

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

CRACK, SNAP. A bending glow stick, RED. BECCA, 14, fashions it into a bracelet around her wrist. She turns to her two friends, MEG and DESIREE, same age.

BECCA

Who wants a glow stick bracelet?

DESIREE

Haven't you outgrown those yet?

MEG

I'll take one. Purple.

Becca gives Meg one and sticks out her tongue at Desiree, who rolls her eyes. Everyone wears pajamas. Sleep over.

DESIREE

Becca, did you hear what happened to Smelly Shelly in gym class?

BECCA

No. What?

MEG

You know that stupid charm bracelet she wears? Well, we're playing floor hockey, and--

Meg and Desiree fight the giggles while they tell the story.

DESIREE

And there's that fat girl that never talks to anybody. She swings at the ball, but hits Shelly in the wrist instead. And her bracelet just, just ...

MEG

Explodes everywhere! Charms go flying!

DESIREE

And she's running around, chasing after them. And Mr. Carlson never stops the game. We keep playing. So Meg, here, swings her stick. Whack! Right in Shelly's face!

MEG

I went for the ball, and her head was there. Whoops.

BECCA  
(shocked)  
Is she alright?

DESIREE  
A little black eye maybe.

MEG  
What are you, her best friend?

BECCA  
No, but ... We picked on her all  
through middle school. Haven't we  
"outgrown" this yet?

Desiree rolls her eyes again and digs a box of popcorn out of  
her overnight bag.

DESIREE  
Whatevs. I'm making popcorn. Extra  
butter. Cause last time your mom  
made us that low-calorie, no-taste  
stuff.

MEG  
My mom's not like that anymore.  
She's different since the divorce.

DESIREE  
Yeah, now she's getting some from  
that new boyfriend.

MEG  
Shut up.

DESIREE  
Probably getting some right now in  
the back of his car.

Meg charges Desiree, who flees into the hallway and bounds  
down a staircase. Meg huffs and slams the door.

BECCA  
It's good your mom's feeling better  
though.

MEG  
Yeah. Well, anyway, let's pick a  
movie. You want something funny or  
scary?

INT. KITCHEN

A bag POPS in the microwave. Desiree rummages in the cupboards, clanging pans together.

A countertop knife set. A HAND removes a santoku knife.

Desiree finds a large metal mixing bowl, plops it on the counter. The microwave beeps. Amidst the sudden quiet, Desiree hears a THUMP.

She scans the room. Nothing. She shakes the bag of popcorn, tears at it, and dumps it into the bowl. Another THUMP.

DESIREE

Meg? ... Becca?

She walks around the kitchen island, toward a bar that separates the living room. She cranes her neck to see through the darkness. A SHADOW lunges at her! It's the family CAT. Perched on top of the bar. Desiree chuckles to herself.

INT. BEDROOM

Meg fights with the remote. Becca recoils at her frustration.

MEG

What happened to my list? I had it saved. Ugh, I hate the search on this app!

BECCA

I'm gonna check on the popcorn ...

INT. KITCHEN

Becca walks in, finds the half-filled popcorn bowl and another bag POPPING in the microwave. But no one around.

BECCA

Desiree?

She hears something. On the floor. It's the cat. Peeking around the corner of the island.

BECCA (CONT'D)

Where is she? Huh?

The cat walks along, leaving red paw prints on the linoleum. Becca trembles, inches forward, follows the prints. To a puddle of BLOOD! Desiree contorted on the floor, throat slashed!

Becca opens her mouth to scream, but a HAND stifles it.

INT. UPSTAIRS

The bedroom door opens. Meg peeks out. Thought she heard something. No, nothing. It's too quiet though.

INT. STAIRWELL

Meg descends the stairs. Each step CREAKS. She reaches the bottom. Sees the cat at the end of the hall. Wearing a RED glow bracelet around its neck.

MEG

Becca? Desiree? This isn't funny.

Meg makes a right turn into the kitchen.

MEG (CONT'D)

What's that smell?

INT. KITCHEN

SMOKE billows from the microwave. A bag of popcorn caught ABLAZE!

MEG

Oh my god!

She runs over and pops the microwave open. FLAMES jump at her! She turns on the sink and grabs the sprayer. She extinguishes the fire, turns off the water, catches her breath.

Then she feels it. The wetness on her socks. Thinks it's water, but it's RED. All over the floor! She steps around the island. Becca and Desiree sprawled in BLOOD! DEAD!

Smoke alarms WAIL! Meg SCREAMS! She claws at her face, trying to cover her eyes, mouth, ears all at once. Then she FLEES into the dark living room.

INT. LIVING ROOM

Meg reaches the front door, but the KNOB is already turning. She backs away, ducks in the shadows. The door opens, a light flicks on. It a WOMAN, 40s. Meg sees her and leaps out.

MEG

Mom! We have to get out! It's  
terrible! Someone's in the house!

Meg tries to push her out the door, but Mom closes it  
instead.

MOM

Meg, calm down. What're you saying?

MEG

Mom, they're dead! Becca and  
Desiree! They ...

Meg stops. She sees two RED spots on Mom's blouse.

MEG (CONT'D)

What's that?

MOM

Oh, this? Spaghetti sauce.

Meg examines her Mom. More RED spots on her neck, cheek. And  
her HANDS ... covered in BLOOD! Meg backs away.

MEG

Mom, um, I decided to stay at Dad's  
this weekend. He's on his way to  
get me.

MOM

No, he's not.

MEG

I called him an hour ago. He's  
gonna be here any minute.

MOM

Meg, your father's already dead. We  
had a nice date.

She reveals the santoku knife, still dripping wet.

MEG

Mom, did you forget your  
medication? Let's go get your  
pills.

MOM

It's too late. I'm already cured.

Knife SLASHES! Meg SCREAMS!

CUT TO BLACK.