

# **The Haunting House of Haunted Horrors**

*Em Pehlivan and Ekin Fawcett*

# CAST AND SCENE LIST

## CAST

### *GHOST GRABBERS*

A group of open-minded (naive) freethinkers (idiots), they professionally record their encounters with the paranormal (own a camera) as they professionally delve deep into the mysteries of the supernatural (look at Wikipedia page before coming). They have countless (two, at best) experiences that they often share (annoy) others with. They are determined (very over-excited) to find real proof (any proof) of a world beyond that which science understands. They are bold (stupid), eager (stupid), and determined to not let anything stop them in their quest for answers! (very stupid)

*CHRIS:* The (co) leader of the ghost grabbers. An egotistical idiot, he is certain he is one cool video away from an Oscar

*ALF:* The (co) leader of the ghost grabber. Talks big, but is a massive coward

*DANNY:* Just excited to be involved!!!! :D

*KIM:* The obligatory team sceptic. Joined solely for the sheer smug pleasure of destroying other people's happiness through pedantry and patronisation

*CELESTE:* A psychic who couldn't predict that joining the ghost grabbers was a terrible career move

*JO:* Camera person and Chris' sibling. Only joined because their mum made them go to make sure Chris felt supported

### *TEENS*

A group of teenagers who snuck into the allegedly haunted house on a dare, and because none of them could think of anything better to do.

*VIC:* Has no idea what is going on and is loving every second of it

*ALEX:* Is more rational than their date, Vic, with the exception of their rationale behind choosing to date Vic

*SAM:* Has seen every horror film and very quickly comes to regret this over the course of the play

*JEAN:* Probably should pay more attention to things, they have a habit of wandering off and being easily... well, spoilers

### *GHOSTS*

They are more pathetic than scary, to be honest, and they have been trapped in the house for varying lengths of time. Less a cohesive group than an assortment of individuals who occasionally acknowledge each other's existence with a brief nod, if passing.

*CHARLIE:* Desperately wishing to be the mentor/mediator of the ghosts of the house, stopped by the lack of anyone caring for this

*HAROLD:* Married to Margaret in life and in death. Would do anything to make this not the case

*MARGARET:* Married to Harold in life and in death. Why is ghost divorce not a thing?

*TONY:* A very depressed ghost. It is unknown whether this is a post-life development or not

*BRODY:* Lives the simple life of scaring people and then laughing at people that they have scared

#### *PIZZA MAN*

Pizza man.

*PIZZA MAN:* Pizza man

#### *OBLIGATORY EVIL-DOERS*

*MALLORY:* Evil Mutant Vampire Witch Serial Killer [SPOILER]. Is evil.

*SHADOW:* Minion 1. Very bad at evil, but good at puns, which is probably worse

*SHADE:* Minion 2. In it for the a s t h e t i c

#### *VAMPIRES*

The house is also the chosen location for a Vampire support group. Huh, what a coincidence. Their numbers have fallen over the years due to the propagation of garlic across the food groups.

*DRACULA:* The old and grumpy leader of the 'Society for Undead Cannibal Killers', who is very annoyed about the libel that is the Bram Stoker novel, Dracula

*LAURENT DE PARIS:* Sexy vampire, did he mention he's Sexy? Hello there ;F

*GERALD:* A geriatric vampire who was turned in his old age, who loves the new-fangled technologies of the modern age

*AMOS:* A monster of little words, beloved by the entire group. Potentially a mop

#### *ASSORTED OTHERS*

The Lone Wolves. The Outsiders. The leftover characters.

*KEITH*: Creepy old man in the house. Why is he here? Does he own the place? Does he live here? ̄\\_(\\_ツ)\\_̄

*DISPOSABLE CITIZEN*: They appear and then die

*ROGUE REAPER*: 2edgy4me vengeance seeker with a dark and tragic batstor- I mean, *backstory*

# **SCENE LIST**

## *ACT 1*

1.1: In which the Monster Observers break several trespassing laws

*CHRIS, ALF, DANNY, KIM, CELESTE, JO, KEITH*

1.2: In which Teenagers make poor life choices but monsters make great ones

*VIC, ALEX, SAM, JEAN, MALLORY, SHADOW, SHADE*

1.3: In which the Ghost Hunters hunt some Ghosts

*CHRIS, ALF, DANNY, KIM, CELESTE, JO, KEITH*

1.4: In which Ghosts are real, and in desperate need of therapy

*JEAN, CHARLIE, HAROLD, MARGARET, TONY, BRODY*

1.5: In which there is chaos

*CHRIS, KIM, JO, VIC, ALEX, SAM, MALLORY, SHADOW, SHADE, ROGUE REAPER*

1.6: In which there is chaos, but different chaos

*CHRIS, ALF, DANNY, KIM, CELESTE, JO, MALLORY, SHADOW, SHADE*

1.7: In which this is definitely not any version of Batman

*VIC, ALEX, SAM, SHADE, ROGUE REAPER*

1.8: In which pizza

*PIZZA MAN*

1.9: In which there is a séance, but terrible

*CHRIS, ALF, DANNY, KIM, CELESTE, JO, JEAN, CHARLIE, HAROLD, MARGARET, TONY, BRODY,  
ROGUE REAPER*

1.10: In which Vampires are also in desperate need of therapy, but are emotionally intelligent enough to realise this

*VIC, ALEX, SAM, PIZZA MAN, SHADE, DRACULA, LAURENT, GERALD, AMOS*

1.11: In which the Ghost Hunters do not learn from their many mistakes

*CHRIS, ALF, DANNY, KIM, CELESTE, JO, TONY, BRODY, SHADOW*

1.12: In which there is a climax

*CHRIS, ALF, DANNY, KIM, CELESTE, JO, VIC, ALEX, SAM, JEAN, CHARLIE, BRODY, PIZZA MAN,  
MALLORY, SHADOW, SHADE, KEITH, ROGUE REAPER*

## ACT 2

2.1: In which the Teens and leftover Ghost Discovery Team have vigorous discussions

*CHRIS, ALF, JO, VIC, ALEX, SAM, JEAN, CHARLIE*

2.2: In which Mallory kills some Ghost Hunters and also does something bad

*DANNY, KIM, CELESTE, BRODY, MALLORY, SHADOW, SHADE, DRACULA, LAURENT, GERALD,  
AMOS, ROGUE REAPER*

2.3: In which the most tragic death occurs

*BRODY, DRACULA, LAURENT, GERALD, AMOS*

2.4: In which

*PIZZA MAN, KEITH*

2.5: In which dying does not make Rogue Reaper any less stupid

*HAROLD, MARGARET, TONY, ROGUE REAPER*

2.6: In which someone finds a dead body and then becomes one

*KIM, PIZZA MAN, MALLORY, SHADOW, SHADE, DISPOSABLE CITIZEN, KEITH*

2.7: In which the teens decide that they don't want to be dismembered

*VIC, ALEX, SAM, JEAN, CHARLIE, BRODY*

2.8: In which Vampires meet (Plucky) Teens

*DRACULA, LAURENT, GERALD, AMOS, VIC, ALEX, SAM*

2.9: In which Ghost Hunters decide to try an exorcism. Again.

*CHRIS, ALF, JO, JEAN, HAROLD, MARGARET, TONY, ROGUE REAPER*

2.10: In which the big fight happens

*CHRIS, ALF, DANNY, KIM, CELESTE, JO, VIC, ALEX, SAM, JEAN, CHARLIE, HAROLD, MARGARET,  
BRODY, MALLORY, SHADOW, SHADE, ROGUE REAPER*

2.11: In which this finally ends

*CHRIS, ALF, KIM, JO, VIC, ALEX, SAM, JEAN, CHARLIE, HAROLD, MARGARET, TONY, BRODY,  
MALLORY, SHADOW, SHADE, DRACULA, LAURENT, GERALD, AMOS, ROGUE REAPER*

# ACT 1

# **ACT 1 SCENE 1**

*In which the Monster Observers break several trespassing laws*

*Lights up on the outside of a classically haunted house, The GHOST GRABBERS enter, walking dramatically in slow motion. One of them tries to turn on a torch and accidentally shines it straight into their eyes which make it drop it. Generally, it doesn't present them as a particularly effective ghost hunting group.*

CHRIS: Welcome to the Ghost Grabbers!

ALF: The best!

CHRIS: The most amazing!

ALF: The coolest!

CHRIS: The sexiest!

ALF: The most innocent of all arson charges-!

CHRIS: We grab the ghosts, so you don't get your hands sticky. *(To Alf)* Are ghosts sticky?

ALF: Probably.

CHRIS: *(With many unneeded dramatic pauses)* This week, like every week, we are bringing the ghosts... to you. On a camera. And this week... might be... our most haunted location... ever.

ALF: *(Dramatic stage whisper)* Yeeeeeahhhh...

CHRIS: My name is Chris, and this is my co-leader Alf, and this evening, we will be your portal to the supernatural.

ALF: *(Same dramatic stage whisper)* The supernaturaaaaal...

*KIM sighs loudly and dramatically.*

ALF: We're joined by our resident skeptic Kim, who keeps scaring the ghosts away.

KIM: Can't scare away what doesn't exist.

ALF: *(Ignoring KIM)* Behind the camera is top camera-borrower Jo, who we had bring along because Chris' mum wouldn't let him borrow the camera.

JO: Because you broke the last one.

CHRIS: That was a ghost.

JO: You were trying to do a backflip.



CHRIS: It was a séance backflip.

JO: Whatever. She loves me more.

*In the background, DANNY is trying to get in front of the camera to have his introduction. He is being very enthusiastic and not very subtle.*

CHRIS: Oh. And this is Danny. Our intern.

ALF: For now.

CHRIS: *(Agreeing)* For now.

DANNY: Hi! I'm so glad I can be here! I can't wait to get inside and find some ghosts with my friend-

CELESTE: *(Dramatically and big entrance)* Did someone say... PSYCHIC!

DANNY: ...no?

*CELESTE ignores this, making a sweeping entrance into the centre of the stage.*

CELESTE: I am so, so sorry I'm late, I know that you obviously wouldn't be able to start without me here to open the doorways between the worlds and guide us through the ethereal realms... and oh *(She dramatically places her hand on her chest)* The energies of this place are so strong! I can sense a terrible tragedy here.

KIM: *(Scoffing)* Yeah, me too.

CELESTE: *(Ignoring KIM and speaking to the co-leaders instead)* Why are they here?

KIM: Shouldn't you be able to tell, seeing how psychic you are?

CHRIS: They're... *(Pauses for a second, before turning to look at KIM)* Actually, what are you doing here?

KIM: I couldn't stand by when people were being *wrong* about things that don't affect me. And at least I was on time.

CELESTE: *(Turning around and snapping at KIM)* There was traffic!

KIM: Oh... you weren't able to predict that?

*DANNY stands between the two of them, who are glaring at each other.*

DANNY: Can't we get along, we're all friends here!

CELESTE and KIM: Shut up Danny.

CHRIS: Yeah Danny, we don't have time for this. The house is supposedly most active at this time of year. Halloween.

ALF: (*Nodding sagely*) Friday the 13<sup>th</sup>.

*The GHOST GRABBERS move towards the front of the house, where there is a gate or barrier of some kind. They look at it.*

JO: It doesn't look haunted. It doesn't even look like a house.

CHRIS: It might not look like much, but this house has been the sight of a lot of ghostly activity. It's very haunted. So much haunting here.

ALF: They say if you enter... you don't come out alive. People say that there are ghosts inside.

KIM: Who says?

ALF: Duh, *People*. Weren't you listening?

KIM: And how can we know everyone who goes inside dies, if no one comes out alive to tell us?

ALF: They could have sent an email.

KIM: Or it's all nonsense.

ALF: Fax... strongly worded letter... shouting really, really loudly...

CELESTE: (*Interrupting ALF's rambling*) Anyway! Mysteries will be resolved!

KIM: (*Butting in*) Find out how fake ghosts are with...

*The spectre spelunkers gather together for a dramatic team pose. DANNY is pushed out of the way, and CHRIS and ALF take the central place.*

EVERYONE EXCEPT JO: (*With varying degrees of enthusiasm*) THE GHOST GRABBERS!

*They remain posed for long enough that it becomes awkward.*

JO: Sorry, I was filming something else.

CHRIS: (*Whining*) Joooooo, mum said you had to help.

JO: I am helping. (*She is not*)

*CHRIS glares at JO, and JO reluctantly actually turns the camera to face him.*

CHRIS: Ever since a ghost possessed me and made me fail my GCSEs, I have been committed in hunting them down and bringing them to account for their actions. I guess except maths, that one was kind of on me. My perilous journey has brought me here tonight, and with my handpicked team of experts and Danny, I will be answering the big questions. Does something

of us live on after death? Is there something more out there? Are numbers bigger than 20 just made up?

### GHOST GRABBERS THEME SONG

ALF: Let's go!

*The GHOST GRABBERS begin trying to enter the house, with CELESTE and ALF at the gate.*

CHRIS: I can *smell* the ghosts.

JO: No, that's Danny.

DANNY: Hey!

*CHRIS sniffs.*

CHRIS: Yeah.

ALF: (*Full of fake confidence*) Nothing can stop us!

CELESTE: (*Looking up from the gate*) It's locked.

ALF: (*Full of relieved confidence*) Well, we tried our best!

CHRIS: Does the key not work?

KIM: You didn't bring the key?

CHRIS: I told Alf to do it!

*They all look at ALF.*

ALF: (*Sputtering*) How was I supposed to know it was important! If it was important then Danny should have known that I'd forget and reminded me! (*ALF and the others turn to DANNY*).

DANNY: Sorry. :(

ALF: Well, now Danny's ruined everything we might as well leave.

