

***That Haunted House***

by

Sèphera Girón

Horror Feature

Vicki and her friends decide to spend their last Halloween of high school in That Haunted House to see if, in fact, it's really haunted. When the murders begin, Vicki realizes that she's in for the fight of her life.

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THAT HAUNTED HOUSE

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FADE IN:

INT. HOUSE - DAY

It's moving day! Robert, 29, his very pregnant wife, Eileen, 28, and their son, Bobby, 4, are happy and tired in the living room of a newly built two-story house surrounded by teetering mountains of boxes.

ROBERT

We finally did it! Our first home!

EILEEN

I can't believe it. But it was worth all the scrimping and saving.

ROBERT

It's a dream come true.

EILEEN

It even has the staircase that I always dreamed about.

Robert and Eileen hug, staring with delight around the room. Bobby emerges from between the boxes holding a toy firetruck.

BOBBY

I want to go home.

ROBERT

This IS home now, sport! You have your own room. Baby will have their own room. It's going to be great.

Bobby isn't convinced.

BOBBY

Why do we have to have a baby? I like just us three. And why did we have to move?

EILEEN

Ah, sweetie. The more the merrier. You'll see.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

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EILEEN (CONT'D)

Soon you'll have a little brother  
or sister that you can play with.

BOBBY

Can't play with a baby. I want my  
friends.

EILEEN

You'll make lots of new friends  
around here, don't you worry.

BOBBY

I want my old friends...

ROBERT

You'll make new ones, champ.  
You'll see.

BOBBY

I had friends where I was.

ROBERT

But the apartment was way too  
small for us. Now we can spread  
out. You can have lots of friends  
over once we're set up.

EILEEN

You'll love the view from your new  
room.

Bobby sighs as Eileen takes him by the hand, leading him  
up the stairs. She SLIPS as she's very pregnant and loses  
her balance on the top step and nearly falls but catches  
herself.

ROBERT

Careful sweetie.

EILEEN

Just a loose bit, you can nail it  
down later.

ROBERT

Add it to the minor repair list!

INT. BOBBY'S ROOM - DAY

Eileen leads Bobby into his new room. There are lots of  
boxes piled up with "Bobby" written on them. His bed  
isn't set up yet. She leads him to the window.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

EILEEN

Look, Bobby! Look at the fantastic view.

They look out the window together. They can see the neighborhood and the street that leads out towards the highway. In the distance are rolling hills. A bee buzzes by the window.

EILEEN

It's quite a lookout. The best view in the place. You can see who's coming down the road long before they ever see this house...or you!

Bobby looks out the window.

BOBBY

Like a spy.

EILEEN

Just like a spy.

She tickles him playfully.

BOBBY

(LAUGHS THEN GETS  
SERIOUS)

I still want to go home.

CUT TO:

INT. HOUSE - FRONT LOBBY - MORNING

Robert is heading off to work. The house is more put together though there are still containers all over. It's Halloween season with boxes of decorations spilling out and a few hung up. Eileen kisses Robert goodbye. Robert pats Bobby on the head and then pats Eileen's stomach.

ROBERT

Have a great day. I'll be home for dinner.

EILEEN

Your favorite meal will be waiting. Oh, and make sure you get some bug spray. I think there's a nest of bees or hornets in the attic.

INT. BEDROOM - DAY

Bobby is playing in his room with trucks and trains.

INT. SECOND FLOOR LANDING - DAY

Eileen is hanging Halloween decorations along the staircase railing. A toy remote-controlled firetruck is whirring around.

INT. BEDROOM - DAY

Bobby is working the fire truck from his bedroom, wearing a fireman outfit and fireman hat. He laughs as the fire truck sneaks up on his mom.

INT. HOUSE - SECOND FLOOR LANDING - DAY

Eileen doesn't notice the toy fire truck. It's a near miss as she nearly steps on the truck. It inches closer between her feet again. She has trouble seeing her feet because she's pregnant. She manages to dodge the truck and trips on the broken step. She teeters dangerously for a moment but then catches herself with the rail. It cracks under her weight despite being new. She rights herself and looks at the broken stair as she climbs back up to the landing. .

EILEEN

We really need to get that fixed.

The fire truck whirs back into the bedroom.

INT. HOUSE - FRONT LOBBY - HALLOWEEN EARLY EVENING

Halloween night. Bobby is dressed up as fireman standing guard at the door with a bowl of candy. Doorbell rings. Bobby hands out candy to the trick or treaters. He looks longingly up the stairs.

BOBBY

Dad, come on, it's started.

ROBERT'S VOICE

Just a minute son, your mom's not feeling great, nothing to worry about, just a bit of baby sickness. I'll be down in a bit.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

BOBBY

Okay.

The door bell rings again and he hands out candy to the trick or treaters.

BOBBY (TO HIMSELF)

She's always in the way.

CUT TO:

EXT. NEIGHBORHOOD - LATER THAT EVENING

Bobby and Robert trick or treat together, Bobby in his fireman outfit, proudly holding his dad's hand. Robert carries a large haul of candy, it's been an eventful night.

CUT TO:

INT. SECOND FLOOR BEDROOM HOUSE - HALLOWEEN EVENING

Eileen is lying in bed, listening to the sounds of Halloween, happy children, scary growls and howls, music coming and going on the wind, caravans of cars roaming through many neighborhoods for the greatest candy hauls. She rubs her belly.

EILEEN

Listen to all that fun out there,  
little one. We should really go  
down and hand out treats to the  
last few of the night. Please  
don't make me puke again.

Eileen stands up, steadies herself for a moment. She takes a sip of water from the glass on her nightstand.

INT. SECOND FLOOR LANDING - HALLOWEEN EVENING

Eileen wanders out into the dim hallway landing. Seeing that the kitchen light downstairs is on, she thinks she has enough light to see her way. She TRIPS OVER THE FIRE TRUCK that is back on the floor by the stairs. She slips over the broken stair and tumbles down the stairs. She screams as she rolls and then is silent as she hits the floor.

INT. HOUSE FRONT LOBBY - HALLOWEEN EVENING

Robert and Bobby arrive home from trick or treating to discover Eileen at the foot of the stairs, DEAD.

INT. HOUSE - LOBBY

Robert is consumed with grief as he sobs by her body. Bobby stares on in disbelief.

CUT TO:

MONTAGE - INDICATING TIME SHIFT OVER TWO YEARS

A montage of images like a somber slide show: ambulances taking away the body of Eileen, a funeral with an adult coffin and a tiny coffin, Bobby playing with the fire truck and his dad who always looks sad. They play in the park and soon Robert is talking to a new woman. There's a wedding which doesn't please Bobby at all.

CUT TO:

INT. HOUSE - SECOND FLOOR - GAME ROOM - AFTERNOON

Bobby (now six) is playing a video game. The new and very pregnant wife, SUSAN, tries to befriend Bobby.

SUSAN

Hey, Bobby, whatcha doing?

BOBBY

Playing a game.

SUSAN

Do you want to go Halloween shopping with me? We can get you a new costume so you don't have to always be a fireman.

BOBBY

I like being a fireman.

SUSAN

Aren't you bored? Don't you want to be something more exciting? Like a monster! Maybe a vampire or a werewolf?

BOBBY

I like being a fireman.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

SUSAN

But it's Halloween. You can be anything in the world at all. I'll help you.

BOBBY

I'm fine.

SUSAN

Suit yourself.

Susan leaves Bobby. He picks up his fire truck controller. The truck shoots across the floor. We hear a curse and then, a tumble down the stairs.

There's a pause.

And then we hear that Susan's fine.

SUSAN

Goddamn stairs. How I hate them. Especially that top one. Ugh.

INT. HOUSE - FRONT LOBBY - HALLOWEEN EVENING

Bobby is playing with a lighter, trying to light one of the Halloween pumpkins by the front door. There are a lot of dangling and floating decorations, draped curtain materials to create a scary entrance, and so on. He has put a large, tall candle in the pumpkin.

BOBBY

Dad said he was going to cut this to fit, but as always, he forgot. But it'll do.

Bobby wedges the candle into the pumpkin. It's way too tall for the pumpkin.

Bobby finally is able to light the pumpkin despite using a childproof lighter.

The flame rises up and then before he can do anything, the front lobby is on fire.

Robert races down the stairs.

ROBERT

What is...oh, my god...Bobby?

He can't see Bobby as the flames are too high. Robert races back up to get Susan.

(CONTINUED)



CONTINUED:

The flames are high and large.

Bobby manages to squeeze out a living room window to safety.

Robert and Susan can't escape as they are blocked by the fire and flaming decorations.

FADE TO:

TITLE CARD

THAT HAUNTED HOUSE

EXT. HOUSE - MONTAGE OF YEARS

Time lapse montage over the years as the credits roll.

Bobby is shuffled off to relatives.

For sale sign is put up and taken down to no avail. No one wants to live in this tragic house.

House falls into disrepair on the outside with overgrown yard.

Kids goad each other to peek in the windows covered with ivy.

Now and again, hired lawn people conduct general maintenance four times a year. It's imagined the relatives pay for it.

Eight years pass.

EXT. HOUSE - DAY

VICKI, 8, (Vicki is still Victor when the story opens. Vicki is a transwoman who transitions a couple of years later) with friends all on bikes, daring each other to go up to the house and look in the windows. A bee buzzes between the panes.

They scare each other.

VICKI

They say you can still see the  
blood on the floor.

(CONTINUED)

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PAM  
No, that's crazy.

VICKI  
Do you want to see?

PAM  
Of course, yes...no

DAVID  
Scared.

PAM  
You're scared.

DAVID  
Not.

David dumps his bike by the porch and walks up the stairs. He peers into the window.

DAVID  
Can't see anything.

He moves from the porch and goes around the side of the house, jumping up to steal a glance inside the shuttered windows, or crouching to try to see in the gated casement windows.

PAM  
What's that noise?

DAVID  
What?

PAM  
There it is again.

The sound of a door slamming shut from inside the house breaks their silence. They scream and hop on their bikes.

They ride off screaming.

CUT TO:

EXT. HOUSE - NIGHT

Several teens break into the house through a side window.

INT. HOUSE - NIGHT

The teens perform a séance with a large candle, holding hands, their eyes shut.

LAURA

Bring to us the ghost of Eileen!

After a few minutes of silence, a window blows open, knocking the candle over.

A fire quickly escalates.

EXT. HOUSE - NIGHT

Screaming sirens of fire trucks arrive to put out the fire.

CUT TO:

EXT. HOUSE - NIGHT - A YEAR LATER

SEVERAL TEENS stand outside and mock the house.

TEEN ONE

I dare you to go inside.

TEEN TWO

What if I do? What do I get?

TEEN ONE

I'll pay for lunch.

TEEN TWO

Okay.

TEEN TWO climbs through the window.

INT. HOUSE - NIGHT

They creep through the house. Though it's supposedly abandoned there are noises that scare them. They run through the hall, but a wall of fire shoots up between them and the front door.

EXT. HOUSE - NIGHT

Fire trucks arrive to douse the latest fire.

INT. VICKI'S HOME - EVENING

Vicki as child at dinner listening to PARENTS talk about the fire and the accident.

MOM

That house is bad luck.

DAD

Wouldn't be so bad if people would stop trespassing.

MOM

It was born bad...

DAD

Nonsense...

MOM

I don't want to hear about either one of you poking around that old house, you hear, Vic and David?

Vicki and David nod their heads.

EXT. HOUSE - AFTERNOON

Vicki as eleven year old on bike with friends, daring each other.

JIMMY

You go in!

