Ghosts II

by

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FADE IN:

EXT. SKY - NIGHT

Dark clouds drift past a bright full moon. Wind HOWLS.

EXT. FARM - NIGHT

Windmill wheels CREAK, stirred by a gust of wind.

A quiet, dark farm nestled between endless fields.

A windswept farmhouse door BANGS against its doorway frame.

A gravel road leads towards a distant barn.

EXT. BARN - NIGHT

Light flickers in windows. SATANIC CHANTING from inside.

EXT. COUNTRYSIDE ROAD - NIGHT

Surrounded by woodland. Quiet. Peaceful.

A police car ROARS past, breaking the silence. Three police cars and a police van follow.

INT. BARN - NIGHT

White-cloaked CULTISTS kneel before OWEN OLIN, 35, a darkcloaked hooded figure at the forefront.

Owen, the cult leader, presides over a makeshift Satanic alter, a blood-soaked haystack. A crudely-drawn pentagram, made from blood, covers the top of the alter.

CULTIST#1 places a screaming BABY on the alter.

Owen smiles. He grips a dagger, aims it above the baby.

EXT. COUNTRYSIDE ROAD - NIGHT

Police vehicles speed down the road.

OFFICER (0.S.) Proceed with caution. These sickos have women and children held hostage in there.

INT. BARN - NIGHT

A Cultist removes her hood. A WOMAN, 22.

She storms to the alter, grabs the baby.

Owen frowns, furious.

WOMAN

How can you do this?

She turns to the Cultists, eyes the MOTHER, 30.

Mother is nonchalant, eyes lazed, head swaying as if in a trance.

WOMAN How can you let this happen to your own child?

Woman scowls at Owen.

WOMAN And you? You're his father!

OWEN To enter paradise, we must make an offering to the Master. Now put the baby back.

WOMAN

No... NO.

Woman runs past the Cultists.

OWEN

Seize her!

Four Cultists chase after her.

Woman opens the barn door, runs for freedom.

EXT. BARN - NIGHT

Woman looks out at acres of moonlit fields. She panics. No place to hide. Police SIRENS wail in the distance. Hopeful, Woman runs to a water-well. She places the baby inside a well bucket, lowers it down.

EXT. FARM ENTRANCE ROAD - NIGHT

Police vehicles speed towards the farm.

INT. BARN - NIGHT

Flames spread throughout the barn.

Cultists chant and sing joyfully.

CULTISTS When he comes a calling, all of will die, I wish for this to happen, blood from you and I.

Owen raises his arms in praise.

Woman lay on the alter, dead, dagger imbedded in her chest.

Flames engulf the cult.

EXT. FARM - DAY

Smoke drifts from the burnt barn's remains. FIREFIGHTERS douse the smouldering wood with fire engine hoses.

A POLICE OFFICER passes by the water-well.

He hears a baby SCREAMING.

He peers into the well. He wheels the bucket up, calls out for assistance.

POLICE OFFICER Hey, over here!

Police Officer takes the baby from the bucket, comforts it in his arms. He looks mystified by what has happened.

The burnt barn smoulders...

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. STREET - GREENFIELDS - DAY

A modern day suburban neighbourhood. October leaves decorate trees and pavement sidewalks.

SUPERIMPOSE: GREENFIELDS, PRESENT DAY, HALLOWEEN

EXT. DAVIES' HOUSE - DAY

A plush pathway between a well-maintained garden leads to the house. A Grim Reaper decoration hangs on the front door.

AMY'S NIGHTMARE

FLASH CUTS:

A grimy stone tunnel leads to darkness.

A newborn baby screams.

Skeletal fingers scratch a chalk pentagram on stone ground.

Blood sprays across a wall.

Indescribable CHANTING.

A faceless boy and girl kiss.

A faceless man and woman make love.

A grimy stone tunnel leads to a bright light.

INT. DAVIES HOUSE - AMY'S BEDROOM - DAY

AMY DAVIES, 17, jolts awake in her bed. She takes a deep breath. Calms down. Just a nightmare.

She looks around her room, regaining her bearings.

Walls draped in posters of Gothic imagery.

Shelves lined with all sorts of Gothic, magic, fantasy inspired items - Fairy tale books. Books on the occult. Dolls dressed in cute pixie outfits, others in black with tearsmeared cheeks.

A Mark Twain plaque hangs on the wall. The text reads: "The two most important days in your life are the day you are born and the day you find out why."

Amy grabs a glass of water from her bedside cabinet and takes a sip.

She watches the hands tick around the face of a Goth inspired alarm clock: 7:29.

She waits a few seconds: 7:30. She hits the alarm button just as it starts to ring.

Amy slides, begrudgingly, out of her bed. She checks her smart-phone for any new messages. None.

She sighs, disappointed. She shrugs. No real surprise.

A voice booms from downstairs.

JOHN (O.S.) Amy! Time to get up, doll. Amy calls back with a curt reply.

AMY I'm awake already.

Amy takes her laptop, opens the lid. The computer is still running from the last time she used it. Two window tabs display website content:

FIND TRUE LOVE and ADOPTION 101 - FIND YOUR REAL PARENTS.

Amy clicks on Find True Love, a dating site.

DATING SITE SCREEN

Amy's profile picture, draped in Gothic make-up. She's using an alias: PRINCESS DARK.

The cursor clicks on her inbox.

One new message by a profile user: DarkLordOfNight.

The message reads: "Hey, Amy. Enjoyed chatting last night. Can't wait to meet up. We share a bond, we share trust. Won't let you down. Love you babe xxx"

BACK TO SCENE

A KNOCK on the door. The door opens. JOHN DAVIES, 45, enters. Amy slams the laptop lid shut, angry at the intrusion.

JOHN Morning, Amy, just making sure you're ready for school.

AMY God, why even knock if you're just gonna burst in anyway?

JOHN Sorry, honey--

AMY

(venomous) And it's college, not school. Christ, Dad.

John lingers, uncomfortable with her tone.

JOHN About last night. Your mother and I-

AMY She's not my mother, remember? And you're not my Dad.

JOHN

We had to tell you at some point, Amy. I'm so sorry it's hurt you, it's hurt us--

AMY Got the point. Can you go now, please? I've gotta get dressed before Donna gets here.

EXT. DAVIES' HOUSE - DAY

A car pulls up in front of the house.

INT. DONNA'S CAR - DAY

DONNA, 17, sits in the driver's seat. She honks the horn.

LEE, 17, sits in the passenger seat.

LEE Donna, you've got something smeared on your lip, babe.

Donna looks into the rear view mirror to check. Lee gently takes her head, kisses her lips.

LEE It's gone now.

Donna smiles, playfully slaps his arm.

DONNA You're such a cheesemeister, Lee.

LEE Saying I've got bad breath?

DONNA No, it tasted pretty good.

They gaze in each others eyes. Young love.

HARRY, 17, sitting in the back, pokes his head between Donna and Lee, breaking their moment.

HARRY There's three of us in this car, and the third leg don't wanna see that unless it's getting some too.

He poses a kiss for Donna. She pushes him away, reviled.

LEE Any more moves on my girl, you'll be walking, Harry. HARRY

You can't do me like that, my brother from another mother. It's Halloween, I might get kidnapped by some kinky K-K-K motherfuckers.

Harry sits back, lights a joint. Donna's furious.

DONNA Don't smoke that shit in my Dad's car, you dickhead!

Harry flicks the cherry of his joint out the window.

HARRY

Boom! Socoorry! I didn't know I was hanging around with the geek squad. Since when did you care about--

DONNA

It's my Dad's car, moron. That stuff hangs around like a bad odour...

Donna and Lee turn and stare at Harry.

HARRY Oh me? Yeah, very funny. You wanna talk about bad influences...

He nods towards the Davies house.

HARRY

Crazy Amy, for one.

DONNA Don't call her that.

HARRY

I'll say what I want. We've known each other since we were kids, why's she gotta get preferential treatment--

LEE

Because you're being a bellend.

Harry sits back in his seat. Shrugs. Fair enough.

DONNA

Come on, Amy.

Donna honks the horn again.

DONNA

Finally.

Amy storms out of the house front door.

HARRY Face of thunder.

LEE She looks pissed off.

DONNA Don't say anything, guys, I think I know why.

Lee nods. Donna looks at Harry. Serious.

DONNA I mean it, Harry.

Harry nods, shrugs as if to suggest "I'd say anything?"

Amy gets in the back of the car, sits next to Harry.

Harry shifts over as far as possible. Amy gives Harry a dirty look. These two despise each other.

EXT. DAVIES' HOUSE - DAY

Donna's car drives away.

EXT. COLLEGE - DAY

A further education college. BELL rings for lunch.

INT. COLLEGE - CORRIDOR - DAY

Students exit classrooms, meet with friends. Hectic.

INT. COLLEGE - CAFETERIA - DAY

Laughter and idle teenage chat fills the room. Students line up to be served grog by stern DINNER LADIES and take it to their tables.

Donna, Lee, Harry and Amy share a table as they eat. Harry frowns at Amy as she reads an assignment.

HARRY Take a break, girl.

AMY I need to get this done.

HARRY Shit's still gonna be there after lunch. The dictionary ain't gonna get kidnapped or something. AMY

No, but with the right words you can elevate a B to an A. Words are magical. Right time, right place, you can alter someone's mood. Just by using the correct--

HARRY

Only words I like to hear are moans, groans and fuck me harder.

DONNA Give it a rest, Harry.

HARRY So what we all doing tonight?

LEE We'll decide when everyone's here.

HARRY Reckon Kristen's gonna come out tonight?

DONNA Why not? She has every year.

AMY This year she's got Marcus.

DONNA Her boyfriend?

Amy nods. Donna shrugs. So what?

HARRY Did you know he's thirty-six?

LEE

Fuck off.

DONNA It's true. She told me.

Lee's shocked. He chuckles, taken aback by the news.

AMY What does it matter? If Kristen's happy, so be it.

Lee and Harry look at each other, trying not to laugh.

DONNA True, it's the happiest I've seen her for ages. Don't ruin it. LEE Don't ruin what? The fact she's going out with--

AMY

A paedophile?

Lee and Harry nod. Yes.

AMY

Correct term would be ephebophile, but you wouldn't know that. Heaven forbid female empowerment, right?

LEE

Female empowerment? Some guy old enough to be her Dad sticks his dick in her every night and you think she's being empowered?

AMY

Older guys offer much more than silly little boys. Boys like you, who would have no problem going with an older women, only in your dreams of course, but vice versa, it's an issue.

HARRY Christ, Amy, that's harsh.

LEE

She has a point.

Harry leans back, covers his mouth from being seen by Amy and mouths to Lee: "Thirty-six?". Lee pretends to itch his eyebrow, makes a grossed-out face in response.

DONNA Apart from the age gap, I did hear rumours. Apparently he owns

abandoned houses and uses them as --

AMY

Crack dens and whore houses. Yeah, and he's also a transvestite serial killer that likes to dress up in the skin of his victims.

Harry, Lee and Donna stare at Amy, silenced.

AMY

I'm joking...

The group are joined at the table by their three friends.

KELLY, 17, four weeks pregnant. TYLER, 17, camera hanging from his neck. KRISTEN, 17, a living Barbie doll.

Tyler snaps a photo of the group.

KRISTEN Do you have to do that whilst we're eating? You've been doing it all week, Tyler, it's really grating on my nerves.

TYLER Pet project for my photography course. I'm trying to warn the youth of today about obesity.

KRISTEN Are you insinuating I'm fat?

Harry strokes Kristen's hair.

HARRY You got nothing to worry about--

Kristen strikes Harry's unwanted hand away.

KRISTEN My God, you are *so* annoying.

Harry chuckles. Tyler eggs him on.

KRISTEN Marcus would kick the shit out of you.