*ALF starts moving to leave, but nobody follows him, despite his efforts. CHRIS is trying to break in in the background.*

CELESTE: Why is it even locked?

KIM: Because it's an old house and they're worried that some idiots could get hurt trying to get in.

CELESTE: Why would they think that?

*CHRIS loudly injures himself in the background.*

CHRIS: We are getting in there, or we will die trying!

ALF: Do we have to?

CHRIS: I could kick it in.

JO: No you couldn't.

CHRIS: I so could!

*ALF is backing away still, and he backs into KEITH, who has been creepily approaching from the background. ALF screams loudly and runs back to the rest of the group, who don't have the brain capacity/cowardice to be as startled. ALF is hiding behind the others.*

KEITH: *(Ominous cackling)*.

CHRIS: Hey, do you work here?

KEITH: *(Ominous cackling)*.

CHRIS: I don't speak French, sorry.

DANNY: Oh, I do!

JO: No-one cares.

*KEITH walks towards them, and ALF rotates behind the group to use them as a convenient human shield. KEITH pulls out a key and unlocks the gate. He turns round to face the GHOST GRABBERS.*

KEITH: *(Ominous cackling)*.

*A pause.*

CHRIS: Oh cool, he unlocked it. *(He gives a cheerful wave to KEITH and walks offstage through the gate)* Come on gang! Let's show those ghosts who's not a ghost!

*ALL except KEITH and JO follow CHRIS offstage. KEITH pulls out the key and locks the gate behind them, with as ominous lighting and music as can be realistically achieved. Maybe just people going 'oooh' creepily backstage if it comes to that.*

KEITH: *(Very creepily, much spooky)* Foolish children... Every full moon, children enter the house, seeking the truth...only to never return... alive. They are always mere chum for the shark that is this house, and just like a predator consumes the defenceless prey, so too shall the house feast on the bounty that enters its jowls willingly, like moth to flame. More will come, as they do every full moon. More will always come...

*KEITH leaves, cackling ominously. JO steps forward from where's she has been watching, filming him leaving.*

JO: Cool.

*JO jumps over the fence and follows the others in. Blackout (or close enough, I guess).*

## **ACT 1 SCENE 2**

*In which Teenagers make poor life choices but monsters make great ones*

*Inside the Haunted House, some dumb-ass teens are making terrible choices, like all teenagers do. The TEENS are creeping around inside of the house.*

SAM: I still want to know why you thought this was a good idea.

JEAN: Come on Sam, it's a creepy haunted house, this is going to be fun!

SAM: *(Muttering)* We have different ideas of fun...

JEAN: You love horror films. I thought you'd enjoy this sort of thing.

SAM: Watching films doesn't usually involve me having to sneak into a creepy old house in the middle of the night! Even if we *don't* get brutally murdered, the place is falling apart. Netflix has never given me tetanus.

VIC: *(Teasing)* Are you scaaaared?

ALEX: Vic, don't tease them. *(To SAM)* It'll be fine, it's just a dumb dare. It's not like ghosts are actually real.

SAM: *(Not sounding convinced)* That's what they always say at the start. Before they split up and start getting killed off one by one.

*JEAN wanders off in the background.*

VIC: Dude, it's 200 pounds split between anyone who spends the night. Who doesn't want money?

SAM: I could have just sold a kidney instead.

*Creepy sounds in the background. SAM whimpers slightly.*

ALEX: What was that?

VIC: Maybe it's the ghosts?

SAM: I want to go home.

ALEX: *(To SAM)* We're not going home. *(To VIC)* Stop scaring Sam.

VIC: *(Oblivious through sheer power of dumb-assery)* My brother said there's a monster with the body of pigeon and the head of the pigeon. Called a pigeon. Might have been a pigeon. Maybe a ghost pigeon? A Pidgeghost...?

ALEX: *(Trying to reassure a stressed SAM)* See Sam, nothing to worry about!

SAM: (*Very much un-reassured*) Nothing to worry about? Did you notice there's no signal here? If one of us does get tetanus we're going to *die*. Or I could have an allergic reaction, or get attacked by a dog, or have an allergic reaction to the dog that's attacking me while I'm dying of tetanus. Or all of that, but I'm also on fire.

ALEX: (*Patting SAM on the shoulder*) It's all ok, Sam, breathe.

SAM: Am I having an allergic reaction? Is it the tetanus?

ALEX: Try to calm down, Sam.

*There is a sudden scream from JEAN off-stage. SAM follows this up with their own, longer and louder, scream.*

ALEX: Just a cat, probably.

SAM: A CAT?!?

*ALEX looks to VIC to help with calming down a panicking SAM.*

VIC: Yeah, I mean... no-one's actually died here since, like, 2019.

SAM: (*Looks up from where their head was in their hands*) Wait, did people actually die in this house!? I'm not staying if someone actually died here.

VIC: It's a *haunted* house, what did you think we were here for?

ALEX: (*Firmly*) No one actually died in this house.

*Behind them, JEAN's body falls across the stage with a loud thump. They do not see the body, but they do hear the loud thump.*

VIC: Who's there?

SAM: DON'T ASK THAT! Who do you think it is?! WE'RE ALL GOING TO DIE!

ALEX: (*A bit uneasy now*) Jean's probably messing with us, trying to get the full amount just for them.

VIC: Should we go look for them?

SAM: (*Panicking still*) TOGETHER. WE LOOK FOR THEM TOGETHER AND DO NOT SPLIT UP! I AM NOT DYING IN THE FIRST FIVE MINUTES. (*She points an accusing finger at the other two*). AND DO NOT HAVE SEX! I'M WARNING YOU!

*They make their way off stage, somehow not noticing their friend's corpse. After they leave, enter the MONSTERS, the big bad MALLORY plus two minions, SHADOW and SHADE. They enter with cackling and over the top evil sound effects. Because they're evil.*

MALLORY: Another soul claimed for eviiiiiiiil. The pitiful fools never learn, but that does make them the easiest prey of all.

SHADE: The weak?

SHADOW: Humankind?

MALLORY: *(With derision)* Teenagers.

*All three shudder.*

MALLORY: The sheer lack of braincells of hormonal teenagers, mixed with the angst only matched by early 2000's alt rock bands, is like gasoline to my flame, it makes me more powerful than any other witch alive. I am Mallory, bringer of doom.

SHADOW: We've worked together for millennia, Mallory, we know your name.

MALLORY: I never learnt your names, and I don't intend to, Shade.

SHADOW: I'm Shadow. That's Shade.

MALLORY: I do not care, expendable minion number sixty-nine. I am no mere monster.

SHADE: You're properly scary, too!

MALLORY: I am fear itself.

SHADOW: I thought you were a vampire?

MALLORY: It is quite simple, my minion. I was a serial killer, but then I learnt the dark, evil ways of witchcraft to aid my villainy. The witches led me to the vampires, who blessed me with their powers, and under the full moon, I mutated into something more than all of those things. Making me a...

TOGETHER: An evil mutant vampire witch serial killer.

MALLORY: Obviously. And the cape just makes me look cool.

SHADE: It does. I love the cape.

*SHADOW raises their hand to ask a question.*

MALLORY: Yes?

SHADOW: Can I have a cape?

MALLORY: No.

SHADE: But you can't just look evil, you have to *be* evil.



MALLORY: And I will be so very evil.

SHADOW: But how?

MALLORY: Listen closely.

*MALLORY beckons their minions close, and they stand in a huddle, with MALLORY stage whispering to their minions.*

SHADOW: *(Normal voice)* You know we can't actually here you when you whisper like that.

MALLORY: *(Normal voice)* Fine.

MALLORY: As you know, I gain power by killing those in the house, I feed off the ghosts that live here. Fear builds power and is also just generally kind of fun. When the veil between the worlds is thinnest and evil can walk across the mortal plane-

SHADOW: -today, Tuesday-

MALLORY: We can perform the Dark Ritual of Evil to fully realise my true potential. It shall open up the door to ultimate power. All I need to do is kill enough pathetic teenagers to power my ritual, and ultimate power and evil shall be mine. And then I shall take over the world!

*SHADOW raises their hand.*

MALLORY: Yes?

SHADOW: Why are we taking over the world?

MALLORY: It just seems like the thing to do. Oh, nobody can stop us now.

*MALLORY laughs evilly.*

SHADE: You have to teach me how to do that.

MALLORY: There's no time. We have work to do here. My minions *(She beckons the minions near)* spread out across this house like a plague, see who is here, and give them the sweet, sweet taste of fear.

SHADOW: You've got it, boss!

*EXIT EVILDOERS*

## **ACT 1 SCENE 3**

*In which the Ghost Hunters hunt some Ghosts*

*The GHOST GRABBERS are setting up their home base in the haunted house. Everyone is hard at work, except KIM, who is doing a crossword.*

CHRIS: *(Noticing KIM sitting and not helping)* Hey, you have to contribute if you come.

KIM: *(Very unconvincingly and without looking up from the crossword)* It's a ghostly crossword.

CHRIS: Hmm... slightly suspicious but I'll let it slide. But I've got my eye on you.

*He turns back to whatever he was doing, with no eyes on KIM, who flips a page on the crosswords. There is a distant scream off stage from JEAN, who is being murdered at this very second. This scene happens at the same time as the previous one, isn't that neat but ultimately without point? ALF jumps at the scream, but is trying very hard to not appear like he's about to release the contents of their bowels.*

ALF: *(Laughing unconvincingly)* Just the wind, just the wind... Just the cursed, scream-y winds.

*While nervously backing away from the wind, he backs in to JO, and jumps again. He tries, very unsuccessfully, to turn his scream into a question.*

ALF: AAAAAHhhhhellllloooo... Jo. How's all the... *(He gestures vaguely)* ghost tech stuff, need any help making it... do ghosts?

JO: You don't know what any of this stuff is.

ALF: *(Clearly not paying attention)* Cool, cool. And for the audience at home, could you explain...?

JO: It detects temperature gradients, which sets off the alarm if there are cold spots.

ALF: Uh, in English please.

JO: It detects temperature gradients, which sets off the alarm if there are cold spots.

ALF: No, I mean get rid of all that science-y mumbo jumbo.

JO: If there are cold spots, the alarm will go off.

ALF: *(Still not getting this)* Uh...

JO: It go ping for ghost.

ALF: Got it.

BEAT.

ALF: (*Quietly to CHRIS*) So is that good or bad?

CHRIS: (*Patting Alf on the back supportively*) I'll explain it later, buddy.

CELESTE: Oh yes, I can feel the energies from this house. Oh! The old spirits, they call to me. I am connecting with mother earth, and she warns me, oh she warns me that this house is most certainly haunted. Very, very haunted.

KIM: Is not.

CELESTE: Is too.

KIM: Is not.

CELESTE: Is too.

KIM: Is not.

CELESTE: Is too.

KIM: Is too.

CELESTE: (*Smugly*) Thanks for agreeing.

*KIM snaps through the failed attempt of using the power of LOGIC and REASON, and instead decided to use the power of YEET and BLUNT FORCE TRAUMA, grabbing the radio off JO and throwing it at CELESTE.*

KIM: PREDICT *THIS!*

*The radio misses CELESTE very badly.*

CHRIS: THAT'S THE...! (*Shouting tapering off in defeat as he gestures pointlessly at the ex-radio*) ...the radio.

ALF: (*Turning to DANNY instantly*) DANNY, WHY WOULD YOU LET THEM DO THAT?

DANNY: I'm sorry D:

*They all round on DANNY.*

KIM: (*Shaking their head in disappointment*) How *could* you?

JO: We're all very let down.

CHRIS: It's not the end of the world. We'll just have to split up to cover more ground.

*There are sounds of agreement all around.*

ALF: Maybe my group should stay here, ghosts are attracted to well-lit rooms with lockable doors. You know how people are always comparing ghosts to moths, because they like lights... and home security.

JO: You clearly made that up.

ALF: You made... *(Clearly can't think of a comeback, but is in too deep to stop now)* ...it ...up.

CHRIS: Babsy not having Danny!

*ALF makes a disappointed sound.*

ALF: Fine, but you have to be around Danny next time.

*They split up, as splitting up is the best thing to do in a horror situation. Ghost Grabbers1 that way (CHRIS, KIM, JO), Ghost Grabbers2 (ALF, DANNY, CELESTE) the other way. This will end very well. Not. Spoilers.*

## **ACT 1 SCENE 4**

*In which Ghosts are real, and in desperate need of therapy*

*JEAN is lying on the ground. The GHOSTS stand around JEAN, who is also now a GHOST and not a TEEN, as is the natural progression of life. One of the GHOSTS, TONY is lying on the floor, but the other GHOSTS are standing around JEAN's not-body, in a way that is most easily described as 'creepy' or 'not something you want to wake up to after being murdered'.*

CHARLIE: Now, don't panic.

*JEAN screams very loudly and jumps to their feet, panicking.*

CHARLIE: *(Mildly annoyed at this)* Ok, that is specifically what I asked you not to do.

JEAN: Stay back or I'll kill you!

TONY: *(Miserably into the floor)* If only...

JEAN: Who are you?! What happened?! Where am I?!

TONY: *(Unmoving)* Don't care. Don't care. The floor.

*JEAN is not reassured by any of this, and goes to run away. They barely make it a few steps before BRODY jumps out at them covered in a sheet as the most stereotypical ghost costume ever created.*

BRODY: Boo!

JEAN: Ah!

*JEAN immediately turns round to run the other way, but sees the other GHOSTS they were originally running from. They turn round and see BRODY removing the sheet from over their head.*

BRODY: Ha! It's such a classic.

CHARLIE: Brody, it's not nice to scare off the new ones.

BRODY: You never let us have any fun, Charlie.

TONY: *(Still on the floor)* I haven't had fun since I was 3. God, that was a bad year.