VICKI

No way, you go in!

JIMMY

I'm never going in that place.

A bee lands on Vicki's handlebars. She rides off in fear.

EXT. HOUSE - HALLOWEEN NIGHT

On Halloween the house is egged.

Shadows lurk at the windows.

Vicki stares at the darkened house but doesn't approach it as she and her friends run by trick or treating.

EXT. SCHOOL YARD - PRESENT DAY

It's a cool, windy October day as teens Vicki (fully transitioned into a woman) and friends are finished school for the day. Graduation is fast upon them.

ZANDO

Any cool plans?

VICKI

Not really. Not this year. I guess we're all too old for trick or treating.

WALTER

It's our last Halloween before we all go off to school.

VICKI

I was thinking that as well.

WALTER

We should do something. Have a party.

VICKI

But where? Can't really afford to rent a hall.

BECKY

And no one wants to party with the parents.

VICKI

What do you think?

JIMMY

We could always have a bush party.

VICKI

There's no good place to do bush parties around here anymore. All the cool places were torn down for condos.

BECKY

Yeah, and the cops always check the fort.

VICKI

Somewhere we could go without too much notice.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

WALTER

INISDE...where it's not so cold.

DAVID

What about the old place? You know...

VICKI

Are you nuts? That would be literally trespassing.

DAVID

It's Halloween. Do you think anyone would notice?

JIMMY

That place has been abandoned for decades. We could totally sneak in.

RONALD

Maybe do a séance or something...call all those people who died in there?

VICKI

No way. That place is way too scary. I hated riding my bike past it as a kid.

WALTER

Have you ever been inside?

VICKI

No.

WALTER

I have.

VICKI

No way.

WALTER

Yeah. I have.

VICKI

What's it like in there?

WALTER

Crappy. Dusty. Old. Spooky.

RONALD

Sounds like a good place for a party.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

JIMMY

Just a small party though. Don't want the po-po to come. Let's bounce it off Cody.

CODY and PETER are walking by with their coats and knapsacks.

JIMMY

Hey, guys. Whatcha doing for Halloween?

CODY

Halloween night or just Halloween in general.

JIMMY

Was thinking Halloween night. Are you up for a party?

CODY

Party? Of course! Where? When? Costumes?

JIMMY

We were thinking about sneaking in to the O'Connor place. Sort of a last Halloween party before heading off to college.

CODY

The O'Connor place? Man, I don't know about that. Get arrested for trespassing.

JIMMY

It's Halloween man, no one will notice us. That neighborhood is always all decked out.

RONALD

We figure if we don't invite too many people, we can sneak in, do some partying, maybe a séance...call up some ghosts...what do you think?

CODY

Breaking and entering...sure, why not!

PETER

We'd hardly be the first people to party in that place.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

VICKI

And doesn't it always turn out  
bad?

PETER

No. Lots of people party there all  
the time.

VICKI

Have YOU?

PETER

My lips are sealed.

CODY

As are mine.

Peter and Cody wink at each other.

VICKI

It doesn't seem right...to go  
there. Maybe we should just plan  
to go to the community center  
party.

JIMMY

The baby party.

RONALD

No way.

JIMMY

Hey, Sylvia, get over here for a  
moment.

SYLVIA is beautiful stuck up rich girl who hangs with the  
gang. Vicki has been crushing on Sylvia for years.

SYLVIA

What gives?

JIMMY

Need your opinion on something.

SYLVIA

You've come to the right place.  
What do you need? Hair? Fashion?  
Buying a car?

JIMMY

None of the above. We're thinking  
about busting into the old  
O'Connor residence...

(CONTINUED)



CONTINUED: (4)

SYLVIA

Boring...

JIMMY

On Halloween night...

SYLVIA

Oh?

RONALD

Having a party...maybe a séance.

SYLVIA

Oh, now you have my attention.

JIMMY

See?

SYLVIA

Who else is going?

WALTER

We don't want to invite too many.  
Keep it discreet, on the downlow.

VICKI

Everyone here I imagine.

JIMMY

Yeah, plus a couple others.

WALTER

You in?

SYLVIA

What makes you think I don't have  
anything better to do on  
Halloween?

CODY

What the hell better do you have  
to do in this crappy town?

WALTER

It's the last Halloween we'll all  
be together.

SYLVIA

Ugh...and I have to spend it with  
you losers.

JIMMY

What about you, Vicki?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (5)

VICKI

I'm not sure...

WALTER

Your loss...

JIMMY

You don't have to do anything. If you don't want to come, don't come.

VICKI

I'll think about it...

CUT TO:

EXT. HAUNTED HOUSE - THE PRESENT - DAY

The house stands proudly at the end of the cul-de-sac. It's Halloween and all the neighbors' lawns and porches are decked out with cobwebs and spooky animatronics. The nearest neighbor's house is about four lots down the street. The lots in-between the houses are overgrown with wild flowers and Indigenous grasses, almost creating a mini-field in the burbs. Now they are dying or dead. Someone planted a SCARECROW that is a robed skeleton fluttering in the field.

Vicki slowly drives past the house in her car then parks down the street in front of a neighbor's house. She pulls her knapsack and a big bag of food and booze from the back seat and then heads towards the house.

CUT TO:

EXT. MRS. BROWN'S HOUSE - DAY

MRS. BROWN, "the nosey neighbor", is watching from her porch, pretending to fuss with her flowers. She is and has been watching the various cars show up and park up and down the street. She has seen the teens stealthily walk around the side of the haunted house to go to the back of That Haunted House. They reappear inside as shadows through curtained windows. She watches Vicki go down the side alley. She's not happy.

EXT. HAUNTED HOUSE BACKYARD - LATE AFTERNOON

Vicki stands in the overgrown backyard, staring at the house.

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CONTINUED:

The backyard has many old rusty chairs and a table, large white buckets, old lawn mower, and general blown around garbage. It's not quite as abandoned and overgrown as one might expect. She's nervous.

She notices a lot of steel along the doors and windows.

VICKI

That's weird.

A curtain moves and a light flashes from the second floor.

VICKI

What?

She blinks but it's gone.

VICKI

They're already beginning their stupid scaring games.

Vicki continues to stare up and cautiously moves forward a step.

VICKI

I hope I don't regret this...

The second-floor curtain moves again. As she notices it, something grabs her from behind.

BECKY

Boo!

Vicki turns to see a robed figure in a skeleton mask.

VICKI

What the...!

Becky removes her mask.

BECKY

Just me...

VICKI

You suck.

Becky laughs.

BECKY

Expect a lot of that tonight...Halloween after all!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

VICKI

Yeah...

Becky gives her a hug.

BECKY

It's good to see you here. I was afraid you might have second thoughts.

VICKI

I know...I was so on the fence, but I guess it's now or never...

BECKY

It'll be fun, you'll see.

VICKI

I hope you're right.

INT. KITCHEN - LATE AFTERNOON

Vicki and Becky enter the house through the rickety back door, pulling it closed behind them. There is laughter coming from the front room.

VICKI

It's so dark.

BECKY

It's going to get darker before it gets lighter.

VICKI

True...ugh...why am I here?

INT. LIVING ROOM - LATE AFTERNOON

Many of the teens are already in the living room, sprawled along the couches and chairs as Vicki and Becky enter. SYLVIA wears a princess dress and tiara. LONI wears a onesie bear/Ewok costume. ZANDO is in wizard robes. PETER and CODY are pirates.

VICKI

Wow, I never thought I'd see the inside of this place.

BECKY

Crazy, huh? All those times we drove by on our bikes, and now we're here. In Side!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

VICKI

Fuck...

SYLVIA

Well, look who the cat dragged in!  
Hello, Ladies.

VICKI

Hi, Sylvia. What's up?

SYLVIA

Just getting the vibes of this  
place.

Vicki walks around, looking at the various items on  
bookshelves and in the room.

VICKI

I thought it was totally  
abandoned. No one has lived here  
in years. Why are there books in  
the bookshelves?

BECKY

There are more items around than I  
expected.

SYLVIA

There's a lot less dust than I  
expected as well.

VICKI

Do you think someone lives here?

PETER

Not likely. There's no  
electricity.

LONI

I've already tried all the plugs  
in here.

SYLVIA

Lots of people live full lives  
with no electricity.

LONI

Ever see that show, "Love Off the  
Grid?" where people live in the  
mountains and deserts with no  
hydro, water, or anything?

ZANDO

I've seen that show! Crazy stuff!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

LONI

Well, it's not crazy, they are real people living like that.

SYLVIA

As I said, lots of people live full lives without electricity. Ever watch those Cheapskate shows?

RONALD

I like camping, love it in fact, and figured that is what tonight would be like. However, I definitely am not down for living like that full time!

PETER

I hope everyone brought flashlights and chargers!

VICKI

Of course! I'm not screwing around on Halloween night with no flashlights!

RONALD

I bet there have been some squatters over the years.

SYLVIA

In the suburbs? Come on.

RONALD

Who wouldn't want to squat in this amazing two-story abandoned house? Actually, three-stories if you include the attic. There are likely all kinds of people who come here. Look at all the stuff in here. Better than those shacks on Off the Grid!

VICKI

Yet there are still some Halloween decorations up.

PETER

Dusty as fuck!

SYLVIA

The first family who lived here, the deaths were on Halloween night.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

VICKI

But the other deaths...they weren't on Halloween...

SYLVIA

Not all of them. Some...

VICKI

You'd think that the family would have cleared out the stuff.

SYLVIA

Maybe there was no family.

VICKI

Some of this stuff might be worth something to someone. They could have sold the house, given the money to the kid.

PETER

Whatever happened to the kid anyway? In the original story?

VICKI

It's not a story, it's a fact. These were real people.

SYLVIA

Some say that he was put into a mental institution because of all that he saw. Others say he's dead. Still others say he lives far away from here, happily married with a family.

VICKI

Should be easy enough to do a Google search.

SYLVIA

Could have been but he was a minor and then they gave him a fake name and attempted to scrub the internet.

VICKI

Who is THEY?

SYLVIA

I don't know.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

VICKI

If you don't know, how do you know?

SYLVIA

I've read stuff over the years, like the rest of you. We've all grown up around here!

VICKI

Stupid conspiracy theories.

SYLVIA

Not conspiracy theories. Maybe urban legends!

LONI

Urban legends. That's what this is...fact and legend rolled up together, not conspiracy theories.

BECKY

Rumors! That's all they are. Plain old rumors. And I believe them all and I believe none!

Zando and Cody are looking at a weird statue. It's ugly and crumbling.

ZANDO

What's this thing? Like, why would this be here for decades?

PETER

It's an art piece. Maybe we can sell it on eBay.

VICKI

It's not enough to break in but now we're stealing shit to sell on eBay?

CODY

Way to get cursed!

Becky pokes at one of the old ugly chairs.

BECKY

Who would buy this hideous old crap?

ZANDO

Shh, don't mock the ghosts, they won't like it.

(CONTINUED)



CONTINUED: (5)

RONALD

No such thing as ghosts.

ZANDO

You sure about that?

VICKI

I still don't get why there are  
Halloween decorations all over?

As the teens mock the items in the living room, there's a KNOCK at the front door. They all turn to each other with wide eyes.

SYLVIA

Oh, for fuck's sake, everyone is  
supposed to go around to the back.

RONALD

Maybe it's not one of us...maybe  
it's someone else.

LONI

Trick or treaters!

VICKI

It's too early.

LONI

Is it? Really? Naw.

BECKY

Shhh.

JIMMY (SPOOKY VOICE)

Hide, everyone! Could be the cops.

