

**"Warlock Games 2: Set-Up"**

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"WARLOCK GAMES 2: SET-UP" BY DOMINIC DOVE

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EXT. FOREST

Recap of events from before.

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ADAM  
He killed him - he killed  
Benedict!

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\*  
\*

ADAM runs over to the WARLOCK, and shakes him.

\*

JEFF  
Adam, leave him!

\*  
\*

ADAM  
WHO ARE YOU? WHAT DO YOU WANT?

\*  
\*

Warlock sneers, before letting out a gasp and collapsing in Adam's grasp.

\*  
\*

ADAM (CONT'D)  
Stay dead, you cold bastard.

\*  
\*

He drops the body, out of whose jacket fall two photographs: both of unknown boys of the same age.

\*  
\*

ADAM (CONT'D)  
(Showing pictures to  
Zepp)  
Zepp - it's your cousins.

\*  
\*  
\*  
\*

ZEPP takes the photographs, and lets out a gasp.

\*  
\*

ZEPP  
(turning)  
Ernie! Darren! I think I know  
what happened here. My cousins  
told me this story, said it  
happened to them a couple of  
months ago, but I wouldn't  
believe them...

\*  
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CUT TO:

EXT. DARREN AND ERNIE'S HOUSE

It is the past. The camera pulls out to reveal an arm wrestle between the two boys from the photographs, DARREN and ERNIE.

DARREN  
Ready, and - GO!

They struggle to defeat each other, but Darren eventually wins.

ERNIE  
Jeez, I just about had you! Hold on, wait there...

He gets up and goes towards the garage.

DARREN  
(Laughing)  
What a bastard! Ernie, you really did not -

ERNIE  
DARREN! Heads up!

A rugby ball hits Darren in the head.

DARREN  
Bloody hell!

ERNIE  
Come on, it's a good day, let's take it to the forest.

DARREN  
Fine.

CUT TO:

EXT. FOREST - OPEN PLAINS

It is a bright, sunny day, and the field is mostly empty. Rugby montage of kicking the ball.

DARREN  
Ernie! We gotta get back soon, mind if we go?

ERNIE  
Sure, let's go.

CUT TO:

EXT. FOREST - TREES

They are walking through some trees. Darren is waffling on about something (improv.) They hear a noise.

ERNIE  
Shh! What was that noise?

They climb over a small mound and see the warlock standing there, with a teenage boy, who is kneeling before him, as if begging him for mercy.

BOY

Please! Oh, please have mercy!  
When I saw the letter, what it  
said - I only thought-!

WARLOCK

Silence! You have brought me  
nought but disappointment and  
dismay. You are of no use to me  
now.

(He turns away from him)

I have no choice but to dismiss  
you from your position of -

BOY

(Crying)

NO!

Boy turns and gets up, beginning to run away. As he does so, warlock spins and casts his staff, killing the boy, who falls to the ground, blood streaming from his eyes and mouth.

The duo's eyes expand exaggeratedly. As the warlock turns away again, he catches sight of them as they jump up and flee. Fuming, he slowly trudges up the mound to see them sprinting away through the trees.

They keep running for some time, followed casually by the warlock. Eventually, they hear a loud voice that forces them to stand still where they are. They stand back to back, looking up into the trees above, moving around in a circle.

WARLOCK (V.O.)

(Booming)

FEE FI FO FUM,  
YOU'VE CAUGHT THE WARLOCK WITH  
HIS SMOKING GUN,  
YOU CAN'T HIDE, NO MATTER HOW FAR  
YOU'VE RUN,  
SO LET'S PLAY A GAME - CREATE A  
LITTLE FUN.

The warlock suddenly appears in a whirl of smoke/a flash and a bang/something inventive.

WARLOCK (CONT'D)

It appears that the two of you  
have seen a bit more than I'd  
like. A liability, it would be,  
for me to allow you to leave  
these boundaries....alive. But  
perhaps not - you're not actually  
going to tell anyone what you've  
seen here, are you?

They shake their heads profusely.

WARLOCK (CONT'D)  
 Though then again, you probably  
 would.

They look at each other.

WARLOCK (CONT'D)  
 Don't worry, be honest.

They nod, meekly.

WARLOCK (CONT'D)  
 Very well. We'll make it fair.  
 People WILL die, don't get me  
 wrong - I'll hunt them down if  
 it's the last thing I do - but  
 I'll give you two your chances of  
 freedom, at least. SO, there are  
 two of you, and one of me - that  
 makes three. Thus/therefore you  
 have three chances. Three rounds.  
 Round one: classic mode. Normal  
 rules apply. You simply have to  
 get out of the forest, using any  
 means necessary. You may begin  
 tomorrow morning.