The group "OOOH" in mock intimidation.

Kelly scoffs her food.

HARRY Damn, Kelly. I know you're eating for two but--

KELLY Don't even start, dumbass. I'll eat what I want.

HARRY You're gonna raise a monster.

Kelly flicks him her middle finger.

KELLY Anyone got any spare cigs?

Harry nudges Tyler.

HARRY New project, bro. Smoking, boozeguzzling teenage pregnant mother to be--

KRISTEN Shut up, Harry.

Kristen takes a compact mirror from her bag, checks her makeup. She applies concealer to her face... even as she eats.

AMY

Don't put so much on, Kristen. You're gonna end up looking thirty before you're twenty.

KRISTEN

Duh, the point is to look older, Amy, but thanks for your advice. Especially since you're oh so experienced at how to attract men.

Amy looks down, hurt. Kristen hugs Amy playfully.

KRISTEN

Sorry, babe. You know I respect your opinion, but I'm a lil' bit more experienced regarding the birds and the bees.

DONNA

Right, guys, come on. What's the final decision on tonight?

Amy's eyes widen, interested in the topic.

LEE

I'm down for whatever.

TYLER I say we grab some booze, go down the Baker Street fields, smoke a few phatties and make fake ghost pictures.

Groans.

KELLY

I'm game.

DONNA

Aren't we a bit too old for that?

KRISTEN Abso-fucking-lutely.

HARRY Everyone's going to the Gresty's, it's Halloween tradition, baby.

All the cool people go there, which means--

AMY

I'm not. Count me out.

KRISTEN Marcus is taking us to a party. It's all been arranged.

She packs her make-up into her bag, stands to leave.

DONNA

Oh, OK... so no one else has a say?

KRISTEN If you wanna get high in a dark, cold, muddy field and drink batteryacid-tasting cider, be my guest, honey.

DONNA Where's this party?

HARRY Ain't an O.A.P home, is it?

KRISTEN Want me to tell him you said that? I will, you know.

Harry follows Kristen as she leaves, begging her for forgiveness. The group chuckle. Amy sneers in disgust.

EXT. STREET - NIGHT

Excited TRICK OR TREATERS, dressed in ghoulish costumes, rush down street-lamp lit sidewalks.

Chants of "Trick or Treat" fill the misty air. Tissue paper wrapped around lamp poles flap wildly in the wind.

EXT. DAVIES HOUSE - NIGHT

Trick Or Treaters dart up the garden path. They knock on the Grim Reaper clad door.

The door opens. John greets his visitors with mock shock. The Trick Or Treaters giggle with childish glee. John smiles as he dishes out a bowl of sweets.

INT. DAVIES HOUSE - AMY'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Amy and Donna, macabre make-up, dress into sexy costumes.

DONNA We're getting all tarted up and we don't even know where we're going. It's gotta be the Gresty house.

Amy struggles with her dress zipper. She leaves it half undone, storms over to her make-up desk.

AMY

Screw it.

She checks her make-up in the mirror. She sighs, frustrated.

DONNA

Calm down.

Donna zips up Donna's dress, reassures her.

DONNA

You look hot, babe, what's wrong? I've never seen you so flustered.

Donna raises her eyebrow, leans in close to Amy. She knows she's trying to impress someone. Amy breaks into laughter.

DONNA

Who is it?

AMY

Just someone I've been chatting with online. He's interested in what I have to say, about my beliefs, and best of all... he's fucking fit.

Donna smiles, delighted for her.

DONNA Oh, go Amy! You really do keep your dark little secrets locked away!

Amy's smile fades. She cries into her hands. Donna hugs her.

DONNA Is it about the...?

AMY Adoption. You can use the word, Donna, it's not forbidden.

DONNA I can't pretend to know how you feel. You find out, like so suddenly, that your Mum and Dad ain't your real parents...

AMY It's a head-fuck. But tell me, if it *did* happen to you, what would be the first thing you'd do?

LATER

Spirits risen, Donna and Amy give themselves one last dress check and prepare to go.

A KNOCK on the door.

JOHN (O.S.) Hey, girls--

AMY No, Dad, you can't come in.

JOHN (O.S.) I know. I just want you to be careful tonight, both of you.

Amy's about to launch a verbal assault. Donna covers her mouth with her hand. Sways her head, no. Amy frowns. Donna gestures to give her "one moment" with her finger.

Donna opens the door.

INT. DAVIES HOUSE - UPSTAIRS HALLWAY - NIGHT

Donna closes the bedroom door behind her. She offers John a warm smile.

DONNA Thank you, John, I appreciate it. Don't worry, I'll take care of her.

JOHN She hates me right now...

DONNA I won't let anything happen to her.

John tries to smile. Sadness in his voice.

JOHN Thank you, Donna. You're a good friend to her.

John skulks down the stairs. Donna watches him, a doleful look on her face.

MUSIC blares from Amy's room.

AMY (V.O.) Donna! Get your fine ass back in here, biatch! Donna smiles, re-enters the bedroom, preparing to party the night away.

EXT. NEIGHBOURHOOD STREET - NIGHT

Quiet. Houses draped in Halloween decorations, jack-o'lanterns glowing in their windows.

A van ROARS down the road.

INT. VAN - TRAVELLING - NIGHT

MARCUS, 36, drives. Black shirt. Black jeans. Dark eyes. Constant scowl.

Kristen sits in the passenger seat, smug, dressed in a sexy costume. Sat in the back-- a bit like luggage -- sits Harry, Lee (simple shirt and trousers), Tyler and Kelly. They are all dressed for Halloween.

The group pass each other beers from a crate. Marcus swigs on a bottle of Mad Dog 20/20.

Silence. An air of tension.

MARCUS These two better be ready.

HARRY Knowing Amy, she'll back out.

MARCUS I don't wanna be wasting my fuckin' time.

LEE It's cool, man. Just chill out.

KRISTEN Don't tell Marcus what to do.

LEE

I wasn't. But maybe it's not a great idea to drink at the wheel.

MARCUS My van, my rules. You got a problem with that, you can walk.

Harry smirks at Lee, stifles a nervous giggle. Lee shoots him a serious look. Harry composes himself.

Kelly gazes out of the back door window. She turns to the group, alarmed.

KELLY There's a car behind us.

HARRY It's called traffic.

Marcus looks in his wing mirror. The car behind flashes its headlights, indicating for Marcus to pull over.

MARCUS Can you see a cop in the car?

KELLY I can't tell, it's dark.

MARCUS Can you see a fucking uniform?

TYLER We can't see, man!

MARCUS Shit. Stash the booze.

Marcus hands his bottle to Kristen. She passes it to Tyler who, along with everyone else, hides their open bottles inside the crate.

MARCUS

Everything away?

KELLY Yeah, but it reeks of booze.

LEE

Anyone got any deodorant?

Kristen takes out a bottle of perfume from her purse. She sprays the contents into the air.

Marcus pulls over.

EXT. STREET - NIGHT

Marcus' van pulls over. The car from behind drives past, slows down, parks in front of the van.

DETECTIVE WELLS, 50, trilby, trenchcoat, steps out of the car. He walks towards the van.

INT. VAN - NIGHT

Kristen watches Wells approach. She frowns.

KRISTEN He could be anybody. How do you know--

MARCUS

He's a cop.

Wells taps on the driver's side window. Gestures Marcus to roll it down. Marcus, silently fuming, does as instructed.

MARCUS Evening, Detective Wells.

WELLS

Marcus.

MARCUS Didn't expect to be seeing you again so soon. What's the problem?

WELLS

Routine stop.

Marcus sneers.

MARCUS

Yeah, right.

WELLS Let me see your drivers license.

MARCUS Are you for real?

Wells stares at him. Serious.

Marcus hands over his details.

Wells peers inside the van. Notices the oddly silent group in the back. Sniffs the perfumed air.

WELLS Alright in there, kids?

The group nod.

MARCUS You gonna check it or what?

Wells hands the license back to Marcus.

WELLS Nah. I've seen enough.

MARCUS Enough? You didn't even look at it. WELLS Where you off to tonight?

MARCUS None of your concern.

WELLS You kids all of legal age? I can have you all show me your ID if I need to.

The group nod.

Wells notices Kristen.

WELLS New girlfriend?

MARCUS Look, have you got a reason for pulling me over or do I have to report you for harassment?

WELLS Like I said. Routine stop.

MARCUS Anything else, or am I free to go. Again.

Wells frowns.

WELLS

For now.

MARCUS Accept it, Wells. I won. You lost.

WELLS

For now.

Wells gives Marcus a stern look. He heads back to his car. Marcus rolls up the window.

> MARCUS Fuckin' asshole.

KRISTEN Hell was that about?

Marcus watches Wells drive away. He smirks.

MARCUS Nothing. Absolutely nothing.

EXT. DAVIES HOUSE - NIGHT

Marcus' van pulls up outside. HORN honks repeatedly.

KRISTEN (O.S.) Baby, you're gonna wake the dead.

Donna and Amy emerge from the house, giggling, excited. The van back doors open. Donna and Amy enter inside.

INT. VAN - TRAVELLING - NIGHT

Amy and Donna sense the unease among the group.

DONNA Are we pretending to be a hearse parade or did someone actually--

HARRY We had an incident.

LEE Cops pulled us.

AMY

Oh, shit.

Marcus takes a big swig of Mad Dog.

MARCUS Relax, people. It was one cop and he's gone now. So pass out the booze and enjoy the night.

Harry passes out the beers. The mood is lightened.

KELLY I heard the Gresty house is gonna be having a pool party.

TYLER In October?

KELLY Inside, Tyler. Inside heated pool.

Harry salutes Lee and Donna as he downs a bottle. Lee looks at Donna. Why not? They both smile, grab a beer each.

HARRY Halloween, baby! Whoo! This night's gonna be wild. I can feel it.

Marcus stares dead ahead, concentrating on the road... or other things on his mind.

EXT. GRESTY HOUSE - NIGHT

MUSIC booms from inside. Excited party-goers dressed in costumes swarm towards the entrance.

Marcus' van drives past.

INT. VAN - TRAVELLING - NIGHT

Kristen looks at Marcus.

KRISTEN I think you missed it, babe.

Marcus keeps his eyes on the road.

DONNA That was the Gresty house...

TYLER We just passed the house, dude.

LEE

Hey, Marcus.

MARCUS We're not going to the Gresty house.

DONNA Where are we going?

MARCUS The Porter house.

Silence...

HARRY The *what* house?

AMY

The Porter house. A few years ago, the father of the house, Jack Porter, went crazy. He killed four paranormal investigators and two of his neighbours, trying to get to his wife and two kids. He died in a fire, the family haven't been heard of since.

MARCUS Spoken like a true angel. Kristen frowns.

HARRY What the fuck are we gonna do there?

MARCUS

You'll see.

EXT. PORTER HOUSE - NIGHT

Boarded up windows. Overgrown garden. A weed infested path leads to the front door. A sign hangs on a gate: NO ENTRANCE PERMITTED. TRESPASSERS WILL BE PROSECUTED.

Marcus' van pulls up outside.

INT. VAN - NIGHT

Marcus turns to the group in the back.

MARCUS Harry, there's a backpack next to the crate. Bring it with you.

Harry salutes Marcus, picks up the backpack.

HARRY Aye, aye, captain.

MARCUS Tyler, bring the booze.

Tyler nods, picks up the beer crate.

MARCUS Don't fucking drop any.

Marcus points to a large rectangular package.

MARCUS Lee, bring that along.

LEE I ain't your servant, mate.

Amy takes the package.

AMY It's cool, I've got it.

The group exit the van. Marcus has a last word with Lee.

MARCUS Are you gonna be a problem? LEE

What's that supposed to mean?

