THE STARTLING  
By Luis Garza

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“THE STARTLING”

FADE IN:

EXT. OUTSIDES OF NEW YORK – NIGHT

SUPERIMPOSE TITLE: **New York City, 1961**

New York City about 50 years ago, people wearing 50’s clothes, grocery stores full, people wearing gloves and hats, some with black suits and others with boots.

CUT TO:

EXT. MANSION – CONTINUED

The mansion is protected by huge gates, 3 trucks on one side of the house, and a hallway leading to the patio on the other.

Stairs are leading up to the front door which is brown, and there windows with white curtains on both sides

The dark sky surrounds the house, lightning bolts hitting places nearby; probably the start of a storm.

CUT TO:

INT. MCARTHUR RESSIDENCE - ROOM – CONTINUED

A song coming from a music box fills the room, a sweet little girl’s voice after it.

SINGING VOICE  
Mary had a little lamb, Little lamb, little lamb. Mary had a little lamb, it’s fleece was white as snow.

POW!

A lightning bolt illuminates the dark room for a split second, then the voice is revealed to be -

NANCY(6)Curious looking, with long straight black hair, and big wide black eyes.

She’s sitting on a small chair, a painting sitting in front of her, she’s adding touches to it with a paint brush.

There are two beds in the room, one is hers, and the other one is her sisters. A drawer with a lamp sits in between the beds; separating them.

2.

Nancy resumes singing, in a high pitched tone.

8 dolls sitting in front of the window are staring at her, and then they start tearing up blood.

POW!

A louder lightning bolt illuminates the room for another second, revealing her painting; the painting of an old bald man with blood slapped across his face here and there.

The music box starts going slower, and Nancy’s sweet voice starts wrapping up the song.

The closet door behind her opens.

AT SOMEONE’S POV

The POV is looking at the back of Nancy, the POV is inside the closet. Nancy slowly turns her head around and looks.

The 8 dolls are looking away from the closet now.

Nancy Smiles.

ANGLE ON MUSIC BOX

The song stops, there’s a beat and then –

A clown flies up from the music box with a playful scream.

CUT TO BLACK

MAIN TITLES: ***THE STARTLING***   
FADE IN:

INT. MCARTHUR RESSIDENCE - FRONT DOOR – CONTINUED

TERESA(34) opens the front door and walks inside the house with a rain coat on.

MARY(9) comes in after her, also with a rain coat.

TERESA  
What do you want for supper?

3.

Teresa looks down at Mary, who is setting her raincoat on a hanger by the door.

Mary extends her hands, letting her mom know that she wants to hang her coat.

Teresa gives Mary her coat and she turns around to hang it.

TERESA  
Thank you darling.

Mary looks back at her.

MARY  
Scrambled eggs?

TERESA  
Well can you please go upstairs and get our sister.

Mary makes it for the stairs, Teresa stops her.

MARY  
What?

TERESA  
Leave your boots here I don’t want you leaving the floor wet.

Mary takes her boots off and sets them next to the front door.

Teresa smiles as Mary is running up the stairs.

When walking in the house, the first thing that someone notices is a small living room, right in front of the front door.

To the right of the small living room there is a huge 20 feet long wooden curtain that leads into a bigger living room and a dining room.

In front of the small living room are the stairs leading to the second floor; the kitchen is in front of the stairs.

On the left side of the small living room are another set of stairs, except that they are leading down to a lower floor.

Teresa walks down the stairs from the living room into a big empty space.

INT. EPMTY SPACE - CONTINUED

4.

Next to that empty space is a hallway, she walks towards the hallway to find a door at the end of it.

INT. ROOM – CONTINUED

Teresa walks in to find –

JOSEPH(75)bald, with tubes connected to his nose and into a machine.

His heart is beating normally for now.

A copy of “To kill a Mockingbird” is sitting in the drawer next to him.

TERESA  
How are you feeling dad?

JOSEPH  
Better. How was the walk to the park? Did Mary enjoy it?

TERESA  
It was good, but a storm caught us off guard.

JOSEPH  
I wish I could take her to the park like I used too, but these tubes.

Joseph sighs, Teresa can’t help but feel sorry for him.

TERESA  
You will soon, I promise.

Joseph looks down with puppy eyes, showing his discouragement.

TERESA(CONT’D)  
I’m cooking eggs for supper, do you want some?

JOSEPH  
Please.

TERESA  
I’ll bring it to you in 20 minutes.

JOSEPH  
Darling?

Teresa looks back at him, she was about to leave the room.

5.

TERESA  
Yes?

JOSEPH  
Can you please adjust my pillow.

TERESA  
It will be my pleasure.

Teresa walks over to were her sick father is, she kindly lifts up his head and adjusts the pillow. She puts his head back in the pillow and kisses his forehead before walking out.

CUT TO:

INT. UPSTAIRS LANDING – CONTINUED

The first thing visible when someone makes it to the upstairs landing is a mirror. To the left of the mirror is a long hallway with a door at the end.

On the right side of the mirror there’s a small space with 3 doors.

Mary walks towards the room and she hears her sister.

NANCY(O.S)  
Don’t scare her.

Mary walks in to find Nancy done with her painting.

MARY  
Nancy, mom says that there is going to be eggs for supper.

Nancy doesn’t turn, she continues admiring her painting.

MARY  
Nancy!

After a long beat Nancy replies.

NANCY  
Fine.

Mary grabs one of the dolls in the window and lays down, petting her hair.

CUT TO:

INT. KITCHEN – CONTINUED

6.

The kitchen is spacious, a square table with 4 chairs behind the stove where Teresa is cooking.

On the left side of the stove is a door that leads outside, on the right side there’s a refrigerator.

Teresa is cooking, while humming a lullaby, there’s a bark outside.

TERESA  
Darling!

MARY(O.S)  
Yes?

TERESA  
You haven’t fed Chester!

MARY(O.S)  
Coming!

After a beat, Mary comes in the kitchen

MARY  
But it’s raining outside!

Teresa looks backwards, realizing it.

TERESA  
Oh, I forgot. Well since you’re already downstairs can you give this to your grandpa?

Teresa gives Mary a plate with eggs, Mary takes it with a smile.

TERESA(CONT’D)  
Go, he really wants to see you.

Mary takes off, Teresa puts eggs on another plate.

TERESA(CONT’D)  
Nancy! Supper is ready!

Teresa serves juice in a cup.

TERESA  
Nancy!

Teresa turns to look at Nancy, who was standing behind her.

7.

NANCY  
I know I heard you.

TERESA  
Oh Darling! You startled me.

Nancy smiles at her.

NANCY  
Did I? Sorry

TERESA  
You certainly did.

Teresa laughs.

NANCY  
Sorry, I had to rush downstairs.

TERESA  
Had to darling?

NANCY  
Yeah, the man in my closet is scary.

TERESA  
Man?

NANCY  
Well.. I don’t know if he’s a man or a woman, his face is covered, but o well.

Nancy happily takes the plate

NANCY  
Thank you.

TERESA  
Darling I’ll be right back.

CUT TO:

INT. JOSSPH’S ROOM – CONTINUED

Joseph is sitting with his granddaughter, they are laughing, an opened copy of “To Kill a Mockingbird” is sitting on top of his lap.

Teresa walks in to find them laughing.

8.

TERESA  
Hey, what’s going on in here?

Mary chuckles and tells his grandpa something in his ear, Joseph laughs.

TERESA  
I see, it’s a secret.

JOSEPH  
Nothing I was just in the middle of finishing this book, and this beautiful lady came to give me your eggs.

TERESA  
I hope you like them, Mary we have to go Grandpa has to rest.

JOSEPH  
I feel better its good.

TERESA  
Dad, please.

JOSEPH  
Oh, but before you head off, can you finish this book for me.

Teresa grabs the book.

TERESA  
To kill a mockingbird, I don’t know when everyone is going to stop talking about this book, it’s been a year.

JOSEPH  
I left on the last page.

Teresa opens the book and starts reading.

TERESA  
“And the chased him ‘n’ never could catch him ‘cause they didn’t know what he looked like an’ Atticus, when they finally saw him, why he hadn’t done any of those things.. Atticus, he was real nice..

Teresa stops for a beat and continues reading, she has the perfect reading voice.

9.

TERESA(CONT’D)  
His hands are under my chin, pulling me up the cover, tucking it around me. “Most people are, Scout, when you finally can see them” He turned out the light and went into Jem’s room. He could be there all night and he could be there when Jem waked up in the morning. The end.

Teresa turns to look at Joseph who is already sleeping facing up.

TERESA  
Good night father, I love you.

Teresa gives him a kiss on the forehead and takes Mary’s hand after Mary’s turn.

TERESA  
Let’s go get you supper.

Teresa leaves the room with her daughter.

Now Joseph is by himself, his chest rising and falling, when the door next to him opens revealing a closet.

The shape of a dark figure appears, face covered and all black.

FADE OUT

FADE IN:

On a clock, it’s 7:00 am

INT. KITCHEN – CONTINUED

Teresa is serving breakfast for Mary and Nancy.

TERESA  
Hurry up Darling, the bus can be here at any moment.

RING! RING! RING!

TERESA(CONT’D)  
Please finish it.

Teresa walks out the kitchen into the –

INT. SMALL LIVING ROOM – CONTINUED

10.

She holds the wood carpet that splits the two living rooms and slides it to the left revealing a much bigger living room with record players, a grand piano, big couches and the dining room to the side.

She grabs the telephone and brings it to her ear.

TERESA(CONT’D)  
Hello? (beat) Yes this is her (beat) Indeed yes (beat) I’m so delighted! (beat) You can come over at eight (beat) It’ll be a pleasure (beat) I’ll make tea (beat) thank you.

Teresa hangs up.

BEEP!

TERESA  
Girls! The bus!

The girls come rushing from the kitchen, Teresa gives them both a kiss on the cheek.

NANCY  
Love you mom!

TERESA  
Love you too darling!

The girls leave the house, shortly the sound of the bus leaving can be heard. Teresa walks towards the grand piano and sits down.

She feels the keys of the piano and starts playing a beautiful melody, feeling the music, with her eyes closed.

The song starts getting faster and faster, more difficult.

She opens her eyes to find a figure in front of the piano, she gasps.

TERESA  
Father, you frightened me.

Her dad is standing there with the machine rolling by his side.

TERESA  
And what are you doing out of bed? You can’t be walking around with cancer.

JOSEPH  
I feel good, really.

11.

Teresa sighs.

JOSEPH  
Was that the piece I thought you when you were a little girl?

TERESA  
Yes.

JOSEPH  
It sounded awful.

Teresa laughs.

TERESA  
I can’t play it without you, it’s a 4 handed piece remember?

JOSEPH  
If you’ll excuse me.

Joseph sits next to his daughter, he sets both hands on the piano and smiles at Teresa, Teresa nods.

Teresa starts the piece, slowly and beautifully good, then her dad starts coming in little by little till the song is fast and heart filling.

Teresa can’t stop looking at her dad, who is smiling, enjoying his life once again like the old times.

Before she knows it the song comes to an end.

JOSEPH  
Just like the old times.

Joseph is looking straight at the keys, but Teresa is looking at him, lost in her own thoughts.

TERESA  
Such an inspiration.

JOSEPH  
I’m sorry?

TERESA  
I haven’t seen you smile like that since..

12.

JOSEPH  
Since what?

TERESA  
Since you were diagnosed with cancer.

JOSEPH  
Well darling, I’ve learnt that complaining will only waste the time were I could’ve been smiling.

TERESA  
Go to bed, you still need sleep.

Teresa gives her dad a friendly pat on the back and heads to the kitchen.

INT. KITCHEN – CONTINUED

She sits down on the table just to hear a dog bark.

TERESA  
I’m coming Chester!

Teresa opens a large pantry next to the kitchen table and takes out some dog food.

CUT TO:

EXT. BACK OF THE HOUSE – CONTINUED

The backdoor opens, Teresa comes out of the house and walks down the steps to find a Labrador waiting for her downstairs.

