THE OLD HOUSE

WRITTEN BY ROB GROTNICK EXT. OLD HOUSE - NIGHT

An old, scary house right in the middle of a spooky forest.

INT. OLD HOUSE - NIGHT

STEVE, a teenager, is looking around the dusty old living room and then brushes cobbwebs out of his hair.

STEVE What are we doing at this old house on Hallow--

LARRY, another teenager rolls in his wheelchair toward Steve

LARRY Don't say it Steve!!!!!

STEVE Oh, yeah. Hallows eve. Whatever. So why are we in this old house when we should all be at a party.

REGINA a teen girl walks over.

REGINA You know why Steve. Because this is the old retirement home for indigent clowns. And they say when the clock strikes midnight on Hallow--

LARRY Don't say it Regina!!!!

REGINA On this night, the ghosts of those clowns rise from hell to haunt this old house

Steve looks arouns and sees a scary stuffed bear standing in the corner.

STEVE What a shithole. I'd like to burn this place to the ground.

LARRY

No!!!!

Steve snarls at Larry and then kicks one of the wheelchair wheels..

STEVE

Is that all you can say? I wish we didn't bring you Larry

LARRY Sorry Steve. My back still hurts from getting up those stairs on the front porch.

STEVE What are you complaning about? I'm the guy who got you up those stairs.

LARRY I don't see why you had to drag me by my ankles.

REGINA Stop fightin you guys!!!!! Its about to turn midnight!!!!

Regina looks at her watch but nothing happens

STEVE I knew that there were no such thing as ghosts. Let's go to that big party now

LARRY Wait! Do you hear something?????

They all are standing and listening for something

Circus music starts to play.

STEVE Hey where is that music coming from???

LARRY I dont like this. Lets get out of this house

Larry rolls over to the front door but it is locked

LARRY (CONT'D) Were locked in this house!!!!!!

Steve runs over and rolls Larry into the next room. He tries the door but also finds that it is locked

STEVE Oh my god we cant get out!!!!! REGINA Hey where's Larry

STEVE

Who cares.

The circus music gets louder.

They hear a scary laugh like that of a circus clown.

REGINA I can't believe this is happening.

STEVE The question is how do we get out???

REGINA I know the basement!!!

STEVE

Okay.

They run out of the room

INT. IN THE BASEMENT - NIGHT

Regina and Steve run down the stairs and then into the dark basement.

STEVE Wait, this makes no sense. What a dumb idea this was!!!

REGINA

Sorry

They run back up the stair and then back into the main room.

The circus music is getting real loud. Just then an old phone rings.

REGINA (CONT'D) That's impossible. This house hasn't had phone service in over thirty years!!!

Steve picks up the phone.

STEVE

Hello?

Steve hangs up the phone and his hand is shaking.

REGINA

Who was that?

STEVE You don't want to know.

Just then a voice comes out of nowhere ..

VOICE Heh, heh-heh, hello kids. Welcome to the circus

STEVE Who are you??

VOICE Heh heh-heh. Scruffo is my name. And this house is where I live. Me and all my clown friends. I'm so glad you could join us. Take your seats!!!

A couch slides across the room by itself and slams Steve and Regina in their legs. They have to sit in the couch because they are paralyzed by the ghost.

> VOICE (CONT'D) Here's our first act!!!

Steve and Regina hear squeaking wheels and then they can't beleive their eyes as Larry is dead in his wheelchair. His head has been ripped off and then taped back on

VOICE (CONT'D) Its the talking dead boy!!!

An invisible hand moves Larrys mouth up and down as the voice keeps on talking in a sarcastic way.

VOICE (CONT'D) Hi. I'm Larry and I never got to grow up. I'm so sad now!!!

STEVE What did you do to Larry!! He was just a kid!!

VOICE So what!!

Steve and Regina can't beleive it as the invisible ghost pushes Larry around in the wheelchair.

The wheelchair pops a wheelie onto a table but Larry's head falls off.

STEVE

Whoa!!

VOICE Oh well it looks like the first act is over. I sure hope you enjoyed it. Get ready for the big finale!!!!

Steve and Regina can't beleive it as footsteps come from the creaky stairs. A disgusting clown named Scruffo appears on the stairs with smeared face paint and a torn clown suit with holes in it

REGINA Oh my god!!!

SCRUFFO Hello kids I'm scruffo. I died thirty seven years ago in this house with all of my other retired clown friends. None of us had any money because the circus took it all from us so the county sent us to live here. And now we want revenge. Say hello to some of my evil friends.

Scary ghosts are suddenly flying through the air.

SCRUFFO (CONT'D) Oh, there's Wrinkly, the hobo clown. Thats a sick bastard. When he was alive he murdered the bearded lady and poisoned the dancing bears.

STEVE

No!!!

Another ghost flies around them with a pegleg

SCRUFFO Say hello to Bongo. The Ringling brothers had his tongue cut out which is why he can't speak..

Regina is starting to cry.

## REGINA Please just let us go.

Scruffo walks down the stairs and gets near them. He kicks Larrys head back onto his body.

SCRUFFO I learned that trick in Montana. And now to finish you off.

A squirting flower on Scruffo's suit shoots acid into Reginas face.

REGINA Oh my God!! Acid!!

Steve watches her die, then looks at Scruffo.

STEVE If you let me go, I'll bring ten kids over here in one hour.

Scruffo thinks about it then releases Steve from the couch.

SCRUFFO You better not be lying!!!!

STEVE

I'm not.

Steve runs to the door and then opens it and begins running into the forest. But first he turns back to the house.

STEVE (CONT'D) Hey Scruffo!!

SCRUFFO

Yeah???

STEVE There's a sucker born every minute!!!!

Steve flips off Scruffo then starts running into the forest.

SCRUFFO Nooooo!!!!!!

The End