HAROLD: You know nothing about bad years, do you know how many I spent married to *her*? *(He points at MARGARET, his wife).*

MARGARET: 43 years. It would have been quicker to have killed you and taken the life imprisonment for it.

HAROLD: Oh, it was a life imprisonment. The only thing about our marriage that made me happy was how miserable it made you.

JEAN: *(Freaking out quite loudly)* WHAT IS HAPPENING?! *(None of the other GHOSTS respond to this, a bit startled by the interruption. JEAN looks down and sees a bloodstain, from their murdering. This does not help. JEAN points at the bloodstain)* AAAH!

CHARLIE: Look, we didn't do that.

*JEAN is not really paying attention to the other GHOSTS at this time.*

JEAN: AAAH!

*JEAN looks up from screaming at their bloodstain to see the other GHOSTS, and more importantly, the wounds that some of them have that are generally considered 'non-compatible with life'. JEAN points at them and screams again. The GHOSTS all wince at the sound.*

MARGARET: Yes, we're dead, please get over it.

JEAN: *(With rising existential horror)* Sam was right, ghosts are real. *(More sudden dawning horror)* Maybe hot dogs are a sandwich.

CHARLIE: Sorry about all this, we didn't mean to scare you.

*BRODY raises their hand.*

BRODY: I did.

CHARLIE: -Excuse them, but there's not much to do when you're dead, it can get quite boring. But it's lovely to meet you! I'm Charlie!

*He extends a hand, which JEAN does not shake, still mostly in shock. CHARLIE keeps the hand extended outwards for a few seconds, before shaking it with their own hand.*

CHARLIE: We all died in this house, I got stuck in that chimney *(Points)*. These are Tony and Brody *(CHARLIE gestures at them respectively)*.

BRODY: *(Very cheerfully)* I got impaled by a vacuum cleaner!

MARGARET: And I'm Margaret Whoever. *(Sends a dark look to HAROLD, her husband)* Unfortunately.

HAROLD: Oh, give it a rest. I don't want to be married to you either.

MARGARET: *(Rounding on her husband)* Why do you always have to try to make a scene in front of the new people, Harold, can't you try to be polite for once in your life or death!

HAROLD: *(Very sarcastic)* Oh, I wonder why I might find it hard to be polite.

MARGARET: Oh, so I stabbed you to death! Is that a crime now?!

HAROLD: Yes! Yes it is!

TONY: You both killed each other. Please, you make my death a living hell.

CHARLIE: That's Harold, and that's Margaret. They're very lovely people normally, they just sometimes can be a bit (*Struggles to think of a nice way to put it*) ...on edge about their marriage. But I'm sure they love each other really.

*JEAN looks at HAROLD and MARGARET, who very much are not looking like they love each other really, as they make hand gestures symbolising death to each other.*

JEAN: So... I'm dead too? (*Looks around*) This is a weird looking afterlife.

CHARLIE: Well, we don't think it's really the afterlife, like the proper one. We're sort of trapped here in this house. It's a fascinating story, I always try to tell it to the new ones, but there's this great evil in the house.

*CHARLIE pauses.*

JEAN: ...And?

CHARLIE: Wow, I just mean... no-one's ever let me get this far in the story before, and I'd just like to say thank you for giving me the chance.

*TONY groans on the floor.*

BRODY: No-one cares, Charlie, everything's cool.

JEAN: Wait. Is that what killed me? The 'great evil'?

CHARLIE: More like 'who', but yes! Her name is Mallory. She uses the ghosts trapped here to make herself more powerful. Every once in a while, she murders a couple of people to replace the ones she's used up. That's probably why she killed you. She killed Tony too.

*CHARLIE points to TONY, who doesn't respond to this.*

JEAN: But... my friends are here too. Aren't they in danger as well?

CHARLIE: (*Still cheerful*) Oh yes!

*MARGARET nudges CHARLIE, who tries to change his expression into one of support.*

CHARLIE: I mean... Oh. Yes. (*Shakes head sadly*).

JEAN: We have to try and help them then, can't we fight this Mallory? (*Looking down at Tony*) I mean, she killed you.

TONY: I'm okay with that.

HAROLD: We can't stop her.

JEAN: Can't you just stab her?

TONY: There's no point.

CHARLIE: She's not just a human, or even just a vampire. She's an Evil Mutant Vampire Witch Serial Killer. She's just too powerful. That many different things at once... you'd have to try to kill each bit on its own, and we're just ghosts.

TONY: Look in these sorts of situations, all you can do is give up and realise you will never truly be happy again.

*CHARLIE notices that this has upset JEAN a bit.*

CHARLIE: Oh, but it's not that bad being a ghost! And we're pretty good at hiding from Mallory now!

JEAN: *(Trying to be optimistic)* Right, I guess being dead isn't too bad. *(CHARLIE nods encouragingly)*. I'll never have to work out how taxes and pensions work, I guess, or worry about university... because I'll never be able to go. I'm never going to get a girlfriend.

CHARLIE: Exactly!

*JEAN starts to cry, to CHARLIE's horror.*

CHARLIE: Oh no! Why do they always...

*CHARLIE attempts to comfort JEAN by way of awkward patting.*

BRODY: Because you keep bumming them out, dude.

MARGARET: None of that was even remotely happy.

CHARLIE: Wasn't it?

HAROLD: No.

CHARLIE: Oh.

BRODY: It's not as bad as it could be, at least we're just stuck in this house. One of my cousins died at a festival, and now they're stuck haunting a portaloos for all eternity. So many people pooping through him. *(He shakes his head sadly)* Rest in peace, dude. *(He laughs)* Heh. Rest in feces.

SONG ABOUT HOW SHIT IT IS BEING A GHOST, BUT IT COULD BE WORSE AND SCARING PEOPLE IS FUN, AND THEN JEAN TRIES TO RECRUIT TO FIGHT MALLORY

JEAN: Ok, so let's go and save my friends, and the world! The world is in danger right? I'm still not 100% on that part.

HAROLD: It's in danger.



JEAN: Then let's go save the world!

*EXIT all GHOSTS.*

## **ACT 1 SCENE 5**

*In which there is chaos*

*GHOST GRABBERS-1 (CHRIS, KIM, and JO) are wandering around the haunted house at the edge of the stage. CHRIS keeps jumping around like an action hero, while KIM and JO just look very, very bored by everything.*

JO: So what's the plan, great leader? Make the most boring video ever?

CHRIS: I don't have ideas, I'm the eye candy.

*KIM points towards the centre of the stage.*

KIM: Hey, look, we haven't been in that room before.

CHRIS: I swear it looks familiar.

*GHOST GRABBERS-1 fully enters onto the stage. In the background, ROGUE REAPER is lurking in the shadows, very obviously. Luckily, the GHOST GRABBERS are all very dumb, so none of them notice this. He watches them.*

CHRIS: Ooh, maybe it wasn't here before, and it was a secret passage!

KIM: There are no secret passages in life, Chris.

CHRIS: *(Still excited)* Maybe it has a super cool hidden door – *(Excitedly to JO)* Do you think it has a super cool hidden door?

JO: No.

*The GHOST GRABBERS-1 search around the room. The TEENS enter onto the side of stage the GHOST GRABBERS-1 just came from. They look very on edge.*

ALEX: *(Shouting)* Hello!?! Is anybody there?

SAM: I told you not to say that!

ALEX: Why not?

SAM: If there is someone there, then why would they answer you? What sort of response do you actually expect? All you're doing is giving them the chance to find you and attack you, and so much more importantly, *me*.

VIC: Hey look, a door.

*The TEENS enter the centre stage too, and ROGUE REAPER hides behind some obvious prop. Maybe he puts a lampshade on his head or something. Go wild. The TEENS and GHOST*

*GRABBERS-1 creep around the stage, not noticing each other, before backing into each other and screaming.*

ALL: AH!

CHRIS: Ghosts!

ALEX: What? Why do you think we're- never mind, who are you?

*The GHOST GRABBERS-1 are not paying the TEENS any attention.*

CHRIS: Jo, Kim, we've grabbed some ghosts!

*CHRIS reaches forwards to try and grab VIC who evades him with ease.*

VIC: Hey!

*CHRIS turns to the camera to begin his 'presenter' spiel.*

CHRIS: This is amazing! We, the Ghost Grabbers, have found ourselves a fully, real ghost here in this house. Several ghosts. *(Stops to try and count)* Like 5 ghosts. Minimum.

KIM: Oh please, as if they're ghosts.

ALEX: Thank you, someone sensible.

KIM: I mean, they're so obviously computer generated. There must be a projector hidden behind this wall. You can tell it's fake because of how they look.

CHRIS: Oh come on, they're definitely ghosts.

SAM: Can you even hear us? Oh god, maybe I am a ghost.

ALEX: *(To SAM)* You're not a ghost. *(To CHRIS)* We're not ghosts. I don't know what you people's deal is, but we need help,

CHRIS: They must be stuck here, not being able to move on without our help.

VIC: We're stuck here because the front door was locked.

CHRIS: Jo, film us! *(Stands in front of the bemused TEENS with JO filming)* I hope all our viewers can see what I'm seeing here, the lifeless eyes, the terrible waxy skin, the horribly old-fashioned clothes.

VIC: *(Deeply offended)* They're retro, it's cool.

CHRIS: I am now communing with the spirits. Spirits... I commune with theeee...

*All the TEENS have moved firmly into frustration, after passing through confusion and disbelief. CHRIS continues pointing at the TEENS who are not responsive to his 'communing'.*

CHRIS: (*Hurt*) The spirits are mean... mean spirits.

KIM: Suuuuuure you're spirits. I sooo believe that. Not.

ALEX: No we're not spirits, that's what we keep saying! Our friend might be hurt- look, do you have a phone?

JO: (*Who is texting*) No.

VIC: But you're holding one right now.

JO: No I'm not.

*BEAT.*

VIC: Yes you are!

JO: Prove it.

ALEX: It doesn't matter, there's no signal, remember?

SAM: (*Mildly hysterical*) Of course not! And now we're stuck in a found footage horror film. Oh no, the idiots always die first. We've got to get away from these morons if we want to survive.

CHRIS: Was that an insult (*Turns to KIM*)- Kim was that an insult?

ALEX: (*In disbelief*) Seriously? (*As if explaining to the world's dumbest 5 year old*) We need to leave, there are bad things here, do you understand that?

KIM: Like your acting, ha!

*KIM raises hand to high five. Behind them, a secret door creaks open. They all jump.*

CHRIS: Secret door, I knew it! High five!

*CHRIS holds his hand up for a high five, and no-one give him one. KIM also is not given a high five. The two of them both high five themselves. SAM grabs ALEX and VIC as they walk towards the secret door.*

SAM: Are you mad? It's probably hidden for a reason, you know! Sharks, rabid dogs, whatever that pigeon-thingy Vic kept going on about was.

VIC: It's called a pige-ghost, and it's real.

CHRIS: Ha! Danger is my middle name!

*GHOST GRABBERS-1 begin to exit stage through the secret door. JO turns around to the TEENS just as they are leaving.*

JO: It's Clive.

CHRIS: *(Just offstage)* Jooooooooo!

SAM: Please could someone close the creepy door.

*VIC closes it, and as they turn around away from it, it slowly opens itself again. Spooky. This causes SAM panic.*

ALEX: Uh... maybe it was the wind?

SAM: It wasn't the wind, it's never the wind! It's not going to open on its own unless someone opened it, probably to try and kill us all!

*MALLORY appears behind them, minions being creepy. RROGUE REAPER appears from his hiding place and grabs the TEENS before they can be attacked by the villains.*

ROGUE REAPER: *(To the TEENS)* Come with me if you want to live, and also look really cool and edgy.

SAM: The first part is all I need!

*ROGUE REAPER and the TEENS runs off through the door they came through originally.*

MALLORY: Curses! Him again!

SHADE: Was that... *him*?

MALLORY: He's back. So edgy, so gritty, so Byronic.

SHADOW: He's bionic?

SHADE: Shut up. It's an image thing and it's cool.

MALLORY: That man, he is always one step behind me, foiling my plans, trying to kill me. I thought when we retreated back to this house we'd be safe. But he has found us now.

SHADE: What should we do, oh evil one?

MALLORY: The plan continues. We capture the teenagers and other assorted fools for the ritual tonight. But with... *him*... after me, we shall need more help. You, Shade, go find these children and take them to my old kin for safekeeping.

SHADOW: More like *unsafekeeping*.

SHADOW: Your old kin, but will they work with you?

MALLORY: I will offer to share the world with them for their help, I think you'll find them quite the... bloodsuckers.

SHADE: The count is coming to the house tonight. I'll find their... blood brotherhood.

SHADOW: This really raises... the stakes.

MALLORY: Yes, they're vampires, we get it. Now go forth and do... eeeeeevil.

*MALLORY exits, with SHADOW and SHADE going off in separate directions. Before they leave, SHADE sees a rubbish bin, looks around, and then kicks it over, cackling evilly.*

## **ACT 1 SCENE 6**

*In which there is chaos, but different chaos*

*Other GHOST-GRABBERS are here. That is ALF, CELESTE, and DANNY. They are wandering around relatively aimlessly.*

ALF: ...And amazing and sexy, and... I forgot where I was going with this.

DANNY: Wow! You're so cool!

ALF: I know.

*ALF picks up a sign which is on the stage. He turns it around to the audience, which reveals it has a very threatening and spooky warning written on it.*

ALF: *(Completely unconcerned)* Huh. Wonder what that's supposed to mean.

CELESTE: Maybe it's a message from the other side... spirits are you there? *(She waits for a few seconds with no response)*. Give me a few seconds. Spirits? Spirits? Can you hear me now? *(Moving around like trying to get phone signal)*.

DANNY: Hang on... is it written in blood?