MARCUS Do I need to say it twice?

LEE

Do I need to answer to you?

The two stare at each other. Donna emerges at the back of the van, coerces Lee down. Marcus smirks.

EXT. PORTER HOUSE - NIGHT

The group gather around the garden gate.

TYLER How come they haven't torn this dump down?

Marcus slaps his back.

MARCUS Maybe someone still owns it.

Marcus takes the package from Amy. He gives it to Harry in exchange for his backpack. He hands out flashlights.

HARRY I have a flashlight on my phone.

Marcus takes the flashlight off Harry.

MARCUS So don't waste my equipment.

Harry accidently scrapes the package against a loose nail in the gate, tearing the paper. Marcus snatches the package off him, revealing a Ouija board.

DONNA Ain't you a bit old to be playing with board games?

MARCUS

It's not a game.

Marcus opens the garden gate. He leads the group up the path to the house door.

Marcus tries to open the door. Locked. He takes a lock-pick from his pocket, works on the door.

Tyler takes photos of the house. Kelly drinks a beer. Kristen postures, impatient, growing annoyed at their destination.

Lee and Donna wait at the gate.

LEE

I don't know about you, but I'm ready to go. K-F-C and a movie?

DONNA Oh yeah. Sold.

Amy overhears.

AMY No, don't go yet.

DONNA Amy, he's breaking into a house. We could all end up in deep shit.

AMY Just give it a little while. For Kristen's sake.

Kristen applies make-up to her face.

LEE Since when did you start worrying about Kristen?

Marcus looks back at the group. No one is watching him. He smirks, puts the lock-pick and a ring of keys in his pocket.

MARCUS

Booyah!

Marcus opens the door -- he smiles as a mist of released dust flows into the air.

INT. PORTER HOUSE - FOYER - NIGHT

Marcus enters, followed by the group. A staircase leads upwards. Marcus opens a door leading to the--

INT. PORTER HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

The group follow Marcus inside, exploring the room with their flashlights.

Dusty. Rotten. An old fireplace. Spacious. No furniture.

Donna flicks a mouldy light switch. Not working.

Marcus tries to force open a closed door.

Eager to please, the group shine their lights on the door in a bid to aid Marcus.

Marcus gestures them away.

MARCUS

I can see what I'm doing. Just examine the room for a second.

The group turn to exploring the room.

Marcus takes out his lock-pick.

Marcus opens the door. It leads to a kitchen.

Marcus gathers the group together.

HARRY

So what now?

MARCUS Check the place out.

KELLY

Why? I thought you just wanted to do the Ouija board thing. Let's just get it over with and go.

MARCUS Gotta make sure no one's here.

DONNA I don't think anyone has lived here for a long, long time.

MARCUS Makes it the perfect place for some crack-head to call home.

LEE

And you expect us to scare off a bunch of junkies?

MARCUS

I don't expect you to scare off anything, I just want you to take a look around. We'll all stick close by. If anything spooks you out, I'll deal with it. OK, pumpkin?

Lee smirks at Marcus' condescending tone. Donna gives him a reassuring hug.

LEE

Sure.

INT. PORTER HOUSE - KITCHEN - NIGHT

Marcus and Kristen shine their lights over dust shrouded, wall-mounted cupboards. Paint peels from the walls. Whatever appliances were once here, have long been removed. Marcus swipes dust from a window. A garden outside.

He tries to open a door leading to the garden. The stiff handle CREAKS... finally gives way. The door opens.

INT. PORTER HOUSE - STAIRCASE - NIGHT

Lee leads Donna and Amy up the stairs. He grips a grimy bannister, pulls his hand away, disgusted.

LEE Don't touch the rail, there's some sticky, slimy shit on it.

Lee wipes the muck from his hand on his trousers, continues to lead Donna and Amy upwards.

INT. PORTER HOUSE - UPSTAIRS HALLWAY - NIGHT

Lee, Amy and Donna nervously explore, floorboards creaking beneath their feet.

A THUD from above.

They shine their lights at the ceiling. An attic hatch.

DONNA What was that noise?

LEE

A bird, maybe. Probably rats. Must be nests up there.

INT. PORTER HOUSE - BOY'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Kelly and Tyler shine their lights over the skeletal bare frame of a bed. Moonlight seeps through a boarded up window, where one of the rotten wooden planks has tilted.

Tyler slides the plank aside, dusts the window with his hand and looks out at the dark, lifeless street.

INT. PORTER HOUSE - MASTER BEDROOM - NIGHT

Spacious. Empty. Derelict.

Harry treads across the floorboards. Speckles of dust fall from the ceiling with every step he makes.

He opens a pair of ragged curtains, revealing a window which looks out on to the garden below and fields beyond.

EXT. PORTER HOUSE - BACK GARDEN - NIGHT

Marcus leads the group across an overgrown, unkempt garden. Wooden fences on either side, built to keep out prying eyes.

Birds flee from the top of two tall, weather-degraded, out-ofplace Roman-style pillars.

A large shed stands at the end. Beyond the shed, overgrown thorn bushes deny access to an endless field.

HARRY Looks like the home owners never wanted anyone to get in.

KELLY Or anyone to get out.

Donna stops by a stone-based water well. The bucket is raised, rope taught. She taps the well wheel, curious.

Amy joins her, awestruck.

AMY Like something out of a fairy-tale.

DONNA Or a horror movie.

Marcus claps, grabs the group's attention.

MARCUS Gather round, everybody.

The group assemble around Marcus.

MARCUS Seance time. Has anybody found a suitable place?

The group are reluctant to involve themselves.

KELLY This whole seance thing...

TYLER It's creeping us out, man.

Marcus laughs. Taunting.

HARRY The story, what happened here--

MARCUS

Is just a story. It's Halloween. You've got the rest of your lives to get drunk, stoned, fuck about. (MORE) MARCUS (CONT'D) This is a night to try something different. Something exciting.

KELLY No offense, but I don't get excited when I'm scared, Marcus.

Marcus grins, winks at Kelly.

MARCUS

Sure you do.

LEE

I don't believe in any of this ghost shit, but one thing I do know is that you don't go fucking with things you know nothing about.

MARCUS Eloquent as always. Aren't you intrigued? You might learn something... about yourself.

Marcus heads inside the house.

MARCUS We're doing it in the living room.

INT. PORTER HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Marcus organises the group to kneel around the Ouija board, which is placed in the centre of the floor. Propped up flashlights serve as candlelight.

> MARCUS Take this seriously. No moving the planchette, no funny business.

Tyler snaps photos. Marcus frowns. Tyler slides his phone in his pocket.

Amy's eyes widen, excited. Kelly downs her beer. Lee and Donna exchange concerned looks. Harry giggles as Kristen checks her make-up in her compact mirror.

> HARRY Gotta look your best for the dead, right, Kris?

Kristen laughs mockingly.

KRISTEN Shut up, idiot.

Light flashes through the window from a passing car.

Marcus frowns, anxious.

HARRY Maybe the neighbours alerted the home owner. What if--

MARCUS Focus on the board.

Marcus places his fingers on the planchette, encourages the others to do the same. They do as told.

MARCUS Spirit, spirit, are you there?

HARRY What if it goes to no? Motherfucker might be dyslexic.

MARCUS Quit the clown act. I won't tell you again.

Harry drops his head, intimidated.

MARCUS Spirit, spirit, are you there?

The group concentrate on the board.

Flash of light passes the window. A car driving past.

The group sigh, concentration broken.

KELLY Someone's gonna see our flashlights and wonder what's going on in here.

LEE And then we'd all get busted for breaking and entering.

DONNA What about the shed?

Lee looks at Donna, surprised at her intrigue.

Marcus grins.

MARCUS

Perfect.

EXT. PORTER HOUSE - BACK GARDEN - NIGHT

Lee takes Donna aside as the rest of the group follow Marcus towards the shed.

LEE Hey, are you OK? DONNA Yeah, of course. Why?

LEE You wanted to leave a minute ago, now you're offering up locations for seances.

DONNA This is right up Amy's street, she's into this type of stuff.

LEE Forget Amy. What about you?

DONNA Let's just see what happens.

INT. SHED - NIGHT

Cobwebs hang from empty, dusty, nail-ridden wooden shelves.

The group sit around the Ouija board, fingers on the planchette. Marcus leads the way.

MARCUS Spirit, spirit, are you there.

Tyler snaps a photo. Camera light splashes across the board.

MARCUS Put that fucking thing away!

Tyler fumbles his camera into his pocket.

TYLER Sorry, dude, just thought it would be cool to document any evidence--

MARCUS We'll see any fucking evidence with our own eyes.

Tyler, intimidated, puts his phone in his pocket. He places his shaking fingers on the planchette.

AMY Is there anybody here that you would like to communicate with?

Everybody looks at Amy. They shiver from a sudden chill.

INT. PORTER HOUSE - UPSTAIRS HALLWAY - NIGHT

The attic hatch rumbles. Something inside wants to get out.

The hatch scrapes against it's foundations, forcefully slides open. A cold mist descends.

Bedroom doors burst open.

INT. SHED - NIGHT

The planchette slides across the board, moves to YES. Marcus licks his lips in anticipation.

> MARCUS Is it someone... important?

Planchette swipes across the board, settles on YES.

Marcus stares at Kristen. Ask a question.

KRISTEN Who are you? What's your name?

The planchette moves to the letters: M. A. N. Y.

KELLY How did you--

MARCUS No. Don't ask that.

KELLY Are you... OK?

The planchette remains motionless. The group sigh at Kelly's waste of question.

DONNA How long have you been... away? What year did you leave?

The planchette moves to numbers on the board. It spells out: 1-9-7-0.

AMY

Can you describe what it's like where you are?

The planchette spells out: D. A. R. K.

TYLER You don't mind us calling you up at this time, do you? Don't want to disturb you or anything.

Planchette remains still.

Is there anything we can do for you?

Planchette moves to: YES

TYLER

What?

Planchette spells out: D. I. E.

The group gasp, shocked. Marcus gestures them to keep quiet. He nods at Lee. Lee shakes his head. No.

HARRY Am I gonna get laid tonight?

The planchette flies off the board.

MARCUS You fucking idiot!

Marcus squares up to Harry.

Lee pulls Harry away.

Kristen, Tyler and Donna drag Marcus out of the conflict.

HARRY

I was just trying to lighten the mood, Marcus. Shit's getting pretty tense in here, what with the damn thing spelling out DIE.

MARCUS You took the piss, now it might never come back!

LEE With the direction it was taking, I'd say that's a good thing.

HARRY Why the fuck are you so interested in this bullshit anyway?

Amy sticks up for Marcus.

AMY Don't you see? It works. There is an afterlife... If the afterlife means I end up wandering around a cold-ass shed for eternity, and the only way I can communicate with people is by some dumbass board game, send me on a one way trip to Hell--

Marcus lunges at Harry, accidently knocking Kelly against the wall. She scrapes her arm against a rusty, protruding nail.

Kelly screams.

Everyone turns their attention to Kelly. The upper arm of her shirt is ripped, revealing torn, bleeding skin.

Kristen, Amy and Donna rush to her aid.

DONNA What happened? Are you OK?

Kelly clutches her arm, afraid to look at the damage.

KELLY It hurts bad, like really bad, it feels like it's burning.

KRISTEN That's not the shirt I lent you is it?

Amy, Donna and Kelly stare daggers at Kristen.

MARCUS It's just a scratch.

LEE You'd better hope that's all it is. If she ends up catching an infection--

MARCUS You'll do what? Sue me? Let's get back to the house. Rub some alcohol over it, it'll act as an antiseptic.

EXT. PORTER HOUSE - BACK GARDEN - NIGHT

The group leave the shed, relieved to breathe fresh air. Donna comforts Kelly, still shaken by her wound. Marcus leads the group towards the house.