JIMMY enters the room from the kitchen. He's wearing a vampire outfit.

JIMMY

It's just the count, muahaha...!

There's another, louder KNOCK on the front door. Peter slips over to spy out the peephole. He creeps back.

PETER

Aye, maties...thars a lady on the  
porch...

The teens hide behind furniture. There is another KNOCK on the door.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (6)

SYLVIA

Be quiet and they'll go away.

The teens giggle as they unsuccessfully hide.

SYLVIA

Shhh.

The knocking stops. There's a pause. The teens believe the person has left. They begin to emerge from the hiding place. The door knocks again.

MRS. BROWN'S VOICE

I know you're in there! I can see you!

PETER

Shit.

LONI

We're doomed.

The door knob rattles.

SYLVIA

Shhh

The banging continues.

MRS. BROWN'S VOICE (STERN BUT NOT ANGRY)

I saw you go in. You're not fooling anyone.

SYLVIA

Shit.

Sylvia saunters over to the door and opens it. Mrs. Brown stands there, puffing on her cigarette.

MRS. BROWN

Ah...so this is what's what.

She peers in. As she spies the hiding teens, she chuckles.

MRS. BROWN

Look, kids. I know you're here for fun. I know you think I'm here to spoil your fun but I'm not. You need to stay out of this place. It's not healthy.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (7)

SYLVIA

Is this your place?

MRS. BROWN

No.

SYLVIA

Then you should leave as well.

MRS. BROWN

Just giving you a warning. I was here, well, not here in the house, but lived in the neighborhood, when the first accident happened and every accident after that. This place is cursed...maybe haunted. At any rate, bad things always happen around here...especially on Halloween.

LONI

You're not going to tell on us...

MRS. BROWN

I'm telling you to leave now while you can. There are plenty of other old houses to party in. I warn you not to party in this one.

ZANDO

Or what?

MRS. BROWN

I'm not bringing threats, just warnings, kiddos. It's really none of my business.

Mrs. Brown draws on her cigarette, taking in the room, sadness in her eyes. She sighs. The exhaled cloud of smoke only adds to the dim, dusty ambiance of a haunted living room.

BECKY (UNDER HER BREATH)

Nope.

MRS. BROWN

Nothing good ever happens here.

They watch her leave in silence. Once she has gone down the stairs, Sylvia slams the door shut and turns all the locks.

SYLVIA

Bye-bye bitch.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (8)

Sylvia isn't worried by the neighbor's visit but some of the others are uneasy.

PETER

Do you think there's any truth to what she was saying?

CODY

Who knows? Don't worry about it.

RONALD

We already know many people have died here, we know it's cursed...that's why we're here! On Halloween, no less.

ZANDO

Right!

SYLVIA

Time to celebrate the last Halloween of high school.

Vicki looks at Sylvia with admiration.

VICKI

I love your dress.

SYLVIA

Really? Thanks! Your costume is cute too.

VICKI

Thanks.

SYLVIA

I got this tiara when I went to New York to see Beauty and the Beast. I love that show.

VICKI

It's fun.

BECKY

Fun? It's sad and traumatic.

SYLVIA

It's the greatest love story.

LONI

More like Stockholm Syndrome.

CUT TO:

EXT. HAUNTED HOUSE - PORCH - LATE AFTERNOON

The setting sun casts an orange hue across Mrs. Brown's face as she pauses on the porch, listening to the teens laugh through the door.

EXT. SIDEWALK BY THE FIELD - LATE AFTERNOON

Mrs. Brown leaves the porch to go home, passing the scarecrow skeleton rustling in the field. She looks at it, even pauses, then goes along her way.

INT. LIVING ROOM - LATE AFTERNOON

The teens gather in the living room. The room is full of orange and shadows as the sun sets through the windows.

VICKI

Now what?

SYLVIA

Par-tay!

RONALD

Let's do this up right!

Peter and Cody open up their knapsacks to reveal lots of party supplies and flashlights. They pass beer bottles around. The sounds of screw tops opening and happy drinking noises fill the room. The teens giggle and laugh, creeped out by the dusty room with the covered furniture. There's more noise and a shadow emerges from the kitchen. The teens are startled for a moment and then the shadow emerges as WALTER, dressed like a hip hop artist.

WALTER

Hey-ho!

LONI

Hey, Walter. Welcome to the freak show.

ZANDO

Jeeze, Walter, scared the shit out of me.

CODY

Bunch of sucks. Didn't scare me!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

WALTER

Good turnout, it seems. How long before you think the cops come? I can hear you giggle out to the sidewalk.

ZANDO

I guess we need to be more quiet.

WALTER

Or louder, with more screaming. It's Halloween, not a pajama party.

Sylvia is eying Walter.

WALTER

Look at you, princess. Aptly dressed.

SYLVIA

As are you, blood-sucking creep.

ZANDO

Let's see the rest of this crazy place.

BECKY

Do we dare?

SYLVIA

You really think we're just going to sit in this tiny room all night? Fuck that shit!

Becky blushes.

BECKY

I meant...I mean...

LONI

I want to know what's upstairs AND downstairs...how can we sit here in just this room without checking out the rest of the house?

CODY

I want to see ALL the house.

BECKY

I'm just nervous, that's all.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

WALTER

Don't worry about the pussies. We can go check it out.

VICKI

We can all check it out. Safety in numbers and all that!

LANDO

First rule of haunted houses, don't split up!

INT. SECOND FLOOR LANDING - LATE AFTERNOON

The setting sun leaks through the window, painting orange and red stripes throughout the hallways, through the bannisters, and across the teens' faces as they climb the stairs.

SYLVIA

This is where the mom died. Well, I mean, she fell from here, she died on the floor. So did her baby.

BECKY

Gross.

LANDO

Creepy. And sad. Very sad.

VICKI

That was the original death. But there have been so many more since...

LONI

I still don't get how someone dies falling down the stairs. Now that I see the staircase in real life, it's not THAT high! I'm even more baffled.

CODY

That's why it's such a weird and freaky accident.

PETER

People die in the bathtub. Look at Bob Saget, hit his head and died in his sleep. No one knows why.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

VICKI

The mom was pregnant...that might  
have had to do with it too.  
Balance...

RONALD

Or lack of it...

The teens wander around the upstairs, splitting off into  
groups to explore the second floor.

Vicki follows Sylvia into a bedroom.

INT. BOBBY'S BEDROOM

The sun is an angry October red streaking through the  
bedroom.

SYLVIA

This was the kid's room. Bobby's  
room.

Vicki looks around, at the dresser, the bed. She runs her  
hand along the dresser and looks at her fingers. She puts  
her fingers on the dresser drawer knobs, but then stops.  
She looks at a painting on the wall. A painting of  
presumably Bobby at the age of the accident. The painting  
has strange eyes. Vicki touches the bed. She looks over  
at Sylvia.

VICKI

It's frozen in time.

SYLVIA

Weird, huh?

VICKI

But...I almost feel like it's not,  
like someone is living here...

SYLVIA

All the ghosts...you can feel  
them.

VICKI

No...I mean real life...right now.

Vicki looks back at the painting.

(CONTINUED)



CONTINUED:

VICKI

Is that the kid who saw it all happen? Why is there a painting of him? It's weird.

SYLVIA

I guess they didn't have the heart to take it down.

VICKI

But...why? Who? There's something not quite...

A loud BANG comes from the other room, startling them.

VICKI

What the...

Bursts of laughter from the other room.

RONALD

Sorry...sorry, fuck. Just clumsy.

INT. BEDROOM

Vicki and Sylvia run to the other room and find that a plaster of Paris bust is shattered on the ground. Loni, Ronald, and Zando are picking up the pieces of the bust as best as they can.

VICKI

Try not to destroy the place...I wouldn't be surprised if someone is living here.

RONALD

Why you think that?

VICKI

I don't know.

SYLVIA

She's crazy. She keeps saying someone is living here. The only one alive here is us...the rest are ghosts.

LONI

Do you think the ghost is going to be pissed that we broke something?

WALTER

I guess we'll find out.

INT. SECOND FLOOR - SUNSET

They look around the rooms and the bathroom. The sun has nearly set. It's getting darker and the shadows are growing longer.

CODY

We should get down to the main floor, get our flashlights and stuff.

WALTER

Go down, hell, I got mine right here!

PETER

It's going to be weird not having electricity. I've never been without electricity...besides a storm.

VICKI

Never been camping?

PETER

Hell to the no.

CODY

I can't imagine you camping, maybe glamping...

PETER

Glamping sounds like the ultimate nightmare, and one step up from hanging out in a haunted house on Halloween.

RONALD

We got phones and flashlights. Probably even candles. We'll be good.

LONI

And we can always leave...it's not like we're trapped here.

RONALD

True.

SYLVIA

Leave? We're spending the night. Unless you're all too chicken shit.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

CODY

I came here to spend the night.  
For sure.

PETER

Me too.

(Cody and Peter smile at each other as Peter drapes his arm around Cody).

WALTER

We're all in for spending the  
night...unless Mrs. Crazypants  
calls the cops on us and we have  
to leave.

ZANDO

That woman isn't calling anyone.  
She probably is checking out our  
young, hot flesh...

They laugh as go back down the stairs, imagining Mrs. Brown as a swinger.

INT. LIVING ROOM

The teens return to the living room. They're drinking beer and coolers. Ronald pulls out a tube of pre-rolled joints.

RONALD

Stopped by the dispensary...got  
some party favors.

ZANDO

Nice! I brought some too.

Zando, Becky, and Pete all pull out their weed. Vicki has a baggie of gummies. She opens it and passes it around. The booze and weed is piled on the end tables.

VICKI

Start with one, those are strong.  
Got them from Café.

PETER

Shit. Café is the best for  
edibles. Not like that weak old  
government weed.

An argument breaks out.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

PETER

Hey, guys, lighten up. It's supposed to be fun. Let's go out back and smoke some shit before the trick or treaters come round.

CODY

No one's coming here...

PETER (SINGSONG)

I know...I just want to smoke some shit before the gummies hit.

They chuckle.

PETER

Come on, we should all go together.

EXT. BACK PORCH - SUNSET

It's a struggle to get the back door properly opened, but at last they do. They go outside. There is a bit of concrete pad that was the beginning of a proper patio. The backyard is overgrown with weeds and bushes creating a nice hideaway. Rusted out chairs and a wobbly old table are good to perch on. There are no houses behind the haunted house, just a huge mostly overgrown field and then distant mud hills where a new development is being built.

The teens congregate, perching on rusty chairs, using an old can for ashes as they pull out cigarettes, vapes, and weed. They drink their beer, getting louder and rowdier.

PETER

Smoke'em if you got'em!

VICKI

I'm in!

They smoke weed and cigarettes and stare out at what they can see of the existing neighborhoods from the backyard. The sounds of Halloween exhibits from the neighborhood is growing louder: rumblings, screams, chains clanking, music, and so on.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ZANDO

Remember how fun it was to trick  
or treat?

LONI

So long ago now.

ZANDO

Too old for trick or treat, too  
young for bar parties.

PETER

That's why we're here having our  
own party!

ZANDO

What would you dress up as if you  
were going to a real Halloween  
party?

SYLVIA

Hey, this is a real party!

ZANDO

You know what I mean!

PETER

Rock star, maybe Prince! What  
about you, Zando?

ZANDO

I would have been Lady Gaga. Or  
maybe Martha Stewart.

PETER

Martha Stewart! That's unique.

ZANDO

Maybe unique, maybe not. What  
about you, Loni? What would you  
have dressed up as tonight?