ALF: That's gross, Danny.

DANNY: Um, maybe we should try and be careful, there could be something dangerous here.

ALF: Don't be such a coward, there's absolutely nothing dangerous here.

*ALF is looking in the background, and suddenly exclaims in excitement having found something interesting.*

ALF: Oh look, a gun!

*ALF has acquired a gun. No one is in any way concerned by this.*

CELESTE: Hey, what's the address of this place?

DANNY: Ooh, are you researching the history of this house?

CELESTE: No. I'm ordering pizza. Communing with the spirit world is hungry work sometimes.

ALF: Ghosts probably love pizza. In fact, maybe we should go get it now. We could wait outside the house for it. Or in the restaurant itself. Just a suggestion.

DANNY: Alf! Can I interview you? For the show?

ALF: Of course.

DANNY: So Alf, how long have you been a professional ghost hunting person?

ALF: *(Very proudly)* 22 years.

DANNY: Ooh, what's the scariest place you've ever been to?

ALF: Slough. Or maybe when I got locked in Ikea overnight when I was 5. *(Pause)* No, it's Slough.

DANNY: And have you ever seen something like this before?

ALF: *(Defensive)* Uh yeah, I've seen lots of scary stuff before, what are you insinuating?

*A doorbell rings.*

CELESTE: Ooh! The pizza is here! That's quick.

*CELESTE goes and opens the door. It is not pizza. It is MALLORY. There is a pause while they all stare at each other. MALLORY does some evil expression. All of the GHOST GRABBERS-2 scream in unison. Thus begins the Scooby doo chase.*

#### SCOOBY DOO-ESQUE CHASE SONG

*In the Scooby doo chase, MALLORY is joined by the minions SHADOW and SHADE, GRABBERS-1 joins GHOST GRABBERS-2 in the sequence, as well as someone wearing a sheet over their head as the most stereotypical ghost ever. where much running around and chasing occurs. Good luck, choreographers.*



## **ACT 1 SCENE 7**

*In which this is definitely not any version of Batman*

*Out of breath arrival of the TEENS and ROGUE REAPER. ROGUE REAPER poses in a brooding way as the TEENS catch their breath. SAM panics. (This is something you should probably get used to).*

ALEX: Who the hell were those people?

SAM: And who the hell are you?

ROGUE REAPER: My name doesn't matter, I gave it up a long time ago.

VIC: You can do that?

ROGUE REAPER: But you can call me... *(overly long dramatic pause, the TEENS lean in towards him)* the Rogue Reaper.

VIC: Your parents named you Rogue Reaper? Did they hate you?

ROGUE REAPER: My parents are dead.

VIC: Did you kill them for naming you Rogue Reaper?

ROGUE REAPER: Mallory is the reason for their deaths.

ALEX: Mallory? Who's Mallory? And what the hell is going on in this place?

ROGUE REAPER: The freakish chimera of a Mutant, a Vampire, a Witch, and all with the mind of a Serial Killer. I followed her here, as I always have, and always will. She plans a dark ritual tonight, to gain ultimate power and take over the world, starting from this dank and dreary place.

ALEX: And you're here to try and stop all this happening?

ROGUE REAPER: Why else would I be here at this dark hour in a place only a foolhardy man should be.

VIC: Because you're a fool?

ROGUE REAPER: *(After a pause)* For legal reasons I can't disagree with that.

ALEX: Can we get back to the monsters and so on.

ROGUE REAPER: *(Looking off into the distance)* Ever since I was young, I never feared the dark; it was my home. My parents were murdered due to the evil of Mallory, and that is something I can never forgive or forget. The dark raised me, made me who I am today. The only bed I knew was gravel and broken bottles. Mealtimes were more of an unexpected event

instead of a regularity. I killed my first mob boss when I was 9. While other kids were playing in the park, I was training on the streets.

VIC: Er, ok, but what does that have to do with anyth-

ROGUE REAPER: *(Still monologue-ing)* It was during an eclipse that I first swore to fight against the powers of evil. An eclipse in the dead of night. The night, like me. And dead, like my parents are. Who are dead.

*SAM is trying to look where ROGUE REAPER is staring off into the distance, confused as to what exactly he is supposed to be staring at.*

ALEX: So how do we get out?

ROGUE REAPER: More important question... is how did we get in?

SAM: Oh my god we're going to die.

VIC: That doesn't even make sense.

ALEX: Hey Rogue Reaper, or whatever your name is, we don't have time for this. There are actual ghosts in this house.

ROGUE REAPER: Like the ghosts... in my past.

VIC: Are you ok, dude?

ROGUE REAPER: I have no time to be ok.

ALEX: Okay, if you're not going to help us at all here...

ROGUE REAPER: I have already helped you, I have saved your lives. Mallory uses the souls of the dead for power, why do you think she is after you?

VIC: I just assumed I wasn't paying attention when it was explained.

ROGUE REAPER: Your deaths will power the opening of a door. A door that cannot be closed again. An evil, dark doorstopper. Mallory has already claimed the life of your friend.

ALEX: You mean... Jean? Jean's dead.

ROGUE REAPER: Oh yeah.

*SAM whimpers to herself.*

VIC: Rest in peace Jean, you lived a good lif... you lived a long... you lived a life.

ALEX: Why didn't you save her?

ROGUE REAPER: I tried! My God did I try. But I arrived too late to stop it. But do not fear, I will protect you from evil and save the day. Have you seen anything strange and unusual going on recently?

VIC: I saw a pigeon stuck in a vending machine pooping into the change dispenser on Tuesday.

ROGUE REAPER: Interesting...

VIC: I know, right?

SAM: We saw some people filming in the house who kept calling us ghosts, just before we got attacked by those evil people.

ROGUE REAPER: Ghost hunters, evil, got it.

ALEX: I don't think you do-

ROGUE REAPER: *(Interrupting ALEX)* I definitely do.

*SHADE appears creeping onto the stage. ROGUE REAPER spots them and rotates around the TEENS to use them as a humans shield.*

ROGUE REAPER: Anyway, got to go.

VIC: Go where?

*The lights flickers ominously, and SAM grabs onto her friends in fear. While the lights flicker, ROGUE REAPER has run pretty much offstage, and SHADE has run right in front of the TEENS.*

SHADE: Hello.

*SHADE uses magic to freeze the TEENS. But to be honest, SAM was already probably frozen in fear.*

SAM: Help us!

ROGUE REAPER: Sorry, I have places to be, though I will never forget your noble sacrifice. Farewell, noble sacrifice, Farewell.

*ROGUE REAPER runs off stage.*

VIC: Seriously?

SAM: We'll come with you, just don't hurt us, okay?

SHADE: I don't think you get to decide that, do you?

*BLACKOUT.*

## **ACT 1 SCENE 8**

*In which pizza*

*Lights open on the same scene as previous, but without SHADE or TEENS.*

PIZZA MAN: *(Offstage)* Hello?

*PIZZA MAN wanders on stage.*

PIZZA MAN: Did somebody order a pizza? Hello? Hello?

*The PIZZA MAN continues to wander off the stage, trying to find the person who ordered the pizza. BLACKOUT.*

## **ACT 1 SCENE 9**

*In which there is a séance, but terrible*

*The GHOST GRABBERS have regrouped, but they're still dumb, so the odds are very much against them here. They're almost certainly dumber as a group, now I think about it. The GHOSTS approach the GHOST GRABBERS.*

HAROLD: Ooh, these look like reasonable fellows.

MARGARET: So did you when I married you.

CHRIS: I have an idea!

JO: Mum sold your nunchucks.

CHRIS: Whaaat????!!!

CELESTE: Ooh, we should have a séance!

ALF: Should we though?

DANNY: We can use this Ouija board to communicate! I found it in the tunnels when we were running around.

CELESTE: Huh, a note saying it is reasonably priced and available in all good retailers.

CHRIS: Séances are dangerous and tricky, but luckily, we're all experts. Danny, get the WikiHow article open.

DANNY: On it!

CELESTE: I will begin by loosening up the waves to our messages with some interpretive dance.

KIM: No you won't. Chris?

CHRIS: Hey spirits, it's me, ya boi. Is anyone there?

*Slowly begins to move. CELESTE reads off the response.*

CELESTE: N. O. *(She looks up and speaks in a dramatic whisper)* No.

CHRIS: Danny, what does wikihow say to do?

*DANNY is rapidly scrolling through the wikihow article as fast as he can, as CHRIS and ALF glare at them.*

CHRIS: Danny!

DANNY: I'm trying!

ALF: Scroll faster!

JEAN: Okay, this is our chance, we can tell them to get help!

*The GHOSTS move in from the other side of the stage to try to communicate the plot, one excruciating letter at a time.*

BRODY: So I just move the triangle?

CELESTE: Ok, let's try again. Is there anyone here with us tonight?

CHARLIE: YES!

*BRODY moves the triangle.*

CELESTE: Y-E-S. Yes! The spirits are with us tonight!

ALF: *(Pulling out their gun)* WHERE?

KIM: WHERE DID YOU GET THAT GUN?!

ALF: From my pocket!

KIM: BEFORE THAT!

ALF: I don't know!

CHRIS: Could someone please take the gun off Alf?

*The GHOST GRABBERS try to remove the gun from ALF, allowing the GHOSTS some time to discuss their options.*

MARGARET: Charlie, is this a good idea? They seem a bit...

CHARLIE: No, it's all good! Trust me!

MARGARET: Ok, if you're sure.

JEAN: We should probably start with telling them who we are.

CHARLIE: Right. Ok, so... 'Hello there, very sorry to bother you, but we're all ghosts trapped in this house, and if it isn't too much of a hardship for you, we'd like your help in saving the world. Yours sincerely, the ghosts.

BRODY: How do you spell sincerely?

HAROLD: It's a bit long, isn't it?

CHARLIE: What? No it isn't.

JEAN: Just write, 'HELP'.

BRODY: Coolio.

*BRODY begins to move the triangle. CELESTE notices and calls the GHOST GRABBERS back to attention.*

CELESTE: Guys!

KIM: This is all fake. You're blowing on it.

CELESTE and BRODY: I'm not.

CELESTE: H-E-L-P. Help.

TONY: This is taking aaaaaggggges.

CHARLIE: As long as there are no interruptions, we should be fine.

*An interruption appears in the distance in the form of ROGUE REAPER dramatically entering the stage to ruin everything. He spots the GHOST GRABBERS huddled around the reasonably priced Ouija board and points a dramatic finger. DANNY is the first to notice them.*

DANNY: Hey, who are you-?

*ROGUE REAPER knocks DANNY out, sending him flying offstage.*

ROGUE REAPER: Evil cannot stand before me, nor sit down. Booyah!

KIM: Danny?

*ROGUE REAPER walks out of the shadows.*

KIM: *(Realising this is Not Danny)* Not Danny! Not Danny!

CHRIS: Quick! Into the defensive chevron!

*ROGUE REAPER begins to fight the GHOST GRABBERS, while the GHOSTS watch on in bemusement.*

ROGUE REAPER: I am of the night! Like the night my parents died because of you, Mallory!

JO: Who the hell is Mallory?

CELESTE: I'll just stay here by the Ouija board, ok? *(Nobody responds)* Ok.

CHARLIE: This is... not good?

JEAN: Brody, what are you spelling out.

CELESTE: H-A-H-A. 'Haha'.

BRODY: Haha!

*MARGARET takes the triangle off BRODY.*

MARGARET: Give that here!

*ROGUE REAPER has defeated the GHOST GRABBERS. He has also taken ALF's GUN off him.*

ROGUE REAPER: This gun now belongs to the side of good. And bad-ass. Exit Rogue Reaper.

*EXIT ROGUE REAPER.*

HAROLD: This has been fun, but...

MARGARET: We're going to leave too.

CHARLIE: No! But we're making so much progress!

*They look at the pile of GHOST GRABBERS.*

HAROLD: This was a terrible plan, but good luck with it.

CHARLIE: Wait, come back!

*EXIT MARGARET and HAROLD.*

CHARLIE: Brody, Tony, stay here with this lot to make sure they don't do anything else stupid. Jean, we can... we can still save the world together, right?

JEAN: Right! We can find my friends, they'll help us.

CHARLIE: Ok, ok, ok, everything is good!

*EXIT CHARLIE and JEAN.*

TONY: Can I lie on the floor too?

*TONY lies on the floor beside the GHOST GRABBERS. JO has stood up and is filming the GHOST GRABBERS+TONY pile.*

CHRIS: Hey! Don't film this stuff!

JO: Nah. I think I will.

CHRIS: I hate you.



*BLACKOUT.*

## **ACT 1 SCENE 10**

*In which Vampires are also in desperate need of therapy, but are emotionally intelligent enough to realise this*

*The VAMPIRES (DRACULA, LAURENT, GERALD, and AMOS) are sitting in a circle of chairs. SHADE enters, shepherding the captured teens. The TEENS are placed in a corner.*

SHADE: God, every time I see you vampires you're always huddled in some weird cave or derelict corridor. I admire out there interior design as much as the next person but couldn't you guys... I don't know, make more of an effort? At least other vampires go for gothic.

DRACULA: Look, we only agreed to keep the kids here, not to get extra added interior design discussion.

SHADE: The advice comes free. Anyway, don't forget to report back to Mallory once you've done...whatever it is you vampires do every month. Do a little Sucky-Sucky.

DRACULA: Please don't say it like that.

*EXIT SHADE. The TEENS are in various stages of panic.*

SAM: I'm fine. I'm very, very fine.

ALEX: Tell me that when you're not having a panic attack in my lap.

SAM: Oh. Sorry. Should I go somewhere else?

VIC: *(To the vampires)* Who the hell are you guys?

DRACULA: Oh wow, I can't believe we haven't introduced ourselves to you! Where are our manners?

