

Now: The wedding night

In the chilling scene titled "The Wedding Night," a group gathers around a lifeless body in a dramatic and haunting setting. Femi, a surgeon by profession, is seen trying to detect any sign of life from the deceased, though the attempt seems in vain given the dire state of the corpse. With open, unseeing eyes, a slack jaw, and a conspicuous crimson stain sprawling across the chest, the lifelessness is undeniable. The wind's howl renders any hope of hearing breath a mere fantasy. This grim tableau captures the group's undivided attention so completely that they initially fail to notice an additional, ominous presence lurking at the periphery of their circle.

Emerging from the shadows, a figure steps into the torchlight, presenting a visage that could belong to a vengeful spirit from ancient scriptures. Drenched in blood, from his shirt to his wrists, and with it caked upon his neck and jawline in a macabre semblance of consumption, the figure instills a profound sense of dread. Standing before the group, this blood-soaked individual breaks the heavy silence with soft sobs, inadvertently drawing their eyes to the gleam of metal in his hands - a knife, its elegant form and mother-of-pearl handle starkly juxtaposed against the scene of death. This blade, previously part of a celebratory ritual as it sliced through a wedding cake, now serves as a chilling punctuation to the night's horrifying events.

This stark narrative, blending elements of tragedy with a palpable tension, weaves a tale of sudden violence interrupting what should have been a night of joy. The emotional depth of the scene is enhanced by the disturbing transformation of wedding symbols - the knife, once an emblem of unity and celebration, now a silent witness to death. The group's confrontation with the figure, marked by their initial failure to recognize him, adds layers of mystery and foreboding to the unfolding drama, leaving the reader to ponder the relationships and events leading to this nightmarish conclusion.