LONI

Someone who knows what the hell is  
going on in the world!

BECKY

God!

They all laugh.

LONI

Not god. Not anything. Everything  
is just so confusing these days.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

LONI (CONT'D)

What to do, jobs, school, so overwhelming. It would be nice to know the end game so I'd know my role in it.

VICKI

Life is a stage, remember! We are all actors in our own movies, we can be whoever we want at any time.

There's the SOUND of a pile of junk collapsing.

RONALD

What the hell was that?

SYLVIA

A cat?

RONALD

Sounded bigger than a cat.

CODY (PIRATE ACCENT)

Better not be the po-po! ARGGGHHH!

Mrs. Brown emerges from the side alley.

MRS. BROWN

So much for my discreet entrance.

PETER

What are you doing back here again?

MRS. BROWN

I'm just trying to warn you, nothing good ever happens here.

CODY

We know. That's why we're here...on Halloween.

MRS. BROWN

I'm worried that something is going to happen to you kids if you don't leave.

CODY

Like what? Get arrested when you call the cops?

MRS. BROWN

I don't need to call the cops. Bad stuff will happen regardless.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

MRS. BROWN (CONT'D)

I wouldn't squeal on you kids at any rate. I know what it is to break into the local haunted house. However, you really don't want to be hanging out in this one, especially on Halloween night.

In the distance, the sounds of early trick or treaters can be heard. The wind has picked up and though it's nearly dark, thick black clouds have rolled in.

CODY

Lady, please stop bugging us.

LONI

Do you want a toke before you go?

Mrs. Brown eyes the offered joint longingly then shakes her head.

MRS. BROWN

Gotta get back for the trick or treaters. I'm not trying to be an asshole, I know you think I am one, but I'm not. I've seen too many deaths in this house and they almost always begin exactly like this. People coming to check out the house at night. And then, by morning, the coroner is leading out the parade of corpses. I don't want to see you kids being next.

Mrs. Brown leaves.

VICKI

Sheesh, that lady's worse than my mom. All that warning. We know the deal, we've lived in this town our whole lives.

PETER

Tell us something we don't know.

Sylvia is enjoying the cool breeze across her face as she takes a drag from a joint. She looks out at the field, and sees Mrs. Brown in the distance, passing the scarecrow.

SYLVIA

I'd hate to walk past that thing every day.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

BECKY

It's one of the creepiest things  
I've ever seen.

PETER

I've seen creepier. But hey, it's  
Halloween. A scarecrow in a corn  
field isn't going to hurt you.

BECKY

It's not a scarecrow and it's not  
a cornfield.

PETER

I think the neighborhood is  
pretending it is.

They laugh as they mimic the weird scarecrow.

PETER

I think the only drag of the night  
is going to be the lack of  
bathroom facilities.

ZANDO

How do you know there aren't any?

PETER

Oh, come on, use your brain. This  
place has been abandoned for  
years. No way any toilets work.  
Need water for that, right?

ZANDO

Oh yeah!

CODY

Well, I'm taking a piss stop right  
now while we're out here.

During the course of the scene, guys take turns relieving  
themselves by the side of the house that is away from the  
neighborhood. A few bees buzz around.

SYLVIA

You guys are lucky...what are us  
ladies going to do?

Peter grabs a big white bucket from the pile of stuff. He  
inspects it.

PETER

This looks clean enough, for a  
piss bucket!

(CONTINUED)



CONTINUED: (5)

Everyone laughs.

MARLEEN

You think we should be pissing  
right here, outside, in the yard  
like you all?

PETER

Hell to the no! I thought we could  
take this bucket inside and put it  
in the bathroom, then we can all  
at least pretend we have a working  
toilet.

MARLEEN

Still sounds gross. How do we even  
do it? Straddle it?

ZANDO

Another one who's obviously never  
been camping.

MARLEEN

Camping or not, I didn't expect to  
piss in a bucket on Halloween!

BECKY

I like the idea of putting it in  
the bathroom. Makes it seem almost  
civilized.

MARLEEN

Good luck straddling that thing.

PETER

Maybe we can lay a piece of wood  
or something across it?

He looks through the debris and pulls up a three foot  
piece of wood.

PETER

This should do the trick?

MARLEEN

Like perching?

PETER

Sure..whatever.

MARLEEN

Sure.

Peter puts the bucket and wood by the door.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (6)

VICKI

I actually thought ahead and brought some toilet paper.

BECKY

You just wanted to secretly tp the house!

VICKI

Oh, hell to the no...I don't screw around like that with haunted houses.

RONALD

Cool it with the haunted house crap. Just cos this place is abandoned and some weird shit went down in it, because idiots fucked around and lost, doesn't make it haunted.

VICKI

Sure...

There is a CLAP OF THUNDER that startles them all. Sylvia uses the moment to snuggle in between Walter and Ronald.

CODY

Holy crap, didn't know it was going to rain tonight.

VICKI

It always rains or snows on Halloween. Practically tradition.

Vicki notices a bee buzzing near the chair.

VICKI

Oh, shit, there's a bee! Get out!

Vicki stands up and flails.

PETER

The more you move, the more you'll agitate it.

SYLVIA

Really, Vicki. You'd think you'd be over your silly bee phobia by now. It's so tired.

She yawns.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (7)

CODY

You never know when the Queen will arrive.

LONI

Stupid bees. Look, there must be a nest nearby.

Loni points to an eavestrough where bees are coming and going.

RONALD

Bees, thunder, soon a storm...

ZANDO

Must be Halloween!

SYLVIA

So who's ready for a séance.

VICKI

Séance? I don't know. I'm not sure I want to be messing with spirits and such.

RONALD

There's some weird stuff back here.

Ronald is looking up at the house.

PETER

What do you mean?

RONALD

I'm not sure. It's just that for a place that has been abandoned for years, some stuff seems to not be so abandoned.

PETER

Such as?

RONALD

I'm trying to understand what that steel stuff above the doors and windows might be. Any idea?

Peter looks up to where Walter is pointing. Walter goes over and though he can't quite reach, tries to pick at it.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (8)

WALTER

Maybe they had special kinds of doors and windows back then.

PETER

Can't say that I understand it myself. Not an architect.

RONALD

Me neither.

WALTER

It IS weird...maybe we should google it.

BECKY

It's cold, we should go in.

SYLVIA

Which room should we do the séance in?

RONALD

The creepiest, of course!

They head to the door. Peter grabs the bucket and wood.

SYLVIA

Oh, wait. First, there are rules for our night of fun and games.

RONALD

What might that be?

SYLVIA

No phones.

BECKY

But how will we take incriminating pictures of each other?

SYLVIA

We won't.

VICKI

I don't understand the reason for no phones...like, who cares?

SYLVIA

Because you know at some point, everyone is going to end up with their nose in their phone.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (9)

SYLVIA (CONT'D)

So what would the point of hanging out together in this haunted house on Halloween if we're just staring at our phones and doing social media?

VICKI

We can't even post any pictures from here on social media since we're not allowed to be here.

ZANDO

True. I didn't think about that.

PETER

Yeah, all you suckers. Don't be posting nothing on social media...we'll all get arrested for trespassing.

The group all looks at each other. Some have been taking selfies nonstop.

SYLVIA

I hope no one has actually posted anything yet.

More awkward silence.

SYLVIA

Then this is more proof that we need to all do away with the phones. That way too, we'll know what is a ghost, instead of a ghost call.

VICKI

True. I see the point.

WALTER

We can all post our pix next year, when we're safely away at college.

Sylvia holds up a busted up container that had been on the ground. A bunch of bugs fly up. Vicki runs, thinking they are bees again, but they are just flies. She cautiously returns.

SYLVIA

Phones go in here.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (10)

BECKY

Euwww, gross. I don't want to put my expensive phone...

SYLVIA

Holy shit, Becky, enough with the whining. Just do it already. But turn it off first, no point wasting battery.

ZANDO

Plus, if one accidentally goes off, it'll scare the shit out of us!

BECKY

There. I turned it right off. At least it should have lots of battery when I get it later.

Becky is the first to put her phone in the container. The others fiddle with theirs and follow suit.

PETER

So now what, you run off with all our phones?

SYLVIA

Haha...no you moron. I'm going to hide them cos I don't trust any of you to not go grab your phone the minute you hear a scary sound.

VICKI

You're not wrong...

Peter takes the bucket and board into the house.

INT. KITCHEN - EVENING

The teens file back into the house that is now pitch dark, pulling flashlights from their pockets. Sylvia carries the phone container and wanders off. Peter goes upstairs with the bucket and board.

SYLVIA

Nobody better follow me.

CODY

Yeah, yea..we know.

VICKI

It's so dark in here now.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

LONI

It's creepy as fuck.

VICKI

Did you notice that the cabinets and cupboards are all stainless steel? So weird.

SYLVIA

Maybe that was the style when the house was built.

VICKI

In a house? I could see a trailer or something...

WALTER

Who cares about the cupboards!

ZANDO

This is great! A real haunted house on Halloween! How cool are we?!?!

RONALD

Anyone want to check out the basement with me?

VICKI

Oh, hell no!

ZANDO

Scaredy-cat!

VICKI

And I'm not afraid to admit it.

Ronald, Walter, Sylvia, and Becky head to the basement. The others follow, even Vicki.

VICKI

Okay, I'll go. I don't want to be stuck up here alone either! Hey, wait, Peter, are you going up to the bathroom?

PETER

Yeah, just taking the bucket up.

Vicki goes to her knapsack and brings out her four pack of toilet paper.

PETER

Are we staying a week?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

VICKI

I didn't know how many people were coming and figured if we're all drinking...

PETER

Gotcha.

He takes the package.

INT. BATHROOM - LATE AFTERNOON

Peter uses his flashlight to go up to the main bathroom on the second floor. It's a rather large bathroom with sink, toilet, bathtub and frosted glass shower stall. He opens the door into the bathroom a bit more and it sounds like something moved over by or in the shower stall.

PETER

Pipes...but do pipes make noise when there's no water in them?

He sets down the bucket and board. He opens the pack of tp and puts a roll on the sink beside the bucket. He tries the faucets but nothing comes out of the tap. He looks at the toilet and pushes the flush handle. Nothing. What water is in the toilet is rusty and stale. The toilet paper falls onto the floor. He picks it up and sets it back.

PETER

Good enough. Someone else can fix it if they don't like it.

There's another noise from the direction of the shower stall. He shines his light over. There might be a shadow but he's not sure. He begins to walk over then changes his mind as he hears the teens heading for the basement.

PETER

Hey, wait for me!

CUT TO:

INT. BASEMENT - LATE AFTERNOON

The teens head down to the basement, waving their flashlights around. The stairs are old and wooden. The basement itself is not as creepy and filthy as one would expect for an abandoned house. This had originally been a nice middle-class house in the suburbs so it's not like an ancient farmhouse or anything like that.

(CONTINUED)



CONTINUED:

There is a large huge room that has an old couch, tons of boxes and other assorted junk including beer cans, pop bottles, blankets, and such by others who've come and partied in the house. It's super dusty and dirty. There are three doors along the far wall.

PETER

Doors to nowhere or somewhere?

CODY

Check it out!

They rattle the door handles. Two of the doors open. They are old dusty rooms, like a fruit cellar, wine cellar with shelving and old dusty jars and canned goods. One of the rooms has a washer and dryer that are dusty yet hooked up.

VICKI

If they didn't live there that long, why are there so many canned goods?

BECKY

It looks like no one's touched any of this stuff for years!

VICKI

It all seems so weird...can't put my finger on it.

