

SPOOK NIGHT

FADE IN:

INT. KITCHEN SUBURBAN HOME - DAY

Kitchen table is surrounded by ADAM WANETE, 35, clean cut wiry build with a full head of hair, he is agreeing with his lovely red headed wife SYBIL about shared Halloween memories.

Their grammar school aged children, JACK and his young sister JILLIAN are listening. Looking at each other blankly in response to what their parents are saying.

SYBIL

Halloween Night! Creepy spiders!
Remember the Egyptian mummy Joe
Schider made. Wow, that was scary...

ADAM

Especially when the miles of
bandages he wrapped himself in
began to unravel...

SYBIL

...as he did the 'Hokey Pokey' on the
dance floor. Soon he was only
wearing his boxers.

ADAM

Frightening, but, "that's what it
was all about." Hey kids, you don't
seem very excited about Halloween
coming tomorrow night.

SYBIL

Boo! Children' Dad and I will help
you with your costumes. What evil
monsters are you going to be?

ADAM

I'm going as the Devil, horns and
tail and mom will be a Banshee.
Know what that is Jillian?

JILLIAN

A made up Irish evil spirit. Who's
howls announce a person's death.

ADAM

Very good dear! What nasty disguise
are you going wear to frighten your
friends and classmates?

JILLIAN

I'm not interested in that silly scary stuff. I'm going to the Festival as Mother Teresa!

SYBIL

Very civilized and boring. What about you Jack? I'll bet you've thought up some truly frightening outfit to put the fear of God into your pals. What is your costume to be Jack?

JACK

I'm going to wear a really weird wig with wild crazy hair. I'll be wearing mismatched socks and a big droopy moustache. I'll look really awesome. Guess who I'll be?

ADAM

Sounds horrible! My guess is Frankenstein's monster. Right?

SYBIL

No, Adam you got it wrong. He is Count Dracula, right Jack?

JILLIAN

E=MC2! You both missed the boat.

ADAM

Einstein of course! What's so frightening about him.

JACK

The atomic bomb, Dad.

SYBIL

You know something Adam, I think our kids are much brighter about the world than we were at their ages. More aware of the world! They're connected with computers and the web to the whole world.

ADAM

Wow our kids are smart and aware. Makes me feel sort of ashamed at our frivolous approach to evil. Our children have a consciousness and an appreciation that we didn't enjoy.

ADAM

I believe a review of our Halloween costumes is in order.

SYBIL

Good, we'll get all our Halloween stuff and look it over.

Adam and Sybil head for their bedroom and return with a couple of garment bags and two cardboard boxes. Jack and Jillian go to their bedrooms and come back with their stuff.

They busy themselves us-zipping bags and opening boxes. Adam pulls out his hideous Devil mask and puts it on.

ADAM

Boo!

Sybil finds her ugly Banshee false face. Puts it on.

SYBIL

Boo you! Ridiculous not scary. How about your mother, kids?

GILLIAN

Mom and dad, you both look silly.

JACK

Dad, do you believe in the Devil?

ADAM

You're both talking at once. I can hardly make out what you're saying but yes I do believe there is evil in the world.

SYBIL

Evil exists, but I'm not sure there is a Devil or other evil spirits.

JACK

What about zombies, vampires, giants, monsters, demons, werewolves, imps, trolls, witches, and Santa Clause.

GILLIAN

Fairies, Cinderella, ogres, Jack and the bean stalk, mermaids, leprechauns, wizards, and the Easter Bunny

ADAM

Sounds like you've both come up with long lists of mythical beings.

JILLIAN

Daddy, do you mean that mythical beings don't exist?

SYBIL

Your father meant that mythical beings exist only in your mind.

JACK
Like the Devil, eh! Dad.

Adam removes the Devil mask and Sybil removes her Banshee false face. The both are smiling approvingly at their kids.

ADAM
Well we agree that evil exists in the world. So how does it manages to be part of our lives.

JACK
Not mythical imaginary beings!

JILLIAN
Persons, evil people!

SYBIL
Yes, I think it's human beings who have gone sadly wrong.

ADAM
Have you children every heard of Vlad The Impaler, Adolf Eichman, or Idi Amin?

JACK
I got a couple of names; Adolf Hitler and Josef Stalin.

Jack reaches into his box of stuff pulls out his fright wig, and false mustache, puts them on.

Jillian gets a blue banded white sari out of her carton and drapes herself in it, covering her head. Like Mother Teresa.