INT. PORTER HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

The group gather around Kelly. Donna carefully drips MadDog over her swelling scratch. Kelly squirms in pain.

Lee and Marcus exchange frowns, hatred boiling.

EXT. STREET - NIGHT

Detective Wells' car drives down a quiet road.

INT. WELLS' CAR - TRAVELLING - NIGHT

Wells talks on his CB radio as he eyes the streets.

WELLS I'm off duty now, Linda.

LINDA (V.O.) (through the radio) Lucky for you, Detective. Any plans for Halloween?

WELLS Nothing exciting, just gonna drop in on an old friend.

INT. DAVIES HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

John twitches uneasily as he watches a grisly horror movie on TV with his wife, OLIVIA, 40. She's knitting, paying little attention to the film.

JOHN Do we have to watch this crap?

OLIVIA Would you stop worrying about Amy?

JOHN

I can't. We had that argument last night, another small blow up this morning, she's not answering my texts...

OLIVIA So she's gonna go out and let off some steam. That's good.

JOHN

Olivia, she didn't take the news as well as I'd hoped. The fact she's gone out, God knows where, to let off some steam is exactly why I'm so concerned. You've never been good with subtlety, John, never. It's not what you say, it's how you say it.

JOHN

Meaning?

OLIVIA Amy's been fine with me.

DOORBELL rings.

John groans, disgruntled, as he gets up to answer.

INT. DAVIES HOUSE - FOYER - NIGHT

John opens the front door.

Wells stands at the doorstep, greets John with a smile.

JOHN Foster... what an unexpected surprise.

WELLS When is a surprise ever expected, John.

JOHN Of course, sorry, I'm a bit flustered tonight. How are you? Come in!

WELLS Afraid I can't, John.

JOHN There's nothing wrong, is there?

WELLS

No, no. I just wanted to come round, as a friend, and let you know that I saw your daughter earlier with Marcus Groves.

JOHN

What..?

WELLS

That's right.

JOHN Christ, didnt you try to stop her? That guy's an animal--

WELLS

An animal that convinced the crown prosecution not to go ahead with a trial. I told you about him off the record, John. I can't do anything above the law, and, at the moment he's keeping his beak clean.

JOHN

He's a predator, a sick fucking--Amy hasn't been answering my calls, Foster. I've got to find her.

WELLS We're taking my car.

EXT. PORTER HOUSE - NIGHT

A gust of wind sweeps leaves across the ground.

INT. PORTER HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Marcus stares introspectively through a crack in the barred window.

Kelly, agonized, sits against the wall, a bubbling blister swollen across her arm. Lee, Tyler and Donna comfort her.

TYLER I think that's enough for one night. Time to bail.

Lee nods in agreement.

Kristen wanders over to Marcus, touches his shoulder.

KRISTEN Are you OK, baby?

Kelly cries out in pain.

DONNA We need to get Kelly help, it's only gonna get worse.

Amy, huddled in the corner, takes a swig of MadDog. She studies everyone's movements and reactions.

LEE We all wanna go, so let's go.

Marcus turns from the window, faces the group.

MARCUS Hold on, hero. I didn't give my permission. Lee seethes with anger. Harry holds him back.

LEE I don't fucking need it.

MARCUS We're staying.

TYLER Marcus, what is your beef, man? We've gotta go, party's over.

MARCUS Only when I say it is.

TYLER Have it your way.

Tyler takes out his phone, dials 999.

Marcus storms towards Tyler, slaps the phone from his hand. The phone hits the floor.

Enraged, Tyler goes for Marcus -- bad idea. Marcus effortlessly shoves Tyler to the floor.

Lee bundles in, confronts Marcus toe to toe.

Kristen pulls Marcus away, Donna drags Lee to the side.

KRISTEN Tyler started it.

Tyler looks up, startled.

TYLER

Excuse me?

KRISTEN You threatened Marcus.

HARRY How did you come to that fucked up conclusion?

Kristen nods spitefully towards Tyler.

KRISTEN That loser was gonna call the police. He made Marcus react.

Tyler gets up, shakes his head.

TYLER Fuck this. I'm out.

Tyler searches for his phone. Can't find it.

DONNA

Me too. This has gone too far.

Kristen tries to coax Marcus away from the group. Marcus stares at Tyler, furious. Kristen steps back, intimidated.

Marcus looks at Kristen, realises the effect he's having on her. He drops his head, takes her hand. Kristen leads him to a quiet corner of the room.

Amy watches, eyes excited by the chaos.

Harry's had enough. He heads for the door.

Tyler searches for his phone, mystified at its disappearance.

TYLER Hey, wait up, Harry. (to Marcus) You owe me a phone, man.

Marcus smirks.

Donna and Lee return to aide Kelly.

INT. PORTER HOUSE - FOYER - NIGHT

Harry tries the front door. It won't open.

HARRY What the flying fuck...?

Bemused, he returns into the --

INT. PORTER HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Harry's stunned expression grabs the groups attention.

HARRY The door won't open.

LEE

What do you mean it won't open, that's how we got in.

HARRY It ain't opening now.

Lee frowns at Marcus.

LEE What have you done?

MARCUS (dismissively) Fuck you. Kelly hyperventilates, sweat drips down her face. The blister covers her entire arm.

HARRY

Keep an eye on her.

Tyler and Amy try their best to calm Kelly down. Harry heads into the--

INT. PORTER HOUSE - FOYER - NIGHT

Lee tries the door. Pushes. Pulls. Won't open.

HARRY See what I'm sayin'?

Lee storms into the living room, followed by Donna and Harry.

INT. PORTER HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Lee tries to pull apart the wooden boards covering the windows. They are too tough to dislodge, nailed in tight.

TYLER You're saying we got in, but we can't get out?

LEE Ridiculous, I know.

Lee shrugs.

LEE We'll climb the fence.

Lee heads towards the kitchen. Marcus blocks the doorway.

LEE Get out of my way.

MARCUS No one's going anywhere.

DONNA Kelly's getting worse, Marcus, we need to get her medical help. Christ, Kristen, say something!

Kristen bites her lip.

Harry backtracks, intimidated by Marcus.

HARRY

I'm gonna check the windows upstairs. I don't care if I gotta jump from this bitch, I want out.

Harry heads into the foyer.

Tyler follows Harry, pointing a trembling, hardly-threatening finger at Marcus.

TYLER You owe me a phone, man. Serious.

MARCUS

Look harder.

Lee squares up to Marcus. Donna pulls Lee back.

DONNA He's not worth it.

Lee takes out his phone.

LEE You gonna take this off me?

Marcus smirks.

No phone reception. Lee cusses under his breath.

LEE

No signal.

DONNA

What now?

INT. PORTER HOUSE - UPSTAIRS HALLWAY - NIGHT

Harry's smart-phone light guides him towards--

INT. PORTER HOUSE - GIRL'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Harry enters. He directs his light at the boarded up window, searching for any signs of weakness. None.

A GHASTLY FIGURE, deathly pale face, demonic black eyes, stares at him malevolently from behind.

Harry feels a creepy presence...

He spins round. Shines his light across the room.

A child-size CLOWN DOLL rests against the wall.

Harry rushes out of the room.

INT. PORTER HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Harry bursts into the room.

HARRY

The field looks like the best bet--

He freezes in his tracks.

Marcus holds Lee in a headlock, flick-knife to his throat.

Lee gestures Harry to keep calm.

LEE Keep cool, Harry. Don't do anything to make this psycho go psycho.

HARRY I think we've crossed that line.

MARCUS Shut the fuck up. I'm restoring a bit of order around here.

HARRY Anything you say, boss.

Kristen, alienated by the group, stands in a corner.

KRISTEN Marcus, don't hurt him...

Marcus sniggers her weak protest away.

The group are tense, quiet. Amy grins, excited.

Kelly squirms in agony. Her blister covers her arm and neck.

MARCUS Right. We're gonna sort this out, and we're gonna do it my way. Anyone got a problem with that?

Silence.

MARCUS

Good.

Marcus points his blade at Tyler and Harry.

MARCUS You two, pick her up.

Tyler and Harry approach Kelly.

DONNA What are you gonna do?

MARCUS If what she has is contagious, I sure as shit ain't catching it.

Tyler and Harry gently pick Kelly up. She SCREAMS in pain.

DONNA She needs a doctor--

MARCUS She needs to shut the fuck up. Take her to the shed.

Tyler and Harry look shocked at the demand.

DONNA You can't be serious...

MARCUS Am I laughing? I said take her to the shed. NOW.

EXT. PORTER HOUSE - BACK GARDEN - NIGHT

Tyler and Harry carry Kelly towards the shed.

Donna, Amy and Kristen follow, horrified.

Marcus marches behind them, keeping his flick-knife to Lee's throat, making sure his orders are obeyed.

Tyler and Harry reach the shed. They place Kelly gently on the ground. Harry opens the shed door.

TYLER I'm so sorry, Kelly.

HARRY It's only for a little while.

Tyler and Harry lift Kelly, and take her into the shed.

INT. SHED - NIGHT

Harry and Tyler delicately prop Kelly against the wall.

Tyler takes off his coat. He places it on the floor.

Harry and Tyler place Kelly on Tyler's coat. Harry takes off his jacket and covers Kelly.

KELLY Don't leave me alone in here... It's OK, Kells. Everything's gonna be OK.

Harry takes Tyler to the side.

HARRY We gotta sort this psychopath out.

EXT. PORTER HOUSE - BACK GARDEN - NIGHT

Marcus releases Lee from his grip, shoves him away.

MARCUS No hard feelings.

Lee frowns at Marcus, steps away. He's comforted by Donna.

Kristen checks her make-up in her compact mirror, much to Donna and Amy's disgust.

Lee approaches Marcus.

LEE (to Marcus) Before I met you I was willing to give you the benefit of the doubt.

MARCUS Then you're a bigger dickhead than I thought.

Tyler and Harry emerge from the shed, shamefaced.

MARCUS Tyler, keep guard.

TYLER

What?

MARCUS Is everyone fuckin' deaf? Do I have to repeat every word I say?

TYLER Dude, it's freezing out here.

MARCUS

Bit of cold air never hurt anybody. But if you make a run for the field, I'll find you. Remember that.

TYLER

I'm not going anywhere until I find my phone, Marcus. Either that or you buy me a new one.

MARCUS

Fuck your phone. Just make sure she's alright in there. If anything happens to her, it's on you.

Marcus heads back inside the house. The sheep/group follow.

INT. PORTER HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Marcus slams the door leading to the kitchen shut. He locks it with a key on his chain.

LEE Where did you get that?

MARCUS

I found it.

LEE

Bullshit.

MARCUS Ever heard of a skeleton key? Some just fit the right holes.

Marcus leers at Donna. She turns away, disgusted.

LEE Why don't I believe you.

MARCUS Why don't I give a fuck.

Marcus hands out beers to the group.

MARCUS Come on, guys. It's Halloween.

LEE

Is this your idea of a good time?

Marcus takes Kristen in his arms, kisses her, runs his hands over her body. She breaks free, repulsed.

MARCUS

This certainly is.

Donna looks away, revolted. She notices Tyler's phone on the floor where Kelly had been resting.

Donna crouches over the phone, fakes a stomach-ache.

LEE You alright? DONNA I'm used to partying hard, I get cramps if I stop drinking. Maybe I will have a beer after all.

MARCUS That's the spirit.

Marcus turns to grab a beer from the crate. Donna grabs Tyler's phone and conceals it in her pocket.

She stands up. Marcus hands her a beer.

MARCUS Looks like we're finally understanding each other.

LATER

Marcus and Kristen kiss in a corner of the room.

The group sit on the floor, sipping beer in silence.

Amy stares angrily at Marcus and Kristen.