SYVIA

It feels weird, perfect for a séance.

LONI

This is so creeepy. I'd hate to be down here alone.

WALTER

But what makes it creepy? It's just a basement. Just a dusty old basement.

Peter is rattling a door handle to a door that won't open. Cody joins him.

PETER

Now the real mystery begins. What do you think is in here?

ZANDO

Nothing.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

CODY

A whole lot of nope in all the versions.

LONI

That would be a double-double nope for me!

PETER

Come on, let's see what's in here.

VICKI

Guys, I know you're curious but come on. Let's not get in shit for vandalism. Remember? We're not supposed to be here so breaking down a door isn't cool.

CODY

Who's going to know?

VICKI

True.

PETER

They can't prove it's us.

LONI

Actually they can, our DNA is all over the place. We're not exactly wearing gloves and wiping down our tracks!

PETER

You have a point.

VICKI

Should have worn my mittens. God knows they're in my coat.

MARLEEN

Too late now. We've already been all around. No point in trying to wipe shit down.

VICKI

Others have been here...others have died here.

MARLEEN

Don't remind me.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

BECKY

The ghosts...right? Didn't you say there were ghosts here, Sylvia?

SYLVIA

Lots of ghosts everywhere. I can feel them.

PETER

You're full of shit!

ZANDO

No such things as ghosts.

VICKI

I don't actively believe in ghosts but man, this place is creepy as fuck. I'm going back upstairs.

BECKY

To the creepy living room?

VICKI

All I can say is thank goodness we all have lots of flashlights!

Pete is still rattling at the doorknob.

PETER

Now I'm super curious.

SYLVIA

What do you think is in there?

CODY

Who knows? Maybe a rotting corpse?

SYLVIA

It's not important. Let's go back up. I'm excited for the séance.

The teens reluctantly make their way back up the creepy stairs. As they go up, there's a BANGING NOISE from behind the locked door like someone tripped over a bunch of junk, not like a rat in the wall. Peter looks back.

PETER

You guys hear that?

CODY

You imagining things again?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

PETER

That was pretty loud for my  
imagination. None of you heard  
that?

No one answers as they leave the basement.

INT. LIVING ROOM - SUNSET

Loni grabs their book from the bag and a beer from the cooler.

LONI

No séance for me, dudes. Not my  
thing. But I'll be happy to hang  
out with you all when you're done.

RONALD

Ah, man, you should really come  
with us.

LONI

Naw. Not doing it. Heard too many  
stories.

RONALD

You don't really believe in that  
stuff do you?

LONI

Do you?

ZANDO

First rule of a haunted house is  
not to split up.

LONI

First rule of a haunted house is  
not to do a séance where there's  
been a murder!

We follow Loni through the house and up the stairs.

INT. BEDROOM - SUNSET

Loni claims the second bedroom and snuggles into a corner with their book and flashlight. There are strange noises from down the hall. Loni looks worriedly in the direction, even gets up to peek out into the hallway and sees Peter and Cody sneaking to another room.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Loni never put their phone into the bucket and quickly checks it before putting it back in their pocket and returns to reading.

INT. ROOM - SUNSET

Peter and Cody have found a room.

PETER

Screw the séance. We'll have way more fun here!

CODY

No truer words have been spoken, me matey.

They make out. They hear the same weird creaking noise that Loni heard.

PETER

What's that?

CODY

I'm sure it's just the others. Come, let's use our time the best we can.

They make out, the weird creaking noise continues.

INT. LIVING ROOM - SUNSET

Vicki, Sylvia, Becky, Ronald, Walter, Marleen, and Zando are all in the living room, sitting on the floor, arguing over how to make a circle. It's a big room, rather empty as there isn't much furniture.

SYLVIA

We should sit on the floor in a circle.

BECKY

There are a few chairs. Why not use those?

SYLVIA

Floor is better.

MARLEEN

I don't trust any of those chairs. Besides, there aren't enough for us all.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

WALTER

Floor is better.

RONALD

We have to hold hands.

SYLVIA

Yes.

ZANDO

Hold hands! With all you heathens?

SYLVIA

It's better to attract the  
spirits.

VICKI

Are you sure we should be doing  
this?

ZANDO

We're already here. What's the  
problem?

VICKI

Just seems...intrusive...

Vicki looks around.

VICKI

Where are the others?

RONALD

Probably ran off scaring  
themselves somewhere.

ZANDO

Loni said they didn't want to do  
it.

BECKY

And you can guess where Peter and  
Cody went!

RONALD

Those horndogs can never keep  
their hands off each other.

BECKY

This is the perfect night for  
them. A room to themselves on  
Halloween! What a treat!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

VICKI

Do you worry that Nosy Neighbor called the cops on us?

RONALD

They would have been here long ago if she was going to do that.

VICKI

I'd just hate to get going and then the cops burst in. Especially when I'm high as fuck.

ZANDO

We'll be higher before we're lower...I think the edibles just kicked in as well.

VICKI

Maybe that's why I'm getting paranoid.

SYLVIA

Enough with the blither blather. Are we doing this or what?

BECKY

So impatient, we don't even have a candle.

SYLVIA

Yes, we do. Right here in my bag.

Sylvia pulls a bunch of stuff out of her bag for the séance. She sets out a large wide candle, a stick of incense, a small piece of fabric and some crystals.

RONALD

What's all that stuff?

SYLVIA

For the séance. We have to call them. Oh, I nearly forgot. I read that we should also have a bell. I have one in here.

She pulls out a little old-fashioned bell with a clapper. It's small but makes a clear loud sound when she jiggles it.

VICKI

Bell?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

SYLVIA

Yeah. So it can ring when the  
ghosts talk to us.

VICKI

I'm not sure I'll still be here if  
that bell rings!

BECKY

Same!

SYLVIA

Do you want to call the spirits or  
not?

VICKI

Yes, of course. I'm just scared.  
This house is already a million  
times more freaky now that the sun  
has gone down.

The gang looks around the room, at the long shadows  
dancing on the walls, very distant noises of Halloween  
far away.

VICKI

Should I go get the pirates, aye!

ZANDO

No. They're just fine where they  
are, I'm sure of it.

VICKI

If you insist. We could have used  
them to walk the plank, to appease  
the ghosts.

ZANDO

More like they'd make US walk the  
plank!

RONALD

So Madame Medium, what happens  
now?

Sylvia sets about unfolding the cloth and putting the  
candle on it. She put the bell beside it. She put the  
incense burner and incense on it.

The teens watch as she lights the candle. The flame grows  
high and flickers.

(CONTINUED)



CONTINUED: (4)

SYLVIA

Now, the power.

BECKY

Power?

SYLVIA

Yes.

Sylvia stands up and begins to chant.

SYLVIA

(chanting nonsensical words)

Sylvia stops and looks at them.

SYLVIA

You all need to repeat it with me.

VICKI

Oh, sorry. I didn't realize.

SYLVIA

I'm not the only one calling spirits here. You are too.

The rest of the gang nod solemnly.

VICKI

But who are we calling first?

SYLVIA

Right now, we're just calling up the guides to help the spirits come to us!

WALTER

It's all so complicated!

They watch as Sylvia calls the spirits, waving her hands and spinning.

SYLVIA (SITS BACK IN THE CIRCLE)

Okay, everyone. Now you just have to hold hands.

They hold hands.

MARLEEN

So are they here yet?

SYLVIA

Shhh...we need to focus.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (5)

The teens settle down and hold hands.

SYLVIA

Good.

Sylvia rings the bell. The sound is startling in the darkness.

SYLVIA

I now call upon the spirits of the other side to impress upon us, their presence.

VICKI

Hey, I thought you said the spirits are supposed to ring the bell.

SYLVIA

They are. First I ring it to call them, then they ring it to answer!

BECKY

Yikes!

SYLVIA

Shh, focus...

CUT TO:

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

Peter and Cody are making out in Bobby's childhood bedroom. Shirts off, they kiss and stroke each other.

PETER

I'm so turned on.

CODY

Me too. I've never fucked in a haunted house before.

PETER

Me neither.

There is a noise like someone is walking around just outside their door. Cody startles and looks up.

PETER

Don't worry about it. Just noise.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

CODY

You're right...it's  
noise...but...what noise? Aren't  
they all downstairs?

There is more noise.

PETER

It's just the others with their  
séance.

CODY

Do you believe in ghosts?

PETER

Naw. They're just made up things  
for scary stories.

CODY

How do you explain all the deaths  
in the house?

PETER

How do you explain why you're  
talking so much when we have a  
limited time to get off.

They kiss more passionately. Something outside makes the  
doors and floors creak.

INT. BEDROOM - EVENING

Loni sits huddled up in a corner, wrapped in a blanket,  
reading with a flashlight, over ear headphones on. An  
ominous shadow lurches along the wall. Loni is greatly  
absorbed in the book. There is creaking as someone large  
walks through the hallway and then into the room.

CUT TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM - EVENING

The séance is just getting started.

BECKY

Is this the part where we say  
light as a feather, stiff as a  
board?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

SYLVIA (IMPATIENTLY)

No. We're not trying to levitate anyone...at least not yet. We'll try that later. Now focus.

RONALD

What are we focusing on?

VICKI

Aren't we supposed to call someone in particular? Isn't that how seances work?

SYLVIA

Quiet everyone. You're making me lose my concentration.

Vicki doesn't want to annoy Sylvia any further so she is quiet. They all hold hands and shut their eyes again.

SYLVIA

I call upon the spirits to show themselves.

There's sudden creaking from upstairs as well as thumping. All are startled and look towards the ceiling. Zando laughs nervously.

ZANDO

It's just Peter and Cody.

VICKI

Let's hope!

SYLVIA

Focus!

She hums. The others close their eyes again. Vicki keeps looking nervously at the ceiling as the noises intensify. Zando smirks. The candles flicker. ANOTHER FLASH OF LIGHTENING brightens the room.

ZANDO

Whoah!

VICKI

What?

ZANDO

That lightening!

SYLVIA

If your eyes were closed you wouldn't see it.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

ZANDO

My eyes WERE closed and it was so  
bright I opened them.

A LOUD CLAP OF THUNDER feels right over the house.

VICKI

Holy crap!

RONALD

Don't be such a bunch of pussies.  
It's just a storm. A nice spooky  
Halloween storm. And what's  
better, if there's a storm, people  
won't notice we're here.

BECKY

It's perfect, this storm. Couldn't  
have planned it better. Now no one  
will bother us.

SYLVIA

Shh.

They all are quiet as there are more thuds and creaks  
from upstairs. Another flash of lightening followed  
quickly by thunder.

VICKI

That storm is really close now!

INT. BEDROOM

Peter and Cody are in the throes of lovemaking, half  
naked on the old child's bed, half covered by decades old  
blankets. The loud rumble of thunder makes them both stop  
for a moment.

PETER

Thor's coming.

CODY

He's not the only one.

They giggle and kiss and return to making out.

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

Loni is still reading, oblivious to the growing storm and  
the ominous shadows.

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

The circle has settled in and everyone has closed eyes, holding hands.

SYLVIA

We invite Eileen into the circle.  
Eileen, are you here?

The house seems to shift and creak. The shadows are rampant on the wall.

VICKI

Eileen, we're calling you.

BECKY

Come talk to us, Eileen!

The candles flicker and flutter, the teens wide-eyed in the darkness.

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

Loni has to pee. They get up and nervously shine the flashlight around the room. LIGHTENING FLASHES BRIGHTEN the room. It seems some of the dolls/toys aren't exactly where they were before. Loni is even more nervous than before.

