

BADHORN, USA

Written by

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EXT. TOWN - NIGHT

Day slips into night in the small, midwestern town of BADHORN. Darkness moves from the edge of town, enveloping

Rows of cornfields.

A creepy, old midwestern gothic house we'll come to know as the OLD BADHORN MANSION.

A rundown trailer park where children play in the dirt.

A down-and-out strip mall. A neon sign reading BADHORN PLAZA flickers, holding on for dear life.

A broken-down car that drives down a broken-down road past a blinking red stoplight.

And finally into a neighborhood of similar looking houses, through the window of one house, and right into...

INT. HOUSE - RAMONA'S ROOM - NIGHT

...a horror fan's dream room. Every sort of monster, ghoul, and killer adorns the walls, the ceiling, the bookshelves. Dolls, sheets, books, posters, curtains. Everywhere.

(**NOTE:** Most of the mentioned monsters, ghouls, and killers are created for this world, not "real-world" properties.)

A POSTER reads: "MACHETEFACE 2: The face that launched a million kills is back!" Below the tagline, a slashed-up face with two machetes sticking out of it, stares lifelessly.

Another POSTER reads: "THE ROUTINE SLASHER: You're right on time... to die!" as a hooded killer with a knife checks his watch, and a co-ed recoils in terror!

On a desk, between a vampire doll and a guy with a chainsaw for an arm, sits a framed PICTURE: a young girl (10ish), dressed as a scary clown and holding a jack-o-lantern full of candy, stands in front of a smiling mom and dad. This is the MONTGOMERY FAMILY in happier times.

The current RAMONA MONTGOMERY (14) sits on her bed. Dressed in all black with a horror t-shirt, Ramona's big city attitude trapped in a small town.

MR. MONTGOMERY (40s) stands in the doorway. Style - all business. Attitude - more laid back. He holds a suitcase.

RAMONA

You can't leave me here.

MR. MONTGOMERY

You know, most teenagers want their parents to go out of town.

RAMONA

Yeah, well, those teenagers don't live in Badhorn. I read a report online. Did you know it's the number one lamest town in America for forty years running?

MR. MONTGOMERY

Really? Forty years?

RAMONA

That's only how long they've been recording lame towns. Could be more.

MR. MONTGOMERY

Ram, I'm only leaving for a few days. And, when I get back, we're going to New York for your summer filmmaker's program.

RAMONA

I don't know if I can make it that long. I'm gonna be trapped here forever.

MR. MONTGOMERY

OMG. You are totes dramatic.

RAMONA

Dad. Never say that again.

She falls back on the bed. He laughs, sits beside her.

RAMONA (CONT'D)

Can we just move back to New York?

MR. MONTGOMERY

Come on. Badhorn's not all bad, right? You met Frosty. And there's that weird horror shop.

RAMONA

Dr. Wicked's Bazaar of the Bizarre.

MR. MONTGOMERY

See? That's two things right there. Maybe if you focus on the good stuff, you might see that Badhorn is pretty cool. Or dope. Or lit. Or lit AF. Or--

RAMONA

Stop. Please. Just stop.

Ramona laughs in spite of herself. Mr. Montgomery smiles and looks to the picture on Ramona's desk.

MR. MONTGOMERY

I know this last year hasn't been the easiest -for any of us- but moving here is helping us get back on our feet. We have to stick together. It's what mom woulda wanted.

RAMONA

I know.

MR. MONTGOMERY

What do you call those girls in these scary movies you like? The ones who always survive?

RAMONA

The final girl.

MR. MONTGOMERY

Right. Just like all those final girls, you're gonna come out on top. Just gotta make it through the night. Ok?

RAMONA

Ok.

Ramona smiles. They hug.

MR. MONTGOMERY

And who knows? Maybe you'll have some fun while I'm gone. A wacky adventure. A weird, but harmless, run-in with the cops. Make out with a boy. Don't do that. No making out.

RAMONA

Ugh! Dad!

They laugh again as DING DONG! The doorbell rings.

MR. MONTGOMERY

That's Frosty and her dad. It's summer. You got the whole place to yourself. Hang out, watch a scary movie, eat some popcorn, and, before you know it, we'll be back in the City for your program.

RAMONA

Hey, dad? Thanks.

MR. MONTGOMERY

I gotchu, fam.

RAMONA

Do you even know what you're saying?

MR. MONTGOMERY

Not really, no.

They head downstairs.