Donna takes Tyler's phone from her pocket. No reception.

Unfamiliar with the layout of the icons, Donna tuts as she accidently clicks on PHOTOS instead of MESSAGES.

The first photo piques her interest.

MOBILE PHONE SCREEN

PHOTO 1: The living room seance. The group huddled around the Ouija board.

PHOTO 2: Group faces. Fear. Concentration. Amy smiles.

PHOTO 3: The Shed seance. Ouija board bathed in light.

PHOTO 4: Shed seance. Dark translucent hooded figures surround the group, watching them.

BACK TO SCENE

Donna gasps, spooked by the sight.

EXT. PORTER HOUSE - BACK GARDEN - NIGHT

Tyler rubs his arms to keep warm as he wanders the garden, cursing under his breath.

INT. SHED - NIGHT

Kelly, covered in blisters, lies on the floor. She's gasping, suffering laboured breathing.

Translucent dark hooded figures, GHOSTS, surround her, gesticulating, encouraging *something* to "rise".

Kelly's stomach expands until it bulges like a baby bump.

Kelly is sucked inwards -- being divulged by the bump as it feeds off her.

The bump swells, growing, forming into the shape of a figure.

Kelly's body has been absorbed by the shadowy figure that now stands-- THE DARK SHAPE.

EXT. PORTER HOUSE - BACK GARDEN - NIGHT

Tyler knocks on the shed door.

TYLER Kelly, you alright in there?

Silence.

TYLER OK, I'm coming in.

Tyler opens the door and enters inside.

INT. SHED - NIGHT

Tyler enters, stepping on a sticky liquid on the ground. He pauses, shines his flashlight at the ooze-drenched floor.

He backs away -- into the Dark Shape.

Tyler turns, horrified.

Dark Shape's skeletal fingers thrust inside Tyler's eyes. He rips Tyler's skull apart.

Tyler falls to the floor. His body evaporates into liquid. The ooze seeps into the Dark Shape's feet, being absorbed.

INT. PORTER HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Amy, infuriated, watches Kristen and Marcus make out in the corner of the room. She stands up, storms towards them.

Kristen turns to Amy, looks at her quizzically.

Amy slaps Kristen's face.

AMY

Slut!

The group are stunned. Marcus pulls Amy away.

KRISTEN What the fuck, bitch?

MARCUS (to Amy) It's OK, baby.

Donna, Lee and Harry look at each other, speechless.

KRISTEN

Marcus?

MARCUS Shut up, Kristen.

Marcus strokes Amy's cheeks, wipes away her angry tears. She smiles, giggles, like a love-struck little girl.

DONNA Amy, what the hell is going on?

AMY I've been meaning to tell you... the guy I chat with online, the boyfriend you all think I've been making up... well, here he is.

HARRY Groomed like a pony-tail.

AMY

Shut the fuck up, Harry.

Kristen, still smarting from Amy's slap, stares at Marcus, crestfallen. It's a double whammy.

KRISTEN How long's this been going on?

MARCUS I told you from day one we'll have an open relationship. Some relationships fit requirements, like sex, that's you. Others--

AMY

-- are more meaningful.

Marcus grabs Amy, gropes her body. She loves it.

MARCUS And you fulfil every requirement.

KRISTEN

I don't know either of you... I don't know who you are...

MARCUS

I didn't know who I was. Until I met Amy. And then we just--

AMY

Clicked as soon as we started chatting together.

Marcus and Amy stand together, relishing the stunned response from the group.

MARCUS

We met on an adoption site, looking for our real parents, both of us trying to discover who we really are. Not only did we share a connection, we both shared an interest in the dark arts.

LEE Why did you bring us here?

DONNA He's related to the Porters.

MARCUS

Oh, no. My bloodline drips much thicker, beyond the people that lived in this house. The house I inherited.

HARRY

No wonder it was never sold or bulldozed down. You never gave away the right to do it.

LEE

What's so special about this house, Marcus? What kind of asshole relatives of yours owned this property before the Porters?

MARCUS

They didn't own it per say. They more or less possessed it. Like Amy, I hated my foster parents. I found out my real family were members of the Order Of Aeron.

HARRY

The order of what?

AMY

Aeron. We worship the fire of Hell, the bringer of true Heaven, the dark angel of life.

DONNA

You believe in a cult?

Amy stares daggers at Donna.

AMY

We believe in resurrecting the dark messenger, a being that will kill all living scum, cleanse and purify the Earth.

HARRY

Thanks for clearing that up. Now please explain why you would want to bring a motherfucker like that into the real world.

MARCUS It's my destiny to bring the Order back. I have to.

DONNA

At what cost?

MARCUS We only live once, right? Maybe we don't. Tonight, we find out.

LEE

Your foster parents must have really fucked you up. You're crazier than I thought.

MARCUS

I'm fulfilling a prophecy, my birthright. You get the chance to see it, to tell the story, to prove I was right, that the psychiatrists and the police were wrong about me--

KRISTEN

You cheatin' bastard.

Kristen, tears smudging her eyeliner, bolts towards the door leading to the foyer.

DONNA

Kristen, wait!

Kristen runs into the --

INT. PORTER HOUSE - FOYER - NIGHT

Kristen tries the door. Won't open. She stomps her feet.

She storms up the stairs, crying, screaming with frustrated rage. Anywhere away from Marcus.

INT. PORTER HOUSE - LIVINGROOM - NIGHT

Amy smiles, delighted Kristen has gone. She's won. Amy kisses Marcus, her hands all over him. Obsessed.

Harry's had enough.

HARRY

Anyone actually buying this ghost shit? These two motherfuckers are nuttier than a packet of peanuts.

Donna shows Harry and Lee the photos on Tyler's phone. They are both shocked, speechless.

Marcus, kissing Amy, notices the group's interest in Tyler's phone. He storms over, grabs it from Donna's hand.

He shows Amy the photos. They smile, excited.

DONNA Amy-- he's using you.

AMY

Jealous that we have a meaningful relationship, Donna?

DONNA What are you talking about? You're not resurrecting Mother Theresa, you've brought back a bunch of murderers.

Amy snuggles up to Marcus.

AMY Destiny brought us together. The spirits will guide us, make us stronger, untouchable.

LEE You really believe that?

MARCUS We're gonna find out soon enough.

INT. PORTER HOUSE - BATHROOM - NIGHT

Kristen sits on the toilet seat, sobbing into her hands.

She composes herself, sniffs a bad odour in the room.

She takes a bottle of perfume from her handbag, sprays the contents in the air. Kristen fails to see a ghostly face appear within the mist, before it fades away.

She gets up, looks at her miserable reflection in the cabinet mirror. She takes a tissue from her pocket, wipes her tears.

Kristen looks in the mirror. Her reflection reveals blood swiped across her cheeks.

She looks at the tissue. Covered in blood.

Kristen panics, aghast.

She takes out another tissue. Dabs her face. Checks the mirror. Even more blood covers her face.

She panics, takes out the entire packet of tissues and wipes her face.

Kristen looks up at the mirror.

Her reflection looks fine, normal.

The mirror shakes...

She backs away, confused, frightened...

She backs into something. She spins around.

The Dark Shape.

Kristen SCREAMS.

SMASH! The mirror breaks. Glass shards fly into Kristen's head, protruding through her face like spikes.

Kristen drops to the floor.

Her body melts into a mess of liquid. The liquid seeps into the Dark Shape's feet as he absorbs her soul.

INT. PORTER HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

The startled group hear Kristen's scream.

AMY She's probably found a rat. DONNA I never realized you were such a heartless bitch, Amy.

AMY She's seeking attention, Donna. She can't handle the fact--

LEE We've gotta make sure she's OK.

Lee moves towards the foyer door. He stops beside Marcus.

LEE You OK with that, Marcus? I mean I wouldn't expect you to give a shit about the girl you just dumped five seconds ago, but, hey.

MARCUS We'll all go. I'll lead.

INT. PORTER HOUSE - STAIRCASE - NIGHT

Marcus leads Amy, Donna, Lee and Harry up the steps, flashlights guiding their way.

INT. PORTER HOUSE - UPSTAIRS HALLWAY - NIGHT

The group call out to Kristen.

Moonlight shimmers from broken glass in the bathroom.

INT. PORTER HOUSE - BATHROOM - NIGHT

The group enter inside.

A liquid stain on the floor. Scattered glass. Kristen's bag. Her flashlight.

> DONNA It's Kristen's stuff...

HARRY She found a way out.

LEE And left her shit here?

AMY She wouldn't leave without this...

Amy picks up a compact mirror and make-up.

LEE

Maybe your ghosts are not the Casper the friendly type.

MARCUS Becoming a believer, mate? I don't expect you to understand, but--

A door BANGS.

They turn to the hallway.

INT. PORTER HOUSE - UPSTAIRS HALLWAY - NIGHT

The group emerge from the bathroom, huddled together.

They call out for Kristen. Silence.

HARRY She can't have left, all the windows are boarded up.

MARCUS Search the rooms.

LEE This has gone beyond you giving orders--

Marcus draws his flick-knife from his pocket. A soft JINGLE of keys hitting the floor. Marcus flashes the blade.

MARCUS I'm still in charge.

HARRY Hey, chill, man. I'll check the first room.

Harry strides towards the girl's bedroom, confident the room he visited previously won't hold any sinister tricks.

Harry enters inside.

The door slams shut behind him.

The group are shocked. They call out for Harry.

Doors open and slam shut.

Marcus looks at Amy. She's nervous.

AMY It's happening.

Lee and Donna rush down the hallway. They try to open the girl's bedroom door. It won't budge.

A ghastly CACKLE echoes throughout the house.

Lee and Donna turn to the boy's bedroom near the attic. Dark open doorway...

A GHOST FIGURE materializes.

The group turn and run to the stairs -- it is occupied by hood covered ghosts/ spectral beings.

The group run into the master bedroom and close the door.

INT. PORTER HOUSE - MASTER BEDROOM - NIGHT

Dust falls from cracks in the ceiling. Moonlight seeps through gaps in the boarded-up window.

Lee, Marcus, Amy and Donna direct their flashlights across the grimy room. It's all clear.

They look at each other, shock setting in.

MARCUS OK, let's calm down a sec.

LEE Calm down? What the fuck just happened to Harry?

Marcus eyes Amy. She's scared.

DONNA You've summoned demons.

Marcus heads to the window. He tries to pry apart the boards, but they refuse to give way.

Donna gives Amy an icy stare of disgust. She moves to the window, looks through a gap.

Her visibility is poor, only a small amount of the garden can be seen. She shouts out of hope.

DONNA Tyler! Run and get help!

INT. PORTER HOUSE - GIRL'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Harry tries to open the door, it won't budge.

One by one, sinister looking apparitions appear behind him.

Harry senses their presence. He slowly turns around ...

An audience of scowling, creepy-looking old people. Charred clothing. Dark eyes. Rotten skin. Ghosts.

HARRY

OK, I'm just gonna say this, so no one feels awkward. That bad odour in the room, kinda smells like someone shit themselves, ain't none of you.

The ghosts smirk. Amused.

Harry tries the door again. Won't budge.

HARRY Just making sure it's shut, so no one can disturb us.

Scared, but feeling a sense he can joke his way out of this, Harry tries another gag.

HARRY Since you're here, most of you...

Harry looks at a Ghost whose leg and arm are missing.

HARRY I'd like to offer you all a bit of constructive criticism. I think you guys get a bad rap, and I think that's down to kinda the entrance you all make... you know, no real introduction, no formalities exchanged, you all kinda just appear... like BOO!

Harry lurches forward, waving his hands around in an attempt to scare the Ghosts.

The ghosts sneer, deadly serious. Harry gulps, nervous.

HARRY Couldn't I tickle your funny bone? Maybe you ain't got one...