LONI

I could have sworn that was...

Loni reaches out to move the thing. There's a CREAK behind them. Loni nervously looks around.

LONI

Wish I didn't have to pee...not looking forward to The Bucket.

Loni leaves the bedroom.

INT. BATHROOM - NIGHT

Loni enters the pitch black bathroom. They shine the flashlight around. They look at the large pail, the roll of toilet paper that has again fallen onto the floor, and a pack of wet wipes that the teens had set up.

LONI

Oh god. Is it better to just go outside?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Another FLASH OF LIGHTENING followed immediately by THUNDER with rain slapping against the tiny bathroom window.

LONI

Oh I wish I didn't have to pee so bad...should have brought diapers...ugh.

Loni pulls down their jeans and perches on the wood board laid across the pail.

Something pushes open the shower door. Before Loni can scream, they are BEHEADED.

CUT TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

The séance continues on with the teens still holding hands, the shadows on the walls growing thicker and scarier, the rain pelting down harder, an eerie wind blowing up.

There are loud weird noises from upstairs. (Loni's death, the boys having sex)

RONALD

Everyone's having a blast. Now if only the spirits would come on by and give me a blow job.

SYLVIA

You don't need a spirit.

Vicki tries not to look jealous as they flirt.

RONALD

Maybe just a bit more jack.

Ronald gets up and finds the bottle of Jack with his flashlight, already out with a few inches gone from the others drinking it. Ronald takes a swig or two and sits back down, this time bringing the bottle and putting it in his lap.

SYLVIA

The spirits...

RONALD

Spirit meet spirit. Don't be so uptight.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Ronald hands the bottle to Sylvia and she drinks from it, shuddering as the fiery liquid goes down. Walter looks jealously at Sylvia and Ronald. Vicki is jealous as well.

BECKY

Eileen, do you like Jack?

Becky drinks from the bottle that Sylvia holds out. The bottle is passed around the circle with each person drinking from it.

RONALD

That's more like it. Just had to loosen you guys up.

They laugh in the candlelight so hard that the candles blow out. They sit in darkness for a minute, the rain and upstairs noises continuing. They hear the BELL RING. They stop laughing. Becky SNAPS ON HER FLASHLIGHT.

BECKY

Haha, Ronald. Nice try.

RONALD

What do you mean?

BECKY

I know you rang that bell to freak us out.

RONALD

Actually, I didn't.

We can see that Ronald and Sylvia have snuggled closer and their hands don't have bells while they touch each other. One of Ronald's hands seems to be down the back of Sylvia's jeans. Becky SHINES HER FLASHLIGHT to the spot where the bell was.

BECKY

Where did it go?

Everyone looks at the spot where the bell had been but it is gone.

BECKY

Whoever is screwing around, just stop it already, okay!

The BELL RINGS again. Not in the living room.

The teens all look at each other.

(CONTINUED)



CONTINUED: (2)

BECKY

What the fuck!

RONALD

Obviously one of the others is screwing with us.

BECKY

How? We would have seen them come in and take the bell.

ZANDO

No. The candles were out, there's a lot of noise, any of the others could have come down and scooped it up to scare us.

BECKY

That makes no sense.

The BELL RINGS again. They look at each other. Ronald stands and grabs his flashlight.

RONALD

Okay, Pete. That's enough. Haha.

Ronald goes out into the dark hallway. The others look on, using their flashlights to check out the room that grows more ominous with every lightening flash.

ZANDO

What the fuck!

INT. BEDROOM - EVENING

Pete and Cody are finished their fun. They pull on their clothes, one of the flashlights giving just enough light.

They wander down the second floor hallway. They are about to go down the stairs when Cody points to a door down the hallway. The door was missed earlier, namely because it blends into the wall and is easy to miss.

CODY

We never checked out that room.

PETER

So?

CODY

Wanna look? Maybe another room to do the deed?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

They giggle as they open the reluctant door. It CREAKS loudly but with the wind and rain, it fits right in.

INT. SECOND FLOOR HIDDEN STAIRCASE - NIGHT

Peter and Cody stand in the doorway and see a staircase.

CODY

I didn't notice this before, did you?

PETER

No. Do we dare go up?

Cody shines the flashlight up the stairs to the attic.

CODY

I-I guess...why not?

They climb the stairs that creak and groan with their weight until they reach two doors at the top of the stairs.

PETER

I swear this house has more doors and secrets than ...I don't know...a video game?

CODY

Open it!

Peter turns the knob of the door in front of him. It takes a good push but he opens the door.

PETER

What the fuck is all of this?

INT. VR ROOM - NIGHT

They shine the light around the room. It's old and dusty except for a gaming desk with two VR helmets sitting on it THAT ARE BLINKING.

PETER

Shut the door. Let's see what's going on here.

Peter goes over to the helmets. He stares at them.

CODY

I thought there wasn't any electricity.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

PETER

These things are likely battery operated or something like that.

CODY

True.

PETER

Like a cell phone or something, right?

CODY

We should tell the others.

PETER

Fuck the others. Let's play a round or two first, then we'll tell them.

CODY

True. Only two can play at a time...if there's anything to play.

It turns out that there's lots to play.

The boys enjoy the experience, flying in space ships, and shooting at each other.

CODY

We gotta tell the others. This is fun!

PETER

Fucking love VR. Can't afford it.

CODY

But who would set up this expensive VR equipment in a creepy old house.

PETER

I bet some kid is hiding from his parents. Probably saved his allowance forever and then stashes it in here. Probably comes in now and again to play! That would explain why Vicki keeps saying that she thinks someone lives here.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

CODY

He or she sure is taking a risk with leaving this equipment just sitting here. Anyone could just come in and take it...

PETER

Anyone...maybe like us?

CODY

I don't think that's the best idea. Stealing from a creepy house.

PETER

But this isn't part of the house.

CODY

Or is it?

PETER

This stuff wasn't even invented when the deaths first happened.

CODY

Squatters.

PETER

Rich squatters...I can't afford one of these...

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

The teens are spread out, except for Ronald and Sylvia who are holding each other way too close for Vicki's liking.

VICKI

So, I take it the séance is over?

ZANDO

It doesn't have to be. We can still do it. Just cos those two have other things in mind.

RONALD

Hey, it's Halloween.

ZANDO

And?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

RONALD

It's time to get freaky and  
freaked out.

ZANDO

I think we've been covering those  
bases quite well.

RONALD

I can cover more bases...

Ronald squeezes Sylvia's hand. She giggles. Vicki rolls her eyes. Walter frowns. There are weird noises from upstairs as the boys play the VR game.

BECKY

Now what are they up to?

VICKI

Should we go look?

BECKY

I'm not sure...do we want to look?

Vicki gets up. She's annoyed by how Sylvia and Ronald are making googly eyes at each other and letting their hands slip under each other's clothes.

VICKI

I'm going to go...not here.

BECKY

I'll go with you.

As Vicki and Becky leave the room, Sylvia and Ronald kiss for the first time.

ZANDO

Oh, god, here we go. You can get a  
room you know.

RONALD

You're just jealous.

ZANDO

Not really...

Sylvia and Ronald make out. Walter rummages through his knapsack as a distraction for his jealousy and then grabs another beer and snaps it open.

INT. HALLWAY - NIGHT

Vicki and Becky creep out of the room.

BECKY

This sucks.

VICKI

What sucks?

BECKY

This whole night. I wanted to do a séance but now those two are locking lips and Peter and Cody are doing god knows what. Some party.

VICKI

Kind of like every party...

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Ronald is already all over Sylvia. She pushes Ronald off her and sits up, looking around, realizing that she's losing the attention of her friends.

SYLVIA

Hey, guys, come back. We'll do the séance.

INT. HALLWAY - NIGHT

Vicki and Becky turn at her words, Becky's hand on the back door, ready to go outside.

They turn back to the living room.

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

SYLVIA

We'll do the séance. Come on, let's go. The second time will work better now that we're all warmed up.

ZANDO

I'm not sure warm is the operative word. It's getting colder in here by the minute.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

The teens reassemble sitting on the floor in a circle around the candle.

SYLVIA

Usually it gets cold when there's ghosts around.

ZANDO

It usually gets cold when you're in an unheated house in a rainstorm in October!

They laugh.

SYLVIA

Let's try for the ghosts one more time. Surely there should be at least one hanging around after all the murders here.

Sylvia lights the candle. She takes Ronald's hand on one side and Vicki's on the other. They all sit around, holding hands in the darkness while the candle flickers. This time feels spookier, the rain pounding against the windows, the shadows against the wall. There's even a SHADOW ON THE STAIRCASE. Sylvia moans to entice the spirits. Ronald rolls his eyes. Vicki watches Sylvia expectantly, holding her hand. Walter is consumed with jealousy.

BECKY

I'm not feeling it anymore.

SYLVIA

There has to be spooks in a murder house. Especially on Halloween when the veil is the thin...

RONALD

Veil?

SYLVIA

The veil between worlds...when the dead can come back and talk to us.

JIMMY

Don't you need a Ouija board to talk to spirits.

RONALD

No one's talking to us.

SYLVIA

They'll talk to us.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

ZANDO

Have you ever actually had results  
from a séance.

SYLVIA

Everyone is different. But  
shhh...focus.

JIMMY

Let's use a Ouija board. I just  
happen to...

Jimmy goes over to his knapsack and pulls out a Ouija  
board box.

SYLVIA

Wow. You're prepared.

JIMMY

Let's do some Ouijiing!

He opens the box and removes the board and planchette.

RONALD

How does it work?

JIMMY

Well, first, only two can go at a  
time. Unless anyone else brought  
one?

No answer.

JIMMY

Who wants to try it with me?

No one.

VICKI

Okay, all you sucks, I'll give it  
a whirl. What's the worst that can  
happen?

Jimmy and Vicki manage to perch the board on one of the  
old coffee tables and sit on either side. They put their  
fingers on the planchette.

VICKI

Now what?

(CONTINUED)



CONTINUED: (3)

JIMMY

Close your eyes. We both close our eyes and let the planchette go where it wants. The others can keep track if it spells anything.

They sit for a while.

WALTER

What a scam!

MARLEEN

Has anyone ever had a Ouija board that works?

SYLVIA

They all work, just like all pendulums work and all tarot cards work. It's the humans working these tools that might not be able to access the correct information.

ZANDO

I kind of hope it DOES work!

The planchette begins to move.

VICKI

Oh!

WALTER

It's probably just Jimmy moving it around.

JIMMY

Why would I bother?

WALTER

To scare us.

Jimmy sighs and continues to focus.

The planchette moves wildly around the board.

VICKI

You must be moving it, because I'm sure not.

JIMMY

I thought you might be moving it, I've never had it go so fast.

They both open their eyes and stare at the planchette moving around the board, their hands on it, frightened.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

VICKI

Fuck this!

Jimmy stands up and flips the board.

ZANDO

Why did you do that?

JIMMY

It's fucked up.

VICKI

I'm over it.

They grow bored except for Sylvia and Vicki. Sylvia is right into her meditation. Vicki fearfully keeps looking at the stairs.

VICKI

How do you know if you've seen a ghost?

SYLVIA

You see it. Shhh.

Vicki looks over at the stairs.

VICKI

So, even though we're having the séance in this room, I could see a ghost on the stairs.

SYLVIA

You see a ghost? For real?

VICKI

Probably just a shadow.

SYLVIA

Where?

The DARK SHADOW ON THE STAIRCASE RUNS BACK UP as Sylvia turns to look.

SYLVIA

What did you see?

