The Stall

Ву

Paul Mitchell

INT. GIRL'S BATHROOM - NIGHT

It is pitch black. A door opens revealing a young woman with a flashlight. She leans in, searching for a switch. We hear the sound of the switch being flipped and a pair of old dusty phosphorescent lightbulbs reluctantly flicker on from over head.

REBECCA, 19, steps into the bathroom. She pulls out her cell phone, presses the screen a couple of times, and begins to film.

CELL PHONE POV - REBECCA/BATHROOM

Rebecca

REBECCA

I'm here in the third floor girl's restroom at John T. Noble
Highschool outside of Point
Pleasant West Virginia. A so-called hot bed of paranormal activity.

She switches the camera to the front and pans around the room.

REBECCA(O.C.) (CONT'D)
The building was finally closed
down a couple years ago to make way
for a brand new school a couple
miles down the road. I'm surprised
that there's still power.

Rebecca continues to film.

The walls and floor are covered in layers of dust and trash.

Graffitti is painted spiracticly throughout, on the walls, and even on the row of four bathroom stalls. Two of the three mirrors against the wall are broken and missing pieces.

BACK TO SCENE

Rebecca walks to the center of the room still talking to her phone.

REBECCA

Tonight, we are going to find out if the Hannah bathroom legend is real or not, that's right, it all happened in the third stall of this very bathroom.

She points to the stall in front of her.

REBECCA (CONT'D)

This stall right here. The legend goes, You knock three times and ask "Are you there Hannah?" and if she answers you die.

CELL PHONE POV - REBECCA

REBECCA

If you ask me, it sounds too similar to the Bloody Mary legend.

BACK TO SCENE

Rebecca walks over to the third stall and opens the door.

REBECCA

Shit.

POV - TOILET STALL/ REBECCA

The toilet hasn't been used in a very long time. The bowl is dry and full of cobwebs. She tries flushing it using her foot, surprisingly it flushes. The water is red with rust.

BACK ON REBECCA

REBECCA

Now there's a lot of debate about where to knock, some say you knock on the outside, some say you have to sit on the toilet and knock, because get this, you might get sucked down to hell. There's even mention of a lizard creature, who knows. That's why I'm here, to find out the truth.

She let's out a huge sigh.

REBECCA (CONT'D)

(To herself)

That was dumb... I'll have to edit that later.

INT. TOILET STALL

Rebecca sits down and pulls the door closed.

A few moments go by. Rebecca is working up the nerve.

POV - REBECCA/TOILET STALL

One last look at the camera. It's do or die time.

REBECCA

Okay here we go.

She switches the direction of her camera.

Rebecca's hand reaches out and slowly knocks on the back of the door.

KNOCK... KNOCK... KNO --

Her cell phone lights up and a song rings out, with a picture of a blonde girl that reads Amanda.

Rebecca hits the video chat button and her friend Amanda's image fills the screen.

AMANDA

Can you believe they didn't give me any fries?

REBECCA

What?

AMANDA

The people at Chicken In A Bucket. Oh, I forgot to tell you this but Julie called and she said justin gave her --

REBECCA

Amanda, I'm a little busy right now.

AMANDA

Did you do the thing yet?

REBECCA

I was in the middle of knocking.

AMANDA

Oh... well... It's getting boring driving around.

REBECCA

I told you, you could come in.

AMANDA

That ain't happening. I'm not ending up like elvis.

REBECCA

That's not how he --

Somewhere in the bathroom a low faint sound just happened, the sound of a baby crying.

REBECCA (CONT'D)

Hang on!

The baby crying is heard again.

REBECCA (CONT'D)

Is that a baby?

AMANDA

What baby?

The reception on the phone starts to glitch.

AMANDA (CONT'D)

Can you here me? Rebecca?

REBECCA

Amanda!

The call ends.

The Sound of the baby is heard for the third time. The environment starts to change around Rebecca.

Time Is rewinding. The dirt and the trash is cleaning and erasing itself.

REBECCA (CONT'D)

Holy shit!

She frantically tries to record what is happening.

REBECCA (CONT'D)

No no no!! Come on!

The cell phone turns off.

Rebecca now sits in a shiny and clean stall.

From outside the stall, we hear the door open and what seems to be two girls laughing and talking but its muted almost underwater.

She stands up and slowly opens the door, revealing a newer cleaner bathroom. The day time sun shining brightly through a small window in the far wall.

The girls are dressed in fifties style school uniforms. They are checking their makeup in the mirrors. The sound becomes clearer.

Rebecca steps out into the middle of the room.

INT. GIRL'S BATHROOM - DAY

REBECCA

Hello? excuse me?

The girls don't answer. Rebecca steps towards them. A school bell rings and the girls finish primping themselves and walk straight through Rebecca towards the door.

She stands there in shock.

REBECCA (CONT'D)

What the fuck?