INT. HOUSE - FRONT DOOR - MOMENTS LATER

Ramona and Mr. Montgomery open the front door to MR. FROST (40s), similar business dad style, and AURORA FROST (aka FROSTY, 14). She's a horror movie nerd - both in the sense that she's a nerd *for* horror movies, and she's a nerd *in* a horror movie. She carries an old VCR.

Dads shake hands. Frosty hands Ramona the VCR and opens her backpack, full of VHS tapes.

FROSTY

Ok, I brought all the *MacheteFaces*. *Routine Slasher* and *Routine Slasher Two: Right on Schedule*. What else? *Piranha Lake*, *ScareWolf*, *Polly the Petite Poltergeist...*

RAMONA

*Polly the Petite Poltergeist*? Really? That's kids' stuff.

FROSTY

It's a classic!

RAMONA

Yeah, ok. You're right.

MR. MONTGOMERY  
Ok, we'll be back in a few days.

Mr. Frost kneels so he's eye-level with his daughter.

MR. FROST  
All right, kiddo, I gotta go. But before I do - who'd win in a fight between Demon Bear and Meth Gator?

FROSTY  
C'mon, dad. Of course, Demon Bear. He's psychotic. And adorable. Meth Gator's just a drug-addled beast.

MR. FROST  
You're right. That was too easy. Love you, sweetie.

FROSTY  
Love you more, dad.

The Frosts do a special handshake which ends in a hug. The Montgomery's watch all of this, not sure what to think.

MR. MONTGOMERY  
So, Ram, who do you think would win in a fight between...uh...

RAMONA  
Dad.

MR. MONTGOMERY  
You're right. I have no clue what I'm talking about. Ok, girls, stay woke. And you, try to have a little fun, ok? Love you, kid.

RAMONA  
Bye, dad.

The dads walk out.

FROSTY  
Did your dad just tell us to stay woke?

RAMONA  
Yeah, he's kinda going through a thing right now.

INT. HOUSE - RAMONA'S ROOM - NIGHT - LATER

Ramona and Frosty watch a grainy VHS video on TV.

ON THE TV: Generic CHEERLEADER (20s) and JOCK (20s) with letterman jacket walk through a cornfield, past a SCARECROW.

CHEERLEADER

I'm cold. Let's get outta here.

JOCK

Ugh. Fine. This sucks anyway.

The Jock pushes the Scarecrow, knocking it to the ground.

As they walk away, the clouds part, and the full moon shines down on the scarecrow. It's all overalls and flannel stuffed with straw, but the head, the head is different. Not a man's head; a wolf's head!

Under the moonlight, evil, yellow pupils appear in the black sockets of the beast's eyes. Razor sharp wolf claws pop from hands and feet. This is no scarecrow; this is a SCAREWOLF!

The monster stumbles to its feet. HOWL!

TITLES ACROSS THE SCREEN: CURSE OF THE SCAREWOLF!

BACK IN THE ROOM

FROSTY

ScareWolf is definitely the best movie monster.

Ramona, not really interested, scrolls through her phone.

RAMONA

Yeah, he's cool, I guess.

FROSTY

You guess? He's a scarecrow that got bitten by a werewolf! How cool is that?

RAMONA

I thought he was a werewolf that got turned into a scarecrow.

FROSTY

Nuh-uh. A lotta people think that because they tried to retcon it later in *ScareWolf Four*, which, I admit, makes the timeline a little convoluted, but if you follow the original trilogy, it's obvious...

Frosty trails off; notices Ramona is back to scrolling.

FROSTY (CONT'D)

Anyway, who's your favorite?

RAMONA

I don't know.

FROSTY

C'mon...

RAMONA

Uhhh... the Routine Slasher.

FROSTY

The Routine Slasher? What's so scary about a guy who kills on a schedule?

RAMONA

That's just it - you know he's coming, but you can't stop him.

FROSTY

Ok, but he's The Routine Slasher. That's a whole different sub-genre.

RAMONA

Yeah, ok.

FROSTY

Hey, what's up? If you wanna watch something else, we got lots of--

RAMONA

It's fine.

FROSTY

C'mon, Ram. Tell me.

RAMONA

It's just that-- well, look. I love horror movies. And I love that you love horror movies. But its all we ever do.



FROSTY  
I guess we could turn up.

Ramona looks at her.

FROSTY (CONT'D)  
I heard your dad say that.

RAMONA  
I guess I just miss the city. This town... sucks. Sorry.

FROSTY  
No, I get it. It's probably not as exciting as New York. Plus, in a small town, you have a twenty-two percent greater chance of dying.