INT. PORTER HOUSE - MASTER BEDROOM - NIGHT

Lee, Amy, Marcus and Donna overhear Harry in the girl's bedroom.

DONNA Who's he talking to?

INT. PORTER HOUSE - GIRL'S BEDROOM

The Ghosts stare at something behind Harry. He slowly turns around.

The Dark Shape.

HARRY

Oh, shit.

Harry screams.

Dark Shape rams his fist inside Harry's mouth.

INT. PORTER HOUSE - MASTER BEDROOM - NIGHT

The group step back, startled by Harry's scream.

DONNA

Oh my god... Harry!

AMY

They're gonna come after us next... they're gonna come in this room whenever they want! They're gonna--

Marcus grips Amy's shoulders, shakes her into silence.

MARCUS

Shut up!

INT. PORTER HOUSE - GIRL'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Harry's throat bulges grotesquely as Dark Shape's hand travels past his windpipe.

Dark Shape rips out Harry's skeleton through his mouth, leaving the skin of his body to shrivel on the floor like a deflated balloon.

Dark Shape throws Harry's bloody bones to the ground. Harry's remains melt into a liquid. The liquid flows into Dark Shape's foot, being absorbed.

The Ghosts smile, approving of the deed.

INT. PORTER HOUSE - MASTER BEDROOM - NIGHT

Amy sits on the bed, eyes wide with fear. Donna keeps her focus on the window. Cabin fever hits Lee as he watches Marcus march up and down the room.

> LEE Nice, Marcus. You've invited us all to get killed.

MARCUS You don't know what happened in there.

DONNA You heard Harry!

MARCUS

I didn't expect--

LEE

What did you expect? You've brought back a group of merciless killers from the dead. They sure as fuck ain't playing a game of tiddlywinks.

AMY

We were supposed to be protected.

DONNA Tell that to Harry.

MARCUS

Think I've got anything to do with <u>this</u> shit? If I had any say I'd open this fucking door--

The bedroom door creaks open.

The group are stunned at the reprieve.

Marcus creeps towards the door, peers through the gap. The staircase is clear.

MARCUS Let's get out of here.

They follow Marcus into the--

INT. PORTER HOUSE - UPSTAIRS HALLWAY - NIGHT

Girl's bedroom door swings open.

The group stop in their tracks, horrified. Ghosts point at them from inside the blood-covered room.

The group run down the stairs.

INT. PORTER HOUSE - FOYER - NIGHT

Lee tries to open the front door. Won't budge. Donna tries to open the door leading to the livingroom. It won't move.

Marcus looks at Amy. She's a nervous wreck. He looks around, trying to find and communicate with unseeable spirits.

MARCUS

Open the door.

Marcus pushes Lee aside. He tries to pull the door open.

MARCUS I said open the fucking door! What, do you want me to say open fuckin' Sesame?

GHOST VOICE (V.O.) You will never leave.

Marcus tries the door leading to the livingroom. It opens. Marcus leads the group into the--

INT. PORTER HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Donna, Marcus, Lee and Amy rush inside the room.

Donna slams the door shut.

Marcus darts to the door leading to the kitchen. It's closed.

Marcus tries to open the door. Won't budge. He searches his pockets for the key.

DONNA C'mon, Marcus, open the door!

Marcus turns to the group. He pats his pockets, shrugs.

LEE What? You've lost the key?

MARCUS

I.. don't know how that happened ...

Donna, Lee and Amy run to the window. They scream for help.

Marcus backs against the wall, sinks to his knees, head in his hands.

EXT. RESIDENTIAL STREET - NIGHT

Well's car drives down a neighbourhood littered with trick or treaters.

INT. WELL'S CAR - TRAVELLING - NIGHT

Wells drives, John rides shotgun.

JOHN Son of a bitch should never have been let out.

WELLS Lack of evidence meant he was never caged in.

JOHN

How the hell did that monster get off with raping a minor?

WELLS

Marcus was never prosecuted because his groomed fifteen-year-old victim went back on her story and denied anything happened.

JOHN

You knew she was covering up. She was just a kid. Scared to tell the truth. Christ, she probably thought she was in love with him.

WELLS

I don't need proof, but the crown prosecution service does.

JOHN

Tell me about him. Everything you know.

WELLS

He was found in the old farm, only survivor of the Order Of Aaeron, a cult suicide pact. He was adopted. Growing up, he'd always be in trouble. His foster parents kicked him out and he ended up in and out of juvenile detention centres. Eventually, he ended up inheriting a large amount of money from a terminally ill woman he had been seeing. He used the cash to buy property, dingy shit-holes to set up drug-dens and whore-houses.

JOHN

How did the girl get away?

WELLS

On her initial statement, Lil' Lucy said he tied her up, but he wasn't the greatest at ropes. She managed to escape.

JOHN

And here we are now, not even a year later and he's up to his old tricks... with my Amy.

WELLS

I intend to stop him before he can strike again.

JOHN Can you prove any of this, Wells? Anything that will stick?

WELLS Not a damn thing. All I know is Marcus is a bad seed. He's got the Devil in him.

JOHN Christ, Foster. How do you intend to stop him when he laughs in the face of the law?

WELLS I'm off duty and you're a concerned parent. How else do you think I plan to stop him? If we end up in court, we'll win the sympathy vote.

INT. PORTER HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

The group gather together as a menacing GROAN echoes throughout the room. CREAKS from underneath.

Amy grabs everyone by the hand, one at a time, forces them to the middle of the room.

AMY Form a circle, it's the only way we can defend ourselves.

The group form a circle in the middle of the room so they cover all angles.

Ghosts materialize from the floor, surrounding the group.

DONNA What do you want?

GHOSTS For you to die.

MARCUS

Even me?

GHOSTS Sacrifice yourselves in the name of Aeron. Appease the Master.

LEE Why the fuck would we do that?

GHOSTS Make the Master live inside flesh once more... We want to live... we want to live... Ghosts point at Marcus.

GHOSTS The Master chooses you to be the last to die.

AMY You want us to kill ourselves, give you more power and then leave Marcus to become possessed by the leader?

GHOSTS

Yessss....

Amy's finally twigged it. She lowers her head. Regret. Shame.

DONNA Still holding on to that fairy-tale of you and Marcus ruling in Hell?

AMY

I'm... I'm sorry...

LEE

Bit late for that now.

Amy postures, strong. Steps forward. She chants, trying to invoke a spell.

AMY Daemones de luce in tenebras Dissapear.

LEE

Amy, seriously, give up with that crap!

AMY Spiritus tenebrarum protegas me, mandata mea salute neglexit Dominum Deum vestrum.

The Ghosts HOWL in agony, writhe in distress and pain.

DONNA It's working!

The Ghosts vanish.

Amy can't believe it. She's stunned, delighted.

The group cheer victoriously -- except Marcus. He's ponderous, contemplating.

MOCKING LAUGHTER.

The Ghosts reappear. Sombre faces.

The group quickly reform their circle.

A dark, gloopy puddle forms in the middle of the circle. The group grip each other's hands.

AMY Don't break the circle.

Dark Shape materializes in the middle of the circle. He stares at Amy, transfixing her with his gaze.

DARK SHAPE Oh yee of little faith, thou who changes allegiance hath none.

Amy's hands slump to her sides...

Circle broken. Lee rushes to confront Dark Shape.

Dark Shape raises his arms -- Marcus, Lee and Donna are swept off their feet, forced against the wall.

Marcus, Lee and Donna struggle against an invisible force, keeping them stuck against the wall.

Ghoulish arms burst from the foundations, wrapping around Marcus, Lee and Donna, pinning them against the wall.

Dark Shape places his skeletal hand over submissive Amy's head -- her eyes laze back. She falls to her knees.

Dark Shape looms over Amy, his hands clasping her head.

DARK SHAPE Witness what I have seen, see what lie in store for you, nonbeliever.

FLASH CUT:

A SERIES OF IMAGES

-Blood drips down pulsating white padded walls.

-PRISONERS of all ages trapped in a fiery locked cell BURN from frequent blasts of fire coming at them from assorted angles. SCREAMS. HYSTERIA. CHAOS.

-Maggots crawl over a mutilated CORPSE. The corpse rises, it's facial skin burnt, lets out a SHRIEK of horror.

-A red skyline overlooks burnt, destroyed cities and dried out oceans.

FLASH BACK TO:

INT. PORTER HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Amy trembles, tears drip from her entranced wide-open eyes. Her HEARTBEAT THUMPS.

Amy SCREAMS...

Lee and Donna call to Amy, trying to wake her from her state.

DONNA Fight what you see, Amy! It's not real!

Amy's HEARTBEAT POUNDS harder... her eyes widen further... She takes a sharp intake of air... whatever she's seen is the most horrifying thing possible...

DARK SHAPE'S POV

Looks down at Amy. Translucent vision. Amy's inner organs pulsate inside her skeletal frame.

Amy's heart beat pounds inside her chest... SPLATTERS apart.

BACK TO SCENE

Blood bursts across Amy's chest. She drops to the floor.

The group fall silent, crestfallen.

Amy's body dissolves, turns to mush.

The mush trickles inside Dark Shape's foot as he absorbs her body and soul.

Ghosts glow, energized by their leader's feast.

The Dark Shape stares at the group. He points at Marcus.

Marcus watches, horrified, as Owen Olin's face materializes inside The Dark Shape's hood.

Marcus instinctively realizes who it is.

MARCUS

Father...

DARK SHAPE Choice is yours. Death by your own hands, or death by mine.

Ghosts and Dark Shape vanish. The group's binds dissolve and disappear. Marcus, Lee and Donna fall to the floor.

Donna cries, devastated.

Lee hugs her.

MARCUS I didn't expect this... I didn't want this to happen.

LEE What were you expecting? You're gonna raise the dead and expect them to grant you some special amazing power as a thank you?

MARCUS I had to find out who my real parents were. Who I really am.

DONNA Hope it was worth it.

Donna regains her composure. She wipes away her tears.

LEE

Why didn't they just kill us?

MARCUS They want us to kill <u>ourselves</u>. Suicide, it's more potent, would give them more strength.

DONNA

Why don't you lead the way, Marcus? Or is it because you did plan this from the start, and you know, as their son, you'd be protected?

LEE

Why do they need him? They seem pretty capable themselves.

DONNA

They can't leave this house. They need a body, a human vessel so they can carry on the cult's work on the outside.

Marcus walks solemnly to the window.

MARCUS Believe what you want.

Lee and Donna step further away from Marcus.

Marcus gazes through the slats of the boarded up window. He eyes the empty street. Glowing lamp-lights. Nothing else. Deserted. Empty. Just like him.

Lee watches Marcus from the corner of his eye as he whispers to Donna.

LEE

We've gotta take him out.

DONNA

With what?

Marcus overhears. Grins.

Lee eyes the empty Mad-Dog bottle.

LEE They want him more than us. If we make it to the field, they can't stop us.

Marcus turns.

MARCUS They can't stop you...

He opens his flick-knife.

MARCUS

But I can.

DONNA

Marcus--

MARCUS

This is my destiny, to restore the order of Aeron, continue my family tradition. Home truly is where the heart bleeds.

Marcus charges towards Donna and Lee with his knife.

Lee picks up the bottle of Mad Dog, and hits Marcus' face with it. The bottle smashes on impact, cutting Marcus's face in various places.

Marcus stumbles back. He falls to his knees, dazed.

Lee and donna escape into-

INT. PORTER HOUSE - FOYER - NIGHT

Lee and Donna run up the stairs.

INT. PORTER HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Marcus clambers to his feet.

Dark Shape appears before him.

DARK SHAPE Bring them to the attic, my son. Deliver them to us.

Marcus smirks. He now has a role in life.

MARCUS I won't let you down.

