I'm so sorry. I'm sorry I couldn't save the boy, but there's still time for Andromeda. Do you hear me?

LOCKIE
(confused)
I do? I do.

[INTERMITTENT WHIRRING]

DUBRACH
(sighs with relief)
Good. Because after that? We need to talk about the end of the world.

[THE WHIRRING INTERMINGLES WITH THE SOUND OF WAVES, THEN THE SECRET OF ST KILDA'S THEME MUSIC BEGINS TO PLAY]

NAOMI
The Secret of St Kilda is a Haggis and Dragons production. This episode was created by Michael Ireland and Ross Lavery, written by Naomi Clarke, and produced by Paddy Gillen. Our production assistant and transcriber was the irreplaceable Chloe Hendry. Sound design was by Tracy Barnett, and the theme was by Shane Rutherford-Jones. Today, the Narrator was played by the marvellous Alistair Stuart, Lockie was played by the charming Alan Burgon, Wee Mary was played by the cheeky Erika Sanderson, Andromeda was played by the fearless Méabh de Brún, Niyathi was played by the wonderful Michelle Kelly, Sacha was played by the brilliant Danilo Battistini, Elder Findlay was played by the loveable Rhys Lawton, Robbie and Georgie were played by utter lads Dean J. Smith and Shogo Miyakita, Angelique was played by the fabulous Sam Yeow, and Hari was played adorably.

You can support the show by leaving a review, following us on @TheKilda, or subscribing to our Ko-fi for extra behinds the scenes goodies and ad free versions of the show.

If the things you experienced with us today have been difficult and you need extra support please check the description for a list of resources.

Thank you, and we'll see you on the island.