RAMONA  
What?

FROSTY  
Surprising I know, but true. Fights. Stabbings. Falls. Wild dogs. It all adds up.

RAMONA  
I'm glad we're friends, Frosty. Otherwise, I might think you were weird.

Ramona goes back to scrolling through her phone.

FROSTY  
Wanna ride our bikes across town and back?

RAMONA  
No.

FROSTY  
Head over to BH-Mart and watch the weirdos walk around?

RAMONA  
We are the weirdos, Frosty.

Frosty shrugs. Suddenly, Ramona stops scrolling.

RAMONA (CONT'D)  
What's the Old Badhorn Mansion?

FROSTY  
 (surprised)  
 Uh, it's stupid. You'd hate it.

RAMONA  
 Probably. But what is it? Says here  
 it's haunted and that this guy he--

FROSTY  
 Ok. Yes. It's Priscilla Badhorn's  
 old family house, and she won't let  
 anyone tear it down, even though  
 it's old and super-haunted and any  
 kid who goes there never comes out.

RAMONA  
 Cool. Let's check it out.

FROSTY  
 Did you not hear what I just said?

RAMONA  
 C'mon, you're a scientist. You  
 don't really believe in that stuff  
 do you?

FROSTY  
 No, but I do believe in Priscilla  
 Badhorn. And given the choice  
 between her and some evil spirit  
 trapped in-between worlds, I think  
 I'd take the evil spirt.

RAMONA  
 C'mon, Frosty!

FROSTY  
 Hey, you know where we should go?

RAMONA  
 No way. Don't change the subject.

FROSTY  
 I heard he got the new *Danger*  
*Stranger* poster...

RAMONA  
 Really?

Ramona sighs, intrigued...for now. Frosty smiles and nods.

EXT. STRIP MALL - NIGHT

The girls ride their bikes into a parking lot, past that flickering old neon sign reading BADHORN PLAZA.

This strip mall has seen better days. The blacktop is quickly becoming gravel. Most of the shops are empty, boarded up, but there is a sign that reads DONUTS and another that says BADHORN SPORTING GOODS.

And in between the two, there's: DR. WICKED'S BAZAAR OF THE BIZARRE (AND OTHER CREEPY COLLECTIBLES).

In front of the donut shop, two Sheriff cars rest.

SHERIFF HUNTER (50s; good ol' small-town sheriff) sits on the hood of one. DEPUTIES JOHNS and KNIGHTS (both 30s; both slightly more worldly) sit on the other. All eat donuts.

SHERIFF HUNTER

...and then she said, "Heck, Sheriff, I was just getting ready to call you." And I said, "Well, ain't that just ironic that I showed up when I did?"

DEPUTY JOHNS

Actually, Sheriff, that's more coincidental.

SHERIFF HUNTER

Say what?

DEPUTY JOHNS

Well, you said it was ironic that you showed up when you did, but it was more like a coincidence.

DEPUTY KNIGHTS

Uh-uh. Serendipitous, even.

SHERIFF HUNTER

Seren-what-it-dous?

DEPUTY JOHNS

Serendipitous, Sheriff.

DEPUTY KNIGHTS

Like a happy coincidence.

SHERIFF HUNTER

A happy coincidence?

DEPUTY JOHNS

Right. You showing up like that when you did was an unplanned, but fortunate, occurrence. Ergo, serendipity.

DEPUTY KNIGHTS

Now, if you've driven over to Mrs. Myer's place 'cuz you thought something might be going on over there, and, at the same time, she drove down to the sheriff's office 'cuz she wanted to talk to you, ya'll woulda missed each other.

DEPUTY JOHNS

And that'd been ironic.

Deputy Knights nods agreement over a bite of donut.

Sheriff Hunter takes this in, as the girls throw their bikes down in front of Dr. Wicked's shop.

FROSTY

Hey, Sheriff Hunter! Deputies.

SHERIFF HUNTER

Hey there, girls. Whatchy'all getting up to, tonight?

RAMONA

Oh, just taking in all the culture that Badhorn has to offer.

SHERIFF HUNTER

Well that won't take too long.

RAMONA

Yeah, that was kinda the point I was-- never mind.

FROSTY

We're here to see if Dr. Wicked's got the new *Danger Stranger* poster.

DEPUTY JOHNS

Sounds spooky.

FROSTY

(excited)

Oh, it is. *Danger Stranger's* a school crossing guard who gets hit by a car.

(MORE)

FROSTY (CONT'D)

Then, he comes back as an evil spirit to exact revenge on all the people who don't stop at stop signs.