LAURENT: We, my little friends, are what go "bump" in the night. The suave soldiers of the DARKNESS, the romantic lords of evil, the rulers of all that is cold and frightening.

GERRARD: Also I'm a lifetime member of Homebase.

*SAM faints into ALEX's arms.*

VIC: Sam? Oh yeah, she's gone.

DRACULA: Please could the snack-rifices stay quiet until Mallory collects them, we have a session to run?

ALEX: A session?

DRACULA: Shh! (*Turns back to the other vampires*) Thank you all for coming here today. We've all been told by Mallory that we shall be joining her in the upcoming plans for world domination, but that doesn't mean we don't have time for a monthly meeting! Right guys?

LAURENT: Can we make this quick? I have a date at the art museum and I'm, you know (*flips hair*) a special kind of tour guide.

GERALD: Yeah I remember. Last time we went you kept on pointing out old paintings and talking about how you knew the painters intimately.

DRACULA: Oh! Do shut up! You only remember the names of those painters because of the turtles in the 'TMNT' show!

LAURENT: As a person who was there to see those painters the turtles are remarkably accurate in terms of general image.

ALEX: Oh my god, are you guys...? Vampires?

VIC: Cool!

ALEX: No it isn't!

DRACULA: Oh, how could I be so discourteous! I'm Dracula, I was a vampire before it was cool. There's Laurent, also vampire, but Italian. And Gerald. He kind of just sits there and complains about his back or converting PDF's. And then there is Amos, he never stops talking once you get him started. Welcome to SUCK!

VIC: Suck?

DRACULA: Yes, SUCK. Supporting Undead Cannibal Killers.

GERALD: You know we suck blood, we don't eat bodies.

LAURENT: And wouldn't we have to be humans to be cannibals anyway?

DRACULA: Look, I just wanted it to spell suck. I tried really hard, okay? Really, really hard.

GERALD: It's a nice name, well done.

DRACULA: Thanks guys. It took me two centuries.

*AMOS is A MOP.*

GERALD: Back in my day we only got to play with sticks and old landmines. You kids with your turtles named after renaissance painters and air pods have it way better.

*AMOS is A MOP.*

DRACULA: Amos is right. You're all bickering for too long. I wanted us to start with a sharing session today. Amos, would you like to go first?

LAURENT: Oh god Amos, let someone else speak.

GERRALD: Oh! Well uh... today I had an exciting game of bridge!

DRACULA: Gerald, we all love you, but besides your bridge games, how amazed you are by smartphones, and that one tomato plant in your garden patch that doesn't grow well, you don't talk about anything else. Don't you, you know, do anything else? Anything exciting or different?

LAURENT: Don't you have a muse?

DRACULA: God, I never understood your obsession with those...wet, blood filled sacks.  
*Humans...*

LAURENT: You always make things sound so unsexy Dracky. Is that why you took a vow of chastity and went to a cave?

DRACULA: First of All! I needed to focus on my gothic poems and secondly, I did not take a vow of chastity.

LAURENT: It might be better if you just said you did. Moi? I could never do such a thing. It'd be a disservice to all humanity and vampire-ity. *(Checks his wrist)* Well, hate to dash but I don't want to be late for the date so, enjoy talking about bridge. See ya, Dracky.

DRACULA: I told you not to call me that!

*The PIZZA MAN wanders into the stage, looking confused, which is fair enough.*

PIZZA MAN: Uh, did someone order a delivery?

LAURENT: Ah! A faithful pizza servant!

GERALD: They're called deliveroo drivers.

LAURENT: It translates different in French. Trust me, I'm Italian.

DRACULA: We know, you never shut up about it.

LAURENT: Grumpy are we? You never got over that fanboy Bram Stokers stories did you?

DRACULA: I just think he misrepresented my personality. I'm an avid blood donor. You didn't see that in the books did you?

GERALD: Taking blood from someone else for yourself seems like the antithesis of blood donation.

DRACULA: It's donating but the other way around. Try not confusing yourself in technicalities old man.

GERALD: That's not donation old chum! That's stealing, and stealing...is a crime.

PIZZA MAN: Can someone pay me?

LAURENT: (*Gives him an old gold coin*) There you go my young ami.

PIZZA MAN: I can't take this.

LAURENT: Sure you can! That's the greatest currency in the world. Accept it.

PIZZA MAN: Also, one garlic bread.

*The PIZZA MAN hands the garlic bread to LAURENT, who drops it on the floor. All of the VAMPIRES gasp in horror.*

DRACULA: Begone! And take your foul-smelling death-bread with you!

*The PIZZA MAN leaves, with the VAMPIRES all hissing at him, still holding his unpaid for pizzas.*

VIC: Wait, I can take the pizzas!

ALEX: Be *quiet*, Vic!

DRACULA: Laurent.

LAURENT: Quoi?

DRACULA: I know what you are like. Do not eat that garlic bread.

LAURENT: Of course not.

*LAURENT is staring at the garlic bread with longing.*

DRACULA: People used to fear us, and now they mock us, trying to offer us poisoned foods, and trespassing into our group therapy sessions. You know, it was different when I was younger...

*LAURENT takes a bite out of the GARLIC BREAD.*

LAURENT: Ouch.

*LAURENT takes another bite of the GARLIC BREAD.*

DRACULA: Stop it!

LAURENT: Ok.

*LAURENT takes another bite of the GARLIC BREAD.*

*BLACKOUT.*

## **ACT 1 SCENE 11**

*In which the Ghost Hunters do not learn from their many mistakes*

*The GHOST GRABBERS (sans DANNY) are still on the floor, as is TONY. They look very confused and unsure of what to do.*

KIM: It was lights and smoke effects, I don't get why you think it was *real*.

JO: My face hurts like it was real.

CHRIS: Guys, you know what this means. *(Sits up excitedly)* Ghosts are real! And I got punched in the face by one!

*DANNY enters onto the stage, holding his face.*

DANNY: I think he stole my wallet.

ALF: Not that I'm scared or anything, but... can we leave!?

CELESTE: I know! We should do an exorcism.

CHRIS: OH YES!

JO: Oh no.

DANNY: Is that a good idea?

CHRIS: All my ideas are good. *(JO opens her mouth to say something, and CHRIS points at her without looking)* The bouncy castle was technically the government's fault, we've talked about this.

ALF: Maybe we should just leave, before the ghosts get angry and punch you again.

CHRIS: No! Alf, we're the Ghost Grabbers. That means we grab ghosts. And then un-grab them and put them somewhere else.

DANNY: It seems dangerous to me, there's something weird going on in this house.

CHRIS: Uh, who's the paranormal expert?

DANNY: ...You're the paranormal expert.

CHRIS: We're doing an exorcism!

*CHRIS gets out the 'exorcism kit', which is helpfully labelled as 'exorcism kit'. It's just a sign that says 'exorcism in progress'.*

KIM: Statistically speaking, there's like, a zero percent chance this plan will work.

ALF: There's a hundred percent chance you're a nerd.

*CHRIS and ALF high five. The two GHOSTS, BRODY and TONY, are watching this with bemusement. Or BRODY is watching this. TONY is face down on the floor again.*

BRODY: Does this, like, count as something stupid?

*TONY groans into the floor in what might be agreement.*

BRODY: Do you think we should, like, get Charlie?

CELESTE: Ok, I will begin the ritual, Do we all still have the Latin memorised?

GHOST GRABBERS; *(Chanting as one in very fake latin)* Cogito ergo sum, vidi vici, veni. Latin. Ghost-us go-us away-us! Macaroni! Lorem ipsum.

CELESTE: Why isn't it working?

BRODY: This is just... sad. That's pasta not Latin. I can't just watch this.

*BRODY appears before the GHOST GRABBERS out of pity.*

CELESTE: Ghost!

BRODY: 'Sup.

*GHOST GRABBERS begin to chant 'the exorcism'. This is a bunch of random Latin phrases, but mostly just types of pasta. This is the glory that is the...*

#### EXORCISM SONG

CHRIS: ...Did it work?

BRODY: No.

CELESTE: But why? We did everything right, the spirits should be freeeee.

KIM: Ha! Maybe saying random words doesn't actually magically make things happen.

SHADOW: *(Holding a bunch of pasta)* WHO SUMMONED ME!

GHOST GRABBERS: AH!

SHADOW: PASTA LA VISTA, BABY!

ALF: Nope! *(Gets up to run away, but SHADOW uses some magic or something to stop them)*

SHADOW: You know what they say. In for a penne, in for a pound. A pounding that is.

ALF: Meep.

*GHOST GRABBERS all are knocked unconscious by the power of SHADOW.*

SHADOW: You fools aren't stronganoff!

BRODY: Uh... this isn't good.

SHADOW: Wait, aren't you that idiot who got killed by a vacuum cleaner?

BRODY: (*Proudly*) Yeah. But hey, it didn't... suck!

SHADOW: Ha! I like you! Want to join the side of evil?

BRODY: That kind of sounds like a bad idea, not going to lie to you here.

SHADOW: Oh come on, the job's great! Unlimited power, free parking, and as many souls as you can damn. Not to mention you get to scare as many people as you like.

BRODY: I mean... I do like scaring people.

*SHADOW extends a piece of ramen to BRODY.*

SHADOW: You won't... spaghret it.

*BRODY takes the offered RAMEN.*

BRODY: This is ramen. But sure.

*They herd everyone offstage except TONY. TONY just stays lying there on the floor, like we all wish we could do.*



## **ACT 1 SCENE 12**

*In which there is a climax*

*The GHOST GRABBERS and TEENS are on stage, along with MALLORY and her minions. The evil cackling plan has begun. The TEENS and GHOST GRABBERS are tied up. SHADOW is guarding the captives, while SHADE is holding some sort of ritual implement, like a pot.*

MALLORY: Finally, my time has come, ultimate power awaits me! Shade, begin the ritual!

*SHADE waves a hand over the pot, and ominous sound effects and/or ominous lighting effects happen.*

SHADE: Nice lighting.

MALLORY: Bring forth the sacrifices for the slaughter!

*SHADOW goes to the captured GHOST GRABBERS and TEENS, taking CHRIS first, untying his hands.*

CHRIS: Wow, sucks for whoever they are. *(To SHADOW after being untied)* Oh, thanks.

SHADOW: Go to the slaughtering altar, sacrifice.

MALLORY: Shadow, prepare the sacrifice, Shade, begin the chanting of doom!

*SHADE begins the chanting of doom. SHADOW starts to lead CHRIS towards the slaughtering altar, when ROGUE REAPER enters the stage dramatically, pushing SHADOW aside dramatically.*

ROGUE REAPER: JUSTIIIIICE.

MALLORY: No! You cannot defeat me this time, Gary!

ROGUE REAPER: IT'S ROGUE REAPER!

*ROGUE REAPER and MALLORY begin to fight, while everyone else watches.*

ROGUE REAPER: I will not let you bring darkness to this world, not now, and not ever again!

MALLORY: *(To Shade)* Could you help, perhaps?

SHADE: I'm holding the pot.

MALLORY: Put the pot down!

SHADE: Oh. Ok.

*SHADE puts the pot down and is immediately attacked by the TEENS and GHOST GRABBERS, who are still tied up, but easily manage to trap SHADE down.*

MALLORY: *(To BRODY)* You! Kill them! Kill them all for your master!

BRODY: Wait, nobody said anything about killing.

*ROGUE REAPER pulls out the gun he took from ALF, and MALLORY's attack sends it across the floor to CHRIS's feet. CHRIS picks up the gun.*

CHRIS: Hey, should I help?

BRODY: Oh, that is not a good idea.

ALF: Shoot them! Shoot!!

JO: No, wait until I've got the camera out!

ALEX: Can we focus on not being killed, *please*.

*SHADE manages to use a burst of magic to free themselves, and joins in the fight between MALLORY and ROGUE REAPER. With the added help of SHADE, and a reluctant BRODY, MALLORY begins to gain the upper hand.*

ROGUE REAPER: You killed my parents!

MALLORY: What? No I did not.

ROGUE REAPER: Don't lie to me! They died at your hand!

MALLORY: They died in a hot dog eating contest.

ROGUE REAPER: But who arranged the hot dog eating contest. Who arranged it!

MALLORY: I didn't kill your family, poor life choices did.

ROGUE REAPER: But I can't stab poor life choices, so I take what I can.

CHRIS: Wait, no-one can tell me what to do. I have a gun. Hey! Everyone! I've got a gun!

MALLORY: That won't work, fool.

ROGUE REAPER: Yeah, it won't. Mortal weapons won't work against the undead. I just took it along for the image boost, to make me look even more like a bad-ass than I naturally am.

MALLORY: If you shoot me, I will grow more powerful than you can possibly imagine!

CHRIS: You forgot to factor in one thing.

MALLORY: What.

CHRIS: I was not paying attention to a word of what you were saying!

*CHRIS shoots at MALLORY, despite everyone continually having said that this was not a good idea.*

ALF: Go Chris! We did it!

*SHADE and BRODY stand by MALLORY's 'body', while there are woos and celebrations all round from the GHOST GRABBERS.*

SAM: There is no way that she is dead.

KIM: Like she was real in the first place. This is all as fake as Celeste's 'powers'.

CELESTE: I hate you.

DANNY: Wow, Chris! You did it! You killed the ghost! Or double killed it!

SHADOW: She's not a ghost. Or, she wasn't.

BRODY: Uh oh.

ROGUE REAPER: I warned you.

*With dramatic sounds, MALLORY rises from the ground, now a Evil Mutant Vampire Witch Serial Killer **GHOST**. MALLORY cackles evilly. CHARLIE and JEAN rush onto the scene.*

JEAN: What *happened?*

MALLORY: What happened is that he killed me. Transformed me to a ghost. And where do I get my powers from?

