Bus of Doom

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INT. HIGH SCHOOL HALLWAY - DAY

A desk decorated for Halloween. JOSH PIPER (17) and DANIEL LUTZ (17) self consciously try to hand out "Fright Car" leaflets. Some passing students take them, others look down pitifully at the Halloween costumes they are wearing.

JOSH

Fright Car! Come and see the most terrifying, urm, scary, urh, car you've ever seen. Tonight on the road by the cemetery.

DEMON TRADER (Ashen white skin, snivelly and sneaky) concealed in a cloak shuffles along, takes and looks at a leaflet, pauses momentarily, then carries on.

DANIEL

Yeah err, it's scary, OK?

The number of students thins out so they can talk to each other.

JOSH

"It's scary, OK?" Way to sell the thing Daniel! There's good money in this...

DANIEL

So you keep saying Josh, but I'm not seeing you fighting back the crowds! It's a stupid...

Along the hallway LYNN DWORKIN (17, Stunning and self centered) and FAY HARVEY (17, Pretty but less eye catching, with large breasts) exit a classroom causing Daniel to forget what he was saying.

As the girls stroll along the corridor the two boys exchange slightly panicked looks and back away expecting the other one to do the talking.

Lynn and Fay walk right up between them and stop. Lynn looks expectantly at Josh.

LYNN

Well?

JOSH

Err, well what?

LYNN

Well ain't you gonna invite us to your "Fright Car"?!

JOSH

Oh yes Lynn, OK great.

Josh gives Lynn a leaflet and Daniel passes one to Fay who twists her shoulder uncomfortably.

DANIEL

It's really cool. We've set it up with some really cool tricks.

FAY

I don't think I want it to be too scary.

LYNN

Don't be a sissy Fay. There's no such thing as too scary. My Uncle makes short horror movies and watches all these...

Fay absent mindedly twitches her shoulders and reaches up to her bra straps, pulling on them through her clothes. This lifts her large breasts further upwards hopelessly distracting Daniel and Josh.

She gives a small tug and wiggle to the front of her bra to complete her reflex action to become more comfortable.

Lynn continues talking and notices Daniel and Josh are not really listening to her. She shoots a disgruntled look at Fay.

LYNN (CONT'D)

... these really gross... out... movies, well like all the time.

A silence before the boys and Fay snap back into the conversation.

JOSH

Well yeah, some stuff's gonna happen tonight that'll scare you.

Lynn, put out by being upstaged by her friend, walks off attempting to display her rear to its best effect. Fay briefly lingers with Daniel before scooting after Lynn.

JOSH (CONT'D)

Do you think she knows she does that?

DANIEL

Yeah... urr No, I err reckon she's just getting comfortable.

They both turn away taking a deep breath and scratching their crotches absent mindedly.

EXT. HIGH SCHOOL - DAY

Huddled tight under his cloak the Demon Trader creeps up behind a school bus. He slinks along the side and into the empty bus. The ignition starts with a wave of his hand and the bus moves away.

EXT. ROAD BY THE CEMETERY - NIGHT

The "Fright Car" is a large Minivan. Josh is at the front taking money from and opening the door for a growing line of dressed up customers, mostly High School students. At the back Daniel monitors an array of electronic controls.

JOSH

Quickly now on your way to your doom! Ha ha hah. Possess each seat for 20 seconds before moving on to the ever greater terror!

The far side of the Fright Car is concealed from view with the rear door open. HANDS (17, a sports jock) is ejected sideways by a hydraulic pump tipping his seat and screams as he lands in a wet gunky ball pool. He clambers out and through the exit joining a group of sports jocks.

HANDS

Okay so it's funny... but I wasn't frightened.

A deep roar of a school bus engine on steroids.

HANDS (CONT'D)

What is that?

The crowd all turn away from the Fright Car to look. Josh is irritated by the interruption.

Along the road comes a deep red School Bus. It roars to a stop 30 yards away, alongside the cemetery, and unleashes a cataclysmic volley of fireworks stunning everyone. A sign unfurls across the top saying "Bus of Doom".

HANDS (CONT'D)

Hell yeah, that's the sorta shit we need!

Even the people inside the Fright Car get out early and go with the rest of the crowd towards the Bus. Josh tries to hold them back but can't.

JOSH

Half price! Fifty cents! Anyone?

DANIEL

Why do they have to do their thing right where we are?

JOSH

What can they have in there? I reckon we can still compete.

The Bus door opens with a hiss by dissolving slowly into thin air to the amazement of the crowd.

Daniel shakes his head resignedly. Josh tries to stay confident.

The Demon Trader floats a foot off the ground out of the Bus several yards and then floats down to the ground.

JOSH (CONT'D)

We can't match that.

DEMON TRADER

Step aboard for a bodily experience beyond anything you'd ever expect.

HANDS

What does it cost?