DEPUTY KNIGHTS

Nice concept.

FROSTY

It's great. I just hope they don't go into comedy like they did with *Backwoods Nosferatu*. In the first one, he's got some amazing kills, but then they start to make him more of a joke and then--

Ramona elbows Frosty, as the Sheriff's eyes glaze over.

FROSTY (CONT'D)

Anyway, it's cool.

SHERIFF HUNTER

All right. Well, you girls stay outta trouble, now. I don't wanna have to come arrest you later!

RAMONA

No promises, Sheriff.

They all laugh, as the girls head inside...

INT. DR. WICKED'S SHOP - CONTINUOUS

DING! The girls enter, and we now see who's Ramona's interior decorator: Rows and rows of horrific games, movies, comic books, mugs, dolls, beach towels, you-name-it.

ON A TV: A dark and foggy forest. A huge monster of a man in dirty workman's clothes and an old sweater carries a machete in his hand and a man's severed head in the other. His ghostly white face is covered in a thousand criss-crossed slices. MACHETEFACE smiles an evil smile.

He tosses the head toward TINA (19). Only twenty-four hours ago, she was young and innocent arts-and-crafts camp counselor, but now the only arts she's practicing are the martial kind. Her face is cut; she carries her own machete.

MACHETEFACE

Sorry about your boyfriend, Tina. Guess he wasn't cut out for being a camp counselor.

TINA

Yesterday, I was doing paper maché.  
But today, I'm doing paper machete!

MACHETEFACE

What?

Tina leaps and WHACK! She cuts off MacheteFace's head.

BACK IN THE STORE, the girls mouth along with every word.

RAMONA

*MacheteFace 2: Face 2 Face* is so  
awesome.

FROSTY

Tina's so awesome. I wish I could  
do that.

Nearby, Behind the counter, a cheap Halloween version of an  
evil ringmaster in a suit about two sizes too small. This is  
DR. DAVID WICKED (50s, not actually a doctor, not actually  
wicked. Actually named Dave).

He notices the two girls, speaks in an evil voice.

DAVE WICKED

(wicked voice)

Why, Miss Montgomery. Miss Frost.  
To what do I owe the pleasure?

The girls smile.

RAMONA

What's up, Dave?

FROSTY

Hey, Dave.

DAVE WICKED

(normal voice)

Dagnabit! I told ya'll! In the  
shop, it's Dr. Wicked!

RAMONA

Sure thing, Dave.

FROSTY

You got it, Dave.

RAMONA

By the way, how many years of  
wicked medical school does it take  
to become a wicked doctor?

FROSTY

Yeah, is it harder to be a wicked doctor than, like, a normal doctor?

DAVE WICKED

Ha ha. What are y'all looking for today? Need more *MacheteFace* mugs?

He points to a stack of boxes, each box holding rows of coffee mugs with little machetes sticking out.

RAMONA

If I take home any more *MacheteFace* mugs, my dad is gonna kill me.

DAVE WICKED

I know; I just thought *MacheteFace Three: The Final Dimension* would be more popular. I mean, what's not to like? They blow up *MacheteFace*, launch his remains into space, and then nuke them from orbit. It's the only way to be sure.

FROSTY

I think it's just misunderstood. Give it some time.

Ramona and Frosty explore the shop. Ramona grabs a figurine with the body of a large man and the head of an octopus.

RAMONA

Cool.

DAVE WICKED

Careful. That's an extremely powerful icon of an ancient god who lives in the deepest oceans off the coast of Maine. It's--

Ramona looks at him, incredulous.

DAVE WICKED (CONT'D)

Ok, fine. I ordered it from Ali Baba, but still, it's very fragile.

Frosty picks up a PUZZLE BOX, full of tiny moving pieces.

DAVE WICKED (CONT'D)

Whoa! Hey. You don't wanna mess with that. I had to travel deep into the deserts of the Middle East where I met a strange and powerful--

The girls stare at him. He gives up.

DAVE WICKED (CONT'D)  
 Alright. I found it online. But I had to really search for it.

RAMONA  
 Hey, Dave, what's the Old Badhorn Mansion?

DAVE WICKED  
 Just a weird, old house that shoulda been torn down years ago, except Priscilla Badhorn won't let anyone go near it. Oh, and it's super haunted.

RAMONA  
 Cool.

DAVE WICKED  
 Not cool. Trust me, Ramona. Stay away from there.

FROSTY  
 Uh, so, Dave, did you get the new *Danger Stranger* poster?