SHADE: Ghosts!

ROGUE REAPER: Told you.

MALLORY: Ah yes, now I can deal with you... *Rogue Reaper.*

ROGUE REAPER: Uh... I have an urgent appointment I have to go to.

MALLORY: An urgent appointment... with death!

*MALLORY raises a hand, and ROGUE REAPER falls down dead. At this moment, CHARLIE sees BRODY has joined the side of evil, which is the opposite of what CHARLIE said to do when he left BRODY.*

CHARLIE: Brody, you're working with Mallory? *Why?*

BRODY: I dunno, there's just something about her face that I trust.

*CHARLIE turns to look at MALLORY, who lets loose an evil cackle while looking incredibly malevolent. CHARLIE turns back to BRODY with a facial expression which says 'bruh'.*

MALLORY: *(Begins this monologue in the background)* The night of my reckoning has finally arrived. Oh how long I have waited. Many moons have passed, many seasons, arriving and then briskly exiting. I bode my time, feasting on the angst of the fools who enter this house. The unbridled ecstasy I shall feel when I final...

JEAN: *(Whispering)* Hey, while they're occupied, should we...?

*JEAN and CHARLIE start to free the TEENS and the GHOST GRABBERS while MALLORY continues their monologue. They manage to untie the TEENS, JO, and ALF, before they are noticed.*

ALEX: Jean? Rogue Reaper said you were dead!

JEAN: There's no time to explain! Also, I kind of forgot.

VIC: Hey, we found Jean!

JEAN: I mean, I found you.

SHADOW: Uh, the sacrifices are escaping.

MALLORY: What? Stop that!

*They do not Stop That, and the freed people make a break for it off the stage, leaving DANNY, CELESTE, and KIM behind.*

MALLORY: These people have no respect for a good evil monologue. We can complete the ritual with these three victims instead.

*KEITH walks onto the stage, shaking his head ominously.*

KEITH: And thus it ends... or does it? The evil Mallory has grown even more powerful, and not a person is left to stand against them. The darkness rolls over the hills as night falls, as friends turn against friends. Oh yes, there will be a second act, but can you stop yourselves from dying of fright before it?

SONG ABOUT THEM ALL BEING SCREWED.

# ACT 2

## **ACT 2 SCENE 1**

*In which the Teens and leftover Ghost Discovery Team have vigorous discussions*

CHARLIE: I have good news and bad news. Which do you want first?

ALEX: Can we have the bad news first?

CHARLIE: Well, Brody betrayed us and the other ghosts don't want to help us, and Mallory is only a ghost, not actually dead, so that means she's still most likely going to kill us all!

VIC: And the good news?

CHARLIE: As a ghost, Mallory is actually more powerful and harder to kill now.

SAM: *(After a pause)* That's not good news?!

CHARLIE: *(Thinking it over)* Huh, I guess you're right.

*The surviving GHOST GRABBERS run in, this is CHRIS, ALF, and JO. CHARLIE turns to speak to them.*

CHARLIE: We've got bad news and also bad news.

CHRIS: Wait, you're those ghosts from earlier!

ALEX: I told you, we're not ghosts! Please don't make us go through this again.

CHARLIE: Well, actually-

SAM: Don't bother, seriously.

CHRIS: You know, we're the Ghost Grabbers! We're going to solve this mystery and get through this if it kills Danny.

JO: I think Danny got left behind.

CHRIS: Well, at least there's some good news.

*CHRIS and ALF high five.*

JEAN: These people are idiots.

ALF: I heard you say that.

JEAN: No you didn't.

*BEAT.*

ALF: Yes I did.

ALEX: Can we *please* focus.

*CHRIS and ALF roll their eyes at them.*

SAM: What are we going to do, I don't want to die here!

VIC: We should set the house on fire!

ALEX: We're in the house!

VIC: You have a point.

JO: Wait, we should at least hear them out.

ALEX: No fires!

*VIC and JO both make a disappointed sound.*

CHRIS: We don't see what you're so worried about.

ALF: I do.

SAM: Me too.

*CHARLIE and JEAN also raise their hands in agreement.*

CHRIS: Relax! I have this Ghost capture device, we can use it to defeat this 'Mallory', now they're a ghost. Because I shot them. With a gun. I'm so cool.

*CHRIS pulls out the 'ghost capture device'. It looks like a potato waffle box. That's because it is a potato waffle box. The TEENS seem to notice this obvious fact of reality.*

SAM: It looks like an old potato waffle box.

CHRIS: Well, looks can be deceiving.

VIC: *(Pointing)* It says potato waffles on the side there.

*CHRIS covers the words 'potato waffles' with their hand.*

CHRIS: Prove it.

JEAN: We don't really care.

CHARLIE: Hey, what even happened to your gun? You don't still have it do you?

*SAM pulls out ALF's GUN tentatively.*

SAM: I thought someone should take it. Alex. Could you hold onto it? I don't want to be a target, and you're the only responsible one here.

JEAN: Hey!

VIC: Yeah, that's fair.

ALF: Can I have my gun back?

ALEX: No.

ALF: Chris, can you make them give my gun back?

CHRIS: Give Alf their gun back.

ALEX: No?

CHRIS: They said no.

*ALF makes a disappointed sound.*

JO: Well, it's been great talking to you.

CHRIS: But we work best alone. We don't want to share the glory.

CHARLIE: What glory?

CHRIS: The glory of proving ghost exist, duh. Alf, we'll find you another gun, promise.

*EXIT remaining GHOST GRABBERS.*

JO: *(Delighted)* This is going to suck so badly.

ALEX: Well, we're probably better off without the help of Britain's Least Haunted! We can fight off Mallory alone.

SAM: Eeeeeehhhhh.

CHARLIE: Come on, we'll do great as a team!

SAM: Recent events indicate otherwise.

JEAN: We can't give up. Maybe there's some ancient prophecy lying around here?

ALEX: If we leave, then evil will take over the world.

SAM: I'm ok with that. Look there's a lot of world to take over, and if we move to one of the bits further away, preferably with a bit of sun and low house prices, I'm sure we can live out reasonably fulfilling lives before his unending wrath and torment descends down onto us from the screaming terror of the void.



CHARLIE: We can't leave the house anyway, Mallory's spirit traps us all here until dawn. Also, Keith has the only key, and he went to sleep during the interval. Oh, but I thought of some good news!

ALEX: Please. We could really use some right now.

CHARLIE: If you do die, you'll just be ghosts like me! Here! Forever!

*SAM starts to sob quietly in her corner. JEAN gently pats CHARLIE's shoulder.*

JEAN: Just... stop, ok?

## **ACT 2 SCENE 2**

*In which Mallory kills some Ghost Hunters and also does something bad*

*MALLORY and MINIONS (+BRODY) are standing around ROGUE REAPER's DEAD BODY. The remaining GHOST GRABBERS are cowering, while DANNY is hiding ineffectually behind a lamp.*

MALLORY: Shadow, Shade, remove this (*Nudges ROGUE REAPER's body with a foot*) ...batman cosplayer from my sight. There is no adolescent angst within this corpse. Just regular midlife crisis angst.

*SHADOW and SHADE nod and drag off ROGUE REAPER. MALLORY turns to DANNY,*

MALLORY: I can see you hiding behind the lamp, child.

DANNY: (*Squeaky with fear*) No you can't!

MALLORY: Yes I can....

DANNY: Uh....no?

MALLORY: Oh god, whatever.

*MALLORY makes a movement with her hand, and DANNY drops down dead. CELESTE lets out a cry, but KIM rolls their eyes, still thinking it's all fake.*

CELESTE: Please spooky one! Spare me! I have unmatched access into the world beyond! Spare me and you'll have these powers at your beck and call.

*MALLORY moves their hand again, and CELESTE falls down dead too.*

MALLORY: No.

KIM: Ugh, you think you're fooling me? I know you didn't actually kill her.

MALLORY: No...I. I actually killed her. I feasted on her young angst and proclivity towards idiocy and strange fashion sense.

KIM: Ah, sure you did. I mean, god I wish Celeste was dead, but it's like I'm dealing with the worst Scooby Doo Villain.

MALLORY: You express no fear at my presence, nor are you worried for the fate of your friends. Will you be this foolhardy once I take over the world and sap it all of joy and happiness?

KIM: OK, I'll humour you. Assuming you tried to do this "plan" of yours, you have no real timeline or milestones you're trying to hit. You, I assume, want more minions but you have no real way to keep them all satisfied or stop them from unionizing once they have grown to a sizable group. I mean like, have you maybe thought of taking over somewhere smaller like Middlesbrough?

MALLORY: Huh...I never thought of it that way. Do you always do this? Like, point out inconsistencies and be generally a bit of a dick?

KIM: Oh yeah. I'm pretty great at parties!

MALLORY: You would make for a great minion! I'm going to keep you around, Kim, I need a sharp mind to spot holes in the plans.

*Enter the VAMPIRES.*

DRACULA: We did it! We beat these humans, for the good of vampire-kind.

SHADOW: More like vampire-evil!

MALLORY; Well, old friends. Your help was very helpful, but I'm afraid our deal has come to an end here. Plainly put, I do not need you anymore.

GERALD: But, we had a deal.

MALLORY: I have altered the deal. Pray I do not alter it further.

DRACULA: You need us!

MALLORY: I *needed* you. But now, with these added ghostly powers, I have no need for four weak, pathetic, squabbling vampires, do I? I will let you live, so that is a gift enough. Begone from my presence, or feel my wrath.

LAURENT: You're ghosting us?

MALLORY: Don't cross me.

*MALLORY pulls out a crucifix. The VAMPIRES all jump back.*

DRACULA: This crucifix makes me very cross.

LAURENT: I'm glad you're opening up about your feelings but now is not the time.

GERALD: Fine. We'll go.

DRACULA: But-

LAURENT: We can't kill her, she's too powerful for us. Come on. We can discuss this back at SUCK.

*EXIT VAMPIRES.*

MALLORY: Excellent! Now I alone shall rule the world with my powers. No-one can stop me now!

*MALLORY laughs evilly.*

BRODY: Uh, I thought we were just going to do cool scary stuff. This 'taking over the world' stuff is a bit- look, I'm mischievous and a general detriment to society, but I dunno if I'm ready to be evil. It seems like a lot of hassle and murder.

SHADE: Oh it's great.

SHADOW: We promise.

SHADE and SHADOW: Mallory, tell them!

#### SONG FOR VILLAIN

BRODY: Yeah... I'm beginning to think I made a mistake somewhere.

*BRODY sneaks offstage while the MINIONS and MALLORY cackle evilly to themselves.*

MALLORY: Haha, now you see- oh, he's gone. Rats. Every time. The evil laughter and monologues get me every time.

SHADE: It's so worth it though!

MALLORY: Yes. Yes it is.

## **ACT 2 SCENE 3**

*In which the most tragic death occurs*

*ENTER BRODY, who is clearly trying to regain his old ways of just being scary, not evil. BRODY is making some ghost wooing sounds, to no effect, as there is nobody on stage. BRODY turns and begins to 'woo' at the audience.*

BRODY: Woo...!

*The AUDIENCE probably is not scared.*

BRODY: Oh come on. Please be scared. I'm a ghost. A very scary ghost!

*BRODY tries to scare the AUDIENCE again.*

BRODY: Taaaaaxeess... student deeebt... you never wrote that boooook you said youuu would.

*The AUDIENCE is still probably unscared.*

BRODY: Oh come on. That was really scary. Urg. *(He sits down on the stage and starts to talk to the audience)* I'm kind of, like, going through a whole thing right now. I was with this group of people, then this other group of people, but now I'm not really with anyone right now. I mean, I just wanted to scare people, not murder people.

*Enter the VAMPIRES, who are complaining about MALLORY betraying them. LAURENT is holding the garlic bread still.*

DRACULA: They think they're so important, just because they have minions and an arch-nemesis. I could have an arch-nemesis, if I wanted to. I just haven't had the time.

*LAURENT bites the GARLIC BREAD.*

LAURENT: Ouch.

DRACULA: I told you to stop that! No wonder Mallory and those humans treat us like dirt. Have some pride.

LAURENT: No. I will have garlic bread over pride, every time.

DRACULA: Laurent, I swear to all that is unholy, if you take another bite of that disgusting tripe you call food, I will-

LAURENT: What will you do, Dracky?

DRACULA: That's it!

*DRACULA grabs the garlic bread out of LAURENT's hands.*

DRACULA: This is what I think of your weird poison bread.

*DRACULA throws the garlic bread out of the window.*

LAURENT: Hey!

*BRODY runs towards the window where the garlic bread has been thrown, looking out in horror.*

BRODY: Nooooo! Why would you do that? You murdered it!

LAURENT: I mean it was really good but I wouldn't go that far...

DRACULA: No you idiot, the garlic bread actually has a soul. Which means that, just like with other beings with souls, it can come back as a ghost,

LAURENT: Does it still taste nice?

GERALD: It's just not the same! It goes all cold and soggy.

BRODY: Yeah bro, like, once I dropped my pen in the water and it was floating! It drowned and rose back as a ghost!

GERALD: I think that's just buoyancy.

LAURENT: Wait, you're one of Mallory's minions, that backstabbing Evil Mutant Vampire Witch Serial Killer Ghost! We have a fang to pick with your boss!

BRODY: Uh no! I quit! I'm freelance now. Have a portfolio and everything.

DRACULA: Urg, your ex-boss is such an ass. She comes in here, guns blazing, making bold statements about taking over the world! And something about being difficult to kill! I mean, at least have the decency to have a simple way of dying. It's hard enough remembering all the different things she is.

BRODY: Yeah, Mallory blows. She's all extra powerful because *someone* thought it was a good idea to join the side of evil.