DEMON TRADER

No entry fee. We only expect you to fully participate in the shop on your way out.

HANDS

You've got a shop here?

He looks around the bus and shakes his head disbelieving.

DEMON TRADER

Who's brave enough to be in the first group?

HANDS

Me man! Let's go!

The crowd pushes forwards to the door. Hands and the sports jocks are first. With a brief triumphant flourish Hands steps onto the Bus. The Demon Trader grins and rubs his hands together.

The door closes. The Bus shakes, lights flash, gears crunch into motion, the crowd briefly steps back, but then cheers. Terrible anguished screams sound all around the Bus and then it goes briefly still.

Funnels on top of the bus rattle and shake as pressure builds up. An explosion of vaporized red liquid, with some larger bits, bursts out of the funnels and over the crowd.

Momentarily the crowd is shocked, then they are thrilled and scream their approval.

As people quickly climb into the bus, screams and explosions continue, and Josh and Daniel look on dejectedly.

## EXT. ROAD BY THE CEMETERY - NIGHT

Josh and Daniel are trying to attract some of the crowds of newly arriving customers but have no success. The Demon Trader is not there anymore but people are still joining the long lines and quickly boarding the Bus.

JOSH

It's not fair, a pro company muscling in on us.

DANIEL

You'd think some of the people'd come to us after they came out. The gift shop must be raking it in!

Another explosion from the top of the bus adds to the red slick all around it.

JOSH

They must be putting them out somewhere in the cemetery. Perhaps if we go round there we could persuade some of em to come back.

## EXT. CEMETERY - NIGHT

Daniel and Josh walk through the cemetery and notice in the moonlight that a large group of the graves appears to be fresh dug.

JOSH

This must be the newest bit.

Daniel shines a flashlight at one of the grave stones. Year of death "1875".

DANIEL

Pulled up the weeds?

A noise behind them. They snap around. A Living Dead Body frightens them as it walks briskly past.

JOSH

Crap! ... Oh er, how you doing? Nice costume. Do you want to er...

The Living Dead Body pays them no attention and walks off.

They walk on and approach the other side of the Bus.

Beside the Bus is a stall with a sign "Grave O'mart". Around the stall is a large group of the Living Dead, hustling forward to buy things.

The Demon Trader runs the stall. He turns and opens a compartment in the Bus and pulls out a steaming consignment of fresh products.

DEMON TRADER

Here we are my dead friends, everything you'll need for comfortable grave living. Soaps from the fat, creams from the organs, and all the spare bones you can need.

Daniel and Josh stop in their tracks and both look around at the fresh disturbed graves and the Living Dead pressing keenly forward.

DEMON TRADER (CONT'D)
No need to push, there'll be plenty
for all. It's a busy night out
there.

He grins and greedily rubs his hands together.

The pressure builds again in the funnels on top of the bus and there is another explosion of blood into the night's sky.

Daniel and Josh jump in fear and yelp but quickly realize they need to hide. They jump behind a tree and then run frantically away.

## EXT. ROAD BY THE CEMETERY - NIGHT

Josh and Daniel dash out of the cemetery and back to the Fright Car. Briefly they get into the Fright Car planning to drive away but decide they can't when they see the growing crowd of people waiting to get into the Bus.

They hurry over towards the Bus. Near the front of the line is a COOL DUDE.

JOSH

Don't get on that Bus! You won't come out alive!

COOL DUDE

Yeah baby! Damn right! Bring it on! Yeah!

The crowd whoops and cheers.

DANIEL

No seriously, for real, they are making people into toiletries for the dead!

The crowd laughs and jeers. The Demon Trader emerges from behind the Bus and glares threateningly at Daniel and Josh.

COOL DUDE

Can I be a sanitary product for a foxy dead lady?!

The Demon Trader nods a confirmation that he can. Then he walks out towards Josh and Daniel. Seeing that they can't talk people around they turn and walk away. The Demon Trader flashes a triumphant weasely grin.

EXT. ROAD BY THE CEMETERY - NIGHT

Daniel and Josh sit dejectedly at the Fright Car watching the explosions from the Bus. They are disturbed by a knock.

Jumping they move to flee before Lynn looks around the corner.

LYNN

Hey, Fay said we like have to check in with you guys before we do the Bus. So what you got?

Lynn and Fay come around the corner dressed up provocatively for Halloween.

DANIEL

You can't go on the Bus! They are killing people and selling the, er, products out the back of the Bus!

LYNN

Cool, sounds like a neat trick.

JOSH

No seriously!

LYNN

Somebody's been tricked pretty good. Gullible!

FAY

Perhaps we shouldn't go.

Fay twitches her shoulders uncomfortably.

LYNN

Fay you're coming and so are these scaredy boys, even if we have to hold their little scaredy boy hands.

JOSH

But, no, it is, I'm sure it is...