DAVE WICKED  
 Girls, you know there were less than fifty of those made. It's nearly impossible to find one.

The girls, dejected.

DAVE WICKED (CONT'D)  
 But, of course, not everyone is Dr. David Wicked, DDS, purveyor of all things perverse, dealer of all your doom-filled desires, noticer of all your necro-comic-conny needs!

Like some deranged Santa Claus, he pulls a large framed poster from under the counter.

THE POSTER: Rain pours down on a sinister, school crossing guard, who holds a blood-soaked stop sign. At the top: *Danger Stranger!* Crossing the street has never been this dangerous!"

The girls are amazed.

FROSTY  
 Whoa! That's the coolest thing I've ever seen in my life.



RAMONA

Badass, Dave. Way to come through.

DAVE WICKED

I know, right?!

As they revel in the poster, the doorbell CHIMES again!

Enter SERAPHINA GOODBETTER (aka SERA, 14). Class president. Cheer team captain. Valedictorian. Sera's prettier, smarter, more popular, and all around better than you - and not afraid to tell you about it. She holds her phone in front of her.

SERA'S PHONE POV

An Instagram Live type of app. Thousands of people are watching and sending a mix of comments and emojis.

SERAPHINA (ON PHONE SCREEN)

Hey guys, so I know I've shown you all the cool parts of my town, and you're probably like, "Sera, your town is so tight." And you're right, but I feel like I should show you the lame parts too. Like, right now, we're in Dr. Stupid's shop of Stupid. Or whatever.

END SERA'S PHONE POV

The girls and Dave watch all of this.

RAMONA

Why do you even let her in here?

DAVE WICKED

The horror community is open to everyone. And Sera knows her stuff, even if she is a little nichey.

Sera walks through like she owns the place. She picks up the octopus man.

SERAPHINA

Gross.

DAVE WICKED

Please be careful with that. It's an extremely powerful--

She carelessly tosses it down; it breaks in two.

DAVE WICKED (CONT'D)

Ok...

Sera approaches Ramona and Frosty.

SERAPHINA

Well, if it isn't the two lamest lames in town: Frostbite and the new girl.

RAMONA

Why do you still call me new girl? I've lived here for over a year.

SERAPHINA

Because you're the last person to move here, which makes you new. And different. And lame.

RAMONA

I'm lame because I wasn't born here?

SERAPHINA

Exactly. Dave! Gimme my DVD. And throw in a *Polly the Petite Poltergeist* in for the loser crew.

FROSTY

We don't need a copy. We already--

Ramona elbows her in the ribs.

RAMONA

What she means is we don't watch that kids' stuff.

SERAPHINA

I don't care.

RAMONA

We're more into--

SERAPHINA

Remember the part where I said I don't care? Dave! Where's my *Cannibal Death Camp*?

DAVE WICKED

Sera, you know that's banned in almost every country. And especially for someone under eighteen. It would be irresponsi--

SERAPHINA

Daaavvvee...

Dave reluctantly brings out a brown, DVD-shaped bag from under the table. Sera takes the bag, points at Ramona.

SERAPHINA (CONT'D)

You see this? Not for kids. For real hardcore horror fans only.

RAMONA

We're not kids. We're hardcore.

SERAPHINA

You're hardcore? You two?

RAMONA

Sure. We've seen *Cannibal Death Camp* so many times, right Frosty?

FROSTY

No. We've never seen--

Ramona elbows her, harder.

FROSTY (CONT'D)

Ow! Will you stop doing that?

RAMONA

What I mean is, I've seen it so many times. Back in New York, I used to watch *Cannibal Death Camp Two* every night before bed.

SERAPHINA

There's no *Cannibal Death Camp Two*. Dalmazio Forlini was arrested and--

RAMONA

You don't know about *CDC2*? I guess I just thought you were hardcore.

Sera, not sure if she's lying or not.

RAMONA (CONT'D)

We're actually so hardcore that we're going to the Old Badhorn Mansion later.

SERAPHINA

You are going to the Old Badhorn Mansion?

FROSTY

No, Ram, we are not--

DAVE WICKED

Girls, I can't let you go in--

RAMONA

Of course. Why not? I'm sure it's dumb, but it's something to do.

SERAPHINA

(faux impressed)

Wow. That is hardcore. Let's go.

FROSTY

Uh, I think what Ram means is that we were gonna go. I'm sure, uh, you probably wanna watch--

SERAPHINA

No. I wanna see just how hardcore the new girl is. Ten minutes. Alone. Inside. I dare you.