LAURENT: Was that someone you?

BRODY: Uh... wow! Look over there

*BRODY points over the VAMPIRE's shoulder. They all turn to look. BRODY runs away while waving his arms in the air and yelling.*

GERALD: What an odd fellow.

*BLACKOUT.*

## **ACT 2 SCENE 4**

*In which Keith-zza*

*Enter PIZZA MAN and KEITH.*

PIZZA MAN: Did you order this?

KEITH: Oh, payment will come to you swiftly my child, it will come swiftly indeed!

PIZZA MAN: I only take cash.

*PIZZA MAN tries to give KEITH the pizza. KEITH does not take it, still Ominously Cackling.*

PIZZA MAN: Please, I'm on a zero hours contract.

*BLACKOUT.*

## **ACT 2 SCENE 5**

*In which dying does not make Rogue Reaper any less stupid*

*ROGUE REAPER is a dead body. Nothing happens for a few seconds on stage with lights up until it has become slightly more than awkward. The other ghosts (TONY, HAROLD, and MARGARET) wander in. TONY sees the body and groans.*

TONY: Great. There goes the neighbourhood.

MARGARET: What neighbourhood?

TONY: Hey, maybe he might still be alive, then we don't have to deal with him as ghost. Are either of you doctors?

HAROLD: I'm a doctor.

TONY: Can you save him?

HAROLD: I've got a doctorate in mathematics.

TONY: Oh great.

MARGARET: Differentiate the blood back into him, why don't you?

HAROLD: No need to be rude.

*Sound effects of ghost-ination. ROGUE REAPER is now a ghost.*

ROGUE REAPER: Where am I?

TONY: Uuuuuurggg.

*TONY lies on the floor.*

MARGARET: You're dead, I'm afraid.

ROGUE REAPER: I was always dead... on the inside.

TONY: *(Into the floor)* Uuuuuurrrggg.

ROGUE REAPER: No... I have failed my mission in life. Mallory lives, and is even more powerful than ever. Tell me, I must know the exact date and time so I can mourn for what has been lost every year.

TONY: Uuuuuurggg.

HAROLD: it's the 31<sup>st</sup>.



MARGARET: No, it's the 13<sup>th</sup>.

HAROLD: You have no idea how much it upsets me that I could only kill you once.

MARGARET: Oh, you killed me on the inside every day we were married.

HAROLD: That almost makes me glad that we never could get divorced.

ROGUE REAPER: I'll make a note in my calendar. My ghost calendar. Of the dead. (*Poses with anguish*).

TONY: Uuuurrggg.

ROGUE REAPER: My dead calendar. Dead. Like my parents.

TONY: UUUUUUURRRGGG.

MARGARET: Well, we'll all be dead soon, once Mallory has their way.

ROGUE REAPER: I have failed once more (*Gets into a repenting position*). Mother... father... Tingles the hamster... forgive me. I tried... (*Bows head dramatically*).

TONY: UUUURRRGGGG!

HAROLD: Tony, are you okay?

ROGUE REAPER: I haven't been okay. Not since (*turns dramatically to look into the middle distance*) the accident.

*TONY snaps, jumping up and pointing at ROGUE REAPER.*

TONY: SHUT UP SHUT UP SHUT UP SHUT UP SHUT UP!

ROGUE REAPER: I'm sorry, are you talking to them?

TONY: No, I'm talking to you!

#### SONG OF TRAUMA AND DEAD PARENTS (PLUS AN IMPROPTU COUNSELLING SESSION)

ROGUE REAPER: Maybe you guys should split up.

HAROLD: Splitting up is a terrible idea, don't you know we're in a horror play?

ROGUE REAPER: No, I mean, split up as a couple. Get a divorce.

MARGARET: We can't. We're trapped in this house.

ROGUE REAPER: Of course. As long as Mallory lives, we are trapped here with our unresolved issues. And memories of dead parents.

HAROLD: As long as Mallory is alive... you mean-?

MARGARET: If we kill her, I can be rid of him?

TONY: You're only getting this now?

ROGUE REAPER: Yes of course, but do you know how hard it would be to kill Mallory now. She's a ghost too now. Each part of her would have to be killed separately. The witch part, the vampire part, the ghost part, and the mutant serial killer part. It's improbable.

HAROLD: I don't care.

MARGARET: We can do this!

ROGUE REAPER: Of course. Nothing brings people together like wanting to not be together. Come on gang!

*EXIT THERAPY'D GHOSTS. TONY and doesn't bother following them and just stays lying on the floor. BLACKOUT.*

## **ACT 2 SCENE 6**

*In which someone finds a dead body and then becomes one*

*There is a pile of DEAD TEENS (JEAN, CELESTE, and DANNY). KEITH is there, sitting on a lawn chair, calmly eating a sandwich. Enter DISPOSABLE CITIZEN.*

DISPOSABLE CITIZEN: Hello? My car broke down, can I borrow your phone? Is anyone there?

KEITH: Yup.

*DISPOSABLE CITIZEN notices the pile of DEAD TEENS.*

DISPOSABLE CITIZEN: What's going on!

KEITH: Lunch break.

DISPOSABLE CITIZEN: So many corpses! Help! Why, why!?

KEITH: Dunno.

DISPOSABLE CITIZEN: Oh my god someone call an ambulance.

KEITH: He's dead.

DISPOSABLE CITIZEN: Does anyone know CPR?

KEITH: He's dead.

DISPOSABLE CITIZEN: If we act quickly-

KEITH: His heads in the corner over there.

*(Probably cannot afford SFX to do this decapitation. Use wonder of imagination or something, I don't care, this is not my responsibility). DISPOSABLE CITIZEN steps forwards, and sees a special looking weapon lying beside the corpse of ROGUE REAPER. DISPOSABLE CITIZEN picks it up.*

DISPOSABLE CITIZEN: What's this??

KEITH: Witch killing weapon.

DISPOSABLE CITIZEN: Why would you need a witch killing weapon?

KEITH: For the witches.

*There are SPOOKY SOUNDS. DISPOSABLE CITIZEN is SPOOKED by the SPOOKY SOUNDS.*

KEITH: Goodbye. Forever.

*KEITH fades into the shadows while Ominously Cackling.*

DISPOSABLE CITIZEN: Where did you go? And who are you? And why are there dead bodies everywhere?

*Enter SHADE, who is hiding under a sheet, DISPOSABLE CITIZEN turns to them.*

DISPOSABLE CITIZEN: Who's there...?

*SHADE takes a step forwards.*

DISPOSABLE CITIZEN: Hello...?

*SHADE takes another step forwards, and pulls off the sheet, revealing he is SHADE.*

SHADE: Boo!

*SHADE kills the DISPOSABLE CITIZEN. MALLORY, SHADOW, and KIM follow on stage.*

SHADOW: Bit overdramatic, wasn't it?

SHADE: I mean, duh, what's the point of murder if you can't enjoy yourself?

KIM: Huh, this fake corpse looks pretty good. I'm kind of impressed.

MALLORY: Ah, another obstacle removed from my path to ultimate victory! Another soul to power the ritual.

KIM: You said the ritual only used teens. He looks like he's in his 30s. Plot hooole.

MALLORY: Ok, right. I will have to find another teenager. Thank you my minion.

KIM: You're welcome.

SHADE: Can't you just kill *them*. (*Points at KIM*).

KIM: I'm 27.

SHADOW: Wait really? Would not have guessed that.

MALLORY: We can use those teens that you lost. You are pathetic minions are you not?

SHADOW: That's unfair. We're trying our best.

SHADE: Yeah, if you don't treat us right, maybe we'll go be minions for someone else.

MALLORY: You will not disappoint me again!

SHADOW: We're going to disappoint you lots more in the future too!

KIM: Why do you even keep your 'minions' alive.

MALLORY: What?

KIM: I mean, your character is supposed to be more powerful than them, and 'allegedly' ghosts are stuck in this house when you kill them, so why would you keep them alive so they can leave you? It makes no sense, could you seriously not have come up with a better fake plan?

MALLORY: Hmm. You have a point.

SHADE: Oh no.

SHADOW: You just had to open your mouth.

*MALLORY raises their hand, and SHADE, SHADOW, and KIM all drop down dead.*

MALLORY: I will bring you back, my ghost minions! My ultimate minions!

*EXIT MALLORY, laughing.*

*The PIZZA MAN walks in, sees the pile of bodies, and turns away.*

PIZZA MAN: Nope.

*BLACKOUT.*

## **ACT 2 SCENE 7**

*In which the teens decide that they don't want to be dismembered*

*Lights up on the TEENS and JEAN and CHARLIE, who are searching around a room of the house for things to help them not die horribly.*

ALEX: I've found something!

*ALEX pulls out an old text.*

JEAN: It looks like it's written in a different language.

SAM: Don't look at me, I failed GCSE Spanish.

CHARLIE: I can translate it, pass it here.

*ALEX passes the old text to CHARLIE.*

VIC: What does it say?

### RHYMING WITCH KILLING PROPHECY

ALEX: Wow must have been hard for them to make it so it rhymes in English too.

JEAN: So, if we find this 'witch killing weapon', all we need to do is figure out how to kill off a vampire.

SAM: Well that's easy. Stake to the heart, holy water, or garlic. None of which we have, remember?

ALEX: Wait, that pizza delivery man, didn't he have-

ALL TOGETHER: Garlic bread!

VIC: But the vampires took it, the vampires who sent us off to Mallory in the first place?

*Enter BRODY. CHARLIE and BRODY stare at each other for a few seconds, with tension. Will CHARLIE forgive the betrayal that BRODY committed by joining the side of evil in act 1?*

CHARLIE: Brody! You decided not to be evil! I'm so glad!

*CHARLIE hugs BRODY.*

BRODY: I probably should have read the contract. It was written in blood, how did I not realise they were evil?

CHARLIE: Anyone would have fallen for it, we forgive you!

JEAN: Maybe we should have a group discussion about that?

BRODY: I really am sorry. Look, I heard you talking about the vampires, right?

*The TEENS nod.*

BRODY: Well I just saw them, and they're not working with Mallory any more, she betrayed them, so they're wandering around, complaining and doing weird stuff to garlic bread.

CHARLIE: Garlic bread! We can do this!

JEAN: If we can remove her vampire and witchy powers, then she's just a ghost.

ALEX: *(Cottoning on)* And when she's just a ghost...

VIC: *(Not cottoning on)* We take the fight... to *the ghosts!*

*VIC reaches for the gun.*

OTHERS: NO!!!

JEAN: It means that us ghosts might have a chance, once Mallory's lost his powers. We can win this!

SAM: But we don't *have* the garlic bread, or this magic witch killing weapon!

CHARLIE: We'll find the weapon! Me and Jean. And Brody!

ALEX: That leaves the vampires to us!

SAM: Great.

SONG ABOUT BEING VERY SPOOKED BUT STRONG!!!

## **ACT 2 SCENE 8**

*In which Vampires meet (Plucky) Teens*

*The VAMPIRES are back in the support group, sitting round in a circle. They are still complaining about MALLORY.*

DRACULA: And another thing about her, she always think she's being sooo poetic with her language. I mean please, we all think you're pretentious.

*The other VAMPIRES nod in agreement. The TEENS sneak their way onto the stage.*

SAM: *(Whispering)* Are you sure this is a good idea?

ALEX: No, but it's the only one we've got. Hey! *(ALEX walks out in front of the VAMPIRES, followed enthusiastically by VIC, and unenthusiastically by SAM)* We want to talk with you.

DRACULA: Humans! Urg!

SAM: Please don't kill us. I was against this idea!

VIC: We need your help with fighting Mallory.

DRACULA: Ha. And why should we help you? Last I checked you can't do anything against her.

ALEX: But together, we can defeat them.

GERALD: Go for the panicking one, she's weak!

SAM: Hey!

VIC: I mean, he's not wrong.

LAURENT: I did lose my garlic bread, maybe a quick *bite* to each.

SAM: I *told* you this was a bad idea!

*The VAMPIRES step forwards to attack the teens, but AMOS steps between them. Or if they are still a mop, someone nudges the mop and it falls over onto the floor with a slap.*

DRACULA: Amos? What are you doing?

*AMOS lies on the floor. LIGHTS OUT. A few seconds pass. LIGHTS back on. The VAMPIRES look very moved. GERALD is wiping a tear from his eye.*

LAURENT: I haven't cried like that since pineapple on pizza.

ALEX: You're... not a vampire?



*AMOS stares blankly at the TEENS. Or is STILL A MOP.*

DRACULA: You've always been right. We should trust non-vampires as well, even if they've hurt us in the past. Or written bad novels about us.

*AMOS is STILL A MOP.*

GERALD: We've learnt a valuable lesson about tolerance today.

*The VAMPIRES nod in agreement.*

VIC: So... you'll help us?

DRACULA: I mean... we would, but we cannot kill Mallory. She is a hybrid, and we do not even have anything to kill the vampire part.

ALEX: What about that garlic bread?

DRACULA: *Someone* couldn't be trusted with it. I would offer it if I could.

LAURENT: (*Shiftily*) Dracula. What would you do If I said I still had half of the garlic bread?

DRACULA: (*Suspiciously*) I would kill you.

LAURENT: Ooookaaay.

*LAURENT takes a step away from DRACULA, trying to look nonchalant and failing. LAURENT and DRACULA have PROLONGED EYE CONTACT.*

DRACULA: Do you still have half of the garlic bread?

LAURENT: Noooooo...

*More PROLONGED EYE CONTACT.*

LAURENT: Ehh...

*More PROLONGED EYE CONTACT.*

*LAURENT pulls out another half of the garlic bread. GERALD and AMOS hold DRACULA back from attacking LAURENT.*

DRACULA: I knew it!

GERALD: Calm down.

