

A VERY HAUNTED HOUSE  
Short Film by Luis Garza

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FADE IN:

EXT. SUBURBAN HOUSE - DAY

A camera crew stands outside the front porch. The door opens, an overly-friendly looking woman appears behind it. This is KATE (43)

KATE  
(hushed tone)  
Come in! Come in!

The camera crew squeezes through the door frame.

CUT TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM - CONTINUED

**INTERVIEW: KATE**

Kate sits cross-legged on the sofa.

SUPER: Kate

INTERVIEWER(O.S)  
So you say you have a demonic  
presence in your home?

KATE  
(smiling) Yes. Well... Three ghosts,  
and two demons. But who's counting?  
Also a few rodents, but those didn't  
come with the mortgage.

INTERVIEWER(O.S)  
Can you recall the first occurrence?

KATE  
Well, it was our first day moving in.  
And Billy was actually the first one  
who saw the ghost.

BEGIN FLASHBACK:

INT. KITCHEN - DAY

Kate puts some plates inside a cabinet. BILLY (5) comes running in.

BILLY  
Mommy mom!

KATE  
Hi sweetie.

BILLY

Can I have a Popsicle for the white  
boy in my room?

Kate quickly turns to the camera, distressed.

END FLASHBACK:

**INTERVIEW: KATE**

KATE

You know, I don't scare easily. I've  
watched the first two seasons of 'Are  
you Afraid of the Dark?' with my kids.  
I own both 'Ghostbusters' movies on  
Blu-ray. I even went on the Seven  
Dwarfs Mine Train at Disney World...  
Twice.

Billy appears from the kitchen hallway, and mechanically marches  
towards the fridge; Kate is oblivious to this.

KATE (CONT'D)

But I don't know... I guess seeing  
your kids terrified to death  
really does strike you as a mother,  
you know.

Billy begins pounding his head on the fridge.

KATE (CONT'D)

Also, have you noticed that every kid  
in every horror movie is named Billy?

There's a beat.

INTERVIEWER (O.S)

Or Tommy.

CUT TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM - LATER

A tired, calm, and disinterested middle aged man sits on the couch.

**INTERVIEW: PATRICK**

SUPER: PATRICK

INTERVIEWER (O.S)

So how do you personally feel about this  
presence living right in your home,  
endangering your family?

PATRICK  
(scoffs) This is a lie fabricated by my  
wife just to get back at me for not...

INTERVIEWER(O.S)  
What?

PATRICK  
What?

Patrick awkwardly glares at the camera for a couple of seconds.

INTERVIEWER(O.S)  
Your daughter sounded very convincing  
about the matter.

CUT TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM - FLASHBACK

SHARON (17) is in the middle of a rant.

**INTERVIEW: SHARON**

SUPER: SHARON

SHARON  
Okay yeah, we get it. You don't believe  
in ghosts. You think you're special?  
What if I told you that the ghost in  
my room was a gynecologist before he  
died? Huh? Not so funny anymore. Right?  
(breathes) And then he blames me for  
messing with the thermostat.

SMASH CUT TO:

**INTERVIEW: PATRICK**

PATRICK  
Sharon... Is just a very jumpy girl.

BEGIN FLASHBACK:

An oblivious Patrick sits on the kitchen bar, headphones blasting  
music, newspaper opened in front of him. Sharon gets dragged violently  
towards the hallway by an invisible force.

SHARON  
(screaming) Dad!! DAD!! HELP ME!

Patrick bobs his head to the tune of his song.

END FLASHBACK

**INTERVIEW: PATRICK**

PATRICK

(ponders)  
Yeah, she's just a jumpy girl.

CUT TO:

**INTERVIEW: KATE**

KATE

It's been getting much worse the past few nights. Footsteps turned into screams. Doors closing by themselves turned into demonic apparitions. The sound of children laughing turned into finding Billy hanging from the basketball hoop with a penis drawn on his forehead.

CUT TO:

**INTERVIEW: BILLY**

Billy sits innocently on the couch, his legs dangling off, the words "ANTICHRIST" written on his forehead.

INTERVIEWER(O.S)

So, you haven't seen anything?

Billy's eyes follow something across the room, he LAUGHS.

BILLY

No.

INTERVIEWER(O.S)

Are you sure?

Billy eyes fall right behind the camera. His laughter intensifies, and then he stops abruptly.

BILLY

Yes.

CUT TO:

**INTERVIEW: KATE**

KATE

Yesterday, Billy used my lipstick to write a message on the mirror. He wrote "lick". But he spelled it like: L-L-I-K. At first I thought he wanted to lick something and he just didn't know how to spell it. But then it turns out he was just spelling "Kill" backwards. (pause) So there's that.

CUT TO:

**INTERVIEW: SHARON**

SHARON

So I googled the history of the house because apparently that's a thing you can do, and I found this:

Sharon levels a piece of paper with her eyes. She reads.

SHARON (CONT'D)

So apparently a doctor lived in this house with his son and daughter. And I think he got fired from his job for getting a little too friendly with his patients. So he built his own surgery room here in the house. I'm guessing that's where the sealed door underneath the stairs leads too. Anyway, so that's where he would take kidnapped victims to "perform alternating surgeries". And he was killed by the maid. (pauses, proof reads) Apparently there was a maid. (pauses) There's always a maid.

CUT TO:

**INTERVIEW: KATE AND PATRICK**

KATE

So how would you explain all the incidents with Billy?

PATRICK

What incidents?

KATE

I don't know. Why don't we start with the basketball hoop incident?

PATRICK

He probably pissed off one of the kids from the block.

CUT TO:

**INTERVIEW: SHARON**

SHARON

(reading) Wait I'm sorry. Apparently it was the maid who did all the surgeries, the dad was just depressed. The maid was a bitch and she killed the son. And then the dad killed the maid and then killed himself and then I think the daughter ran.

CUT TO:

**INTERVIEW: KATE AND PATRICK**

KATE

The house is haunted.

PATRICK

Is not.

KATE

Is too.

PATRICK

Is not.

KATE

Is too.

CUT TO:

**INTERVIEW: SHARON**

SHARON

(reading) Wait no, the son drowned in the bathtub and the daughter hung herself. The husband had Alzheimer's and the maid was his lover. The wife killed both of them. And then drowned herself in the bathtub as well.

7.

CUT TO:

**INTERVIEW: KATE AND PATRICK**

PATRICK

Is not.

KATE

Is too.

PATRICK

Is not.

KATE

Is too.

CUT TO:

**INTERVIEW: SHARON**

SHARON

(reading) Wait, forget I said that. The wife shit herself. (proof reads) Sorry, she shot herself. Which made her husband drown their son in the bathtub. When the maid saw the dead body she shot herself (proof reads) wait no, she shit herself. And then the daughter hung herself and then there was an exorcism.

INTERVIEWER(O.S)

And then?

SHARON

I don't know, the rest of the article is in Latin.

CUT TO:

**INTERVIEW: KATE AND PATRICK**

PATRICK

So you're just going to pretend to be mad at me after the unforgettable night we spent together?

KATE

I don't know what you're talking about, I went straight to sleep last night.

PATRICK

Then who's apron is this?

Patrick pulls out a French maid apron from underneath the cushions. Kate raises her eyebrows.

Several SCREAMS emerge from behind the camera.

KATE

Billy! Put that knife down!

The camera gets tipped over, and it falls with a THUD. Feet scatter around as the entire room erupts with SCREAMS.

BILLY

(violent whisper)  
Lick! Lick! Lick! Lick!

CUT TO: