

Graveyard Hobo

By

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EXT. GRAVEYARD - DAY

We dolly through a graveyard up to a tomb house. We hear menacing noises from within.

The noises change to happy laughter as we see two kids, ROBERT and SAM climb out of the tomb's opening.

ROBERT
That was AWESOME!

SAM
I can't believe we got in there!

The kids sit down on the grave, dangling their legs against the stone.

ROBERT
What do you think it's like to be dead in there? Like, forever.

SAM
I don't know. I guess it's just black all the time.

ROBERT
That sounds boring.

SAM
Yeah.

ROBERT
We should just, not die.

SAM
Sounds good to me.

They turn as they hear a fit of coughing. A hobo stumbles from behind a grave and collapses to the ground.

The kids watch as he clutches his heart and makes groaning noises.

He suddenly stops moving, lying silently on the ground.

Sam and Robert stare at him, surprised but interested.

Robert hops off their grave and steps over to the hobo.

He picks up a stick and pokes him. The hobo doesn't react.

ROBERT
I think he's dead.

Sam hops down and looks at the hobo.

(CONTINUED)

SAM

Yeah, he's not breathing.

They stare at the hobo for a while.

ROBERT

What do you think that hobo is seeing right now?

SAM

Well, my uncle is a doctor and he told me that one time they brought a guy back to life. When the guy woke up, he said he had seen a friendly light that guided him through all his memories of life.

Robert pokes the hobo some more with his stick, nodding.

ROBERT

Uh huh.

SAM

The guy who had died was a thief, and the guiding light made him feel the pain and terror that he had caused to every single person he robbed. So when he was brought back to life, he said he was gonna be a better person from then on.

Robert stops poking the hobo and looks at Sam.

ROBERT

So did he?

SAM

Yeah, we went to church and I met him. He was really nice, and he talked about redemption and forgiveness, and all this God stuff. I think my uncle said he does charity work now.

ROBERT

Wow, so maybe if we can wake this guy up he won't be so much of a hobo anymore.

The two stare at the hobo.

SAM
Well, my uncle taught me CPR.

ROBERT
Oh, sweet! Do it!

SAM
I don't know if I wanna' put my
mouth on his...

ROBERT
Aw come on, haven't you heard?
Hobo's mouths are even cleaner than
dogs'.

Sam ponders this for a moment. He decides to believe it.

SAM
Oh. Okay.

Sam does CPR on the hobo.

SAM
Ah, ah, ah, ah, Staying alive! Ah,
ah, ah, ah, staying alive!

ROBERT
Why are you singing that?

SAM
I can't remember why. I think it's
a good luck charm or something. You
sing too.

SAM & ROBERT
Ah, ah, ah, ah, staying alive!

Robert does a disco dance while singing.

SAM & ROBERT
Ah, ah, ah, ah, staying alive!

The hobo bursts to life, gasping for air.

SAM
Woah, it worked!

ROBERT
You did it!

The hobo looks around, completely bewildered.

HOBO
Whosa!! Whatsa!! Where am I??

SAM
You're in a graveyard.

The hobo looks at Sam, frightened.

HOBO
You's the grim reaper?

SAM
No...

HOBO
So you's god?

SAM
Uh, no--

Robert jumps in front of him.

ROBERT
He kinda' is. He gave you the gift
of life again.

HOBO
Ohhh! God!

ROBERT
Yep, that's what you can call him.

SAM
I...

Sam looks at Robert, starting to correct him. He stops
himself and sighs.

SAM
Ugh... Whatever. Look, what did you
see when you died?

HOBO
Cats.

Sam stares at him blankly.

SAM
...Cats?

HOBO
Lots of cats. They was peein'
everywhere!

SAM

Uhm, are you sure you didn't see
like, a big bright light?

HOBO

Der' was a sun.

Sam smiles.

SAM

Oh, okay. Tell me about it.

HOBO

Dem' cats was wearin' jet packs,
and dey' flew straight into that
sun. And dat' sun exploded, and the
cats was screechin', and peein',
an' screechin', and--

SAM

No, no. That can't be right.

HOBO

Thas' what I saw.

Sam is disappointed, rubbing his chin.

SAM

Maybe they were the cats you had
when you were a kid?

HOBO

No, Mr. God. I never got to be a
kid. My daddie beat me ever since
I's born.

SAM

I'm not Go--

The hobo sits up angrily, slapping at the ground.

HOBO

Why you give me that life, God?
What I ever did to you?

The hobo reaches towards Sam, begging on his knees.

HOBO

I tries to be good, I try. But I
fail because you put me in such a
shit life. It ain't my fault, Mr.
God.

The hobo grabs Sam's hand. Sam jerks away.

(CONTINUED)

SAM

You do not touch God! Okay!

The hobo withdraws.

HOBO

I's sorry, Mr. God!

SAM

It's... okay...

The hobo curls up on the ground, crying.

SAM

Listen, listen, uh, man... I, uh...

The hobo looks up at him, sniffing.

SAM

I just gave you a new life, okay.
When you leave this graveyard,
you'll be back to the real world.
Earth.

HOBO

Oh, thankyou's!!

SAM

I want you to be a better man. Go
out and help people.

HOBO

OK, you got it boss!

Sam turns and nods to Robert.

ROBERT

This way.

Robert motions towards a large black gate.

The hobo jumps up and follows him forward. Robert pushes
open the gate and the hobo wanders through it onto the
street.

Sam steps over to the gate. Robert and Sam watch the hobo
stumble and wander down the street.

SAM

You think we really changed him?

ROBERT

Yeah, I bet so. He'll probly start
a charity or something, like your
Uncle's friend.

SAM

I hope so.

ROBERT

Way to go, God!

SAM

(laughing)

Heh, yeah!

The two high five and walk off screen.

ROBERT

(O.S)

You want to check out a dead dog I
found yesterday?

SAM

DO I??!

We watch as the hobo wanders down the street.

He stops suddenly and picks up a bottle of alcohol on the
ground. He gulps down the contents, then throws the bottle.
It hits a building and shatters everywhere.

FADE TO BLACK