ALEX: This is good! If we use this, the garlic bread will kill the vampire part of Mallory, right?

DRACULA: After I kill Laurent with it!

GERALD: No murdering. We're working as a team, remember?

*The TEENS take the garlic bread half off LAURENT.*

LAURENT: This won't be enough alone.

ALEX: I know. We've got a plan.

SAM: A terrible, terrible plan.

VIC: A terrible plan is better than no plan at all.

SAM: I don't think that's-

*BLACKOUT.*

## **ACT 2 SCENE 9**

*In which Ghost Hunters decide to try an exorcism. Again.*

*Try, try, try again, even when it comes to poor life choices. The GHOST GRABBERS are back at their base camp, trying to figure out what to do. Whatever they decide, it will almost certainly be a problem for everyone else.*

ALF: I feel like we should go back to the other people, you know, stick together.

CHRIS: Come on dude, we don't need those people! They're holding us back!

JO: I doubt that.

CHRIS: Hey! I solved the mystery of who ate the last slice of chocolate cake.

JO: That was you.

CHRIS: Irrelevant.

JO: Seems kind of relevant.

CHRIS: Don't use words at me. I'm going to check the next room for ghosts. You two stay here.

*CHRIS wanders just offstage, leaving ALF and JO alone. ALF is very jumpy.*

ALF: I still think we should just leave.

JO: We tried the doors. They're locked.

ALF: We could jump through the windows and escape!

JO: We're like 13 feet up, idiot.

ALF: This is no time to be superstitious, Jo!

JO: Please keep away from me. You stink.

ALF: I told you, the bravery sweats are real, okay?

JO: When was the last time you had a shower?

ALF: What day is it?

JO: Friday.

ALF: Then... 2006.

*CHRIS wanders back in, which startles ALF. He is holding the special looking weapon DISPOSABLE CITIZEN found before being killed.*

CHRIS: Hey look. I found this cool weapon. Also, like, a whole pile of dead bodies.

JO: Oh, sweet.

*They all fawn over the weapon without a care about the aforementioned corpses. ALF takes the weapon to hold. While they fawn, ROGUE REAPER and the THERAPY'D GHOSTS enter the stage.*

JO: *(Mockingly)* Careful there Alf, it might be sharp.

ALF: Pff. You know, I don't scare easily.

*ALF turns round and sees ghost ROGUE REAPER and SCREAMS.*

ALF: Ghost!

ROGUE REAPER: I'm aware.

*ALF looks at the windows. ALF takes a step towards the windows.*

CHRIS: *(Physically holding ALF back from jumping out the window)* No jumping out the window, Alf, you promised me! You promised!

ALF: Let me go!

JO: *(Recording the window)* Let him go.

HAROLD: Is this a bad time?

MARGARET: Every day is a bad time when I'm wit- when I'm still having to work on my coping skills.

*ROGUE REAPER nods encouragingly. ALF brandishes the witch killing weapon at them.*

MARGARET: We're not witches.

HAROLD: Hah. You're pretty much a... person in difficult circumstances who I have grown apart from.

ROGUE REAPER: I'm so proud of you.

*ALF is still brandishing the weapon.*

CHRIS: Hey, you're that dude who beat us up. Did you get killed? I'm not really following all this.

ALF: *(Looking around wildly)* Who's following us?!?

ROGUE REAPER: It's too complicated to explain, I just need you to give me that weapon.

JO: It's pretty simple. They need this blade so they can kill Mallory. The person who took the other ghost grabbers? (*CHRIS nods in 'oh yeah'*) They want to team up with us to stop the world being destroyed, because Mallory's pretty hard to kill.

ROGUE REAPER: I guess... it wasn't that complicated.

CHRIS: (*Slowly*) So what you're saying is... you need our help!

MARGARET: No, we need the weapon. We really don't want you to help.

CHRIS: You mean *our* weapon.

ALF: My weapon.

CHRIS: Alf's weapon.

HAROLD: We could just take it off you.

CHRIS: Ha! I'd like to see you try.

JO: (*Pulling out the camera again*) I really would.

ROGUE REAPER: You leave me no choice than... to be a mature and responsible adult about it. I am... not going to attack you. I've been trying to work as a team player more. I am no longer... of the night. But of the night... like a sleepover... with friends. What do we do?

CHRIS: We kick some ghost ass!

ALF: I want my gun back :(.

MARGARET: I think we've shown already that the gun doesn't work on Evil Mutant Vampire Witch Serial Killers. (*She looks accusingly at CHRIS, who doesn't realise she is looking at them in blame*).

CHRIS: Who showed that?

ALF: Does this mean I get to keep the shiny thing?

SONG STUPIDER REFRAIN OF BEING SPOOKED BUT STRONG

CHRIS: Everyone. I have a plan! We're going to exorcise Mallory!

*JO facepalms softly in the background.*

## **ACT 2 SCENE 10**

*In which the big fight happens*

*The big final fight scene. MALLORY is carrying out the ritual alone, holding the ritual implement (pot?) from before.*

MALLORY: Nothing can stop me now!

*Enter the TEENS, who are sneaking on holding a very fake looking replica of the witch killing weapon. VIC is holding the weapon, while ALEX holds ALF's GUN, and SAM holds the GARLIC BREAD.*

SAM: *(Whispering)* This is *not* going to fool anyone! It's made of tin foil for crying out loud!

JEAN: *(Whispering)* Hey! We did the best we could with limited resources. How were we supposed to find a witch killing weapon when we didn't know it existed until 20 minutes ago?

CHARLIE: *(Whispering)* I think it's pretty good.

VIC: *(Whispering)* Yeah, it's all shiny.

SAM: *(Not Whispering)* But that doesn't matter if it can't kill witches! *(Notices that this shouting has alerted MALLORY to their presence)* Oops.

MALLORY: Oh, right on time. The sacrifices.

ALEX: You can't kill us! See here, we've got garlic, and a... uh... a very real witch killing weapon. Let us go, and stop this, or we'll stop it for you!

MALLORY: Really? That thing? Fake.

SAM: I told you!

*MALLORY raises her hand to kill them all, but is distracted by an odd sound growing louder from offstage. It is the remaining GHOST GRABBERS, ROGUE REAPER, HAROLD, and MARGARET chanting part of the EXORCISM song as they enter onto the stage. ALF is still holding the witch killing weapon.*

CHRIS: If you're dead, you'd better stay dead, or we'll kill you! Ghost Grabbers! Into the offensive chevron!

*The GHOST GRABBERS, ROGUE REAPER, HAROLD, and MARGARET form an OFFENSIVE CHEVRON.*

MALLORY: What is this?

ROGUE REAPER: We have come to exorcism you. With the power of teamwork.

MALLORY: Oh, you fools, nobody can save you now.

*MALLORY takes a step forwards. ALF panics, screams loudly, throws the witch killing weapon at MALLORY's head, and then turns round and jumps out of the f\*\*\*ing window. HAROLD looks out of the window after him.*

HAROLD: Well Alf's dead.

ALEX: The witch killing weapon! Someone grab it!

*VIC drops the fake witch killing weapon, and picks up the real one, stabbing MALLORY with it. Some sound effect of some sort plays. MALLORY falls to their knees*

MALLORY: No! No!

*MALLORY stands up, and knocks everyone over with her ghost powers. The GARLIC BREAD is lost to this.*

MALLORY: No matter, I am still a mutant vampire serial-killer ghost. Nobody can help you now.

KIM: *(Offstage)* Did somebody say mutant?

JO: Kim?

*KIM walks onto the stage, along with the minions SHADOW and SHADE. All are now ghosts.*

KIM: Ha, as if mutants are actually real. You know what radiation gives you? Cancer. Not superpowers, but death. I don't get why you think that makes any sense.

MALLORY: No! Logic! My one weakness!

*The same sound effect as before plays.*

SHADOW: Sorry, we'd help, but-

SHADE: You did kill us.

MALLORY: I am still a vampire serial-killer ghost, and I will not be defeated by a bunch of... *pesky kids!*

SAM: Where's the garlic bread?

MALLORY: Garlic bread cannot kill me, I am already dead, idiots. Oh, nobody can save you now.

*ALF appears back at the 'window'. He is holding the ghost garlic bread from before.*

ALF: Hey Chris.

CHRIS: Hey Alf.

ALF: I totally died jumping out that 13 foot window.

CHRIS: It looked cool though.

BRODY: Wait, is that... ghost garlic bread?

CHARLIE: Of course, the only thing that can kill a vampire ghost! It all makes sense.

*ROGUE REAPER snatches the GHOST GARLIC from ALF's hands, and slaps MALLORY in the face with it. The same sound effect plays as MALLORY becomes just a vampire serial-killer.*

ROGUE REAPER: JUSTIIICE!

MALLORY: You think you have won? Really? I am Mallory, the arch-vampire, the destroyer! Nobody can save you now.

DANNY: Not so fast!

MALLORY: I have got to stop saying that.

*DANNY walks onto the stage, also now a ghost.*

DANNY: I won't let you hurt my friends! I won't! With the power of friendship and self-belief-

CHRIS: We're not your friends.

DANNY: *(Choking back tears)* ...with the power of self-belief...

*DANNY double dies, due to lack of self-belief and lack of friendship.*

MALLORY: I guess nobody *could* save you, then.

CHARLIE: Nuh uh!

*CHARLIE and the other ghosts are standing in a gang, looking annoyed.*

BRODY: You're really not cool.

MARGARET: And I want a divorce.

*The GHOSTS team up and use their powers to kill MALLORY.*

ALEX: We did it! We really did it!

SAM: No! The villain always comes back for a final scare!

*MALLORY lurches upright, for a final scare. She is very angry about this series of events.*

MALLORY: I am still a serial killer, and I will serially kill all of you! Idiots! Weaklings! Traitors!



*The lights go out, but MALLORY is still laughing manically.*

SAM: What do we do?!

JEAN: Quick! Check Alf's gun!

*Pause for groans as people take the time to become aware of the terrible pun. In the BLACKOUT, there is the sound of a gunshot as MALLORY is defeated once and for all.*

## **ACT 2 SCENE 11**

*In which this finally ends*

*The TEENS (sans ALEX), the GHOSTS, and ROGUE REAPER enter onto the stage together. Next onstage is the still living GHOST GRABBERS, JO and CHRIS, and the VAMPIRES, who are holding onto a struggling KEITH.*

KEITH: And I would have gotten away with it too, if it wasn't for you pesky vampires and your mop too!

CHRIS: Wait! Mr Keith Creepoldman! It was you, all along?

JO: No, you idiot.

DRACULA: This idiot kept Ominously Cackling at us.

LAURENT: Plus it turns out he was a dodgy real estate developer who was trying to save his failing business through a nefarious scheme involving running around in a sheet.

GERALD: Plus, he had a few overdue library books.

KEITH: Curses, foiled again!

DRACULA: We will try to refrain from looking down on you puny, pathetic humans.

GERALD: Anyway, we're off to rob a blood bank.

LAURENT: [JACK SAY SOMETHING FUNNY].

KEITH: You won't see the last of me!

*EXIT VAMPIRES and KEITH.*

VIC: We know! There's a final song!

JEAN: Are they going to... you know what? I don't even know what his deal was.

*TONY enters the stage, along with ghost ALF, ghost KIM, and ghost CELESTE. There is no ghost DANNY (for now).*

CELESTE: I knew ghosts were real!

KIM: We're not ghosts, shut up.

CHRIS: You know, I'm just happy to have captured some real ghost proof. Go Ghost Grabbers!

JO: Which Ghost grabbers? The dead ones? Because I quit.

CHRIS: I don't care, because with this footage, I'm already famous.

JO: What footage? The camera broke.

CHRIS: It *what!?*

SAM: You should probably be more concerned that your best friend is a ghost.

VIC: And one of them is just... gone?

*ALF is looking around and suddenly has a stark realisation.*

ALF: Chris! I think I just saw a... ghost!

*CHRIS looks around dramatically with ALF in search of these potential ghosts.*

SAM: They have no idea what is going on, do they?

JO: Nah.

CHRIS: Come on still-remaining-living-ghost-grabbers! Let's go grab!

*The GHOST GRABBERS begin to exit the stage. DANNY rushes onto the stage after them.*

DANNY: Chris, wait! I'm a Ghost Grabber too! Wait!

*They Do Not wait. EXIT the GHOST GRABBERS.*

TONY: Didn't even notice you were dead, huh?

DANNY: I did everything they wanted, and he didn't even remember me.

DANNY and TONY: Life sucks.

*DANNY and TONY look into each other's eyes, a deep connection having instantly formed here. They leave, skipping, hand in hand.*

ROGUE REAPER: You know. I think I've made real progress here, I feel better equipped to deal with the deaths of my parents now.

HAROLD: I'm just glad I never have to see *her* face again.

MARGARET: I'm going to ghost divorce you before you can ghost divorce me.

HAROLD: Oh yeah?

*HAROLD and MARGARET leg it off stage to get ghost divorced. ROGUE REAPER follows after them.*

ROGUE REAPER: But wait! What about the sharing circle? WAIT.

*Enter ALEX as soon as reasonably possible after a costume change.*

CHARLIE: Well this all worked out pretty well!

JEAN: So, what should we do now?

ALEX: I don't know. There's got to be other evil forces out there, right? Someone should do something about them.

VIC: Oh yes!

SAM: Why does the someone have to be us? I've got enough on my plate worrying about sequels!

BRODY: Don't worry, we'll make sure everything is wrapped up!

#### SONG OF THE FINALE

PIZZA MAN: Seriously! Who ordered the pizza?!

*JO NEVER RETURNED THE WALLET SHE STOLE FROM DANNY WHILE HE WAS UNCONCIOUS.  
DANNY IS NOT MISSED.*