

ABANDONED CAMPUS

an original screenplay by

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FADE IN:

INT. CAR-DAY

Three friends are chatting while they drive up a road surrounded by dense forest. They continue to chat amongst themselves as the campus looms on the horizon.

ASHLEY

Break was fun. Too bad it went so fast.

MANDY

Yeah. Spring break should be two weeks instead of one.

SARAH

Totally.

INT. CAR-DAY

The car pulls onto the school's main road. They look out the window at the eerily empty campus. They are surprised to see that the campus, which should be busy with activity seems so dead. Despite the situation, Ashley drives to their dormitory.

ASHLEY

Where is everybody?

MANDY

Got me. Maybe break got extended or something.

SARAH

That's wishful thinking. Maybe everybody's in class.

ASHLEY

Yeah. Maybe. It just doesn't seem right.

EXT. PARKING LOT-DAY

The girls get out of the car, unload it. They head into the dorm.

INT. DORM-DAY

Finding no one at the front desk. They hesitantly proceed to their room. Once there they find that none of their dorm mates are in the building. They become frightened as they as try to use the phone to find it is dead.

MANDY

(picks up phone)  
The phone's dead.

ASHLEY

What!

SARAH

(takes phone from  
Mandy)

She's right. It's dead.

ASHLEY

Let me see it.

They hand her the phone. They are right it's dead.

MANDY

Okay, let's try our cell phones.

They try to use their cell phones but get no signal. They decide it might be best to go to town and find out what is happening.

ASHLEY

I can't get a signal. What about either of you?

MANDY

Ours neither.

ASHLEY

Okay, I think we need to get out of here.

SARAH

Yeah, let's head to town. Maybe we can find out what's happening.

MANDY

Good idea.

They go out to their car to leave.

EXT. PARKING LOT-DAY - EVENING

They go outside. They find the car is gone. They are now terrified because it is several miles to town.

MANDY

Oh my god. Where's the car?

ASHLEY

(Looks up)

It was right there.

SARAH

Well, it's not now. What are we going to do?

They then notice a small girl standing in the lot. They try to communicate with her but she gives no sign that she understands them.

ASHLEY

Where did she come from?

SARAH

I don't know. Let's find out. Maybe her parents are here somewhere and can help us.

MANDY

Hi, sweetie. Where's your mom and dad?

The girl just stares at them. It's starting to get dark so they take the little girl and go back inside. The girls decide to wait inside and hope someone else arrives.

ASHLEY

(Takes the girl's hand)

Let's go inside and wait. I don't like the feeling I'm getting.

MANDY

Okay, it's got to be better inside, right.

SARAH

Yeah, let's go.

INT. PARKING GARAGE-EVENING

The girls do not notice a shadowy figure watching them from a nearby parking garage. When the girls reenter the building the figure lowers a pair of binoculars and steps back into the shadows.

THE SHADOWY FIGURE

I will not let them be taken. God help me to protect them.

The figure walks away. There is no more the person can do for the moment.

INT. DORM-NIGHT

The girls begin to be plagued by horrible visions and hallucinations.

SARAH

No get away from me. Leave me alone. Don't touch me.

ASHLEY

(Screams)

Sarah, snap out of it. It's just us here. You're okay.

MANDY

Leave her alone. She's just scared. We all are.

ASHLEY

Don't you think I know that.

SARAH

I'm okay. Stop fighting. We have to stick together.

ASHLEY

(Backs up against

wall. Starts to cry)

Leave me alone. It's not my fault. I didn't do anything.

Mandy starts to become hysterical and leaves the dorm while no one is looking.

SARAH

Stop it Ashley. Just calm down. Nothing is going to happen to us.

They turn around and find Mandy has left the room.

ASHLEY

Where's Mandy?

SARAH

She was just here. We were trying to calm you down.

ASHLEY

This is not good. We need to find her. We need to stick together.

SARAH

Let's go.

EXT. CAMPUS-NIGHT

Ashley and Sarah leave the dorm to look for Mandy. It is on their way that they notice the silent little girl has not stopped smiling. Ashley feels very unsettled by this. The girls agree they should keep searching the campus for Mandy and anybody else they can find.

ASHLEY

(Whispers)

Sarah, have you noticed she hasn't stopped smiling since Mandy disappeared.

SARAH

Yeah, it is strange. What do you want to do about it?

ASHLEY

It bothers me a lot but we need to keep searching for Mandy.

SARAH

Okay. It's your call. I trust you know best right now.

ASHLEY

I don't really but we can't worry about her now.

EXT. CAMPUS-NIGHT

The girls continue to search the campus but find neither Mandy or anyone else. They notice the girl has stopped a few feet behind them and is standing there. Before they can ask why, a man jumps between them and the girl. He whips out a crucifix. The little girl shrieks and vanishes. The girls recognize the man.

ASHLEY AND SARAH

(Scream at same time)

Oh my god! It's Father Maxwell.