ERNIE  
 (Struggling, as first  
 words to warlock)  
 A-and....what till then?

WARLOCK  
 Until then, earnest Ernest....you  
 sleep.

Warlock casts his staff, and the two boys drop to the  
 floor, unconscious. Screen to black.

FADE IN:

EXT. FOREST - DAY

From Ernie's POV - he slowly wakes up, and everything is a  
 blur. This is a dreamlike sequence and as such everything  
 remains somewhat out of focus. He sees Darren standing with  
 a Biggles hat on his head (goggles over his eyes), a  
 jacket, and a scarf. He is looking enthusiastic.

DARREN  
 Come on, Ern, we've got to build  
 this plane!

ERNIE  
 Wha-?

DARREN

It's our way out of here, Ern, a nice big plane to fly us way over the trees and across to safety!

ERNIE

What are you-?

DARREN

Look, Ern! I'm sawing some wood!

Darren has a thin branch and is using it to 'saw' a bigger branch. Big, exaggerated smile on his face as he stares, wide-eyed, at Ernie.

DARREN (CONT'D)

Come on, Ern! Come saw some wood, Ern! Come saw some wood!

The camera cuts to Ernie's face and pushes in as he gets up and screams.

ERNIE

(Desperately)

Nooooooooo-oooooooo-oooooooo-!

FADE TO:

EXT. FOREST - DAY

Smooth transition back to Ernie's sleeping face. He is screaming still.

ERNIE

Nooooooooooooooooooooooooo!

He jolts awake and gets up, a look of relief spreading across his face. The camera starts circling his body.

ERNIE (CONT'D)

Ahh, it was all a -

We suddenly see Darren, exactly as he was in the 'dream'. Still sawing.

DARREN

Come on, Ern, we've got to saw this wood, or we'll never get the plane fixed.

He points to a pile of twigs, laid out in a somewhat plane-like fashion.

ERNIE

What the hell are you doing? Have you gone mad?

DARREN  
 (With both arms out in  
 the air)  
 Completely and utterly batshit  
 insane!

Darren suddenly stops everything, his arms still in the air, and stares, wide-eyed, at Ernie, telling him to shush. One of Darren's arms is pointing back and forth at something in the trees behind him. The camera follows this to find a camera sitting in the trees, not at all inconspicuous.

DARREN (CONT'D)  
 (Whispering)  
 If he sees us saw, we saw, you  
 see? If he sees us do nothing, he  
 makes us do nothing-

ERNIE  
 Wha-?

DARREN  
 (Slightly louder)  
 We DIE.  
 (Looks worried suddenly,  
 turns to camera,  
 smiling)  
 Ah-ha ha ha....just sawing some  
 wood, saw, saw, saw.....

Ernie finally appears to have caught on.

ERNIE  
 I'll - er - just go and get some  
 better wood than this, for our  
 plane, so you can saw - saw, saw,  
 saw...

He walks off.

CUT TO:

EXT. FOREST - DAY

Ernie is collecting some better wood when he suddenly hears a loud car horn. He turns to his left, only to see a ruddy great road, the silly plonk. His face lights up, and he drops the wood.

DARREN  
 ESCAPE!

He begins to rush out, before coming to a complete stop. He seems to wrestle with conflicting ideas in his head, before resolutely, though somewhat reluctantly, turning round and going back through the forest at pace.

CUT TO:

EXT. FOREST - DAY

Ernie rushes back to Darren, who is on his back, now sawing with both arms in the air.

ERNIE  
 (Sounding false)  
 Darren, get up, I have an idea  
 for the plane I must discuss with  
 you...

He eyes the camera, and stands with his back to it. Then, in sign language (and subtitled), he says: 'THERE IS A ROAD. FOLLOW ME AND WE CAN GET OUT OF HERE.' He confidently ends and nods at Darren.

DARREN  
 (Wide-eyed and smiling)  
 What?

Ernie does it again. Darren simply stands there, blinking. Ernie's face sinks.

ERNIE  
 (Whispering)  
 Follow...me...

They leave. Through the camera's eyes, we watch them.

CUT TO:

EXT. FOREST - DAY

The two approach the road, and carefully begin to make their exit, when the warlock casually steps out of the trees beside them.