Teresa sets the food down next to Chester, smaller barks can be heard on the other side of the backyard. She walks over to a big cage, with 3 little Labrador puppies.

She smiles at them, and walks back to the house.

INT. KITCHEN – CONTINUED

Teresa walks inside the kitchen and closes the back door.

She grabs hold of the fridge just to hear a deadly scream.

JOSEPH(O.S)  
No! Get away from me!

Teresa immediately reacts and runs out of the kitchen into the –

13.

INT. SMALL LIVING ROOM – CONTINUED

She runs through the small living room and walks down the stairs to the –

INT. EMPTY ROOM – CONTINUED

She walks through the long hallway next to it into –

INT. JOSEPHS’ ROOM - CONTINUED

She opens the door to walk in and sees a dark figure at the foot of his bed, hunched over him.

Teresa screams and turns on the light to see the figure completely gone. She runs over to where her dad is, just to see him pale and unconscious with his eyes opened. The heart monitor has the line going in a straight line horizontally; he’s dead.

Teresa shakes her father.

TERESA  
Father?! Father!! Father!!!

CUT TO BLACK

FADE IN: On a tombstone

EXT. NORTH OF THE HOUSE – NIGHT

The house can be seen a few yards away from the tombstone, it reads: “Here lies Joseph McArthur 1874-1961”

SUPERIMPOSE TITLE – ***3 DAYS LATER***

INT. UPSTAIRS HALLWAY – CONTINUED

Martha walks through the hallway into the girls’ room, she opens the door to see them almost asleep.

MARTHA  
Sleep tight darling.

One of the girl groans, she closes the door and walks down the stairs, not noticing a tall man with a suit sitting on a couch; The man looks exactly like her father

INT. DOWNSTAIRS LANDING – CONTINUED

14.

She turns out the kitchen light, and walks towards the wooden curtain. She slides the wooden curtain to the side to reveal the big living room.

INT. BIG LIVING ROOM – CONTINUED

She turns out the light, and walks back upstairs.

CUT TO:

EXT. FRONT OF THE HOUSE – MORNING

A school bus passes right in front of the house, Mary and Nancy run towards it.

INT. BIG LIVING ROOM – CONTINUED

Teresa is polishing some furniture, the phone rings, she walks towards the small living room and answers it.

TERESA  
Yes?(Beat) I’m so sorry I’m going to have to cancel(beat) why?(beat) because my daughters are going to be here and there is no one to watch over them(beat) if I find one I will.

Teresa hangs up.

CUT TO:

INT. JOSEPH’S ROOM – CONTINUED

Teresa is touching the bed where her dad layed.

TERESA  
Oh, how much I miss you.

Teresa smells the pillow. She sets it down and notices her father’s copy of “To kill a mockingbird”. She grabs it and walks out of the room.

CUT TO:

INT. SMALL LIVING ROOM – MINUTES LATER

Teresa sits down in the small living room and opens the book to page 1, she starts reading.

SHOT OF THE CLOCK

15.

It’s 9:05am it switches to 12:55pm.

Teresa is still reading, now she’s on page 166. She is glancing with wide eyes at book, really getting into it. The page suddenly turns to page 167.

Teresa, with an unconcerned look on her face turns back to page 166 and continues reading.

She continues reading, she’s halfway through the page, when it turns to 167 again. Teresa annoyingly turns back to page 166 and proceeds reading. She’s about to finish the page when the book turns to page 167 again.

She turns to look at the air vent, which is on her left side. She raises her hand to check if there is any air coming at her.

RING! RING!

Teresa puts down the book and walks towards the phone, she picks up the receiver and brings It to her ear.

TERESA  
Hello (beat) Indeed I received the letter (beat) I shall call you back when I read it (beat) Thank you, have a wonderful day.

Teresa hangs up.

BANG... BANG... BANG!

A rhythmic bang is coming from the rooms on the lower floor.

BANG... BANG... BANG!

She walks down in the stairs into the –

INT. EMPTY ROOM – CONTINUED

She walks around the empty room to see what caused the banging, then it starts again.

BANG... BANG... BANG!

The banging is surely coming from the hallway next to the empty room. Teresa walks through the hallway to find three doors, her father’s old room, a bathroom and another room.

16.

She slowly opens her dad’s room first to reveal the bed, just the bed. She moves to the door next to it, which is the bathroom.

She slowly opens the door to reveal an empty bathroom, just a toilet, a mirror, and a sink.

BANG... BANG... BANG!

The bang is coming from the door next to the bathroom door, she holds the door knob and it stops banging.

She slowly opens the door to reveal the shape of a woman with a wedding dress looking at her in the middle of the small room; she gasps.

Teresa slowly has a face of relieve when she notices it’s a mannequin. She walks over to where it is and grabs hold of her wedding dress, she sighs.

BANG! BUM! DING!

It’s the piano from the main floor, she leaves the room into the –

INT. LOWER FLOOR HALLWAY – CONTINUED

She walks through the hallway into the –

INT. EMPTY ROOM – CONTINUED

She walks up the stairs into the –

INT. LIVING ROOM – CONTINUED

She looks at the small living room and walks towards the wooden curtain that divides the small living room and the big living room.

She slides the curtain to the left to reveal the big living room and the grand piano.

She walks over to the piano to see the keys uncovered, she covers them and walks to the kitchen.

CUT TO:

EXT. FRONT PORCH – HOURS LATER

A bus passes by the house, two little girls get out of the bus and run towards the front to greet their mother.

17.

TERESA  
My babies! How was school today?

NANCY  
Good. I brought you something.

Nancy gives her mom a piece of paper, Teresa looks at it and hugs Nancy.

TERESA  
Oh thanks darling! How was your day Mary?

Mary looks at Teresa.

MARY  
Great, what are we eating?

TERESA  
Well go inside and see.

CUT TO:

INT. KITCHEN – MINUTES LATER

The girls are eating steak with vegetables, they are almost done.

NANCY  
Mom can I go play with the dogs?

TERESA  
After you eat your vegetables.

Nancy takes a bite of her carrot, and spits it out without her mom catching her. Nancy puts the carrot in her pocket.

NANCY  
I’m finished! Thank you mom!

Nancy gets up from the table and leaves through the backdoor, Mary gives her plate to Teresa and heads outside too.

EXT. BACKYARD – CONTINUED

Mary and Nancy are petting the little dogs. Teresa is walking down the backyard stairs to join them.

NANCY  
Can we keep them?

18.

TERESA  
I’m afraid I have to sell them after they are old enough to live without their mommy.

NANCY  
Can we keep one?

TERESA  
But you already have Chester.

NANCY  
Yeah she just lays there all day like a lazy animal.

SHOT OF CHESTER LAYING DOWN NEXT TO THE DOOR.

NANCY(CONT’D)  
I want a new one!

TERESA  
Well..

NANCY  
Please?

Nancy looks at Teresa with puppy eyes.

TERESA  
Okay, Okay!

Nancy and Mary jump up and down, Teresa smiles.

TERESA  
Which one is your favorite?

NANCY  
The middle one!

A chocolate Labrador is playing with the other two dogs

TERESA  
What about you Mary?

MARY  
I also like the middle one.

TERESA  
Do you have a name for him?

19.

MARY  
Cukas McArthur.

Teresa laughs.

NANCY  
Ewww. No.

TERESA  
What name do you like?

NANCY  
Sparky.

TERESA  
Sparky?

Nancy nods.

TERESA  
Do you like that name Mary?

MARY  
I guess.

TERESA(CONT’D)  
Sparky it is.

CUT TO:

INT. GIRL’S ROOM – NIGHT

Nancy and Mary are sleeping, their chest rising and falling. They are both lost in their dreams. The only light comes from a lamp that is in between the beds.

A shadow of a suit passes in front of Mary’s bed. Mary wakes up and looks around her room.

MARY  
Mom?

The lamp in the middle of the bed starts flickering, Mary looks at it and goes back to sleep.

CUT TO:

EXT. FRONT PORCH – MORNING

20.

The bus arrives, Mary and Nancy leave the house and run towards the bus, Teresa comes out of the house and waves at them.

TERESA  
Bye Girls! I love you!

The girls wave back at their mom and get in the bus, the bus soon takes off.

CUT TO:

INT. SMALL LIVING ROOM – CONTINUED

Teresa comes inside the house, walks towards the wooden curtain and slides it to the left. Teresa admires her big living room.

BANG... BANG... BANG!

The banging starts again, but now it’s coming upstairs, instead of coming from the lower floor like the day before.

She runs towards the stairs that go into the 2nd floor and starts walking upstairs, following the banging.

INT. UPSTAIRS LANDING – CONTINUED

The banging stops, she looks in the mirror, there is a picture of her dad in the corner of the mirror, covering part of the reflection

She takes the picture from the mirror, revealing her dad standing behind her.

Teresa gasps and turns to see nothing, she sighs.

TERESA  
Come on Teresa get it together.

She walks towards the stairs and walks down into the –

INT. DOWNSTAIRS LANDING – CONTINUED

She walks towards the opened curtain into the –

INT. BIG LIVING ROOM – CONTINUED

She walks towards the Grand Piano, uncovers the keys and sits down. She feels the keys making contact with the tip of her fingers.

21.

She takes a deep breath and starts playing the piece from earlier, starting out slow and easy.

Soon the song starts going faster and it’s obvious that it requires 4 hands.

BAM!

While she’s playing, a key presses by itself.

BONG!

Another key.

DING!

Another key.

Teresa looks at the other side of the piano weirdly, but she’s still playing.

The other side of the piano suddenly starts playing by itself in a professional way, helping Teresa through the song.

Teresa jumps out of the piano and looks at it with a startled face. She quickly covers the piano keys, her back is facing the small living room, a shadow passes by behind her, laughing.

She quickly turns to look behind her and runs out of the house

EXT. FRONT PORCH – CONTINUED

Teresa opens the door and sits down on the rocking chair outside, frightened.

SHOT OF THE CLOCK INSIDE

The clock marks 11:55pm, it switches to 3:00pm

The bus arrives, the girls get out of the bus to greet their mother.

TERESA  
Hey! How was school today?

NANCY  
Great.

MARY  
Fine.

22.

TERESA  
Let’s go inside, do you want to help me cook?

Teresa holds Nancy and Mary’s hand and takes them inside.

CUT TO:

INT. KITCHEN – MINUTES LATER

Teresa is picking up the plates from the girls who just finished eating.

MARY  
I’m going upstairs.

TERESA  
Be careful Darling!

NANCY  
I’m going upstairs too.

TERESA  
Wait up Nancy.

Nancy turns around and sits back down.

NANCY  
Yes?

Teresa sits down next to Nancy and looks at her with a very serious look.

TERESA  
Five days ago you told me something about Grandpa.

NANCY  
Yes?

TERESA  
Do you remember what you told me?

NANCY  
No.

TERESA  
You told me that there was this person, covered in black.

Nancy looks down.

23.

NANCY  
Yes.

TERESA  
And I need you to tell me, who is he?

NANCY  
I don’t know, he didn’t tell me that.

TERESA  
Wait? So he talked to you.

NANCY  
Yes.

TERESA  
What did he say?

NANCY  
He said that it was grandpa’s time to go. He said he was here to take him away from us.

Teresa shakes her head.

TERESA  
Alright darling you can go.

Nancy leaves the kitchen, Teresa pulls her hair back.

CUT TO:

INT. GIRL’S ROOM – CONTINUED

Nancy walks in to find Mary playing with her dolls.

NANCY  
Mary, I know how to talk to Grandpa.

MARY  
How?

NANCY  
With this.

Nancy pulls out a home-made Ouija board.

MARY  
A Ouija board?

24.

NANCY  
Yes.

MARY  
So that’s why you didn’t turn in your drawing at school, you were doing that.

NANCY  
Yes.

MARY  
You’re not even old enough to know what a Ouija board is for.

NANCY  
Do you want to talk to Grandpa or not?

MARY  
You made it with crayons, of course it’s not going to work.

NANCY  
Chicken! Mary is a chicken!

MARY  
Alright.

Nancy sets the board down on the floor and puts a cup over the board. Mary looks at the cup and then back at Nancy.

MARY  
Really?

NANCY  
Just go!

They both put their hands on the cup.

NANCY  
So what do you want to ask it?

MARY  
How about “Do you think Nancy is ever going to stop farting in her sleep?

NANCY  
Stop it!

25.

MARY  
Alright, you ask the questions.

NANCY  
Is there anybody here?

Silence

NANCY  
Whoever.

Silence

MARY  
I told you it wasn’t going to work.

Mary gets up to leave, the cup moves to “Yes”, Nancy looks at Mary.

NANCY  
What did you say?

MARY  
You did that!

NANCY  
No I didn’t!

Mary sighs.

NANCY  
Fine I’ll put it away, since you’re scared.

MARY  
I’m not scared of anything!

NANCY  
Then come play!

Mary sits back down and puts her hands back in the cup.

NANCY  
Are you grandpa?

The cup moves to “No”

NANCY  
Who are you?

26.

The cup slowly moves to different letters, at the end spelling “a ghost”

MARY  
You are doing this!

NANCY  
No I’m not.

MARY  
Alright then Mr. Ghost, please tell us something that isn’t obvious.

NANCY  
You are going to get it mad!

MARY  
I’ll ask the questions now.

Mary rubs her hands against the cup.

MARY  
Are you a friendly ghost?

It moves to “No”

MARY(CONT’D)  
Is grandpa in this house?

It moves to “yes”, the girls are starting to look nervous.

MARY  
Where is he?

The cup fastly moves to a lot of letters, at the end spelling “Somewhere he can’t hear you”

NANCY  
I’m scared.

MARY  
Who are you?

The cup fastly moves to other letters, at the end spelling “Not you’re business”

MARY  
What do you want?

29.

It moves to more letters, at the end spelling “Everything”

NANCY  
I’m scared.

MARY  
Thank you, we are leaving now.

It violently moves to some more letters, at the end spelling “You will never get rid of me”

Mary and Nancy look frightened, then the cup moves from 9 to 8 to 7 to 6

NANCY  
What’s happening?

MARY  
It’s counting down.

NANCY  
For what?!

The cup is now at 5 it moves to 4 to 3 to 2 to 1 to 0.

Silence.

Nancy turns to look at Mary with a frightened look on her face.

MARY  
What?

NANCY  
There a woman standing behind you.

CUT TO:

INT. KITCHEN – CONTINUED

Teresa is washing the dishes, her silence is cut by the sound of her daughters screaming.

Teresa runs out of the kitchen into -

INT. DOWNSTAIRS LANDING – CONTINUED

She walks up the stairs onto –

INT. UPSTAIRS LANDING – CONTINUED

30.

She walks to the last door on the left into –

INT. GIRL’S ROOM – CONTINUED

She walks in to see the girls screaming, she runs over to where they are.

TERESA  
What’s wrong?

NANCY  
Mary is trying to scare me!

MARY  
No! She’s the one trying to scare me!

TERESA  
Girls stop fighting!

NANCY  
She was moving the cup!

MARY  
No, she was moving the cup!

TERESA  
What on earth are you talking about?

MARY  
That!

Teresa walks over to were the Ouija board is, she grabs and then madly shakes it in front of their faces.

TERESA  
This! You girls were playing with this!

MARY  
It doesn’t work, she made it with crayons.

TERESA  
I don’t care if it works or not! What do I take you to church for!

NANCY  
I’m sorry.

29.

TERESA  
This is the last time this happens, please!

MARY  
It will be, I promise

TERESA  
God is really disappointed with you. And I’m burning this! I don’t care if it’s made out of crayons!

Teresa storms out of the room with the Ouija board.

CUT TO:

INT. GIRL’S ROOM – NIGHT

The girls are sleeping, the lamp in the middle of the bed is on. Mary suddenly wakes up, when she opens her eyes she gasps.

All of her nine dolls have been set on her bed right next to her, the lamp illuminating their faces, giving them a more sinister look.

She grabs three dolls, gets out of bed and aligns them in the window.

MARY  
This is not funny Nancy.

Nancy groans, Mary grabs three more dolls, takes them to the window and aligns them next to the other dolls.

Mary comes back for her last dolls, and puts them where the other dolls are. She walks back to her bed, leaving 9 dolls aligned in the window, staring into the room.

CUT TO:

INT. SMALL LIVING ROOM – NEXT DAY

Teresa kisses the girls goodbye to go to school.

TERESA  
Have an outstanding day.

NANCY  
I don’t want to go.

TERESA  
Don’t be silly, it’s Friday.

30.

The girls leave the house to go to school, Teresa watches the bus take off and then she closes the door.

BANG... BANG... BANG... BANG!

The banging starts again, coming from the lower floor. She walks towards the stairs that lead to the lower floor, just to find some scissors on one of the steps.

She grabs them and puts them up on a shelf that is next to the stairs, she walks down into –

INT. EMPTY ROOM – CONTINUED

BANG... BANG... BANG!

Teresa looks ahead into the hallway.

TERESA  
Who’s there!

The banging stops.

TERESA  
Stop it!

She turns around to head back to the stairs.

Teresa walks up the stairs, the scissors fall in the step in front of her, she screams.

She grabs the scissors and puts them back into the shelf.

TERESA  
Who are you!

She walks towards the front door to leave the house, but when she tries it, the door won’t open. Teresa bangs on the door.

A creepy whisper can be heard behind Teresa

WOMAN’S WHISPER  
Where are you going.

Teresa runs towards the stairs that lead into the second floor.

WHOOSH!

31.

The copy of “To Kill a Mockingbird” comes violently flying towards Teresa, she ducks.

She runs up the stairs that lead into the second floor, she runs to the right into –

INT. MASTER BEDROOM – CONTINUED

There is a big bed in the center of the room, the rest of the room is surrounded by furniture.

Teresa runs inside, shuts the door and locks it, she holds on to the door.

BRRRR! BRRRR! BRRRR!

There is a noise coming from under the bed, she turns to look at her bed which is undone. She walks towards it, soon enough she makes it to the bed.

BAM!

The door behind her bursts open, she runs to close it.

When she turns back around a sheet comes flying at her, covering her face. When she takes the sheet out of her face, she spots a woman’s sinister face under the bed, staring evilly at her.

Teresa runs out of the room, she runs down the stairs, almost tripping.

INT. DOWNSTAIRS LANDING – CONITNUED

She walks through the small living room, opens the front door and runs out of the house

EXT. FRONT PORCH – CONTINUED

Teresa runs out of the house, walks down the steps and turns around to see the window, there is nothing to be seen.

Teresa opens the gates and runs out.

CUT TO:

EXT. CHURCH – MOMENTS LATER

Teresa walks around the church, admiring the building.

32.

DING! DING! DING!

The church bell dings, Teresa looks up at the tower clock, it marks 12:30pm.

She walks inside, looking at the altar, the pastor is sitting down on his chair alone, she walks towards him.

TERESA  
Father! Father!

FATHER  
Oh! Teresa what a surprise that you’re here.

TERESA  
Listen father I need help.

FATHER  
There is nothing our lord can’t help us with.

TERESA  
You don’t understand father, there is something in my house.

FATHER  
Pardon me?

TERESA  
Something evil is haunting my house, I’m afraid it wants to hurt me.

FATHER  
Something evil huh?

TERESA  
Yes, I need help, I thought maybe you could come and –

FATHER  
Well I’m a pastor, not a ghost buster.

TERESA  
Please Father.

FATHER  
I’m sorry, I can’t help you.

Teresa sighs heavily.

33.

FATHER(CONT’D)  
Just have faith in God, he will help you, just pray, pray and pray.

TERESA  
But –

FATHER  
I’ll see you on Sunday, I expect you to be here, oh and why don’t you call your brother? From what I’ve heard he’s a ghost buster.

TERESA  
Mark? He’s a priest, just like you, but I haven’t seen him in eighteen months.

FATHER  
If you’ll excuse me I have to get everything ready for Sunday.

TERESA  
Have a good day pastor.

Teresa sighs in disappointment.

FATHER  
You too.

Teresa watches as he leaves, she sighs again, turns around and heads out the door.

CUT TO:

EXT. MCARTHUR’S FRONT PORCH – MINUTES LATER

Teresa opens the gate to go inside the house, she walks through the front porch, up the stairs and opens the front door.

INT. SMALL LIVING ROOM – CONTINUED

She walks through the living room and reaches the phone, she dials some numbers and then waits.

TERESA  
Hello? Mark!(BEAT) Yes it’s your sister Teresa(BEAT)How are you doing?(BEAT) Listen, I need you to help me(BEAT)There is something in my house, I need help (BEAT) No he couldn’t

34.

help, I guess some priests aren’t like others(BEAT) Really?! (BEAT) Sunday? (BEAT) You’re out of town? (BEAT) Alright see you in two days (BEAT) Bye.

Teresa hangs up and looks at the clock, It’s 2:56

WOOF! WOOF! WOOF!

The dogs outside bark.

INT. KITCHEN – CONTINUED

She walks through the kitchen wand walks towards the door that leads out to –

EXT. BACKYARD – CONTINUED

She walks down the steps and walks over to where the puppies are. She sees two of them wagging their tail, but the third one is on the floor on its side, with its mouth closed and eyes opened, it’s dead.

TERESA  
Oh No!

Teresa reaches the dog and pets it, then she checks for its pulse.

CUT TO:

INT. KITCHEN – MINUTES LATER

Nancy and Mary are eating, Teresa is washing some dirty dishes.

MARY  
Why did the puppy have to die?

Teresa slowly puts the plate that she’s working on down, without looking back she replies –

TERESA  
Well sometimes after birth the dogs get sick and die.

MARY  
Even when they are three weeks old?

Teresa nods, without looking at her.

TERESA  
Even when they are three weeks old.

35.

Nancy looks down at her plate.

TERESA(CONT’D)  
But enough about that, guess who’s coming on Sunday?

MARY  
Who?

TERESA  
Uncle Mark.

Nancy jumps up and down, Teresa smiles just to see her daughter this happy.

NANCY  
Really! When!

TERESA  
I already mentioned it, in two days.

MARY  
That’s great.

TERESA  
Are you done with that?

Mary nods, Teresa takes their plates and takes them to the sink. The girls go upstairs. Teresa sighs when she puts the plates under the sink.

CUT TO:

INT. GIRL’S ROOM – CONTINUED

The girls come inside the room, laughing, then they notice something strange. All nine dolls are lined up on the floor in a path. Nancy and Mary look at them confused. The dolls lead into an opened window. Mary walks towards the window and closes it.

CUT TO:

INT. LAUNDRY ROOM – CONTINUED

The laundry room is small. Teresa is putting some dirty clothes into the washer, A white dress passes behind her.

Teresa turns on the washer, grabs the basket and walks up the stairs into –

36.

INT. EMPTY ROOM – CONTINUED

She walks towards the stairs and puts the basket down.

CUT TO:

INT. MASTER BEDROOM – NIGHT

The clock marks 10:56 pm, Teresa is folding some clothes and laying them on the bed. She turns around to grab a shirt, when she turns back around she sees Nancy, as still as a robot standing right in front of her with her eyes sleepy and her hair messy.

TERESA  
Darling, you frightened me, why are you out of bed?

NANCY  
The white face is at the window.

TERESA  
Pardon me?

NANCY  
(louder) The white face. Is at the window.

Teresa puts the shirt down on her bed and leaves the room.

INT. HALLWAY – CONTINUED

Teresa walks through the hallway until she reaches the last door at the end, which is the girl’s room.

She opens the girl’s room to see Mary sleeping, she brings her eyesight to the left to reveal the window. There is a creepy pale face stalking the girls inside the room outside the window, a woman’s face, maybe a girl.

Teresa gasps silently, trying not to frighten Nancy.

NANCY  
What was that?

TERESA  
Nothing, Don’t think about it, just go to bed.

CUT TO:

INT. MASTER BEDRROOM – CONTINUED

37.

Teresa turns the lights off and gets prepared to sleep, she gets comfortable in bed and closes her eyes.

CUT TO:

INT. GIRL’S ROOM – HOURS LATER

The girls are sleeping, Nancy on the right bed and Mary on the left bed next to the window.

CLICK!

The window lock clicks and the window opens slowly, more darkness fills the room.

CUT TO:

INT. KITCHEN - MORNING

Teresa is flipping some pancakes while reading the newspaper, she finishes one and adds some butter, she takes out some syrup and splashes it all over the pancake.

TERESA  
Mary! Nancy! Breakfast is ready!

CUT TO:

INT. GIRL’S ROOM – CONTINUED

Nancy groans and wakes up, she throws a pillow at Mary. Mary groans back at her, Nancy notices the opened window, she curiously walks towards it and closes it.

NANCY  
Don’t open the window at night Mary, I was freezing.

MARY  
Don’t blame that on me, it’s you.

TERESA(O.S)  
Girls I’m not calling you again!

MARY  
Coming!

CUT TO:

INT. KITCHEN – CONTINUED

38.

Teresa puts the plates down on the table, four footsteps are heard coming downstairs, the girls rush into the kitchen.

TERESA  
Good Morning.

NANCY  
Morning.

TERESA  
How did you all sleep?

MARY  
Good.

WOOF! WOOF!

TERESA  
I’m going to feed the dogs, be right back.

Teresa walks towards the door that leads to the backyard.

EXT. BACKYARD – CONTINUED

Teresa pets Chester’s head, she then walks over to the gate were the puppies are. Again one of them is wagging its tail, however the second one is dead.

TERESA  
Oh God.

Teresa covers her mouth in shock.

CUT TO:

INT. OUTSIDES OF THE HOUSE – MINUTES LATER  
  
Teresa is kneeling down on her dad’s gravestone, she changes the rotten flowers to new ones.

TERESA  
I miss you so much.

Teresa hugs the gravestone.

CUT TO:

INT. OFFICE – HOURS LATER

39.

Teresa is writing something on her desk, she pulls out a letter, opens it and starts reading it. It doesn’t take long for her to be interrupted by the sound of Nancy laughing

TERESA  
Girls! Quiet down, I’m making an effort to read.

CUT TO:

INT. GIRL’S ROOM – CONTINUED

Mary is playing with two dolls, Nancy runs out of the room with a teddy bear, screaming with joy. Mary continues playing with the dolls, the door creaks.

TERESA(O.S)  
Mary! Supper is ready!

MARY  
Coming!

Mary continues playing without moving her feet to go downstairs, Teresa calls her again.

TERESA(O.S)  
Mary! Diner is ready

MARY  
I said I’m coming!

Mary continues playing, the hallway door behind her slowly, opens. Mary turns around to look at the wide open door.

BOOM! BOOM! BOOM!

Mad footsteps of a maid with over-done makeup come inside the room, the mad maid violently screaming.

MAID  
I said diner is ready!

The maid disappears as she runs towards Mary, Teresa comes inside the room.

TERESA  
Mary Darling what do you want for diner?

40.

MARY  
There is someone else in here!

TERESA  
Pardon me?

MARY  
A woman was calling me for diner, I thought it was you but when she came in I saw that it was another woman.

Teresa holds Mary, who is extremely paranoid.

TERESA  
Alright Darling, Uncle Mark is coming tomorrow to get rid of this thing, all you have to do is wait one night, just one night, can you do that darling, can you do that?

Mary slowly nods.

TERESA  
Alright, Try not to startle your little sister.

Teresa holds Mary’s hand and walks out the room with her.

TERESA(CONT’D)  
Alright let’s go have supper.

CUT TO:

INT. GIRLS’ ROOM – NIGHT

Mary and Nancy are sleeping, Mary turns the other way to get more comfortable.

CUT TO:

INT. MASTER BEDROOM – CONTINUED

Teresa is sleeping, taking very deep breaths.

BRRRRRRR!

The bathroom opens a little tiny bit.

CUT TO:

INT. GIRL’S ROOM – CONTINUED

CLICK!

41.

The window lock clicks and the window opens, letting cold air in.

GIRL’S HUSHED VOICE  
Go, Jump! She’s going to kill you. Jump

Mary opens her eyes and sees the window open, she walks towards it and closes it.

BRRRRRRRR!

The closet door behind her opens, she turns around to see Nancy sleeping and the closet door wide opened.

CUT TO:

INT. MASTER BEDROOOM – CONITNUED

A light goes on inside the bathroom, illuminating the room a little bit. A rushed man’s voice can be heard coming from the bathroom.

MAN’S VOICE(O.S)  
This can’t be happening. I can’t I can’t, No, no.

Teresa opens her eyes.

TERESA  
What?

She sits up looking at both sides of the room.

MAN’S VOICE(O.S)  
No, This can’t be, No.

Teresa gets out of bed and sees a shadow pass through the door of the bathroom.

She hesitates but decides to walk towards the bathroom door, the man’s tone getting more hushed. When she finally reaches the bathroom door she peaks in through the gap to see a pissed man with a thick coat walking around the bathroom.

He walks in and out of view, walking really pissed.

MAN  
Stop, You can’t do it, NO.

42.

The man stops in the middle of the bathroom and turns to look exactly where the gap is. He madly walks towards the gap, Teresa reacts and closes the door.

The door starts banging.

BOOM! BOOM! BOOM!

TERESA  
Stop.

CUT TO:

INT. GIRLS ROOM – CONTINUED

Mary looks at the opened closet door, waiting for something, anything. A long and sharp breath is heard inside the closet door.

MARY  
Mom?

The closet door slowly, in the pace of a turtle... closes.

CUT TO:

INT. MASTER BEDROOM – CONTINUED

Teresa is holding the bathroom door’s knob, which has stopped banging.

DONG! DOM! DING!

Three long notes are heard from the piano downstairs. Teresa slowly takes her hand of the door knob and turns back to walk out the room.

INT. HALLWAY – CONTINUED

Teresa walks out of the room and turns to the left to go downstairs, soon enough she’s already at the –

INT. DOWNSTAIRS LANDING – CONTINUED

Teresa walks towards the big living room, she slides the wooden curtain to the left to walk inside.

CUT TO:

INT. MASTER BEDROOM – CONTINUED

Mary walks in and looks around

43.

MARY  
Mom?

She walks towards the bathroom and opens the door to see the back of a dark coat, without knowing it’s the back of the man Teresa saw, she closes the door.

MARY  
Mom?

BOOM!

The hallway door shuts, Mary tries to open it, but it’s useless.

CUT TO:

INT. BIG LIVING ROOM – CONTINUED

Teresa looks at the piano, there is nothing special about it.

BAM!....BAM!....BAM!

The unpleasant sound of the door slamming is heard coming from the kitchen. Teresa walks out of the big living room into –

INT. SMALL LIVING ROOM – CONTINUED

She walks into the –

INT. KITCHEN – CONTINUED

The backdoor is slamming, opening and slamming, opening and slamming. Teresa walks towards it, closes it and locks it. A white hand appears behind her and taps her shoulder. She fastly turns around; what was that?

CUT TO:

INT. GIRL’S ROOM - CONTINUED

Nancy is still sleeping, not aware of anything at the moment.

CLICK!

The windows lock clicks once again and the window slowly.. opens.

GIRL’S VOICE  
Jump!

44.

The closet door opens once again. Footsteps are heard coming from the closet to the side of Nancy’s bed. The closet door slowly.. closes.

GIRL’S VOICE  
Jump, she’s coming!

The unknown voice is speaking in a hushed tone.

Nancy opens her eyes.

CUT TO:

INT. MASTER BEDROOM – CONTINUED

Mary is still pounding on the door, trying to get out.

MARY  
Mom! Nancy!

BRRRRR!

The bathroom door creeks behind her, she turns around to see the bathroom door fully opened, this only makes her panic more.

MARY  
Mom! Nancy!

A man laughs inside the bathroom, Mary starts crying desperately.

CUT TO:

INT. SMALL LIVING ROOM – CONTINUED

Teresa walks through the small living room. She reaches the light switch and turns the living room light on. A low moan is heard on the lower floor next to the living room.

TERESA  
Who is in there!

Teresa walks down the stairs till she makes it into the –

INT. EMPTY SPACE – CONTINUED

Teresa reaches for the light switch and turns the light on.

TACK! TACK! TACK!

Footsteps from heels are heard IN the small living room.

45.

Teresa turns around to see the small living room. The maid is sitting in a couch.

She gets up walks across the stairs that lead into the lower floor were Teresa is. The maid turns to look at Teresa, she smiles evilly and makes her way to the stairs that lead into the 2nd floor.

TERESA  
What are you doing?! No!

Teresa runs up the stairs into the –

INT. LIVING ROOM – CONTINUED

She looks at the stairs that lead into the second floor and sees at the maid walking upstairs.

TERESA  
No!

FAM!

An invisible force strikes Teresa and makes her roll down the stairs that lead into the empty room.

INT. EMPTY ROOM – CONTINUED

Teresa grabs her head in pain, she automatically gets back up and walks back up into the –

INT. SMALL LIVING ROOM – CONTINUED

The moaning is heard inside the kitchen.

TERESA  
I’m not kidding around anymore!

Teresa runs towards the stairs to go save her daughters. The kitchen door bursts open when she’s next to it and the ugly woman she saw under the bed before, moans at her like a mummy. Teresa screams and falls to the floor.

CUT TO:

INT. GIRL’S ROOM – CONTINUED

Nancy is laying in bed with her eyes open, another whisper is heard across the room.

46.

GIRL’S VOICE  
She’s coming, jump!

Nancy gets out of bed and walks towards the light switch, when she reaches the light switch she immediately turns it on.

She turns around to see a pale girl with a black eye and long straight dirty black hair that falls under her chest behind Nancy’s bed.

Nancy gasps, then she hears footsteps coming towards the room, she quickly hides under the bed.

BOOM!

The door bursts open and she sees 2 womanly feet walk inside. She peeks her eyes out of the bed to see the woman from the waist below.

She’s wearing a squared apron, the feet move and Nancy quickly peeks her head back in.

The mysterious woman kneels down in front of the bed. She then leans her hands on the floor and sticks her head right under the bed for Nancy to see her.

It’s the maid that appeared earlier but with a darker and demonic face.

The maid opens her mouth and her eyes become darker, Nancy lets out a scream.

CUT TO:

INT. UPSTAIRS LANDING – CONTINUED

Teresa just made it upstairs, she runs towards the girl’s room.

INT. GIRL’S ROOM – CONTINUED

Teresa opens the door to find Nancy screaming under the bed, nobody else in the room except for her and her daughter.

TERESA  
Honey I’m here, Mommy is here

CUT TO:

INT. MASTER BEDROOM – CONTINUED

47.

Mary is holding the door knob and shaking it desperately, she bangs and bangs and then –

SMASH!

The light bulb explodes, making the whole entire room dark.

Mary stops, takes a deep breath and proceeds shaking the door knob.

BANG! BANG! BANG!

The door right next to her starts banging, she walks back scared getting away from the door. She turns around to walk into the unknown, so dark and so quiet.

Mary’s eyes focus on something, a coat, a thick and black coat.

The coat quickly turns around to reveal the Man that Teresa saw in the bathroom, really pale, really serious, really formal, really sinister.

Mary screams, the hallway door opens and Teresa rushes in with Nancy.

TERESA  
We are here don’t worry.

Teresa holds her daughters in her arms.

CUT TO:

EXT. HOUSE – CONTINUED

SHOT OF THE HOUSE AT NIGHT

Moanings, screams and cries are heard inside, the house is surrounded by more darkness, it has a more sinister look now.

CUT TO:

EXT. HOUSE – HOURS LATER

SHOT OF THE HOUE DURING THE DAY

It’s morning, the birds are chirping, the clouds moving and the house is surrounded by the morning light.

INT. KITCHEN – CONTINUED

Teresa is standing next to the stove. Mary and Nancy are having eggs on the table.

48.

DING! DONG!

Teresa looks at the girls with relief.

TERESA  
You’re uncle Mark is here I want you ladies to behave.

Teresa walks out of the kitchen.

TERESA(CONT’D)  
Take your feet off that chair.

INT. LIVING ROOM – CONTINUED

Teresa walks through the living room and reaches the front door.

She twists the door knob and opens the door to reveal –

MARK(36) A serious looking man dressed as a pastor whom has a bible on his hand stands at the front porch; smiling.

TERESA  
Mark!

MARK  
Teresa!

Teresa gives Mark a kiss on the cheek

TERESA  
How’s life?

MARK  
Outstanding.

TERESA  
May I get your coat.

MARK  
Thank you!

Mark gives Teresa his coat which she hangs.

TERESA  
Please step in, we were just having breakfast.

Mark walks in, walks through the living room into –

INT. KITCHEN – CONTINUED

49.

Teresa walks in with Mark, Nancy and Mary get up to greet him.

MARK  
You girls have gotten so big.

Mary and Nancy both smile at their uncle, who can’t help but smile back.

TERESA  
Would you girls play outside while I have a word with your uncle, I’m sure Chester feels lonely

The girls run out of the kitchen door. Mark sits down on a chair.

MARK  
Alright, so what’s been going on?

Teresa turns around to look at him in the eyes, she breathes heavily and then speaks.

TERESA  
It all started right before our father died, I walked into his room to check on him.

**FLASHBACK –** INT. HALLWAY – MORNING

Teresa walks through the lower floor’s hallway and walks inside her dad’s room.

TERESA(V.O)  
And I saw a dark figure hunched over his bed.

The dark figure is visible at the foot of Teresa’s Dad’s bed.

TERESA(V.O)  
I immediately ran over to him and tried to wake him.

Teresa shakes her dad to wake him.

TERESA(V.O)  
He was dead.

**BACK** **TO REALITY**

Mark breathes heavily.

TERESA  
It wasn’t long when I started seeing father around the

50.

house. At first the activity was light, like a page of the book I was reading would flip or the piano would start playing by itself.

Mark looks at Teresa.

TERESA  
Then it started being a little more violent, books flying across the room, scissors falling in front of my feet.

Teresa takes another deep breath.

TERESA  
Then things started becoming malevolent, I started seeing a woman, she had dirty hair and a demonic face, she moans at night, and she walks around with a dirty night gown, I have no idea how she got here.

MARK  
That’s it?

TERESA  
Oh, but there’s more, Last night was when stuff started going downhill. We saw multiple spirits in the house and some of them even tried to attack us. There’s a maid that yells at Mary and Nancy. There was a pale man with a coat that paces around madly. A little girl and the woman I told you.

MARK  
Is this the first time?

TERESA  
The very first. My family has lived here for 4 generations and the house went from totally clean from spirits to having..(counts with fingers)6 spirits!

MARK  
Okay, can you tell me the order of the apparitions.

TERESA  
First it was the dark figure, then it was our father, then the moaning woman. And then the maid, the pale man in the coat and the little girl all at once.

51.

MARK  
Well.. Well there is a pattern. Have you seen the little girl, what does she do?

TERESA  
Oh I sure haven’t, Nancy has.

MARK  
May I have a word with her.

TERESA  
You certainly can, just don’t pressure her too much.

CUT TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM – COTNINUED

Mark is talking to Nancy on the living room, they look at each other. Mark takes a deep breath when he finally says -

MARK  
Your mother tells me that you see a ghost girl in your room.

NANCY  
That’s right.

MARK  
Can you talk to me about her.

NANCY  
She opens the window -

Nancy leans closer to mark to finish her sentence.

NANCY  
- and tells me to jump.

Nancy leans back on the chair.

MARK  
And why would she tell you such thing?

NANCY  
She won’t tell me, but she says that someone is coming.

MARK  
Who is coming?

52.

NANCY  
I don’t know.

CUT TO:

EXT. BACKYARD – CONTINUED

Mark walks outside to see Chester and an empty cage.

TERESA  
There used to be three puppies but they all passed when everything started happening.

Mark raises his eyebrows.

MARK  
All of them?

TERESA  
Every one of them.

Mark bumps into a trashcan, he looks down on it to see Nancy’s Ouija board. Mark picks it up.

MARK  
What is this?

TERESA  
Oh, Nancy and Mary made that to try and communicate with our father.

Mark gasps.

MARK  
Did the demonic woman you told me about start making herself present before or after Nancy and Mary did such thing?

TERESA  
After. But the girls couldn’t had brought that thing in here, she made that with crayons.

MARK  
It doesn’t matter, trying to communicate with a spirit is like playing with fire, it will burn no matter if it’s a golden Ouija board or a crayon Ouija board.

53.

TERESA  
But –

MARK  
For all we know, all this could be happening because of this.

Mark shakes the Ouija board.

CUT TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM – CONTINUED

Mark and Teresa walk in.

TERESA  
So now what?’

MARK  
I shall find out who all of these spirits are.

TERESA  
And how will you do that?

MARK  
Trust me on this.

Teresa walks towards the wooden curtain and slides it to the left to reveal the big living room. Mark glares at the piano; Teresa smiles.

MARK  
I remember our father, how he thought us to play that piece.

TERESA  
You still remember?

MARK  
Yes, I even remember the piece.

TERESA  
Oh yeah?

Teresa gives Mark a huge smile.

TERESA(CONT’D)  
So if I tell you to play it with me right now, you would remember it?

54.

Mark smiles and replies with –

MARK  
Try me.

Teresa uncovers the piano keys and sits down with Mark, they both put their hands on the keys; felling them.

They both take a deep breath almost at the same time and start playing the song from earlier.

Mark smiles at Teresa. She glances at him with a smile while they are playing the song together.

Soon enough the song starts getting faster, they concentrate more on the song, without looking at each other.

Soon enough the song comes to an end, they both look at each other and then smile.

MARK  
I love this song.

TERESA  
I have to go check on the girls while you do your.. Whatever you do anyways.

Mark smiles while sitting on the piano, Teresa gets up and walks out of the big living room.

CUT TO:

INT. KITCHEN – NIGHT

Mark is sitting on the kitchen table reading a book, he has a packet of news papers by his side

He glances through every piece of paper he can lay his hands on.

CUT TO:

INT. MASTER BEDROOM – CONTINUED

Teresa is sleeping, her chest rising and falling with each breath.

**INSIDE TERESA’S DREAM**

She’s walking through a hallway that seems endless, she’s walking and walking and walking; she doesn’t reach an end.

55.

Fog is coming out of both sides of the walls, making the hallway seem empty and dead.

She brings up a lantern that she had by her side, people screaming and moaning can be heard.

The moaning woman’s moan echoes through the hallway.

MAID(O.S)  
I said diner is ready!

MAN IN COAT(O.S)  
This can’t be happening.

GIRL(O.S)  
She’s coming, jump!

Teresa gets overwhelmed by all the noises coming from all different direction.

She runs through the fog and the endless hallway, till at the end she finds Mary in a white nightgown staring at Teresa.

TERESA  
Mary?

Mary looks at her, in a robotic voice she says.

MARY  
Mom, there is someone standing at the foot of your bed.

**BACK TO REALITY**

INT. MASTER BEDROOM – CONTINUED

Teresa wakes up in a beat, she’s over whelmed. She holds her hair behind her ears and breathes heavily.

She rubs her eyes to find something disturbing.

There is indeed a dark figure at the foot of her bed.

The figure is completely a manly figure. It’s not the woman in the dirty nightgown or the maid.

The figure is wearing black robes and has a black face that has a pair of 2 big black eyes staring at her. It’s definitely not the mad man before.

56.

But she has seen this figure before. She adjusts her eyes to see who it is.

IT’S THE FIGURE SHE SAW BEFORE HER DAD DIED

She lets out a scream, the figure groans. Teresa quickly reaches for the light switch to turn on the lights.

In a flash, the lights turn on and there is no more dark figure in the room.

CUT TO:

INT. KITCHEN – CONTINUED

Mark is so into a news paper article that he is reading, Teresa comes in rushing, almost crying.

TERESA  
I saw him again!

MARK  
Who did you see?

TERESA  
Him! Well it.

MARK  
Eat what?

TERESA  
Not eat. IT!

MARK  
Who?

TERESA  
The figure who I saw before father died!

Mark has a face of shock.

TERESA  
Did you find anything?

MARK  
Lots.

Teresa sits down.

57.

MARK(CONT’D)  
The reason because these disturbances have followed you around and are trying to harm your family is because of our father’s death.

TERESA  
Proceed.

MARK  
Since Mary and Nancy tried to communicate with their dead grandfather, they brought something much, much more evil into the house. With the Ouija board they invited the woman with the dirty nightgown to infest your lives. The one that you saw under the bed. She’s the one we need to be the most worried about.

TERESA  
And the rest.

Mark grabs a news paper and puts it next to her, he points at a picture of the house much more time ago.

MARK  
Before the 4 generations of our family lived here, this house was built by Will Penitierre in the 1820s in plans for her daughter and him to live there, and start a new life.

TERESA  
Yes?

MARK  
Until he contacted Karen Parker, a maid. She was caught by Will abusing his daughter, he tried to press charges but the maid killed him. Stabbing wounds were reported in his chest. She tried to kill the little girl in her room but she jumped out of the window before she could get to her.

TERESA  
Okay?

MARK  
Karen’s body was then found in the kitchen, it is unknown what caused her death.

58.

TERESA  
But why are they showing up now, why one hundred and sixty years later?

MARK  
They felt invited.

TERESA  
Pardon me?

MARK  
Since there was the ghost of our father here and the spirit of the woman in white, those spirits felt invited to come here, since there are more ghosts in the house.

TERESA  
Shall I be worried?

The front door opens and then closes. Teresa walks out of the kitchen with Mark behind her.

INT. SMALL LIVING ROOM – CONTINUED

Teresa walks through the small living room and reaches the front door, she opens it revealing –

Mary in the front porch, she’s looking up.

TERESA  
Mary, what are you doing?

MARY  
Nancy!

Teresa runs over to where Mary is and looks up, Nancy is standing over the opened window.

TERESA  
Oh God Nancy! Mark! Mark! Go help her!

Mark runs back into the house.

CUT TO:

INT. GIRL’S ROOM – COTINUED

Nancy is standing at the window, looking down at Teresa and Mary who are at the front porch.

59.

GIRL’S VOICE  
Jump! Jump! She’s coming! She will kill you!

Mary brings her body down to jump, 2 hands grab her and pull her back; They are Mark’s hands.

Mark grabs her and hugs her.

CUT TO:

INT. GIRL’S ROOM – MORNING

Mark is boarding up the window that Nancy tried to jump from the other night, Teresa is sitting behind him on Nancy’s bed.

TERESA  
I don’t want this to happen again.

MARK  
It shall not happen again, she knows she can’t pay attention to some little ghost girl.

TERESA  
She’s six years old, she doesn’t know.

MARK  
I know but she has common sense.

TERESA  
How did all of this happen, I didn’t ask for any of this.

MARK  
But Nancy did.

TERESA  
No she didn’t!

MARK  
She tried to use a Ouija board!

TERESA  
Again, she’s six years old.

MARK  
Again, she has common sense.

Teresa sighs.

60.

TERESA  
You know what.

MARK  
What?

TERESA  
Forget it, Breakfast is on the table.

MARK  
I shall come down in a minute.

TERESA  
Fine.

Teresa leaves the room, Mark continues boarding up the windows.

CUT TO:

INT. BREAKFAST TABLE – CONTINUED

Mary, Nancy and Teresa are sitting at the table, ready to eat. Mark appears at the door of the kitchen.

TERESA  
Brother, please sit down.

MARK  
Thank you.

TERESA  
Pardon my attitude upstairs.

MARK  
Don’t worry.

Mark sits down and grabs his drink, Mary offers him the bread, he takes it.

Mary takes a scoop of her eggs, just when she’s about to put the fork in her mouth Mark says –

MARK  
Stop.

Mary looks up to see Mark.

61.

MARK  
I would like to say a prayer before we eat, we need to fill up our souls with something good.

Mark takes Teresa’s hand, Teresa takes Nancy’s, Nancy takes Mary’s and Mary takes Marks.

They all close their eyes and wait for Mark’s words to come out.

MARK  
God is great. God is good. Let us thank God for out food. By God’s hand we all are fed. Give oh Lord our daily bread. Amen.

TERESA AND THE GIRLS  
Amen.

They all open their eyes, separate their hands and start eating.

CUT TO:

INT. FRONT PORCH – CONTINUED

Teresa and Mark leave the house and walk towards Mark’s car, Mark opens the car door and takes out a big black bag.

TERESA  
What do you have in there?

MARK  
Equipment, to check out the house.

TERESA  
What could you possibly use to check out the house?

Mark closes the car door.

MARK  
Trust me, there is every day stuff you use to check for paranormal activity.

TERESA  
I have a question.

MARK  
Yes?

62.

TERESA  
How is “checking out the house” going to get rid of this thing.

MARK  
It won’t, It will give us a clue on how to get rid of this thing.

Mark walks up the stairs to go into the house.

INT. KITCHEN – CONTINUED

He places the bag on the table and takes out a reel tape recorder, a temperature gauge and a 1961 camera.

MARK  
Perhaps Mary and Nancy shouldn’t be alone.

TERESA  
Mary, Nancy! Come down!

MARY(O.S)  
Coming!

MARK  
So this is my plan, I shall grab this temperature gauge, you and the girls follow me, and when the temperature goes down we set the tape recorder in a surrounding area.

TERESA  
I’m listening.

Mary and Nancy walk inside the kitchen.

MARK  
Then we start asking questions, when the ghosts start replying, someone will start taking pictures.

TERESA  
Is this safe?

MARK  
If we don’t get them angry, almost.

TERESA  
What do you mean almost.

63.

MARK  
Anyways, shall we go.

TERESA  
I’m not so sure about this Mark.

MARK  
Trust me, this is for you and your daughter’s peace.

Mark takes her hand.

MARK(CONT’D)  
Please.

Teresa sighs.

TERESA  
Okay.

Mark puts the reel tape recorder in between his hands and walks out of the kitchen into the –

INT. DOWNSTAIRS LANDING – CONTINNUED

Teresa is walking behind Mark, a girl on each side of Teresa.

MARK  
Here, take this.

Mark gives Teresa the temperature gauge.

TERESA  
What do you expect me to do with this?

MARK  
Just tell me when the temperature drops.

TERESA  
I can do that.

The temperature is currently at 74 degrees Fahrenheit.

They walk through the downstairs landing into the –

INT. LIVING ROOM – CONTINUED

They get to the living room, Teresa looks down at the temperature gauge, it’s currently at 70 degrees.

64.

TERESA  
Mark?

MARK  
Yes?

TERESA  
It dropped 4 degrees.

MARK  
Keep on walking.

Mark, Teresa and the girls walk towards the couches in the living room. Teresa looks at the temperature gauge.

It’s at 68 degrees.

TERESA  
It dropped more.

Mark turns around to look at Teresa.

MARK  
How much?

TERESA  
2 more degrees.

MARK  
It’s good in here, let’s take a seat.

Mark sits down on a small couch, the big living room behind him.

Teresa and the girls seat on a big couch, a wall behind them.

Mark reaches for the 1961 camera and gives it to Mary.

MARK  
Mary, when the reel tape recorder starts responding back, I want you to start taking as many pictures as you can.

Mary nods.

MARK(CONT’D)  
Can you do that?

Mary nods.

65.

MARK  
Teresa, temperature.

TERESA  
Still 68.

Mark presses “record” on the reel tape recorder.

MARK  
Is anyone here with us?

Mark waits, then he stops the tape recorder and rewinds it.

The tape is playing back, Mark’s voice is heard, “Is anyone here with us?”. A long beat. Nothing.

Mark turns to look at Teresa.

MARK  
Temperature?

Teresa looks down at the temperature gauge.

TERESA  
It remains at 68 degrees

Mark looks back at the tape recorder, he hits “record” and speaks.

MARK  
Is anyone here with us.

Mark waits, then he stops the tape recorder and rewinds it.

The tape is playing back Mark’s voice is heard “Is anyone here with us?”. A long beat. Nothing.

Mark looks at Teresa again.

MARK  
Temperature?

TERESA  
It remains at 68 degrees.

Mark hits “Record” again.

MARK  
We invite you to come and speak to us, now, is anyone here?

66.

Mark waits, then he stops the tape recorder and rewinds it.

The tape plays back, Mark’s voice is heard “We invite you to come and speak to us, now, is anyone here”. There is a beat. Then a sharp and cold woman’s whisper is heard.

It says “Yes”

Mark raises his eyebrows and turns to look at Teresa.

MARK  
Temperature?

TERESA  
66 degrees.

MARK  
Mary take a picture.

FLASH!

A white flash fills the room, a picture comes out of the camera, Mary looks at it, nothing.

Mark hits “record”, he continues speaking.

MARK  
Who are you?

Mark waits, stops the tape and rewinds it.

The tape plays back, Mark’s voice is heard “Who are you”. There’s a beat and then the same cold whisper is heard.

“I’m she”

Mark turns to look at Teresa.

MARK  
Temperature?

Teresa looks at the temperature gauge.

TERESA  
64 degrees.

Mark hits “record” again.

67.

MARK  
Who is she? are you Karen Parker?

Mark waits, stops the tape and rewinds it.

The tape plays back, Mark’s voice is hear “who is she? are you Karen Parker?.

“Jump! Jump”

A little girl’s voice is heard.

MARK  
Temperature?

Teresa looks at the temperature gauge.

TERESA  
63 degrees. Who is Karen Parker.

MARK  
The maid. Mary. Picture.

FLASH!

A white flash fills the room, the picture comes out from the back, Mary grabs it and puts it down without looking at it.

Mark hits “record” again.

MARK  
Who are you, are you the little girl who committed suicide here?

Mark waits, stops the tape recorder and rewinds it.

Mark’s voice plays back in the reel tape recorder, “who are you? Are you the little girl who committed suicide here?

A manly voice is now heard.

“NO”

MARK  
Temperature?

TERESA  
60 degrees.

68.

MARK  
Mary.

FLASH!

Mary takes a picture, the picture comes out of the camera, she sets it down without looking at it.

Mark hits “record” again.

MARK  
Who is it now?

Mark waits, stops the tape recorder and rewinds it.

Mark’s voice plays back in the reel tape recorder, “Who is it now”

Now a bunch of voices are heard “I said diner is ready!” “Jump” “No this can’t be happening” a moaning is heard.

MARK  
Temperature.

TERESA  
52 degrees!

Mary stands up without Mark’s command and starts taking picture, one that way, one the other. As the pictures come out she puts them down.

FLASH! FLASH!

While Mary is taking pictures, Mark hits “record”.

MARK  
One at a time. Who are you?

Mark waits, stops the tape recorder and rewinds it.

Mark’s voice plays back in the reel tape recorder, “One at a time. Who are you”?

A manly, much darker and monstrous voice is heard. “Kill, Kill, Kill”

The voice is definitely not the man with the coat or Teresa’s father, the voice is much deeper.

FLASH! FLASH! FLASH!

69.

TERESA  
49.

FLASH! FLASH! FLASH!

TERESA  
48.

FLASH! FLASH! FLASH!

TERESA  
47.

FLASH! FLAWSH! FLASH!

TERESA  
46.

FLASH! FLASH! FLASH!

TERESA  
45.

Mark hits “Record”

MARK  
Are you the man with black robes?

Mark stops the tape, rewinds it and hears his voice play back.

“Are you the man with black robes”

The same manly and evil voice replies with “Yes”.

TERESA  
42.

FLASH! FLASH! FLASH!

Mark hits “record”.

MARK  
What do you want?

Mark stops the tape, rewinds it and then hears it.

His voice plays back. “What do you want”. It plays back again “What do you want”. And again “What do you want”. And again. “What do you want”

70.

Mark hits the reel tape recorder while it keeps on rewinding.

FLASH!

Mary takes a picture of her mom.

The reel tape recorder completely stops.

MARY  
Uncle.

Mark turns to look at Mary.

MARK  
Yes?

MARY  
The last picture didn’t come out.

A white cloud suddenly comes out off Mary’s mouth. Mark turns to look at Nancy and Teresa, there’s white clouds coming out of their mouth too.

MARK  
Teresa?

TERESA  
Yeah?

MARK  
Temperature?

Teresa looks down at the temperature gauge.

TERESA  
30 degrees.

Mark gasps.

TERESA  
What is it?

MARK  
Whatever you do, don’t turn around.

SHOT OF TERESA

There is the waist of a woman wearing an apron behind her.

71.

The maid’s face comes down next to Teresa’s face, she yells in her ear.

MAID  
I said diner is ready!

The maid slaps Teresa in the face hard enough to make her fall to the ground.

Mary runs towards the big living room.

TERESA  
Mary! No!

As Mary runs inside the living room, the woman in white comes out from the left and moans at her.

Mary runs back to the small living room.

SMASH!

The light of the living room explodes.

WOOSH!

A chair comes flying from the kitchen towards Mark, Mark ducks it and the chair breaks into pieces as it hits the front door.

Mark gets up to see the man in the thick coat in front of him. The man gives Mark a sinister smile right before surprising him with a punch in the face. Mark falls to the floor, he passes out.

Meanwhile, Teresa is on the floor. She turns to look everywhere, to find sign of someone.

She looks up to stare at the second floor, the woman white is looking down at her at the stair railing.

TERESA’S POV

The demon girl jumps out of the railing as her sinister face comes closer to Teresa.

Teresa screams.

CUT TO BLACK.

FADE IN:

72.

INT. LIVING ROOM – SOME TIME LATER

Teresa wakes up, barely. She looks around the living room.

TERESA  
Mary? Nancy? Mark?

She turns to look at Mary, who is on the floor by the stairs that lead to the lower floor.

She turns to look at Mark, who is on the floor by the front door.

TERESA  
Mary?

Mary lets out a groan. Teresa smiles, at least to know that her daughter is alive. But wait. Where’s Nancy?

Teresa in panic starts turning to look everywhere.

TERESA  
Nancy?!

Out of the corner of her eye, she sees to figures with long hair walk up the stairs.

She turns her head to the stairs to look at Nancy, who is holding the little ghost girl’s hand. The little girl is taking her up the stairs.

TERESA  
Nancy. No.

But Teresa is too weak to get up, she slides a little bit.

The two girls are now at the upstairs landing and walking towards Mary and Nancy’s room.

Teresa slides a little more, she grabs the first step of the stairs with her left hand.

The two girls vanish into the room.

SILENCE

WHOOSH!

One of the wooden boards that Mark used to board up the window flies out of the room.

73.

TERESA  
Nancy!

This encourages Teresa to get up and run up the stairs, she stumbles a few times but she doesn’t let that stop her.

INT. UPSTAIRS LANDING – CONTINUED

She weakly runs towards the girl’s room.

WHOOSH! WHOOSH!

The last 2 boards come flying at her, she ducks down and the door shuts in her nose.

She opens it to see the girl’s room empty and the window wide open.

TERESA  
No. NO!

Teresa runs towards the window and peeks down to see.. absolutely nothing.

Teresa panics and runs out of the room.

INT. UPSTAIRS HALLWAY – CONTINUED

She runs through the hallway and down the stairs.

INT. DOWNSTAIRS LANDING – CONTINUED

Teresa runs through the living room, makes it to the front door and opens it.

EXT. FRONT PORCH – CONTINUED

Teresa looks at the door, there are no signs of Nancy committing suicide, she looks in between bushes just to make sure.

Teresa pulls her hair back, panicking. Mark comes out of the house along with Mary.

MARK  
What’s wrong?

TERESA  
It’s Nancy! She’s gone!

74.

MARK  
What do you mean she’s gone?

TERESA  
I saw her, I saw the girl, she took her upstairs, when I walked into her room I saw the window wide open.

MARK  
And she was gone.

TERESA(sarcastically)  
No she’s upstairs having tea with her imaginary friends, MOVE IT!

Teresa runs inside the house.

TERESA  
I have to find my daughter.

SHOT OF TERESA LOOKING UNDER HER BED

Nothing.

SHOT OF TERESA LOOKING INSIDE THE PANTRY

Nothing.

SHOT OF TERESA LOOKING UNDER THE PIANO

Nothing.

SHOT OF TEERESA LOOKING IN A CLOSET

Nothing.

SHOT OF TERESA LOOKING UNDER NANCY’S BED

Nothing.

Teresa gets up, panicking and frustrated with herself. She madly grabs a piece of board that is on the floor and throws it under Nancy’s bed.

BOOM!

An echoing sound is heard when the board makes contact with the floor.

TERESA  
Mark!

75.

MARK  
Yes?

TERESA  
Help me move this thing.

Mark and Teresa grab one side of the bed. They both slide it to the left to reveal a trap door.

MARK(referring to the trap door.)  
Did you know about this?

TERESA  
No, and I’ve lived here all my life.

Mark grabs the handle of the Trap door and opens it to reveal Nancy laying down in a small space.

TERESA  
Oh, thank God.

Teresa and Mark help get Nancy out, she’s dirty.

TERESA(To Nancy)  
What happened! are you alright?

NANCY  
She told me it was safer for me down there.

TERESA  
Who did?

NANCY  
Kristi, that’s the little girl’s ghost. The one who committed suicide.

Teresa and Mark raise their eyebrows.

TERESA  
What else did she tell you?

MANCY  
She told me that she made this a long time ago (whispers) to hide from her.

MARK  
I’m going to take a look.

76.

NANCY  
Mark.

Mark puts his legs through the Trap door.

MARK  
Yes?

TERESA  
Be careful.

MARK  
Thank you, any tips that aren’t obvious?

TERESA  
Just be quiet and go.

INT. TRAP DOOR SPACE – CONTINUED

Mark sits down on the space, and slides to the right.

Everything is made out of wood, it’s a little bit claustrophobic, only 1 body can go through the passageway at a time.

Mark keeps on sliding to the left to find something.

A rag doll. He grabs it and looks at it, it’s dirty, an eye is missing and the dress is splashed with red liquid.

LOUD GIRLY SCREAM  
Don’t touch my doll!

Mark puts the doll down without hesitating and keeps on sliding through the passage way until he makes it into a bigger space. He hits the walls with his palms, he then looks up.

ANOTHER TRAP DOOR.

He looks to his right to reveal the long passage way that leads to the other trap door.

He pushes the trap door till it opens to reveal a tight space.

He pushes his body up to go into the tight space. He closes the trap door and looks at the small space.

He hits the walls surrounding him with his palms and then slides the wall in front of him to the left to reveal clothes.

77.

He walks out of the small space and makes his way through coats, dresses, blouses, and other things.

He has touched something, two door handles, he pushes both doors open to reveal that he is in –

INT. TERESA’S ROOM – CONTINUED

Mark walks out of the closet.

CUT TO:

INT. GIRL’S ROOM – CONTINUED

Teresa, Mary and Nancy are looking down at the trap door, waiting for Mark to come out.

TERESA  
Mark?

Mark appears behind them, Teresa jumps.

TERESA  
Mark! You startled me! How did you get out?

MARK  
Through the trap door.

TERESA  
No you didn’t, I’ve been looking at the trap door all this time and you haven’t come out.

MARK  
Not that trap door.

TERESA  
What do you mean?

MARK  
There’s a second one.

TERESA  
Really? Where?

MARK  
In your closet.

78.

TERESA  
There is?

Mark walks out the room, followed by everybody else.

MARK  
My theory is that, Kristi the ghost told her father to build that for her. The father not knowing what for obeyed and built her the secret passage way. That’s where she would hide from the maid.

TERESA  
That almost makes sense.

MARK  
Let’s go take a look downstairs.

Teresa and Mark walk toward the stairs.

CUT TO:

INT. KITCHEN – CONTINUED

Teresa and Mark are looking through the pictures Mary took.

The first one is a picture of a shadow at the front door.

Mark grabs another picture; this one captured the waist of the maid coming downstairs behind Nancy.

Mark grabs another picture; this one captured 2 glowing yellow eyes on the lower floor.

Mark grabs a fourth picture; this one captured Kristi’s ghost behind Nancy.

The little girl’s hand is reaching for her.

Mark grabs a fifth picture; this one captured Kristi’s ghost, the man in suite’s ghost and the maid’s ghost standing behind Nancy.

Mark grabs a sixth picture; this one captured JOSEPH! Mark and Teresa’s father is standing right in between them.

Teresa covers her mouth.

TERESA  
Did we go through all of the pictures?

79.

MARK  
We certainly did.

TERESA  
This is –

MARK  
Impressive.

TERESA  
Yes, Impressive.

MARK  
This is far off my understanding of things, I have never seen anything like it and I shall never again.

TERESA  
What time is it?

Mark looks at his watch.

MARK  
It’s 10 P.M

TERESA  
I’m going to start cooking diner.

MARK  
May I use the bathroom?

TERESA  
Don’t even ask, you know what the answer is.

MARK  
Thank you.

Teresa gets up from the kitchen table and walks towards the stove. She opens some drawers and takes out some pans. Mark walks out of the kitchen into –

INT. DOWNSTAIRS LANDING – CONTINUED

Mark walks upstairs into –

INT. UPSTAIRS LANDING – CONTINUED

Mark walks towards the bathroom.

80.

BOOM!

The noise came from the roof.

Mark looks above him to find a door leading into the attic.

MARK  
Teresa?!

TERESA(O.S)  
Yes?

MARK  
Have you even been up in the attic?

TERESA(O.S)  
No thank you, not a big admirer of rats and spiders.

MARK  
Okay.

Mark grabs the string attached to the door and pulls it. The stairs leading into the attic come down.

Mark opens a cabinet that sits in the hallway and grabs a flashlight. He slowly starts going up into the attic.

INT. ATTIC – CONTINUED

Mark sticks his head in to see an almost empty attic, some moving boxes and furniture sit around it.

He brings his feet up the stairs, now he’s standing in the attic.

He moves his flashlight to see boxes labeled “Teresa’s baby clothes”,  
“The MacArthur Family 1888 – 1921

Mark out of curiosity walks towards the box. He grabs the box to open it, revealing another box.

This one is sure older and dustier.

Mark reaches for it and blows off the dust. The label of the box is revealed. It reads “The Penetierre Family 1818 – 1820”

He takes the box to his side and takes the top off. He looks inside the box to see a little dress.

81.

He takes out the dress to reveal that there is red liquid splashed in the stomach section.

He moves the dress to the side to reveal old black and white pictures.

He takes one out, the bottom of the picture is labeled with “Kristi’s new dog”

The picture shows Kristi holding a poodle in between her hands. Far away stands the mysterious black figure stalking her through the window.

Mark grabs another picture, this one is labeled “Karen joins the family”.

The picture shows the maid smiling with Nancy. The black figure is stalking them behind a closet.

Mark grabs a third picture, this one isn’t labeled. It’s a picture of the man with the coat, Kristi and the maid.

The black figure is standing right behind them.

He looks in the corner, the picture was taken March 4, 1920.

CUT TO:

INT. KITHCEN – CONTINUED

Teresa is cooking diner, Mark appears with the pictures.

TERESA  
You took too long to go to the restroom.

MARK  
From a scale of 1 to 10 how annoyed would you be if I asked you to look at more pictures.

TERESA  
You took more pictures?

MARK  
No, I found them in the attic.

TERESA  
Let me see.

82.

Teresa leans her head close to the pictures to look, she sees the picture of Kristi with the dog.

MARK  
This is the Kristi Panetierre, this was in the 1920’s

TERESA  
Is this the girl who -

MARK  
Who committed suicide and is trying to get Nancy to do it too.

Mark points at the mysterious black figure in the back.

TERESA  
No way, this is the same black figure I saw before father died and at the foot of my bed.

MARK  
There is more.

Mark takes out the next picture. The picture of the maid and Kristi.

MARK  
This is Karen Parker, the maid with Kristi. This was her first day of employment.

TERESA  
I see it. The black figure.

MARK  
And that’s not all.

Mark takes out the next picture. The picture of the man in the coat, Kristi and the maid.

MARK  
This is Will Panetierre with his daughter and Karen, the maid.

Teresa covers her mouth at the sight of the dark figure behind them.

TERESA  
This means that –

MARK  
That out father was not the only person it visited.

83.

TERESA  
Too bad Mary’s last picture didn’t come out.

MARK  
Too bad the tape recorder stopped working, those are expensive.

TERESA  
It’s not the tape recorder we shall we worried about.

Mark sighs.

MARK  
You’re right.

Teresa gets up from the dinner table.

TERESA  
I’m going to go to sleep, come up when you want.

MARK  
You’re not going to make diner?

TERESA  
No, if you’re hungry you can always prepare a sandwich.

Teresa leaves the kitchen, Mark sighs and stays seated.

CUT TO:

INT. MASTER BEDROOM – HOURS LATER

The room is dark, the clock marks 2:08 am, Nancy and Mark are sleeping on the floor next to the bed.

Teresa and Mary are sleeping on the bad.

**INSIDE TERESA’S DREAM**

Teresa is sleeping, she wakes up and walks out the door. The house looks much newer, occupied by furniture from the 1800s

INT. UPSTAIRS LANDING – CONTINUED

She hears a woman’s singing voice downstairs, she walks down the stairs, soon enough she’s at the –

INT. DOWNSTAIRS LANDING – CONTINUED

84.

She walks closer and closer to kitchen. She peeks inside the kitchen to see the maid cooking while singing in a high and sweet voice.

TERESA  
Hello?

The maid doesn’t pay attention; she just keeps on cooking pretending that Teresa is not there.

Teresa moves closer to the maid and waves her hand in front of her eyes, the maid doesn’t even turn.

MAID  
Kristi! Supper is ready!

LITTLE GIRL’S VOICE(O.S)  
I’m coming!

Teresa walks out of the kitchen.

INT. DOWNSTAIRS LANDING - CONTINUED

Teresa walks up the stairs till she makes it into the –

INT. UPSTAIRS LANDING – CONTINUED

She walks through the hallway till she makes it to the girl’s room door.

MAID(O.S)  
Kristi! I said supper is ready!

Teresa opens the bedroom door to see little Kristi playing with her rag doll on the floor.

Kristi turns around to look at the door

KRISTI  
I said I’m coming!

Kristi continues playing on the floor with her doll. Teresa turns around to see the maid madly walking upstairs.

TERESA  
Little girl, Kristi right?

But Kristi doesn’t pay attention. Teresa turns around to see the maid inside the room. She madly walks towards Kristi yelling.

85.

MAID  
I said supper is ready!

The maid brings her arm back and slaps Kristi across the face. Kristi falls to the floor, hard.

Teresa covers her mouth.

TERESA  
Leave her alone!

But to the maid and Kristi, Teresa is not there.

Kristi turns to look at the maid from the floor with a puppy face.

MAID  
I did not take the job for you to ignore me like a wall! When I tell you to do something, you do it. Do you understand!

KRISTI  
Yes.

MAID  
Now we are going downstairs alright.

The maid grabs Kristi by the hand and takes her out the room, Teresa follows them.

INT. UPSTAIRS HALLWAY – CONTINUED

The maid and Kristi walk towards the upstairs landing.

INT. UPSTAIRS LANDING – CONTINUED

The maid stands behind Kristi, Kristi turns to look at her with puppy eyes, she doesn’t want to go downstairs.

MAID  
What are you waiting for!

The maid hits Kristi hard across the face, sending the poor girl rolling down the stairs.

Teresa covers her mouth in shock.

The maid slowly walks down the stairs, Teresa behind her.

INT. DOWNSTAIRS LANDING – CONTINUED

86.

The maid looks down to see Kristi on the floor.

MAID  
When I tell you to do something, you do it!

The maid raises her arm to hit Kristi again. The front door behind her opens and the man with the coat comes in.

The maid turns to look at the man with the suit, with her hand still raised.

KRISTI  
Father!

The man in the coat turns to look at the maid.

MAN IN COAT  
Karen.

MAID  
Will, it’s not what you think.

Teresa looks at the scene very closely.

The man in the coar walks straight towards Kristi. He picks up her cheek to notice the mark that the maid has left.

MAN IN COAT  
Kristi go upstairs.

Kristi obeys and walks up the stairs.

The man in the coat and the maid walk in the kitchen, Teresa behind them.

INT. KITCHEN – CONTINUED

MAN IN COAT  
I come home from work and I find you abusing my daughter!

MAID  
But sir.

The man in the coat starts pacing back and forth.

MAN IN COAT  
No, this can’t be happening, No!

87.

MAID  
Calm down sir!

MAN IN COAT  
No, don’t tell me to calm down, you hit her, her cheek is bleeding!

MAID  
She wouldn’t come down.

MAN IN COAT  
That is no excuse!

MAID  
But sir –

MAN IN COAT  
I’m going to blame you.

MAID  
But sir –

MAN IN COAT  
I’m going to turn you in, and you shall be in jail for child abuse.

MAID  
Nooooo!

The maid grabs the knife she was using to cut tomatoes and raises it. Teresa catches a glimpse of the tall and dark figure; it’s standing behind the man.

ANGLE ON TERESA

She is in shock, a stabbing noise is heard as she covers her mouth.

ANGLE ON KITCHEN

The man in the coat lays on the floor dead. The maid is angrily looking down at him.

Then she turns to look at something behind Teresa.

Teresa turns around to see Kristi; she was spying on them the whole time. The maid groans and walks towards Kristi. Kristi screams and runs upstairs; the maid after her; Teresa after both of them.

88.

When Kristi makes it upstairs she runs to the right, the maid behind her and Teresa behind them.

INT. UPSTAIRS LANDING – CONTINUED

Teresa follows the maid into the –

INT. MASTER BEDROOM – CONTINUED

Teresa walks inside. Kristi runs inside the closet and shuts it. The maid opens the closet door and looks for Kristi.

MAID  
Come on out Kristi.

Teresa turns around to look at the girl’s room at the end of the hallway; she hears the trap door opening. Teresa quickly runs over to the door.

INT. GIRL’S ROOM – CONTINUED

Teresa looks at Kristi coming out of the trap door. Kristi closes the trap door and runs to the door.

At the end of the hallway the maid stands with the knife on her hand, she runs towards the door.

Kristi quickly shuts the door, seconds later the maid can be heard pounding on the door.

POOF!

A kitchen knife pokes a hole on the door, then another, then another.

MAID(O.S)  
You can’t hide.

Kristi quickly walks towards the window and opens it.

TERESA  
No!

BOOM!

The door breaks in pieces. The maid comes in running towards Kristi.

Kristi quickly jumps out of the window. Teresa sees the tall and black figure; it’s standing in the corner, looking at Kristi commit suicide.

89.

Shortly after, the sound of the impact can be heard.

The maid stares at the window for a long time, then she lets out a sinister laugh.

MAID  
I got to get out of here.

The maid runs through the hallway and down the stairs, Teresa after her.

INT. DOWNSTAIRS LANDING – CONTINUED

The maid runs towards the backdoor to escape, someone pounds on the door.

VOICE(O.S)  
Police! Open up!

The maid runs out of the kitchen into –

INT. LIVING ROOM – CONTINNUED

The maid runs through the living room and grabs the front door to escape; someone pounds on this one too.

VOICE(O.S)  
I know you are there, open up!

The maid runs through the living room inside the -

INT. KITCHEN – CONTINUED

The maid looks at the door.

MAID  
Stand back!

VOICE(O.S)  
Or what? You will kill me just like you did with the man.

MAID  
If it comes to it.

VOICE(O.S)  
The house is surrounded, you either open this door or I’ll knock it down.

90.

MAID  
I’d rather die than spend my life in prison.

VOICE(O.S)  
Open the darn door!

The door pounds harder, Teresa looks closely at the maid. The maid opens a cabinet under the sink and pulls out a flask with a skull printed on the front.

She opens it, and without hesitating drinks it. It doesn’t take long for the maid to fall to the floor dead. Teresa sees the dark figure standing over the maid’s dead body.

**BACK TO REALITY**

Teresa wakes up.

She sits on the bed and turns to look at everyone sleeping, she gets out of bed and walks out of her room.

INT. UPSTAIRS HALLWAY – CONTINUED

She walks down the stairs.

INT. DOWNSTAIRS LANDING – CONTINUED

She walks inside the –

INT. KITCHEN – CONTINUED

She walks inside, opens a cabinet and takes out a tea kettle. She moves to the side to reveal her dad sitting in the table behind her. She puts water in the tea kettle, turns on the stove and puts the tea kettle on top.

She walks out of the kitchen into –

INT. LIVING ROOM – CONTINUED

She sits down on the couch, and stares at the clock

TICK! TOCK! TICK! TOCK!

Then a loud, manly, and beautiful singing voice is heard from the kitchen.

The voice is not singing lyrics just humming, Teresa immediately recognizes it.

91.

TERESA  
Father?

Teresa gets up from the couch and slowly walks towards the kitchen.

TERESA  
Father.

She makes it to the kitchen door, she slowly walks in to reveal her dad sitting down on the table. He turns to look at her.

JOSEPH  
Darling.

BOOM!

A big sound is heard behind Teresa in the living room, she turns around to look at the small living room.

She turns back around to the kitchen, her father is gone.

TERESA  
Mark!

Teresa walks towards the living room.

TERESA(CONT’D)  
Mark!

Footsteps are heard coming downstairs, Teresa turns around to see Mark, rubbing his eyes.

MARK  
Yes?

TERESA  
I saw father, I just saw him, I promise I’m not lying.

MARK  
How can I not believe that after all that’s been happening?

TERESA  
He was singing in the kitchen, he was singing the same song he would sing while I was making coffee for him and he was waiting at the kitchen table. And he talked to me.

MARK  
What did he say?

92.

TERESA  
He called me darling.

Mark raises his eyebrows.

TERESA(CONT’D)  
I had a dream. I know what happened, the little girl committed suicide after the maid killed her father. She was after the little girl. After she jumped out the window the maid drank poison and finished herself off.

MARK  
Why would she do that?

TERESA  
The house was surrounded by the police. And the dark figure, I just found out what it is.

MARK  
What is it.

TERESA  
It’s death. He visits people nights before they die that’s what I was seeing before our dad died, that’s who we saw in the pictures. He takes their souls.

A woman’s sinister laugh is heard at the lower floor. Teresa and Mark turn to look at the stairs that lead to the lower floor.

TERESA(CONT’D)  
It’s the evil woman in white.

MARK  
Stay here.

TERESA  
Why?

MARK  
Well I think it’s about time we exorcise the house.

Mark runs up the stairs.

TERESA  
Mark please hurry up.

Mark disappears, Teresa looks down the stairs to the lower floor.

93.

WHOOSH!

An unseen force pushes Teresa down the stairs.

INT. EMPTY ROOM – CONTINUED

Teresa looks up to see the living room, she grabs her back in pain.

FLICK!

She turns on the light to light up the empty room.

A moan is heard on the living room. Teresa moves further away from the stairs till her back is touching the floor.

BAM!

The light that is lighting up the empty room explodes.

Teresa looks everywhere with fear in her eyes.

TERESA  
Mark!

A shadow passes by at the end of the hallway, next to the room where Teresa’s father stayed.

She covers her eyes for a good amount of time, she opens them and stares at her shoes.

A shadow suddenly covers her shoe, she looks up to see the evil woman in white look down at her.

The woman hisses at her, brings up her hand to hit her, and then –

WHOOSH!

A huge white light comes flying towards the woman, the woman screams. Teresa catches a glimpse of her dad’s face in the white light. The white light makes contact with the woman and they both disappear in thin air.

Mark is standing on the stairs, looking at what happened.

MARK  
Impossible.

TERESA  
What?

94.

MARK  
I thought this kind of stuff only happened in movies.

TERESA  
What happened.

MARK  
Our fathers good energy canceled out the woman’s bad energy.

TERESA  
So that means that –

MARK  
Our father my now rest in heaven.

TERESA  
And the evil woman?

MARK  
She’s in hell now.

TERESA  
What about the maid, the man in coat and Kristi.

MARK  
We still have to get rid of them.

TERESA  
By exorcising the house.

Mark and Teresa walk up the stairs.

INT. LIVING ROOM – CONTINUED

Mark puts the holy water in between his hands.

MARK  
Go get the girls, at this point no one can be alone.

Teresa runs up the stairs.

INT. UPSTAIRS LANDING – CONTINUED

She walks towards her room, when she opens the door darkness welcomes her.

INT. MASTER BEDROOM – CONTINUED

95.

As soon as she walks in a cloud of air escapes her mouth.

TERESA’S POV

Everything is turning darker and darker and darker, until she almost loses sight.

She begins feeling dizzy, she’s close to hitting the ground. She’s dying.

She falls to the ground. In the little sight that she has left, she sees death standing in front of her.

INT. LIVING ROOM – CONTINUED

The reel tape recorder and the camera sit on the table in the living room. The reel tape recorder starts again, Mark’s voice plays.

“What do you want” then the reply that everyone was waiting for gets revealed. The dark voice that was revealed to be death speaks “I want her, it’s her turn”

The camera starts making noise. The picture that Mary took and didn’t come out is now coming out.

Little by little it gets revealed. The picture captured Death standing behind Teresa.

CUT TO:

INT. GIRL’S ROOM – CONTINUED

**BACK TO THE BEGINNING OF THE MOVIE**

Nancy is painting, while singing.

NACNY  
Mary had a little lamb, little lamb, little lamb. Mary had a little lamb it’s fleece was white as snow.

8 dolls sitting in front of the window are staring at her, and then they start tearing up blood.

POW!

A lightning bolt illuminates the room for a second, revealing her painting; the painting of an old bald man with blood slapped across his face here and there.

96.

It’s her grandfather

The music box starts going slower, and Nancy’s sweet voice starts wrapping up the song.

The closet door behind her opens.

AT SOMEONE’S POV

The POV is looking at the back of Nancy, the POV is inside the closet. Nancy turns her head and looks.

The 8 dolls are looking away from the closet now.

Nancy Smiles.

AT NANCY’S POV

She looks back at whatever was looking at her in the closet, it was death.

INT. MASTER BEDROOM – BACK TO THE PRESENT

Teresa is dying, Nancy’s sweet voice fills the room.

NANCY  
Mary had a little lamb, little lamb, little lamb.

Mary and Nancy are holding her mom on the floor, stroking her hair, Nancy singing.

NANCY(CONT’D)  
Mary had a little lamb, it’s fleece was white as snow.

Teresa gives out her last smile, it’s a big one, then she closes her eyes and everything turns dark.

CUT TO BLACK

ENDING TITLES: ***THE STARTLING***

***THE END***

12/19/13