DAVE WICKED

I'm sure they were just ride past it and then head home. Right, girls?

SERAPHINA

Oh, I get it. I guess I just thought the new girl was hardcore. But maybe she's... soft core.

FROSTY

Sera, I think you mean--

SERAPHINA

Shut up, nerd!

RAMONA

I am hardcore. I'll see you there.

Sera smiles an evil smile as she exits the shop.

EXT. STREET - BIKES - MOVING - LATER

Frosty and Ramona pedal like maniacs through the street.

RAMONA

You said it's just an old house.

FROSTY

An old murder house! And you want to go there with Seraphina Goodbetter?

RAMONA

What was I supposed to do? Just sit there and let her put us down?

FROSTY

Yes! Who cares what she thinks?

RAMONA

I care! I mean, I don't care what she thinks, but I'm not gonna let her think that we think that she thinks she's better than us!

FROSTY

I don't know if that makes sense.

RAMONA

Whatever. You know what I mean.

The girls ride farther; the houses give way to cornfields.

RAMONA (CONT'D)

Besides, it's something to do.

FROSTY

You know what else is something to do? Stick a fork in a light socket. That'd probably be more fun and less emotionally scarring.

The cornfields give way to emptiness. Just empty land and overgrown grass. They turn down an old, gravel road.

RAMONA

It's just some stupid old building. How scary could it...

The bikes screech to a halt.

RAMONA (CONT'D)

...be?

EXT. HOUSE - NIGHT

That abandoned, midwestern gothic farmhouse appears, almost out of nowhere. A monolith in an endless void.

Tall grasses slither around, through broken boards, as if trying to pull the house into the earth. Paint peels like rotten skin. Shutters hang like dead bodies.

Sera steps forward.

SERAPHINA

So, you two losers actually showed.

RAMONA

This is it, huh? I've seen scarier.

Sera calls her bluff.

SERAPHINA

Good. Then this won't take long.

RAMONA

So, that article said that some farmer killed his family here with a pitchfork or something?

FROSTY

An axe.

SERAPHINA

An axe.

Frosty and Sera look each other. That was too similar for either's comfort.

FROSTY

The original Old Man Badhorn, the one who founded this town, he lived in this house with his wife and his three daughters. Until--

SERAPHINA

One night, he went crazy, and he hacked them all up and ate their brains!

FROSTY

He didn't eat their brains.

Sera shrugs. Frosty relents.

FROSTY (CONT'D)

He might have eaten their brains. Regardless, their spirits haunt the place and torture anyone who enters.

SERAPHINA

If you were from here, new girl, you'd know that.

FROSTY

Ram, you don't have to do this. We can still leave.

SERAPHINA

Yeah, I'll just tell the whole school that you were too scared.

RAMONA

You think I care what a bunch of kids at Badhorn High think?

SERAPHINA

Fine.

Sera mounts up.

RAMONA

Hey, wait. I didn't say I wasn't gonna do it.

Sera's evil smile again as Ramona heads to the mansion.

SERAPHINA

Oh, and new girl... I checked. There is no CDC2.

Ramona and Sera lock eyes, before Ramona takes off toward the house. Frosty follows.

FROSTY

Ram, think about this.

RAMONA

I am. And I think I'm tired of that idiot thinking she's better than everyone.

The front of the house now. They walk up some rickety stairs.

FROSTY

I get it, ok? Sera's a jerk, and you hate it here, but doing this isn't gonna change any of that.

RAMONA

Yes, it will. It'll show Sera we're not scared of her.

She turns to Frosty. Ramona opens the front door-- or tries to. It's stuck.

RAMONA (CONT'D)

The door won't open.

FROSTY

That's because the house doesn't want you in there.

Ramona looks for another entrance, sees a window. She grabs a rock and breaks out the remaining glass.

FROSTY (CONT'D)  
Active vandalism. Ram, this is bad.

SERAPHINA  
(yelling)  
Yo! Losers! Let's go!

FROSTY  
Even if the place isn't haunted,  
it's old. It's condemned. It's  
structurally unsound.

RAMONA  
Structurally unsound? If you're so  
concerned, you could come with me.

FROSTY  
C'mon, Ram. Don't do this.

RAMONA  
Frosty, relax. Nothing is gonna  
happen. I'll be right back.

FROSTY  
Nothing's gonna happen? That's what  
everyone says right before  
something happens! Ram! Wait...

She pushes Frosty out of the way, climbs through the window.

