

The Truth

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EXT. MOVING- DAY

FADE IN:

We see from above, an old green Chevy Silverado packed full pulling a U-Haul. It is driving down Highway 40 at 75mph.

PAN IN: DOWN TO INSIDE OF THE CAR, COMING THROUGH THE WINDOW.

INT. CAR- DAY

CLOSE ON: FEMALE PASSENGER.

We see a fifteen year old female. She is dressed in all black and is obviously GOTH. She is listening to her MP3 player.

PAN AROUND: SHOWING DRIVER.

CLOSE ON: MALE DRIVER.

Male, mid-twenties. He is dressed casual. He looks at the girl and then back to the road. He looks again and reaches over and unplugs the headphones from the MP3 player.

CLOSE ON: FEMALE.

The girl ignores that her music was suddenly silenced and stares out the open window as the cattle and plains roll by.

BILLY (O/S)

You will really like it in Kansas,
it seems nice. -- doesn't it?

The girl just stares out the window and doesn't acknowledge that she is being spoken to, obviously ignoring.

CUT TO: BILLY.

BILLY

You know Becky it's been six
months. -- Maybe it is time for you
to start talking to me again.

CLOSE ON: BECKY

BECKY just stares out the window still not acknowledging she is being spoken to.

CUT TO:

EXT- KANSAS - CAR DAY

We see the car drive past a Welcome to Atchison Kansas sign.

CUT TO:

BILLY'S truck pulling into a driveway and turning off the ignition. BILLY steps out of the truck and goes inside.

FADE OUT:

INT. SCHOOL- DAY

FADE IN:

We see BECKY in the school hallway, at her locker.

BECKY'S POV:

A group of jocks walk up behind a geeky kid at his locker. They all scream BOO startling him; then they shove the kid into the lockers and walk away. The kid slowly recovers from the abuse.

FADE TO:

EXT. ABANDONED HOUSE- NIGHT

CLOSE ON:

BECKY walking down the street. She sees a decent looking house but it appears abandoned. BECKY goes to the front door, it is cracked open. BECKY enters.

FOLLOW: BECKY ENTERING HOUSE.

INT. ABANDONED HOUSE- NIGHT

We see BECKY pull out her cellphone for a light source. Graffiti covers the walls of the house. BOO is written largely across the walls. The house has furniture all wrapped in plastic as if it is being preserved. But is in really good shape to be abandoned.

BECKY sits on the stairs and begins playing on her phone. CLUNK. BECKY hears a noise as if something was dropped from upstairs.

FOLLOW: BECKY UPSTAIRS.

(CONTINUED)

BECKY slowly walks down the hallway while still using her phone to light the way. She approaches the master bedroom at the end of the hall.

CLOSE ON: BECKY OPENING DOOR.

BECKY slowly enters, only able to see a few feet in front of her.

BECKY'S POV:

A white figure walks into the light. It is a GHOST, the GHOST is that of a forty year old man dripping with blood from his head. The GHOST raises his arms toward BECKY. BECKY turns and RUNS SCREAMING.

CLOSE ON: FRONT DOOR SLAMMING.

CUT TO:

INT. SCHOOL CAFETERIA- DAY

BECKY is in line getting her food and tries to find an open seat. She spots the GEEKY KID and goes to his table.

BECKY
Can I sit here?

GEEKY KID
Yeah. -- Yeah of course.

BECKY
(as she sits)
I'm Becky Collins, just moved here
from L.A.

GEEKY KID
I'm Peter Johnson. Resident of
Atchison my whole life.

PETER
So why would you move to Kansas
from L.A., if you don't mind me
asking?

BECKY
(sad)
Well my parents died six months ago
-- in a house fire.

FLASHBACK:

INT. HOUSE FIRE- NIGHT

House on fire. BILLY is pulling BECKY'S hand leading her outside. BECKY is screaming.