FATHER MAXWELL

(Calms them down)

Let's get you somewhere safe and I'll explain what is happening.

ASHLEY

Okay.

SARAH

Father Maxwell, where is everybody?

FATHER MAXWELL

It's a long story.

ASHLEY

You haven't seen Mandy have you?

Before he can answer they are in front of a church.

INT. CAMPUS CHAPEL-NIGHT

Father Maxwell walks in with the girls. They find students all huddled in pews or on the floor. Among them is the missing Mandy. They happily embrace her.

ASHLEY

(Runs over to Mandy)  
Thank god you're okay?

SARAH

Why did you leave the dorm?

MANDY

I don't know. Something told me to  
and then Father Maxwell found me and  
brought me here.

It's then that Father Maxwell tells them what is going on. He tells them about the appearance of the little girl, who from what he can tell seems to be a demonic entity that was awoken due to the on campus construction.

FATHER MAXWELL

I bet everyone is wondering what's  
going on?

ASHLEY

Yeah, we are. What does the little  
girl have to do with it all?

FATHER MAXWELL

From what I understand the girl is a  
demon spirit who's burial site has  
been disturbed by the construction  
that is going on.

SARAH

Yeah, right. That is so Buffy, the  
vampire slayer. Demons don't really  
exist.

ASHLEY

(Looking at Sarah)  
Remember what happened outside.  
Father Maxwell made her vanish. We  
both saw it.

SARAH

Are we really sure of what we saw  
though.

ASHLEY

I believe him.

MANDY

I do too. Remember back at the dorm when we started to freak out. It was because we were living our worst fears but in our minds.

INT. CAMPUS CHAPEL-NIGHT

Father Maxwell tells the students that the creature is an entity that according what he has seen and heard feeds on people's worst fears in order to separate and kill them. He states that the creature must be exorcized, but he will need help. Ashley and mandy agree to help him.

FATHER MAXWELL

It is true. The child is a type of demon that feeds on peoples worst fears in order to kill them.

ASHLEY

So what do we do to get rid of her once and for all.

FATHER MAXWELL

She must be exorcized.

SARAH

This is way too creepy. Count me out.

ASHLEY

So what's the plan, Father.

FATHER MAXWELL

We go to the site and exorcize her spirit. I need to perform the ceremony there but I'm going to need help.

ASHLEY

I'll help.

MANDY

Me, too.

A few other students agree to help him as well.

FATHER MAXWELL

Okay, here is what is going to happen. The demon is going to be angry when we approach because we will be trespassing on her territory. I will give you all crucifixes and tell you what to say to fend her off.



ASHLEY

This is going to be dangerous.

FATHER MAXWELL

Very, but it needs to be done. If some of you are having second thoughts about helping I'll understand.

Everyone still wants to help because they want to protect themselves and others from this happening again. Everyone tries to get some sleep.

EXT. CONSTRUCTION SITE-LATE NIGHT

Father Maxwell and the students go to the site to perform the exorcism.

FATHER MAXWELL

Be very careful and alert. She will try to stop you from disturbing the site.

ASHLEY

Let's do this.

The little girl appears before them but is fended off by holy relics. Father Maxwell approaches the site to begin the exorcism.

FATHER MAXWELL

Let's begin.

The wind starts to blow wildly. The little girl tries to make them break the chain they have made around her and Father Maxwell. They start to chant more vehemently. As they do, the little girl disappears with a shriek. They all look around at each other and start celebrating because it's over.

ASHLEY

It's over isn't it, Father.

FATHER MAXWELL

Yes, it is. She has moved on to where she needs to be.

MANDY

She won't come back in the future will she?

FATHER MAXWELL

No, she won't.

As they walk away, the group discovers unearthed bones, obviously from a Indian burial ground.

MANDY

What is that?

ASHLEY  
It looks like bones of some sort.

FATHER MAXWELL  
Don't touch them.

ASHLEY  
Wasn't going to.

FATHER MAXWELL  
It's the little girl. With help  
from the right people we can give  
her a proper burial.

They discover after doing some research that the little girl  
was an entity enslaved by an Indian Shaman to defend the  
site.

SARAH  
How's the research coming.

ASHLEY  
Good. I have found out a few things  
about her.

SARAH  
Good or bad things.

ASHLEY  
Some good, some bad. She was enslaved  
and killed in order to protect the  
grounds around here.

MANDY  
Are you kidding! Why would someone  
do that to a child?

ASHLEY  
I don't know but they did.

SARAH  
This is interesting and all. But  
some of us have to get to class.  
See you two later.

MANDY  
Bye.

FLASH FORWARD.....Life is returning to normal for Ashley and  
her classmates. She and the others are preparing to graduate.  
Ashley seems happy as she prepares to enter into the real  
world and leave the horror of the last semester behind her.  
But is the horror really over for her.

INT. NEARBY BUILDING-DAY - AFTERNOON

Ashley is walking by. She is heading to a party. She is being watched from a nearby window. It's the little girl and she is smiling.

FADE OUT.