VICKI

I thought I saw...a shadow of some sort...

ZANDO

On the stairs.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (5)

RONALD  
Nothing over there.

VICKI  
Well, not now...but...before...

BECKY  
Really?

VICKI  
I wouldn't lie about a ghost...but  
I'm not sure that was what I saw.

Becky stands up and goes over to the stairs, fading into the darkness.

BECKY  
Over here?

VICKI  
I guess. It's gone now.

BECKY  
What did it look like?

VICKI  
A shadow within a shadow.

SYLVIA  
Did it seem good or evil?

VICKI  
I don't know. It was just  
darkness...I didn't see anything  
like a white sheet or even like a  
person. Just darkness but it felt  
like someone was there, watching  
us.

SYLVIA  
So maybe our séance did work...

Walter pulls mini speakers out of his backpack. He looks over at them.

WALTER  
Fuck this séance shit. It's  
Halloween. Time to par-tay!

Walter reaches into his pocket and then remembers.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (6)

WALTER

Well, shit...Sylvia, you took all our phones...how are we supposed to listen to tunes?

SYLVIA

Oh, for god's sake, Walter. It's always something. Hang on...

Sylvia grabs her flashlight and goes over to her knapsack. She pulls out a big old school boom box.

WALTER

Hope you don't have to plug that thing in!

SYLVIA

I'm prepared...Lots of batteries.

She turns it on and the radio blasts loudly.

She begins to dance, dragging Ronald up to join her. Walter glares.

SYLVIA

Come on!

Walter switches the station to hip hop.

WALTER

Yeah, that's better.

Everyone begins dancing and laughing, the candle still burning on the floor.

INT. VR ROOM - NIGHT

Peter and Cody are still playing. They jump and leap. From Peter's POV, we see a tall, broad shadow that might not be part of the game. Suddenly, HE SEES ONLY RED SPLASHES across his visor.

Cody watches Peter fall through the VR game.

CODY

Dead already? You didn't last long that time.

Cody continues to play. We see his point of view. The ominous shadow looms before him as well. More red splashes across his visor.

Cody falls to the floor.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Both boys are mutilated and dead, their blood pouring out, visors blinking.

INT. LIVING ROOM - EVENING

The teens are dancing to the loud music. Vicki dances close to Sylvia. Ronald passes around a bottle of tequila. They all take swigs.

RONALD

I can...

The door swings open and there's a huge shadow. They all scream in surprise.

SYLVIA

What!

It's Mrs. Brown. Soaked in raingear. She shuts the door behind her. Vicki turns down the music and shines her flashlight on Mrs. Brown.

MRS. BROWN

Good. You're all still okay.

RONALD

Why wouldn't we be?

WALTER

Hey, I locked that front door myself. How did you get in?

MRS. BROWN

I just opened it. Not locked.

WALTER

What the hell?

MARLEEN

Someone obviously must have unlocked it.

She looks around the room. No one takes responsibility.

MRS. BROWN

I thought I saw someone skulking around the house.

SYLVIA

That's your excuse this time?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

RONALD

It's Halloween for fuck's sake.  
Probably Peter and Cody going out  
for a smoke.

BECKY

I wouldn't be surprised.

MARLEEN

Out the front door? Not likely.

RONALD

Just throwing it out there.

MRS. BROWN

I've lived here for years,  
remember. I've seen it all. And  
I'm telling you, you guys should  
get out while the getting's good.  
I've warned others and they  
ignored ...

SYLVIA

You really need to stop bothering  
us.

ZANDO

We're doing okay, really.

MRS. BROWN

Séance?

VICKI

Of course...

MRS. BROWN

Call anyone?

SYLVIA

We tried...

VICKI

I thought I saw someone on the  
stairs...

An ARROW FLIES from the staircase and into Mrs. Brown's eye. Another into her throat. Several more arrows fly out until she pinned to the door, bleeding and dying. The gang is in shock as they scream. They watch her in horror except for Ronald who runs up the stairs.

RONALD

Who's there? Who the fuck is  
there!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

They hear his steps as he chases the shadow.

RONALD  
Peter! Cody! Help!

Vicki, Becky, Zando, Walter, Marleen, Jimmy, and Sylvia run up the stairs after him, flashlights bobbing.

INT. BOBBY'S ROOM - NIGHT

Vicki and Becky first go to Bobby's bedroom and see evidence that Peter and Cody had been there by discarded costume pieces such as a pirate hat.

VICKI  
They aren't here.

BECKY  
They WERE here...

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

Marleen and Walter are in the second bedroom and see one of Loni's books.

MARLEEN  
I guess Loni was here! Where are they now?

WALTER  
Loni?

INT. BOBBY'S ROOM - NIGHT

Vicki and Becky are looking around Bobby's room. Vicki holds Peter's pirate hat.

VICKI  
Peter?

BECKY  
Cody?

INT. SECOND FLOOR LANDING - NIGHT

The teens convene in curiosity and panic.

VICKI  
Where are Peter and Cody?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MARLEEN

And Loni?

INT. BATHROOM - NIGHT

Walter pushes open the weirdly heavy bathroom door and shines his flashlight quickly around.

WALTER

No one in the bathroom.

He leaves.

INT. SECOND FLOOR LANDING - NIGHT

The teens convene on the second floor landing. They wonder where Peter, Cody, and Loni have gone.

ZANDO

Maybe they went back downstairs  
and we didn't see them?

MARLEEN

Yeah, maybe they went out for a  
smoke. The music was pretty loud.

Vicki has spotted the end of the hallway hidden door that is hanging ajar.

VICKI

Hey, check it out. I never noticed  
this door before, any of you?

MARLEEN

No, I never did!

VICKI

I bet they're all up there.

They climb the stairs. One door is locked. The other door opens into the VR room.

INT. VR ROOM - NIGHT

Vicki and Marleen are first into the VR room. They see Peter and Cody dead on the floor covered in blood, VR helmets blinking.

Vicki runs to Peter and tries to remove his helmet but it's too grisly of a job.

(CONTINUED)



CONTINUED:

Vicki holds her mouth like she's going to throw up. She runs down to the bathroom clutching her flashlight while the others go to Peter and Cody in disbelief.

INT. BATHROOM - NIGHT

Vicki runs to the bathroom, slamming the door. She hovers over the bucket and pukes into it, not seeing Loni's severed head in it. When she's finished, she stands up, feeling for a towel. She wipes her face with a robe. She feels something weird. She turns her flashlight up to see Loni's headless body hanging from a door hook, dead.

Vicki screams.

VICKI

What the fuck. What the fuck.

INT. VR ROOM - NIGHT

She screams and runs back up the stairs towards the others who are still freaking out about Peter and Cody.

Sylvia is kneeling over Peter, and trying not to freak out.

Ronald and Walter are looking around the room, examining the VR wiring and the main console.

SYLVIA

Peter...Peter, wake up.

RONALD

Where did they get this VR equipment?

BECKY

They must have brought it.

WALTER

They didn't bring it. We would have seen them carrying all that shit up there. They would have bragged about it.

ZANDO

Yeah, I can't see them sneaking all that stuff in and not telling us.

VICKI

Loni is dead. Loni is dead.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Vicki bursts in sobbing. She grabs Ronald's arm.

VICKI

Loni is dead. What the fuck. What the fuck.

RONALD

Loni?

Vicki grabs Ronald's arm and drags him down the stairs into the bathroom.

INT. BATHROOM - NIGHT

Vicki shines her light to show Ronald. Becky, Marleen, and Walter have followed .

VICKI

What is this?

RONALD

What the hell? Are you sure this isn't a prank?

Ronald examines Loni's headless body. The beam of his flashlight then scans the bucket and he sees the head in the pail, covered in puke, and SCREAMS. Becky and Marleen rush in. Seeing their dead friend, they scream as well.

RONALD

We gotta get out of here.

Ronald and Vicki run back to the VR room.

INT. VR ROOM - NIGHT

RONALD

Come on. Let's grab our crap and get the fuck out.

BECKY

We need our phones, Sylvia. We have to call the cops!

They all run down the stairs as fast as they can.

SYLVIA

Yes, yes...I know...I have them.

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

They run into the living room. Sylvia shines her flashlight around the room. She runs into the kitchen.

INT. KITCHEN - NIGHT

Sylvia running to where she had left the bag of phones in the kitchen in one of the lower metal cupboards. She shines her flashlight into the hidey hole. They aren't there.

She SCREAMS in frustration as she runs back into the living room.

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

The teens in the living room are frantically stuffing their stuff into their knapsacks and bags, trying not to look at the corpse hanging from the closed door.

VICKI

Great, you're back. You have them?

SYLVIA

FUCK!

Sylvia begins to tear apart the living room. The others continue their packing.

SYLVIA

Shit! Where is it? Where's the box?

She crawls to look under the couch.

BECKY

Why are you looking under the couch? You said you put them in another room!

SYLVIA

They aren't there...I was hoping maybe I fucked up, maybe I got too high, maybe I put them...

ZANDO

Fuck the phones. We gotta get out of here.

RONALD

Let's go.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

They stare with dismay at the body pinned to the door.

ZANDO

Fuck it. Let's go out the back!

They grab their bags and run

INT. KITCHEN - NIGHT

through the kitchen to the back door. Zando goes to pull it open but it won't open.

ZANDO

It's stuck!

RONALD

You're just too weak. Stupid old houses.

Ronald shoves him out of the way. Ronald can't open the door either. Both of them pull at the door.

They smash the window in the door only to find outside bars blocking them.

RONALD

What the hell! Where did those bars come from?

ZANDO

Fuck it, let's just crawl out a window.

Zando smashes the kitchen window but they realize there are outside bars on it as well.

BECKY

What's with all the bars? How did that happen? Who did this?

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

They run back to the living room and rush the windows. They realize there are bars on all the windows.

RONALD

FUCK!!

SYLVIA

We'll have to move Mrs. Brown.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ZANDO

Fuck it. We just have to open the door.

RONALD

Someone is fucking with us.

WALTER

I'm going to find out who.

Zando winces as he grabs the door handle by pushing aside the body, the flashlights all trained on him. The doorknob won't move.

ZANDO

It's locked.

Ronald pushes through once again and also has no success in opening the door. He kicks it.

RONALD

How...how is this possible?

There's NOISE on the stairs.

SYLVIA

Oh no, he...it's coming back.

RONALD

Who are you?

There is no reply but the stairs creak. Another arrow shoots out, narrowly missing Ronald.

RONALD

Fuck you!

Ronald charges at the stairs, the others follow. There is noise as someone runs up the stairs. Zando holds back Ronald.

ZANDO

Let him go, let's just get the fuck out of here and then we'll sorry about that asshole.

BECKY

But who is it? Who wants us dead?

ZANDO

I don't know. The ghost.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

RONALD

That's no fucking ghost. It was a dude with a spear gun or whatever you call it. I'm going to get that asshole.

WALTER

He's in here somewhere...we would have heard him leave.

VICKI

How can anyone hide in here without us knowing? It's not that big of a house.

BECKY

Who the fuck knows, I just know we gotta get out.

ZANDO

You didn't notice all those locked doors? Anyone could be here...we're a noisy bunch.

MARLEEN

But who did this? And why? What the fuck?

ZANDO

Let's get out of here first. There's gotta be a way.

They go around the two levels of the house, but all the windows are barred and the doors won't open.

VICKI

What about the basement? Maybe there's basement windows to crawl out that he hasn't touched yet.

SYLVIA

Fuck the basement. I'm not going down there again.

WALTER

It's a scary ass place.