INT. PORTER HOUSE - STAIRCASE - NIGHT

Lee and Donna rush up the stairs, both using the staircase bannister for extra leverage.

They pause, stunned, unable to remove their hands from the bannister.

They both try to lift their hands -- sticky, black ooze extends from their palms, keeping them glued to the spot.

Eerie, mocking ghostly LAUGHTER echoes.

DONNA I can't move!

LEE Keep trying!

Ooze seeps from the top of the staircase, dripping down the steps, coating Lee and Donna's shoes in sticky, black gunk.

The ghostly laughter stops. Silence.

A CREAK from above.

Lee and Donna look up to the top of the staircase.

The CLOWN DOLL stares at them with menacing, alive eyes.

CLOWN DOLL (repeatedly chanting) When he comes a calling, all of us will die, I wish for this to happen, blood from you and I.

Lee and Donna clench their eyes closed, cover their ear with their free hand.

CLOWN DOLL (faster, intense) When he comes a calling, all of us will die, I wish for this to happen, blood from you and I.

Lee and Donna moan in agony, drop to their knees.

DONNA

Block it out!

Lee clenches his fist in anger, forces his hand free from the bannister. He looks up, about to charge at the Clown Doll.

It's not there. There's no liquid on the steps, no ooze on the bannister.

He regains his bearings, gives Donna, just as shaken as he is, his hand.

LEE They're fucking with us. Come on.

Lee and Donna rush up the stairs.

INT. PORTER HOUSE - UPSTAIRS HALLWAY - NIGHT

Lee and Donna head into the boy's bedroom.

INT. PORTER HOUSE - BOY'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Lee slams the door shut.

Donna looks for something to block the door -- the room is empty. She heads to the boarded up window.

INT. PORTER HOUSE - STAIRCASE - NIGHT

Marcus walks up the steps, knife in hand.

MARCUS And God said let there be light.

Lights spring on upstairs.

MARCUS Lead me to the promised land.

Marcus smirks as he walks up the staircase.

INT. PORTER HOUSE - BOY'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Lee and Donna try to pry the slanted wooden slate from the window. It's nailed in good, won't break free.

Glowing eyes appear in the darkness behind them.

Lee and Donna spin around.

They are confronted by a group of Ghosts.

Mocking LAUGHTER fills the room.

INT. PORTER HOUSE - UPSTAIRS HALLWAY - NIGHT

Marcus reaches the top of the stairs.

A Ghost points towards the boy's bedroom.

Marcus walks to the boy's bedroom door.

He looks up at the attic hatch.

The hatch dislodges itself. A step ladder crawls down.

Marcus smiles. Power. Control. He's God.

GHOST VOICE (O.S.) Dead or alive, deliver them to us.

Marcus opens the boy's bedroom door --

INT. PORTER HOUSE - BOY'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Marcus enters, knife poised to strike, expecting a fight.

Lee and Donna, surrounded by Ghosts, kneel on the floor, hands up in surrender.

Marcus lowers his knife.

MARCUS You've seen the light.

INT. PORTER HOUSE - ATTIC - NIGHT

Lee and Donna kneel next to each other as Marcus, excited, finishes tying their hands behind wooden beams.

Marcus stands in front of Lee and Donna, inspects his work. He smiles. The bounds are good. Tight.

Marcus drifts, like a puppet being mastered by a puppeteer, across the attic.

He finds a hooded cloak. Dons it.

Marcus drags an upturned table to the centre of the attic, turns it upright and swipes dust from the surface.

He places several half-burned candles, slotted inside holders, on the table. It's a makeshift alter.

Donna notices Lee rubbing the rope around his hands up and down against the wooden beam.

Lee whispers to Donna.

LEE Do the same. If we get the chance, take him when his back's turned.

DONNA What good is it gonna do? We're not gonna get out of the house.

LEE We have to try. Don't give up.

Marcus' makeshift alter is prepared. He raises his hands, drops to his knees. He closes his eyes, smiles gratefully. It's as if he's receiving a gift, a blessing, from the devil.

> MARCUS (repeated chanting) When he comes a calling, all of us will die, I wish for this to happen, blood from you and I.

Donna and Lee rub their binds against the beam. The rope slackens, their ties are loose.

Lee gives Donna a nod.

LEE On my count, we rush him.

EXT. DERELICT STREET - NIGHT

Well's car cruises past rundown houses.

INT. WELL'S CAR - TRAVELLING - NIGHT

Wells and John scan the quiet neighbourhood.

JOHN

Amy's into all this witch crap. I just thought it was a teenage fad. If she's with this schizo, and he's put thoughts into her head--

Wells spots Marcus' van outside the Porter house.

WELLS Son of a bitch...

JOHN

What?

WELLS That's his van.

EXT. PORTER HOUSE - NIGHT

Well's car pulls up by the side of the quiet, dark house.

Wells and John exit the car.

They walk up the garden pathway towards the front door.

Wells peers through the boarded-up windows. Too dark.

Wells tries the front door. Won't open.

INT. PORTER HOUSE - ATTIC - NIGHT

Lee and Donna free their hands.

Lee charges into Marcus like a bull in a china shop, forcing him against the frail wall. Dust pours down on both of them.

Donna tries to open the attic hatch - there's no handle and she can't find a grip in between the edges.

Lee repeatedly punches Marcus in the stomach, trying to take advantage of his surprise attack.

Marcus smashes Lee in his face with a right hook a boxer would be proud of. Lee tumbles away, dazed by the blow. He falls near Donna.

Donna helps Lee up.

Marcus approaches them with his knife.

Donna and Lee back away into the darkest region of the attic.

Marcus steps towards them, breathing deeply. Furious.

Donna and Lee step on creaky, uneasy foundations.

EXT. PORTER HOUSE - NIGHT

Wells and John both try to open the door by barging into it at the same time. It's not working.

Wells holds John back from giving it another go.

WELLS Time for plan B. I've got a battering ram in the trunk.

John massages his aching shoulder.

JOHN Why didn't we just use that in the first place? WELLS I'm not supposed to have it. Between me and you, it's--

The door creaks open.

Wells and John look at each other, puzzled, wary.

INT. PORTER HOUSE - ATTIC - NIGHT

Marcus rushes towards Donna and Lee.

A loud CREAK...

The floor underneath Donna and Lee gives way.

Donna and Lee fall into--

INT. PORTER HOUSE - MASTER BEDROOM - NIGHT

Donna and Lee crash onto the hard floor, surrounded by debris from the attic.

INT. PORTER HOUSE - FOYER - NIGHT

Wells and John rush up the staircase.

INT. PORTER HOUSE - UPSTAIRS HALLWAY - NIGHT

Wells and John peer inside the master bedroom doorway.

Dust swirls from within. The damaged ceiling CREAKS as the room settles.

Frail WHIMPERS alert Wells and John.

JOHN

Amy!?

INT. PORTER HOUSE - MASTER BEDROOM - NIGHT

John bursts into the room. Wells follows him. Donna and Lee lay injured amongst the fallen debris. Wells and John help Donna and Lee to their feet. Donna erupts, frantic.

> DONNA We've gotta get out of here!

Wells gestures her to calm down.

WELLS

It's alright, you're safe now. I'm with the police.

John recognizes Donna and Lee. He hits panic mode.

JOHN What's going on here? Where's Amy!?

Lee's dazed.

DONNA She's gone. Everybody's gone.

John's eyes fill with anger. Wells senses his torment.

WELLS John, we've got to get these two an ambulance and call for backup.

John turns to Donna.

JOHN What do you mean she's gone?

WELLS

Marcus?

Donna nods.

John looks like he's about to erupt.

JOHN Where is the bastard--

LEE You don't understand! Marcus isn't alone. We've just got to get out of this house!

Wells pans his eyes over the frightened, traumatised faces of Donna and Lee. He looks up at the fallen ceiling.

WELLS

Agreed. Everyone out now.

He turns to John.

WELLS That includes you too, buddy.

John takes a deep breath, calms his emotions. He nods.

INT. PORTER HOUSE - STAIRCASE - NIGHT

John and Wells help Lee and Donna down the stairs.

The front door is open, flapping in the wind.

INT. PORTER HOUSE - ATTIC - NIGHT

Marcus, head lowered in shame, kneels before The Dark Shape.

MARCUS I've failed.

DARK SHAPE You have another chance.

Marcus lifts his head, grateful for the reprieve.

GHOST VOICES (0.S.) Kill the intruders. Sacrifice the lambs.

INT. PORTER HOUSE - FOYER - NIGHT

Wells, John, Donna and Lee reach the bottom of the staircase. They approach the doorway.

Front door slams shut.

Ghostly, mocking LAUGHING echoes around the foyer.

Wells and John look at each other, startled.

DONNA

Come on!

Lee and Donna lead Wells and John into the--

INT. PORTER HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Lee and Donna circle the room, anxious, looking for any signs of Ghosts.

DONNA We're never gonna get out of here, they could be anywhere.

John grabs Donna.

JOHN

Where's Amy?

Donna and Lee remain silent, their eyes dart over the room. John shakes Donna aggressively.

> JOHN What the fuck happened?

Wells intervenes, splits John and Donna apart.

WELLS That's enough, John!

Donna, stirred back to reality, moves close to Lee. They hold each other comfortingly.

DONNA Marcus summoned... something evil. Ghosts, demons, whatever they are--

JOHN Ghosts murdered my daughter? Is that what you're saying?

LEE I know it sounds crazy--

JOHN You're covering up for that son of a bitch.

DONNA You've gotta believe us!

John storms to the foyer door. Wells grabs his arm.

WELLS Where are you going?

JOHN To do something you should have done a long time ago.

John shrugs Wells aside. He storms through the doorway.

INT. PORTER HOUSE - STAIRCASE - NIGHT

John rampages up the steps.

JOHN

Marcus!

INT. PORTER HOUSE - UPSTAIRS HALLWAY - NIGHT

John storms towards the attic.

A balustrade railing bursts out, blocking his path.

John steps over it. He continues toward the attic.

Another balustrade railing bursts out -- stabbing John through his leg, impaling him against the wall.

John, pain etched on his face, struggles to keep balance.

Another railing bursts free. It strikes John's other leg, nailing it to the wall.

Marcus emerges from the Girl's bedroom, walks past John.

John tries to grab Marcus. Marcus passes beyond his clutch.

Marcus turns to John, sways his head, tuts tauntingly. He swaggers down the stairs, whistling the AERON HYMN.

Dark Shape appears in front of John.

DARK SHAPE Invite only. I don't believe your name was on the guest list.

A balustrade railing strikes John through his head, splatters out the back of his skull.

DARK SHAPE Consider yourself barred.

INT. PORTER HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Wells heads towards the kitchen door.

DONNA It's no use. It's locked.

WELLS You tried kicking it down?

LEE

Never had the chance. Besides, that old trick only works in the movies.

Wells remembers his earlier attempt at trying to barge through the front door.

WELLS Not necessarily true, but you make a valid point. However...

Wells sizes up the door.

WELLS If at first you don't succeed...

Wells boots the door.

The door creaks open, much to Wells' astonishment.

WELLS You try again.

INT. PORTER HOUSE - KITCHEN - NIGHT

Wells follows Donna and Lee as they rush towards the door leading to the back garden.

Lee tries the handle. Won't open.

WELLS Gonna have to have a word with the landlord.

MARCUS (O.S.) Landlord's here.

INT. PORTER HOUSE - LIVING ROOM / KITCHEN - NIGHT

Marcus stands in the living room, knife gripped in his hand. He frowns at Wells.

> MARCUS (seething) Wells.

Wells gestures Lee and Donna to stand back. They obey.

WELLS Marcus. This has gone far enough.

MARCUS Gonna read me my rights?

WELLS You already know 'em.

