



UN-FUN

HOUSE

FADE IN:

EXT. DIRT ROAD - NIGHT

An inebriated man, RIPLEY (20), strolls along a path in a quaint, moonlit forest. He stops front and center of a small home that's right out of a Halloween fairy tale. Garden full of fragrant flowers, lawn ornaments, pumpkins 'n shit, and --

Perched neatly on a wooden post is one of those strange little '**Help Yourself**' hand-crafted mini wooden libraries.

It has a little glass door revealing a well lit display of old paperback novels. Ripley can't help but stare in wonder at the craftsmanship of this curious novelty.

Near the house' threshold, a silhouette of someone, or something, sits rocking on a little porch chair. Ripley cranes his neck over the library a bit to address the incognito homeowner.

RIPLEY
(calling out)
Are these to borrow?!

A elderly lady, LIDIA (99), calls out from the shadows.

LIDIA
Help yourself, sonny!

RIPLEY
Thank you!

He opens the door to browse the novels, most are strange titles and names of authors unheard.

He eventually settles on a book, draws it from the shelf, and is about to grab another when he notices a little sign --

INSERT SIGN: "BORROW ONLY ONE AT A TIME, PLEASE!"

He does a quick check towards the porch, notices the silhouette is no longer there, and... shrugs it off.

RIPLEY
Fuck it.

He takes another book and brings the cover into view.

INSERT COVER: A big scary clown head hovers like a puppet master above a carnival ride called "un-FUNHOUSE".

RIPLEY

Cool.

He sticks a book in each of his jacket pockets and struts off. Suddenly -- FWAP! A burst of light as we're inside the --

INT. UN-FUNHOUSE

The ride is in full operation with no door in and no door out. Seizure inducing strobe lights and sounds emanate from every nook and cranny.

RIPLEY

Hello?

He finally gets a clue of his surroundings.

RIPLEY

A funhouse?

He carefully enters a swirling vortex barrel and immediately falls on his head -- CRACK!

It spits him out the other side like a jellyfish onto a vibrating floor, wherein a series of mechanical rubber fists proceed to punch him in the groin.

RIPLEY

Okay... definitely not a funhouse!

In severe pain, he gets up and exits into a wind tunnel spewing mustard gas. A grizzled, elderly voice calls out over the ride's internal speaker system --

LIDIA (V.O.)

(through intercom)

It said borrow only one... you
little fucker!

He attempts to climb a set of twisting stairs laden with grease, but falls mercilessly as he slams his chin on every tread.

He finally gets to the top and runs amok with panic through a maze of mirrors. He slams his face into a few panes of glass before he realizes... he's trapped. Then, he sees it --

At the other side of the maze, like a beacon of salvation through the distorted glasswork, is the mini library.

He pulls the 'un-FUNHOUSE' novel from his pocket and stares at it intently. He screams towards the ceiling --

RIPLEY
Okay, I'm returning it now!

Determined, he runs full speed through a pane of glass, then another, and another. Wrecked and on the verge of being disfigured for life, he crawls with one last breath across broken glass, reaches up, and returns it to the shelf... he collapses in a bloody heap.

FADE TO BLACK.

FADE IN:

POV RIPLEY: His eyes slowly come into focus as a meek shriveled old gypsy stares down at him.

LIDIA
(fading in)
...you okay? Hey, you okay, kid?

EXT. DIRT ROAD - NIGHT

Ripley, on his back in the dirt, eventually gets to his feet and looks her over; she appears about as threatening as a vegetable.

RIPLEY
No, I... umm? I gotta go.

He turns to leave.

LIDIA
It said; borrow only one at a time!

She points to his jacket pocket. Confused, he reaches in and draws out yet another novel; "Huh, how'd that get there?"

His eyes nearly pop out of his head as he reads the cover --

INSERT COVER: Lidia hovers above a bed like a puppet master, as Ripley, buck naked, is strapped to the bed frame.

TITLE: "LIDIA'S PLAYHOUSE"

Ripley looks up as she smiles big; her teeth look like she just devoured a full grown Chia Pet. She licks her lips.

LIDIA
Come to Lidia!

SMASH TO BLACK