RONALD

If the asshole is up on the second floor, or even the attic, then maybe the basement is the way to go. You guys go check it out. I'll stay at the top of the stairs to guard.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

VICKI

Oh no you won't. I've seen enough movies to know that you never split up.

RONALD

Too late for that.

WALTER

I'll guard with Ronald.

VICKI

Let's go.

Vicki, Sylvia, Zando, Becky, and Marleen run down the stairs with their flashlights. Walter and Ronald stand guard at the top of the stairs, each holding two flashlights, shining them both into the kitchen and down the stairs.

WALTER

At least we have lots of batteries...

RONALD

For now. Fuck, Walter, what do you think is really going on? I didn't want to scare the others but being locked in like this...it's crazy, no?

WALTER

I've never seen anything like it, except in horror movies, of course.

RONALD

I can't believe we can't get that back door open. Do you want to try it again?

WALTER

Remember all that weird metal along the eavestroughs...now we know what it was all about.

RONALD

How can this be happening? I want to check out those bars on the windows again. There has to be a way out.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

WALTER

We need to stay here...watch the others...no splitting up.

RONALD

Wonder if there are any tools down there...

WALTER

I don't recall seeing anything...

RONALD (YELLING)

Hey, guys, while you're down there, see if you can find anything we can smash our way out, an axe...a chainsaw...anything.

INT. BASEMENT - NIGHT

The group has rushed to the nearest wall to check the window. They go around to each of the casement windows they can see but all the windows are now covered in steel bars from the outside.

BECKY

I'll see if we overlooked anything in that fruit cellar.

VICKI

I'll go with you, no splitting up.

The two women hold hands as they approach the fruit cellar.

This time, the door doesn't open.

VICKI

It must be stuck.

BECKY

Let me try.

No matter what they do, they can't get the door to open.

There's a scream from Marleen.

Everyone rushes to her.

MARLEEN

Sorry...I just got startled...I didn't mean...



INT. TOP OF STAIRS - NIGHT

Ronald and Walter stare down the stairs. Behind them, there is noise. They both startle and turn.

RONALD  
Hey asshole...we know you're  
there...

He starts to go after the sound.

WALTER  
No...wait...don't...

Ronald and Walter are beheaded with a single slice of a large sword.

INT. BASEMENT - NIGHT

Vicki, Becky, Sylvia, Zando, Jimmy, and Marleen are in the dark basement, panicking as they look for hiding spots.

Vicki and Becky crouch together in a corner.

BECKY  
What good is this? We're all just  
sitting ducks. He has weapons...we  
have nothing.

VICKI  
We shouldn't have come down here.  
This is the dumbest move yet.

BECKY  
We can't go up, we can't go  
outside, the windows and doors are  
all locked, Vicki. What are we  
going to do? I don't want to die  
like this.

VICKI  
We're not going to die. We'll  
think of something, I promise.

There's a scream from Marleen.

BECKY  
Fuck, man, she's so loud. No way  
to hide with her around.

Vicki and Becky sit tight as they hear thumping and grunts and other nefarious noise.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

VICKI

We need to get out of here...do you have anything on you, like a nail file or something.

BECKY

What's a nail file gonna do?

VICKI

I don't know, I'm just grasping at straws.

BECKY

Straws won't help either.

VICKI

No weapons...no..nothing...what are we going to do? Didn't the guys say to look for tools?

Vicki crawls around the corner in time to see Jimmy's sliced up body falling by Marleen's dead body.

VICKI

Shit.

Vicki panics and runs towards the stairs and up. Becky realizes what Vicki's doing and follows.

There's a noise behind Vicki.

She turns to look.

Becky is beheaded with the sword.

Vicki continues to run, not realizing Becky is gone.

INT. MAIN FLOOR

Vicki runs back to the front door, trying the knob around the body. The door still is locked. She runs to the back door in the kitchen. Still locked and bolted. No escape from the barred windows. She hears more screams and thuds as Zando is killed.

Vicki runs up to the second floor.

INT. SECOND FLOOR LANDING

She stands on the landing looking down into the darkness, still hanging on to a flashlight.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

She's startled by a noise that comes from one of the bedrooms.

As we listen more, it's muffled crying.

Vicki runs into one of the bedrooms. She follows the crying. She shines her flashlight to see Sylvia under one of the beds.

VICKI

Sylvia...you must be quiet. Stop crying.

SYLVIA

I'm so scared.

Vicki crawls under the bed. She reaches for Sylvia's hand and gives it a squeeze.

VICKI

Sylvia...I ...

SYLVIA

Will you help me?

VICKI

Of course, I will. You know I...ever since we were kids...I...

SYLVIA

You've changed so much since we were kids...

VICKI

Even before I changed...or rather...found myself...I always...liked...

SYLVIA

You've always been so brave...finding your true self, standing up to the assholes...I never told you how much I admired you...

VICKI

That means a lot to me...

SYLVIA

So many of us thought you were so brave...but no one tells anyone anything until we're in these stupid situations.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

There's noise, loud stomping, and it's coming up the stairs.

VICKI

Shh...

Vicki runs quickly and quietly out of the room.

INT. ATTIC

Vicki continues up to the attic. She runs past the game room and to the second door that now hangs open.

Vicki runs up the narrow flight of stairs as quietly as she can.

She emerges into a room, a huge bedroom that is definitely lived in. There are newspaper clippings stapled to the walls and ceilings of all the accidents and deaths from the house.

There is a large bed, dresser, hot plate and other kitchen accessories that can be battery-run.

She hears more noise. SYLVIA SCREAMS.

Vicki looks around the attic room and finds a door, a closet. She runs into the closet that is crammed full of clothes.

INT. CLOSET

Vicki finds the back of the closet leads into the eavestrough and between the walls. She slides into the beams as Bobby nosily enters the room.

BOBBY

I know you're here, freak. You're the last one.

Vicki tries not to scream as she listens to him tearing the room apart.

She becomes aware of a lot of humming.

She can see that she has immersed herself in the beehive that is in the walls of the attic. Bees buzz around, crawling on her. She does her best not to freak out.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

She hears Bobby slamming around. She hears him open the closet.

VICKI

OMGOMGOMGOMG

He rummages but finds nothing.

At last, heavy footsteps go back downstairs.

Vicki thinks she's going to freak out as she slowly slides away from the bees. They grow agitated and begin to sting.

Vicki manages to slide out and whimpers as she fumbles around the bedroom.

She can hear him rampaging through the living room.

Vicki sees his sword and axe collection in the dim light. She grabs a sword that isn't too heavy for her and that she can carry.

She tries all the tiny windows in the attic but they are locked. The bees follow and she runs from the room, shutting the door behind her as carefully as she can.

INT. SECOND FLOOR LANDING

She can hear Bobby back down in the basement, furiously looking for her. She begins to go down the stairs and TRIPS ON THE INFAMOUS BROKEN STEP.

Vicki tumbles down the stairs.

Bobby hears her and races up.

INT. FIRST FLOOR

As Vicki pulls herself up, she hears Bobby coming for her. She grabs for the sword.

Bobby rounds the corner, carrying an axe.

It's dim but the candle continues to burn in the living room. Assorted dropped flashlights also add light.

Bobby sees Vicki.

They must face off. They swipe and fight as they speak.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

VICKI

Who are you?

BOBBY

The rightful owner of this home.  
Who are you to trespass here?

VICKI

We didn't know anyone...

BOBBY

And yet, you didn't give a fuck  
about trespassing...

VICKI

What about you...trespassing?

BOBBY

My own home? I rightfully own?

VICKI

How? It's been abandoned for  
years?

BOBBY

Or has it? Maybe I didn't want  
people bugging me...all this  
time...

VICKI

But why kill us?

BOBBY

Why not?

Bobby nearly gets her with the axe which she manages to  
stop with the sword.

A swarm of bees had flown down and are attacking both of  
them.

VICKI

Open the door...we have to get rid  
of the bees...

BOBBY

Scared of the bees are you?

Bobby nearly beheads her but again she's able to stop him  
with the sword.

Vicki manages to race past him and run down the stairs.

Bobby follows.

INT. BASEMENT STAIRS

In the darkness, Vicki has stopped on the second to last step and has lain down.

Bobby doesn't see her and falls over her.

Vicki jumps up and manages to get a couple of slices in with her sword.

Bobby roars up, reaching for his axe.

Vicki CHOPS OFF HIS HAND.

Bobby screams and as he bellows, Vicki is able to slice him across the face. He falls and is silent.

Vicki runs back up the stairs.

INT. MAIN FLOOR

She can't open the doors or windows.

Behind her, Bobby is back, holding his sword that nearly gets her.

She runs to the bathroom and slams the door. She tries the window.

There is a buzzing by the door.

VICKI

Fucking bees!

But then, she realizes it's not bees. It's a phone on vibrate coming from Loni's headless corpse.

Trying not to puke, Vicki retrieves the phone from the pocket. She makes a call.

VICKI

David?

DAVID

Hey, I've been trying to get into that house for an hour. How'd you guys get in there? I hear screaming and stuff, you must be having a riot.

VICKI

Call the cops. There's murd...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

The door is broken down.

Vicki manages to escape a swing of the axe.

They wrestle and battle in the tiny bathroom, smashing the stall, smashing the blocked windows. She throws a towel over Bobby's head and runs.

She pushes past Bobby and runs through the hallway

INT. VR ROOM

and up to the VR room.

As she hears Bobby follow, she manages to pull one of the VR cords across the door and trip him.

Bobby falls, his axe flying. Vicki grabs his ax and chops him in the back. She leaves the axe in his back as she runs back down to the main floor.

INT. MAIN FLOOR

The candle has fallen over and flames shoot through the living room, licking the curtains, igniting the couch. The bees are swarming everywhere.

Vicki screams and runs for the backdoor. She screams and pulls on the door to no avail. She hears slamming and footsteps. She hides herself in one of the steel doored cupboards to ward off the bees. She screams until she passes out.

CUT TO:

INT. HOSPITAL - THE NEXT DAY

Vicki is lying in a hospital bed; burned, stung, lacerated but alive, barely.

David stands by her bed.

Vicki wakes up.

DAVID

You're awake.

VICKI (CAN BARELY SPEAK)

David...

(CONTINUED)



CONTINUED:

DAVID

You made it...you're alive.

VICKI

Tell me it was just a dream...

DAVID

No dream. Nightmare.

VICKI

You saved me.

DAVID

You saved yourself. But luckily I was late to the party so was able to call the cops and the fire department.

VICKI

The others?

David looks sadly at his hands.

DAVID

The house is burned to the ground. Somehow you survived. The only survivor.

Tears roll down Vicki's cheeks.

VICKI

And Bobby?

David frowns.

DAVID

Bobby? Do we have a friend Bobby?

VICKI

No...the killer.

DAVID

Killer?

Vicki stares at him.

VICKI

Bobby, a man, grown up, the boy from that haunted house, he killed everyone, he tried to kill me...

David shakes his head.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

DAVID

Sorry, sis. The only people they found were our friends...so many of them.

VICKI

So he's still out there...

David holds her hand.

DAVID

Calm down, Vicki. Everything is going to be all right. You're just in shock. A lot to deal with.

Vicki sighs and looks towards the window where she can only see a dull November sky. There's a bee crawling on the outside window.

The MUSIC rises.

End Credits Roll

EXT. HOUSE DAY

There's not much left where the house used to stand. It's reduced to burned debris.

Bobby, dressed in rags, is standing and looking at the ruins. Bees buzz around him.

He turns and limps away.

BLACKOUT

CREDITS