RAMONA  
(yelling to Seraphina)  
Start the clock!

Sera smirks, hits her phone timer. 10:00. 9:59. 9:58...

Ramona climbs through the window, and tumbles...

INT. MANSION - CONTINUOUS

...into the creaky, old mansion. A staircase runs up to the top floor. Graffiti and trash everywhere.

RAMONA  
You sure you don't wanna come in?  
It's kinda like being in a scary  
movie. Frosty?

No answer. A strong cold wind blows through the room.



RAMONA (CONT'D)

Wow. A lot bigger than it looks  
from outside.

The moon shines through a window, illuminates the staircase.

RAMONA (CONT'D)

Yeah, I'm not going upstairs. I  
mean, I'm not scared or anything; I  
just prefer down here.

The moon goes behind a cloud, shrouding the staircase in  
darkness again. Ramona crosses her arms against the cold.

RAMONA (CONT'D)

Ok. Thank you for understanding,  
drafty old murder house.

TINK! TINK! TINK! Piano notes ring out from... somewhere.  
Ramona rolls her eyes, and uses her phone light to explore.

RAMONA (CONT'D)

Let's just get this outta the way,  
ok? I'm from New York. I know  
creepy old buildings. I've also  
seen every haunted house movie ever  
made, so you can keep your creepy  
pianos and...

She turns suddenly! Sees a vague outline of SOMEONE! It's her  
reflection in a broken mirror.

RAMONA (CONT'D)

...your broken mirrors and...

Behind her, in the mirror, an old FACE appears. She turns.

RAMONA (CONT'D)

...your creepy portraits.

ON THE WALL: An old-timey painting of an aristocratic OLD MAN  
BADHORN.

RAMONA (CONT'D)

All right, I'll give you that one.  
It's creepy.

Ramona moves her head side-to-side. The portrait does that  
thing where the eyes don't really move, but they seem to  
follow you.

RAMONA (CONT'D)

Yeah, you could be an axe-murderer.

Next to him, similar portraits of a woman and children.

RAMONA (CONT'D)

I heard about what happened to you guys. Sucks.

BACK OUTSIDE THE MANSION

Frosty and Sera stand around, waiting.

FROSTY

Have you ever gone in there?

SERAPHINA

Of course. It is my aunt's place. You know I'm half Badhorn, right?

FROSTY

Yes. Everyone knows. Hey, do you think that maybe the Badhorn traits are recessive, so you're actually more Goodbetter than Badhorn?

SERAPHINA

OMG, you are such a nerd.

FROSTY

Just wondering.

SERAPHINA

If they were recessive, do you think I woulda been valedictorian of middle school? Class president? Captain of the softball team? Founder of the squirrel feeding club?

FROSTY

Maybe the two aren't related.

SERAPHINA

Will you just stop talking?

BACK INSIDE THE MANSION

Ramona shines her light down a hallway full of doors.

RAMONA

Ok, I've seen enough haunted house movies to know that any ghosts in this house aren't real. They're just representations of my past psychological trauma.

She opens a door.

INSIDE THE ROOM - creepy nursery. Old-timey crib. Creepy old dolls and stuffed animals.

RAMONA (CONT'D)  
Ah, creepy old kids' room. Sorry, I had pretty uneventful childhood.

Ramona notices, in one corner, a CLOWN, which reminds her...

QUICK FLASHBACK - RAMONA AND PARENTS ON HALLOWEEN

Ramona's mom, MRS. MONTGOMERY (35ish), fixes Ramona's scary clown mask, as MR. MONTGOMERY prepares the camera.

BACK TO THE MANSION

Ramona shakes it off. She walks to the next door.

RAMONA (CONT'D)  
But what if the ghosts are real?  
Well, then, they'll just try to drag me to an alternate dimension.

INSIDE THE ROOM: Nothing but dust, trash, and occult-lite type graffiti: skulls, demon heads, DIE!, etc.

RAMONA (CONT'D)  
But that could never happen.

QUICK FLASHBACK - RAMONA AND DAD MOVE TO BADHORN

Mr. Montgomery drives a car, packed full of boxes, as Ramona stares out the window.

They pass a sign that reads: "Welcome to Badhorn."

BACK TO THE MANSION

Ramona laughs nervously. She closes the door, walks on.

RAMONA (CONT'D)  
But what if I'm the ghost, and I don't know it? Am I dead?

She pinches herself; screams in pain. Ouch!

Just then -- SOMETHING brushes past Ramona's leg. She instinctively jumps back, puts her light to the floor, just in time to see some furry thing scurry away, down the hall.