The door to the restroom slowly opens revealing a young girl no more than sixteen. She's wearing the same fifties style school uniform, a white shirt with a pleaded black skirt, knee highs and a pair of thick leather dress shoes that CLACK on the tile floor.

The girls pass her.

GIRLS

(In unison)

Slut.

They leave laughing, leaving the girl alone with Rebecca. The girl rushes in towards the bathroom stalls

She's carrying a large piles of books in front of her.

While holding the books with one hand she knocks on the bathroom stalls to see if anyone is in there. KNOCK, KNOCK.

REBECCA

Can't be --

The door to the bathroom opens and a young girl about the same age sticks her head in.

GIRL

Hannah let's go!

The girl quickly grabs the stack with two hands again.

HANNAH

Tell the teacher I'm not feeling well. I'm going to go to the nurses office.

GIRL

Are you sure? Is it?

HANNAH

I'm fine!

As soon as the girl closes the door, Hannah doubles over in pain, dropping her books. We now see she is pregnant.

Hannah stumbles over to the third stall just as her water breaks, its more than amniotic fluid, there's blood too and lots of it.

Rebecca follows her over.

REBECCA

Somebody help!

Nobody can hear her, because she's not really there.

Clearly, something is wrong. She screams again.

Hannah collapses on her knees in front of the toilet. She's scared and in extreme pain.

REBECCA (CONT'D)

You got to push!

As if Hannah heard her, she uses the toilet as support and starts to push, more blood pours out from under her skirt. It's as if she's being torn apart from the inside.

She pushes again... The sound of something wet plopping onto the floor then the sound of a baby crying is heard.

REBECCA (CONT'D)

You did --

Rebecca stops, horror dawns on her face as Hannah weakly holds up her baby.

It is deformed, a claw for a hand and hard skin almost like scales. Its eyes black.

Hannah screams holding the baby at arms length. It's cries like the wail of some feral animal.

It swipes at her with it's claw, missing Hannah but tearing apart it's tangled umbilical cord.

Another splash of blood on the floor.

She stands barely able to keep her balance, her back towards Rebecca.

Hannah stares at the creature for a moment.

REBECCA (CONT'D)

Hannah?

Suddenly, Hannah forces it into the toilet. The sound of water splashing and the gurgling cries of the baby echo throughout the bathroom.

More blood stains the soaked tile floor as she struggles.

REBECCA (CONT'D)

No!!

Rebecca tries to stop her but can only watch as the terrible sounds begin to die down.

Hannah finally stops and slides down onto the floor, the stall a mess of gore and violence. She starts to cry but it soon fades as she slumps dead on the floor beside the toilet.

Tears stream down Rebecca's face as she stares into the choas.

Suddenly, the door slams shut and everything is back to it's dirty and worn out state.

INT. GIRL'S BATHROOM - NIGHT

She takes a moment then steps towards the door and hesitates, then...

KNOCK, KNOCK, KNOCK.

REBECCA

Are you there Hannah?

The door slowly opens but from what? The knocking? Something else?

Rebecca enters the stall again and sits down. She closes the door behind her.

A few moments goes by but nothing happens

She sits back against the back of the toilet.

REBECCA (CONT'D)

Fuck.

Out of nowhere the lights go out.

Darkness...

REBECCA (CONT'D)

Hello? Amanda?

Suddenly her cell phone comes back on illuminating her face.

She jumps.

The dirty overhead lights flicker back on.

She types on her cell phone: "stop messing around!"

No reply.

The door to the bathroom opens and the SOUND OF HARD HEALED SHOES CLACKING ON THE TILE FLOOR ECHO OUT.

One by one the person knocks three times on each stall doors before hers. KNOCK, KNOCK, KNOCK.

Rebecca turns the cell phone camera back on, this time it works.

CELL PHONE POV - THE BATHROOM

She scrunches down in her stall to see the person slowly making their way towards her.

She can see what appears to be the legs of a young girl wearing old style leather school shoes.

The girl is right at Rebecca's stall.

KNOCK, KNOCK, KNOCK.

BACK TO SCENE

Rebecca realizes the lock to the door is unlatched. She slowly reaches out to slide the bolt across.

Her fingers just touching the metal... The door bursts open, her friend Amanda standing there laughing.

AMANDA

It's been hours. I'm hungry again -

REBECCA

Jesus, you scared --

Suddenly, Rebecca is forcibly pulled into the toilet. She drops her cell phone onto the floor.

A wave of blood drenches Amanda.

CELL PHONE POV - REBECCA

Rebecca is folded up like a rag doll. Blood is spraying everywhere. A clawed hand is pulling her mangled body deeper into the toilet

BACK TO SCENE

Amanda screams taking a step back then...

KNOCK, KNOCK, KNOCK.

Amanda turns towards the sound, her eyes widen...

BLACK OUT