FADE OUT:

INT. SCHOOL CAFETERIA- DAY

FADE IN:

BECKY

(coming back to reality)

It was my brother's fault, he left
to stove's pilot light on by
accident and it lit.

PETER

(caught off guard)

I'm sorry, it is hard to lose your
parents I know. Mine died a year
ago.

BECKY

So why do they BOO at you?

BECKY

(pausing)

I'm sorry. -- I shouldn't have said
anything.

PETER

(quoting murder suicide)

It's fine. We used to live in the
old abandoned house on L Street.
The cops called it a murder
suicide. But I know it wasn't, I
saw something in the house that
night. -- Something not alive.

PETER

(looking down)

You must think I'm crazy now don't
you?

BECKY

No I don't -- I actually believe
you. I was in your old house last
night. I saw it. -- Will you meet
me there tonight? We will figure
this out together.

(CONTINUED)

PETER

I -- Guess.

BECKY

Good, meet me at eleven. -- Bring a flashlight.

BECKY gets up from the table and dumps her tray.

CUT TO:

EXT. SCHOOL PARKING LOT- DAY

We see BECKY waiting for her ride. PETER is seen waiting also.

MOMENTS LATER:

A FLASHY sports car pulls up. BECKY sees the driver. The driver is a mid to late forties male; PETER has a resemblance to the man. PETER gets in the vehicle and it drives off.

CUT TO:

EXT. ABANDONED HOUSE- NIGHT

We see BECKY and PETER waiting outside the house.

BECKY

OK we get in and get out; this house is really creepy. -- No offense.

PETER

It's fine I know what you mean.

They enter the house.

FOLLOW:

INT. ABANDONED HOUSE- NIGHT

We see BECKY and PETER starting into the main room. Their flashlights give off just enough light to move around.

BECKY

I saw it... in the upstairs bedroom at the end of the hall.

(CONTINUED)

PETER

That was my parents room.

They start upstairs. Their flashlights can't be steadied from their constant shaking.

CLOSE ON: PETER OPENING THE DOOR

FOLLOW: INSIDE.

Once inside they begin looking around. They see nothing. BECKY turns to leave and the GHOST is in the corner staring. BECKY screams. PETER spins around and then screams.

BECKY and PETER run down the stairs and out the front door.

CUT TO:

EXT. ABANDONED HOUSE- NIGHT

They are outside the house catching their breath. BECKY looks down the street and sees the FLASHY sports car pull away.

FADE OUT:

INT. SCHOOL CAFETERIA- DAY

FADE IN:

BECKY and PETER are eating lunch. Both still look traumatized from the previous night.

BECKY

I'm sorry I made you go back.

PETER

It's fine. -- I really thought I was crazy for a while. Now I know that I'm not.

BECKY

(pleading)

Will you go back again? Just one last time so we can video it.

PETER

This is the last time, I swear. I am never going back there after this.

BECKY smiles and gets up from the table.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

7.

FADE OUT:

EXT. ABANDONED HOUSE- NIGHT

FADE IN:

We see BECKY waiting outside the house. PETER comes up on his bike.

BECKY
It's about time.

PETER
I'm sorry -- my Uncle gave me
twenty questions.

BECKY
It's fine let's just get inside and
film it so we can get outta here.

They start to the door.

CLOSE ON: BECKY OPENING THE DOOR.

FOLLOW: INSIDE.

INT. ABANDONED HOUSE- NIGHT

Once in the house they start looking around.

The GHOST appears blocking the front door entrance.

PETER
(yelling)
I knew it! -- You killed my
parents!

BECKY is hiding behind PETER in fear. The GHOST shakes his head at PETER'S statement. The GHOST waves his hand at PETER gesturing to follow.

FOLLOW:

BECKY and PETER cautiously follow the GHOST. The GHOST leads them to the sidewall of the stairs. The GHOSTS points to the broom closet. PETER opens the closet, it is empty. The GHOST points to the wall panel. BECKY pushes on it, it moves showing a secret room.