MARCUS What's the charge?

Marcus walks menacingly towards the kitchen.

MARCUS Or are you gonna make one up like last time?

WELLS Bit more serious this time, Marcus. Murder.

MARCUS I haven't killed anyone. Yet.

INT. PORTER HOUSE - KITCHEN - NIGHT

Marcus lunges at Wells, knife raised.

Wells grabs Marcus's hand. He strains to keep Marcus at bay, forced back against the wall.

Donna and Lee try to pull Marcus off Wells, hitting and kicking him -- but Marcus seems possessed by super strength. He swipes them away with his arm, giving Wells a reprieve.

The DARK SHAPE appears.

He raises his arms, summoning his powers -- sends Donna and Lee spiralling against the wall.

Ghoulish arms break free from the walls, clasping their revolting hands around Donna and Lee, holding them against the wall.

Dark Shape encourages Marcus.

DARK SHAPE

Kill him.

GHOSTS (O.S.) Kill, kill, kill...

Wells hits out at Marcus -- Marcus blocks his fist with his arm, smiles. He pushes Wells against the wall.

MARCUS You've always wanted to nail me, pig. Now you've got something to pin on me, it's too late.

WELLS You raped that girl, Marcus. You made her lie about what you did--

MARCUS I didn't touch her--

Wells knees Marcus in his groin, making him double over and drop his knife.

Wells goes to the floor, eager to grab the blade.

Marcus steps on the knife. Grabs wells by his collar and pulls him up face-to-face.

MARCUS

I protected her from the pimps... I made hostels for the homeless so beaten women and abused girls had a refuge... I know all about being homeless... the pimps set me up, made her accuse me. They knew you'd target me instead of them, a successful young guy that came from nothing--

WELLS You're lying--

MARCUS

You were gonna retire a bitter old man, Wells. A poor, bitter old man. You can't accept when you're wrong.

GHOST VOICES (O.S.) KILL HIM, KILL HIM, KILL HIM!

Dark Shape points at the knife. Using his powers, he levitates the object towards Marcus.

Marcus grabs the handle.

Marcus aims the knife to Well's throat, Wells grabs Marcus' wrist. The blade edges closer to Wells' throat, Wells overpowered.

The knife point strikes Well's neck, draws blood.

WELLS You're nothing but a killer, Marcus. Burn in Hell.

Marcus stops, realisation hits him.

He reels away from Wells.

MARCUS Get up and out. GET OUT!

Wells clambers to his feet.

DARK SHAPE is having none of it.

DARK SHAPE

KILL HIM.

MARCUS No. I'm no murderer.

DARK SHAPE

So be it.

Dark Shape materializes in front of Wells.

Wells backs up against the wall.

Dark Shape closes in. They stare at each other, face to face.

WELLS This can't be... It's you.

Dark Shape sticks his fingers deep in Wells' eyes. He tears the skin off his face. Wells sinks to his knees.

DARK SHAPE Seeing is believing. Dark Shape points to Donna and Lee. Their heads smack against the wall, rendering them unconscious.

Donna and Lee drop to the floor.

Dark Shape points a threatening finger in Marcus' face.

DARK SHAPE Strike three and you're out. Do not dare disappoint me again.

He points to Donna and Lee.

DARK SHAPE Prepare the ceremony.

Marcus, shaken, nods... but there's a look in his eye that reveals he's not so convinced this is his destiny.

EXT. PORTER HOUSE - BACK GARDEN - NIGHT

Marcus lights the top of the decorative pillars with fire-lit torches under the watchful eyes of Dark Shape.

Lee and Donna, now conscious, squirm as they are tied -- firmly this time -- against the pillars.

Ghosts gather, forming an audience, their ghoulish faces awash with menace and anticipation.

Dark Shape takes his place between the pillars.

He signals Marcus to kneel with the rest of the Ghosts.

Marcus frowns, not keen on being told what to do. He looks at Lee and Donna. Their eyes plea for help.

Marcus bows his head in shame, joins the ghostly flock and kneels before Dark Shape.

Dark Shape turns to Donna and Lee.

DARK SHAPE In death, you will be given rebirth... as my son and daughter.

Tears stream down Donna's cheeks. Lee looks to the ground. Defeat.

DARK SHAPE (to Donna) You will become my daughter, Lilith.

DARK SHAPE (to Lee) You will become Moloch, my son. Dark Shape points at Marcus.

DARK SHAPE And you, my youngest child, will become me.

Marcus frowns, confused... angry... manipulated...

DARK SHAPE It is your destiny. The family must live on. Aeron must rise again.

DONNA Marcus, they're just using you. They don't care about you!

Dark Shape raises his arms, his skeletal digits point to the moonlit sky. Pillar flames dance from a sudden gust of wind.

DARK SHAPE Oh, holy Satan, the Lord of which I obey, bless this decayed form, transform my blood and bones of which I gave to you as an offering in my final days into those of which I choose!

Leaves scatter across the lawn, bushes are blown side to side from a whistling wind. Ghosts watch on in awe. Lee and Donna look terrified. Marcus frowns, anger growing.

Silence. Stillness.

Dark Shape's arms rest by his side. He points to Marcus, beckons him.

DARK SHAPE Join me, my son.

Marcus takes a deep, heavy breath.

He stands up, joins Dark Shape by his side.

Dark Shape gives Marcus his flick-knife.

DARK SHAPE Kill the female first.

Marcus grips the handle of the flick-knife.

He walks to Donna.

LEE Marcus, please, don't do it.

Donna tearfully pleads with Marcus.

DONNA

No...

Marcus smirks as he traces the blade across Donna's throat, his eyes wild with excitement.

He looks at Dark Shape. The crowd of expectant Ghosts.

DONNA Marcus... they will kill you too.

Marcus examines Donna... tearful eyes. Hopeless. Helpless. Marcus steps back. Confused.

He stares at the knife in his hand... loosens his grip...

DARK SHAPE DO IT NOW! PROVE YOU ARE ONE OF US! PROVE YOU ARE FIT TO FULFIL YOUR DESTINY! KILL HER!

Marcus snaps out of his possessed state. He turns to Dark Shape, fury in his eyes.

MARCUS This is not my destiny... I'm not one of you.

Marcus slashes Donna's ropes, freeing her.

Dark Shape seethes. Ghosts ROAR with anger.

Dark Shape grabs Marcus by his shoulders, gripping him tightly. Marcus drops his knife, frozen by the impact.

Donna picks up the knife.

She cuts Lee's ropes, freeing him.

Dark Shape turns Marcus towards him, eye to eye, furious.

He throws Marcus like a disregarded doll -- Marcus flies across the garden, through the kitchen and ends up--

INT. PORTER HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Marcus CRASHES against the wall. He collapses on the floor.

EXT. PORTER HOUSE - BACK GARDEN - NIGHT

Ghosts seize Donna and Lee.

The Ghosts hold Lee and Donna to the ground.

Dark Shape looms over them.

DARK SHAPE So be it. If I am not to be given life... I will take it.

INT. PORTER HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Marcus wakes.

He crawls to the Ouija board.

EXT. PORTER HOUSE - BACK GARDEN - NIGHT

Dark Shape lingers over Donna and Lee.

He places his skeletal hands on their heads...

INT. PORTER HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Marcus grabs the planchette. He swipes it across the board.

MARCUS Spirit, spirit, I call to you...

EXT. PORTER HOUSE - BACK GARDEN - NIGHT

Dark Shape pauses, shocked by a sudden feeling.

The Ghosts, fearful, fall back...

INT. PORTER HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Marcus can barely control the planchette as it spins crazily across the board. He grips it tight with both hands.

MARCUS Spirit, spirit, I control you. You must obey the living, you must obey my command...

EXT. PORTER HOUSE - BACK GARDEN - NIGHT

Dark Shape and the Ghosts are rooted to the spot. Dark Shape clenches his fists, releases an agonized, angry ROAR.

Donna and Lee dart past the Ghosts, run past the shed, towards the fence at the end of the garden.

INT. PORTER HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Marcus strains to keep hold of the planchette.

MARCUS

Spirit, I call on you... I demand you to transfer your spirit into mine... from father to son...

The board SIZZLES, turns bright red. Marcus struggles to keep the planchette on the board, his face contorts in pain.

The board dims, turns a cold blue... as if all energy has been drained away.

Marcus releases the limp planchette. He removes his hands, tugging away melted strands of skin stuck to the board.

Marcus, shrouded in dark shadow, whimpers as he backs away in a dark corner.

EXT. PORTER HOUSE - BACK GARDEN - NIGHT

Ghosts vanish.

Dark Shape vanishes.

Donna and Lee look at each other, stunned, unable to believe what happened. They hug each other, relieved it's over.

DONNA

Marcus...

LEE He stopped them.

They rush towards the house.

INT. PORTER HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Donna and Lee enter the room. Lee grips the knife cautiously.

DONNA

Marcus?

A WHIMPER.

Donna and Lee turn to see a figure, his back turned, moping in the dark, far corner of the room.

Donna and Lee slowly approach the figure.

LEE Marcus...?

The figure turns -- it's Marcus possessed, half his face resembling his father, the other half himself.

Marcus grabs the blade, pulls it with all his might. Lee tries to pull the knife away, the blade slices Marcus's palm apart... blood drips... yet Marcus smiles.

Marcus takes the knife from Lee. He restores the knife to striking poise, heads towards Lee and Donna.

Donna and Lee backtrack into the kitchen and then out into --

EXT. PORTER HOUSE - BACK GARDEN - NIGHT

Marcus heads towards Donna and Lee, knife clenched in his hand.

Donna and Lee back away.

DONNA Marcus, you don't have to do this!

LEE Marcus, stop! It's over!

Marcus continues towards them, forcing Lee and Donna to back up against the shed.

DONNA Marcus, you're not a murderer, you're not your father!

Marcus stops, perplexed, fighting his inner demons.

Marcus' body shakes, his muscles bulge as if something inside him is trying to regain control.

Glimmering Ghosts claw at Donna and Lee, but they're weak, unable to sustain their form. One after another, they fade away as soon as they materialize.

Marcus grips his knife, veins bulging in his hands. He points the blade towards himself. He aims for his stomach -- but his movements pause mid-strike.

Bones bulge beneath Marcus' arms. Dark Shape's skull materializes over half of Marcus' face.

Marcus edges closer to Donna and Lee, struggling to fight off the effects of his possession.

> MARCUS Kill me... kill me now!

Lee grabs the flame torch from a pillar.

He confronts Marcus. Looks him in the eyes.

MARCUS

Do it.

Donna looks away, Lee sets Marcus ablaze.

Flames engulf Marcus. Lee backs away, covers Donna. Marcus burns... yet he still comes at Donna and Lee... A horrific SCREAM -- Marcus and Dark Shape combined... Marcus turns, runs away from Donna and Lee... He jumps into the well.

Ghosts vanish.

Flames from the pillars and bird tables extinguish.

Donna and Lee hug each other, relieved their ordeal is over once and for all.

A LOUD CREAK....

Donna and Lee turn behind, fearing the worst.

The fence at the end of the garden collapses. The field awaits. Freedom.

MOMENTS LATER

Dawn sunrise.

Donna and Lee approach the well. They peer inside.

INSIDE WELL

Dark, endless...

BACK TO SCENE

Lee wraps his arm around Donna.

LEE Let's get outta here.

EXT. FIELD - DAWN

Lee and Donna, morose and morbid from their ordeal, head across the golden sunlit field.

EXT. PORTER HOUSE - BACK GARDEN - DAWN

Ambient dawn noises. Birds singing. Gentle wind.

The well...

INSIDE WELL

Deep down...

Cold, slimy stone brick walls...

Darkness...

Expecting a jump scare... ?

FADE TO BLACK.

END.