

# Chapter 27

Jack Sawyer and Dale Gilbertson enter the Sand Bar, finding it nearly empty except for bikers Beezer and Doc, who are unusually subdued, and Stinky Cheese, who avoids them. The atmosphere is tense, heightened by the absence of their usual companions. A TV plays an old movie featuring Jack's mother, Lily, whose dialogue eerily mirrors their current situation. Jack smiles at the coincidence, unsettling Dale, who struggles to grasp the unfolding events. The scene underscores the surreal and foreboding mood as Jack prepares for a dangerous mission, drawing parallels between the movie's themes and their impending confrontation.

The group discusses their plan to confront the Fisherman and rescue Judy Marshall's son, Ty. Beezer and Doc reveal they are armed, and Dale provides Jack with a service revolver. Despite their readiness, Jack remains preoccupied, sensing the mission's supernatural undertones. He anticipates their weapons may transform in the otherworldly Black House, likening their quest to a final, desperate stand. The clock's approach to noon adds to the tension, with Jack delaying their departure for symbolic reasons, emphasizing his superstition and the gravity of their task.

Beezer and Doc express their fears about Black House, describing its oppressive, sickening aura and the physical toll it takes. Beezer admits to sending his family away, fearing none of them will return, yet he refuses to back down, driven by loyalty and unresolved grief. Doc, haunted by past mistakes, agrees to join, motivated by vengeance for Mouse's death. Their candid confessions reveal the personal stakes and emotional weight of their mission, highlighting their bravery despite overwhelming dread.

Jack recognizes the need to strengthen the group's resolve and considers using the mystical word "d'yamba," which holds power but is finite. He reflects on his unique role as a leader with otherworldly experience, understanding that belief is crucial to

surviving Black House's psychological assaults. As the clock nears noon, Jack prepares to rally the group, aware that their success hinges on unity and faith in the face of unimaginable horror. The chapter closes with a sense of impending doom, setting the stage for their perilous journey.