JACK (CONT'D)
Albert Einstein is my hero. Like me he wasn't very good in school. But Albert was a good guy, the opposite of those two human monsters.

Mom and dad look stymied. Paw through their stuff. Some old photos of heros are revealed mixed in with their costumes.

ADAM
Abraham Lincoln, Albert Schweitzer, John Lennon, Martin Luther King Jr., Terry Fox, Nelson Mandela...

SYBIL
Joan of Arc, Eleanor Roosevelt, Rosa Parks, Julia Butterfly Hill, Rachial Corrie. Madame Curie...

JILLIAN
Mommy and daddy why are they heros?

SYBIL

Well dear, maybe it's because they lived by the 'Golden Rule.'

JACK

I know the 'Golden Rule!' It goes; "do it to other before they do it to you," Right Dad.

ADAM

That's not the 'Golden Rule!,' Son! You know it. Let's hear it!

JACK

Real simple dad; "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you."

ADAM

That's a darn good. It's really the 'Law of Reciprocity.'

JILLIAN

What is that!

SYBIL

"The Golden Rule." Don't let daddy confuse us with fancy words.

INT. SCHOOL GYMNASIUM - NIGHT

A gigantic banner proclaiming 'All Hallows Eve Festival.' The lighting is gloomy, mostly provided with flashlights. Small tables with the usual folding chairs.

Costumed students made-up like zombies provides the dance music. They are the 'Living Dead.' Recorded screams, howling wolves and hooting owls creates a creepy feeling.

The place is packed with a motley bunch of families, attired as horribly evil creatures. Into this excited melee the Waneta family makes their understated entrance.

ADAM

Well gang, as the earwig said to the another earwig; earwig go!

JACK

Too corny daddy'o!

Abraham Lincoln enters with a glowing Madame Curie holding Albert Einstein's hand who holds the hand of Mother Teresa.

The noisy celebration is momentarily stunned into silence by their appearance. Even the 'Living Dead's' music dies.

ADAM

May I have this dance, Madame?

As the band plays a waltz, Adam and Sybil dance.

JACK

Come on Jillian let see what evil get-ups the kids are wearing.

Off they go into the noisy snacking, and soda sucking crowd.

A special event is scheduled.

The IMPRESARIO a pompous figure dressed as Dracula makes his way through the excited throng to the band stand. They stop playing. He speaks importantly into the mike.

IMPRESARIO

For your added creepy enjoyment of this superstitious celebration, Yolanda, a member of the PTA, will perform an act of 'Gray Magic.'

Spot light cuts the gloom revealing Yolanda in eastern garb, tons of jewelry, and a veil, she peers into a crystal ball.

IMPRESARIO (CONT'D)

Let's give our Witch a big hand.

They oblige. Yolanda covers the crystal ball. Casts a spell.

YOLANDA

I call on the 7,405,926 demons of Lucifer to send us a sign of his evil power, in the name of Satan.

Overhead a volley of thunder crashes

YOLANDA (CONT'D)

West: Obey these words of power.
East: Watchers of the threshold,
watchers of the gate. North: Unbar
the guarded door. South: Obey this
command of thy servant of power...

Another horrendous crash of thunder followed by a blinding flash. Then all goes completely dark. The smell of sulphur permeates the gymnasium. Not a sound is heard.

A gigantic, swirling towering smoke cloud appears, in it's midst a horrible giant gyrates.

YOLANDA (CONT'D)
Welcome PYRO, Prince of Falsehood
and Damnation.

The Demon speaks with angry voice full of fire and brimstone.

PYRO
You dare summon me to this childish
affair, Witch!

He churns and makes threatening gestures, fire spits from his flaming red eyes and mouth.

PYRO (CONT'D)
I have in my mind to annihilate
this whole ignorant crowd...

As Pyro is strutting and posturing, Jack and Jillian circle around behind Yolanda. They lift a curtain, a nerdy computer operator is manipulating this phony evil illusion.

Jack quickly pulls the power plug and the cyber image and smoke machine shuts down.

PYRO (CONT'D)
I curse you-u-u-u-u-u all-l-l-l-l-l

The computer generated image breaks up and vanishes. The party goers are shocked into deathly silence.

A chuckle, a snicker, followed by riotous laughter.

JACK
Evil is as you believe evil does,
Mother Teresa.

JILLIAN
Einstein, You're so right.

The band starts up and plays the 'Hokey Pokey.

ADAM
'That's what it's...

SYBIL
...all about!'

FADE TO BLACK.