WARLOCK  
 Congratulations. Round one  
 complete.  
 (In response to their  
 faces)  
 What, you thought that was it?  
 No, to proceed through the game  
 you simply had to reach the road,  
 which, of course, was right here -  
 you should have forgotten about  
 that silly plane of yours.



Darren looks crestfallen.

WARLOCK (CONT'D)  
Let round two commence!

He casts his staff, there is a flash, and the three disappear.

CUT TO:

EXT. FOREST - OPEN PLAINS

Flash, and the three reappear in the centre of the open plains, camera pulling out to emphasise remoteness. The warlock stands facing them, with a sly grin on his face.

WARLOCK  
Welcome to the heart of my domain. Now, this is my favourite little game. I give it to all my ... acquaintances. It's a good way of knowing just how much they've trespassed upon my hallowed grounds.

He suddenly breaks from his static pose, and starts pacing before them.

WARLOCK (CONT'D)  
Deep in this forest is a mysterious, round, yellow flower. Find it, and we shall proceed to the final round. Fail to find it, you die. Simple enough? You have ten minutes.

Disappears in a puff of pyrotechnics. A countdown timer appears onscreen. Ernie and Darren face each other.

ERNIE  
(sitting down, head in hands)  
What the hell are we meant to do?

DARREN  
(Cheerily beginning to walk on)  
More to the point, why can't he get his own gardener?

ERNIE  
(shouting)  
Oh, for God's sake, grow up!  
(Gets up and follows Darren)  
(MORE)

ERNIE (CONT'D)

We've got to find this plant  
somewhere in the entire forest,  
we've barely any idea what it  
looks like, and we've only got  
ten minutes!

FADE TO:

EXT. FOREST

They are still walking. The countdown timer now reads four minutes.

ERNIE

I mean, can't you at least HELP?  
Last month you seemed pretty  
adept at finding that little  
bottle of German whisky you lost  
round here...

DARREN

Yes, that's because *I* was the one  
who'd left it *there* just the  
afternoon before.

Flashback of Darren leaving a small bottle in a tree, he is smiling, and drunk.

DARREN (V.O.) (CONT'D)

(Dignified)

I'd left it up a tree, nice and  
safe.

Cuts back to present.

ERNIE

Why did you leave it up a tree?

DARREN

I was drunk, how should I know?  
Besides, it was near a pretty,  
round, yellow flower, so I was  
able to find it again later...

Ernie stops in his tracks.

ERNIE

You mean...the mysterious, round,  
yellow flower we're meant to be  
finding?

DARREN

It was pretty mysterious, yes.

ERNIE

Well, let's go!

They sprint off.

FADE TO:

EXT. FOREST

They are sprinting down the forest corridor. The countdown reads twenty seconds. They almost get to the plant, but the warlock appears, blocking their way.

WARLOCK

Bloody scoundrels, looks like someone's been here before. Well that was awfully predictable. Let the final round commence!

Casts staff, the three disappear in a pyrotechnical flash and a bang.

CUT TO:

EXT. FOREST - DARK

Flash, and the three reappear in a small, dark part of the forest. Darren is tied up and sitting on the ground, while Ernie is tied around a nearby tree and the warlock walks around them. Darren looks frantically around.

WARLOCK

This part is simple: Earnest Ernest - you want to live, right?

Ernie nods.

WARLOCK (CONT'D)

How much? Enough that you'd let your brother here lose a couple of non-vitals, here and there?

Ernie looks blank, before beginning to look a little anxious. The warlock goes over to Darren, and looks at him.

WARLOCK (CONT'D)

(Patronisingly)  
It'll be quick, guaranteed.

Using his staff, he starts to cut off Darren's ear (hidden from camera). Darren lets out a blood-curdling scream of pain and terror. Ernie flinches slightly, trying to loosen his bond, before saying:

ERNIE

Wait! What do you think will happen if I turn up back home without my brother, huh? They'll come looking here for him.



ADAM

He must have still been looking  
for them, then. But why did he  
want us so much? Why did he  
capture Jeff? Hey Jeff, did he  
say anything to -

As Adam turns around to say this, we see a copy of the  
warlock, clutching Jeff's limp dead body. He drops it to  
the ground.

WARLOCK

Hello Zepp. I've been looking for  
you.

Warlock's laugh is heard as titlecard reads: 'TO BE  
CONTINUED. THE LAST ROUND HASN'T YET BEGUN.'

THE END.

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