

GHOST O'CLOCK

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FADE IN.

INT. HOTEL ROOM -- NIGHT

An old fashioned room with a handmade quilt covering the bed.

A small amount of moonlight glows through the slightly open curtain.

IVAN (60s) sits on a chair with a camera pointed at one corner of the room. There is a hole in his trousers and his jersey is frayed.

Some technological gadgets lie on a coffee table next to him.

MILES (20s) stands against the wall, taps his foot. He holds a fancier new digital camera.

Ivan looks at an old clock on the wall. It shows ten minutes past three.

He flips on the lamp on the table.

IVAN
Dammit. Too late.

MILES
Why? Thought we had all night.

Ivan shakes his head, switches off the camera, sits back.

IVAN
Nope. We missed it. Sorry.

MILES
What do you mean? We have to get a picture.

Ivan packs some of the gadgets into a bag.

IVAN
This bugger only appears at three o' seven for a few second. That's the time he was gunned down.

MILES
We have to think of something. I'm not giving up on this.

IVAN
I wish it were as easy as turning back the clock, but this ghost has been outsmarting me for years.

Miles pauses a few moments in deep thought.

He takes out one of the gadgets from Ivan's bag, switches it on. A small screen lights up.

He holds it up, points it around the room. A few sketchy outlines appear in green.

He points it at Ivan. His outline appears red on the screen.

MILES

How much did you say for this job?

IVAN

Fifty thousand, but we had to submit to the network this morning to get on the show. We'll have to try for the next season.

Miles walks over to a suitcase lying open to one side of the room, takes out a dark top, pants and a balaclava.

MILES

You hired me because I'm a good photographer and editor, right?

IVAN

Yep, but you can only do great photography if there's something to film, unfortunately we are too late.

Miles throws the clothes at Ivan.

MILES

You're wrong. For fifty K, I'll give you a fucking ghost.

IVAN

You have to know when to give up, Miles. You know how ghost hunters are out there?

Miles fiddles on his camera, holds it for Ivan to see. The time show "3:04".

IVAN (CONT'D)

It's not going to work.

MILES

Stifle it, Ivan.

Ivan rolls his eyes.

IVAN

You are just being foolish. Please.
Stop.

MILES

From the mouth of an old fool.
Right.

Miles sets the time back on the heat sensor as well.

Ivan smiles while he watches Miles fidget with the equipment.

IVAN

The only thing a ghost can't
control is the time loop he's stuck
in. Such a pity we missed him.

Miles walks over to the old clock on the wall, and moves the
long hand back as well.

MILES

We'll see about that. Put on the
clothes and stand in the corner,
ol' man. As long as I have your
dark outline, I'll make this work.

IVAN

I'm an honest person, Miles.
They'll know if we give them
doctored footage.

Miles snickers.

MILES

You're broke, that's what you are.
But I'm gonna make us rich.

Ivan grabs his bag and his camera, limps towards the door,
his one leg disabled.

IVAN

There are more important things in
life than money.

MILES

No, there isn't.

IVAN

I won't be part of this crazy
scheme and risk my good reputation.

Miles grabs Ivan, shoves him up against the wall, holds his
arm against Ivan's throat to cut off his air.

MILES

Listen, you old fart. I need this money. You fuckin' do this, or I'll kill you.

Ivan gags, then nods in agreement.

MOMENTS LATER

Ivan, dressed in the dark clothing, the balaclava pulled over his face, slumps in the corner of the room.

Miles sets the two cameras on stands. The set time is now "3:06".

He checks his cell phone, the correct time "3:13" displays. He slides it back into his pocket.

He turns the one camera to the clock on the wall to show the time there. The second hand ticks towards the "12" and the time is now at three o' seven.

Miles turns the camera to the corner, records Ivan in the dark.

Ivan pulls out a cell phone from his coat pocket.

MILES (CONT'D)

Please just stand still.

Miles lifts the heat sensor as well, gets the red image.

After a few beats, the battery image on the heat sensor drains from full to empty.

Miles tries to switch on the equipment again, but nothing.

He notices the one camera switch off, then the other.

The lamp falls over.

Ivan lifts his mobile phone, taps the screen and the flash goes off.

Miles swings around.

The ghost figure of a man stands behind him. It reaches for Miles.

CUT TO:

INT. - HOTEL - HALLWAY -- MOMENTS LATER

Miles' screams are heard from inside the room O.S.

The door opens. Ivan slips out, pulls the balaclava from his head.

He checks his phone.

INSERT

A picture of the ghost reaching for Miles.

END INSERT

Ivan chuckles, hobbles down the hallway.

FADE OUT.