Fay repeats her earlier unconscious bra adjustment to even more distracting effect. Josh loses track of what he was going to say and Lynn grabs his hand and leads him towards the Bus.

Fay goes to follow and is disappointed when Daniel dashes into the Fright Car. He grabs one of the hydraulic pumps and comes back out chasing after Fay.

The crowd has thinned out so they quickly get up close to the Bus and line up behind five other teenagers.

JOSH (CONT'D)

I don't think we should...

**T.YNN** 

I can't be seen with a scaredy boy! Are you a scaredy boy?

JOSH

I'm not a scaredy boy.

Bang! The funnels explode their liquid over then. Some of it lands on Josh's hand and he looks closely at it. There is a small lump of flesh.

JOSH (CONT'D)

Look it's flesh!

LYNN

Give it me!

Lynn takes the flesh and eats it. She is surprised by the taste and is briefly concerned before shaking her head.

The Bus door opens and the five in front of them get on. Lynn pulls Josh up the step onto the Bus.

Fay and Daniel don't want to follow but a stare from Lynn presses them into it.

INT. BUS OF DOOM - NIGHT

Lynn's disappointed. The Bus is apparently normal except for a compartment around the driver's seat. The other kids have made their way along the Bus.

LYNN

It's just a bus!

The door closes. They tensely wait. Josh floats back towards the door with Daniel and Fay.

Blades spring out of the tops and fronts of the seats. They all jump.

LYNN (CONT'D)

Wooh hoo!

The blades begin buzz sawing faster and faster around the edges of the seats. Kids scream as seats start surging from side to side and up and down.

Most of them think it's fun. One kid steps back to avoid a seat and does not see one move in from behind. The blades go clean through his legs and his falling torso is sawn to pieces on the top of the seat blades.

Blood flies all over the Bus and the kids panic and scream more and more as the seats move faster and faster and less and less predictably.

Lynn can only just stay alive separated from Josh, Daniel and Fay.

FAY

Lynn! This way! This way! Arrh!

Behind Lynn the other kids are mown down. The floor of the Bus begins to conveyor backwards along the Bus. At the back the floor opens up exposing a small factory processing the body parts that fall in.

Daniel, Josh and Fay are lurched forwards by the floor moving quicker and quicker. They start running to avoid being pulled among the seats.

JOSH

Jump for it Lynn! Jump!

Lynn leaps up, jumps from one seat successfully to the next. It looks like she will make the jump over the last line of seats but as she jumps the seat reverses, she falls forward and her head is severed, falling among the running feet of the other three.

They scream and run accidentally kicking the head around as the floor takes it back along the Bus.

The floor is moving so quickly they are having trouble running fast enough to stay in front of the seats.

FAY

Daniel! The driver's seat! The driver's seat!

Daniel is furthest forward and looks at the compartment around the driver's seat. He hits it with the hydraulic pump but it doesn't break.

He notices a slot the hydraulic pump will fit into. Reaching forward he just succeeds in wedging the hydraulic pump into the slot.

The pump has a button on it and as he reaches to push it he stumbles and falls. The others jump over him and grab him helping him scramble back to his feet just in time to jump ahead of a bladed seat.

DANIEL

Press it!

With a great effort Josh surges forward and reaches for the button. He is just able to push it.

The hydraulic pump expands pushing the whole compartment cover off. Bits of the cover hurl past them all and are smashed to pieces by the bladed seats.

The driver's seat is revealed and it is not moving. First Josh, then Fay and Daniel are able to jump onto the seat and cling on tight.

JOSH

Start it up!

Daniel finds a key in the sunshade and starts the engine. Fay scratches down the cover on the front window.

Josh engages drive and accelerates while Daniel steers.

EXT. ROAD BY THE CEMETERY - NIGHT

The Bus moves away revealing the shopping Living Dead to the crowd. Both sides stare briefly at each other before running away in chaos. Some Living Dead plunge back into their graves.

The Demon Trader turns in despair, as the Living Dead grab his stuff.

DEMON TRADER

My bus! My factory!

He moves to chase but turns back to save his stall.

INT. BUS OF DOOM - NIGHT

Daniel, Fay, and Josh bring the Bus to a halt several streets away. The floor is stopping moving and the seats are settling back into position. The bus is covered in blood.

Daniel flips an off switch and then a door open switch. They get out.

EXT. TOWN STREET - NIGHT

Outside the Bus they pause for a few moments.

JOSH

You know what? Next year we are going to make a fortune!

He holds his hands out towards the bus.

JOSH (CONT'D)

Just think what we can do with it! With adjustments to the...

Fay does her "subconscious" bra adjusting routine and it has the desired effect of stopping Josh talking.

FAY

Daniel, I need someone to take me home.

DANIEL

Love to.

Fay and Daniel walk off together.

Josh is briefly irritated. But he turns, grins and rubs his hands together, thinking of things he can do with the Bus.