They all enter.

FOLLOW:

INT. ABANDONED HOUSE- SECRET ROOM- NIGHT

There is a safe and a video monitoring system.

CLOSE ON:

PETER going to the system and turning it on. Several monitors show different interior and exterior views. PETER replays the last recording of the master bedroom. It shows the night of the murder. BECKY is filming the video monitor. The recording shows PETER'S UNCLE brutally murdering his parents with a kitchen knife. PETER is in shock when he sees his UNCLE murder his parents.

The front door is heard opening O/S.

CLOSE ON: FRONT DOOR MONITOR.

It is PETER'S UNCLE.

BECKY is shown texting BILLY.

CLOSE ON: PHONE, HELP SEND POLICE PETER'S OLD ABANDONED HOUSE ON L STREET. MESSAGE SENDING.

CUT TO:

UNCLE

I know you're here Peter. --- You just couldn't leave it alone could you? After a year I really didn't expect you to start searching now.

UNCLE

That little tramp got you curious. -- I hope your little romance was worth your lives.

UNCLE sees light shining from the stairs. He goes to it.

CUT TO:

PETER and BECKY hiding in the living room, waiting to escape.

POV PETER:

His UNCLE emerges from the broom closet holding a VHS in one hand and a gun in the other.

UNCLE

I really wish you would have been smart. Now I have to kill you.

(CONTINUED)

The UNCLE searches the downstairs. PETER and BECKY slowly move to evade him.

CUT TO: WINDOW.

Sirens begin WAILING. The lights shine through the window.

CUT TO: BECKY AND PETER.

They leave the room, inching toward the front door. Unsure of where the UNCLE is.

MOMENTS LATER:

The UNCLE surprises them and grabs PETER by the hair. BECKY SCREAMS. The GHOST appears and CHARGES at the UNCLE. The UNCLE is purely terrified and drops PETER. The UNCLE begins shooting at the GHOST. The GHOST disappears.

CUT TO: POLICE KICKING IN THE FRONT DOOR.

CLOSE ON: UNCLE HOLDING THE GUN AT THE POLICE.

POLICE OFFICER (O/S)

Drop the gun NOW!

The UNCLE lowers the GUN. He takes one last look at PETER.

UNCLE

You did this.

CLOSE ON: UNCLE RAISING GUN AT POLICE.

GUNSHOTS roar as we see the UNCLE getting pumped full of lead. He then hits the ground with a THUD; still looking at PETER. The POLICE surround him, kicking the gun away before checking his pulse.

CUT TO: BECKY AND PETER.

We see them in a romantic embrace, holding each other tightly, trying to get over the ordeal that just unfolded. The GHOST comes into view.

BECKY and PETER turn to look at the GHOST.

PETER

Thank you. -- I owe you my life and
-- my parents can finally rest in
peace.

The GHOST smiles and nods. Then the GHOST disappears. BECKY and PETER look at each other.

CUT TO:

EXT. STREET- NIGHT

We see BECKY and PETER exiting the front door holding hands. BILLY comes on screen crying. BECKY runs to him and they hug.

BECKY

Thank you. -- I'm so sorry, I never blamed you for mom and dad. I have just been stupid.

BILLY

(sniffling)

It's fine. I'm just glad you're OK. I love you.

BECKY

(squeezing BILLY)

Me too.

PAN OUT: TO BIRDS EYE VIEW.

FADE OUT:

INT. SCHOOL CAFETERIA- DAY

FADE IN: PETER AND BECKY AT A LUNCH TABLE TOGETHER

We see BECKY and PETER holding hands while reading a newspaper.

The headline is -- "Johnson murder one year ago solved by only living son. Over One Million Dollars in assets located on hidden will."

BECKY

Looks like this turned out alright.

PETER

(smiling)

Yeah better than alright.

They look at each other and kiss.

FADE TO: BLACK