RAMONA (CONT'D)  
Of course. Creepy cat!

The thing disappears into the door at the end of the hall.

The moon moves again, illuminating a path OUT of the hallway, back to where Ramona came. The door at the end of the hallway remains shrouded in darkness. Ramona notices this.

RAMONA (CONT'D)

Ok, Ram, what are you gonna do?  
Listen to the rational human in you  
that says get out of the house? Or  
listen to the horror fan in you  
that says show Sera you're really  
not scared?

Ramona takes a step toward the way out; then quickly changes direction, heads to the door at the end of the hallway.

Meanwhile...

BACK OUTSIDE THE HOUSE

Frosty checks her timer on the phone. Time's way past up.

FROSTY

Maybe we should go check on her.

SERAPHINA

Good idea. Or we could not.

Sera hops on her bike.

FROSTY

What are you doing?

SERAPHINA

This sucks. I'm outta here.

FROSTY

But I'll be out here alone.

SERAPHINA

What's wrong? Scared?

FROSTY

Yes! It's the Old Badhorn Mansion.

SERAPHINA

Whatever. Have fun with your  
friend, loser. Let's go.

Sera rides off, leaving Frosty alone.

INT. MANSION - OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

Ramona enters the room at the end of the hall. Classic wooden desk. Books line the walls. A piano at the room's edge.

RAMONA  
Creepy old study. That about covers  
all the bases.

The floor creaks; she bounces lightly on her feet, testing the old floorboards, as she walks toward the BOOKSHELF.

RAMONA (CONT'D)  
Structurally unsound.

She browses through the books, pulling on each one.

RAMONA (CONT'D)  
Secret passage. Where are you?  
Where-- C'mon, Ram this is stupid.

Then - something twinkling at the end of shelf catches her eye. Actually, two somethings twinkling.

RAMONA (CONT'D)  
Ah. Hey, kitty. What are you--

She shines her light, and it's - not a cat, but a HUGE RACCOON. It stands up and hisses! Ramona SCREAMS! And, with a THUD, Ramona and the books fall to the floor. The raccoon scurries away.

RAMONA (CONT'D)  
Stupid small town! I hate it here!

ONE BOOK remains on the shelf.

RAMONA (CONT'D)  
Secret book. That means--

CRACK! The old floor is structurally unsound.

RAMONA (CONT'D)  
Wait. No! I have to--

BOOM! The floor gives out and Ramona FALLS

THROUGH THE FLOOR AND

INTO A BASEMENT

POOF! Ramona lands flat on her back, dust flying everywhere.

RAMONA (CONT'D)

Ow.

FROM ABOVE, the raccoon stares down at her.

RAMONA (CONT'D)

Don't worry; I'm fine.

Ramona stands up, dusts herself off. Books all around her.

RAMONA (CONT'D)

Where am I?

BACK OUTSIDE THE HOUSE

Frosty stands on the front porch of the house. She tries the door. Still stuck. Stares through the broken window.

FROSTY

Oh, come on, Ram. What's taking you so long? Ramona! Ramona!

BACK IN THE MANSION'S BASEMENT

A cold, stone room, untouched for who knows how long.

The moonlight shines down, illuminating the hole in the floor. Ramona raises her cellphone and looks around.

Three stone pillars in a ritualistic, triangle fashion. A line drawn on the ground connects the three.

Along the wall, stairs up.

RAMONA

Evil hidden ritual room. Should I be surprised? I'm a little surprised.

She looks to the stairs. The raccoon hisses at her.

RAMONA (CONT'D)

Get out of here, you trash panda.

She heads to the stairs, but something SHINY catches her eye. She recoils, but this is no animal. Sitting there, next to one of the books, a shiny, black mansion-shaped amulet. The spires of the mansion are almost KEY-SHAPED.

Ramona picks it up, turns it in her hand, notices an amulet-shaped hole in the book next to it.

RAMONA (CONT'D)

Hidden key.

She holds the rock in hand as she walks toward one of the pillars. She kneels down, wipes away dust and cobwebs and reveals a small AMULET-SIZED KEYHOLE.

HISS! The raccoon peers down at her, hisses angrily.

RAMONA (CONT'D)  
Will you shut up? It's your fault  
I'm even down here.

She stares at the shiny rock. It almost calls to her.

RAMONA (CONT'D)  
Well, girl, you said you wanted  
some excitement.

She shoves the rock into the keyhole, and...

SERIES OF 1980s FLASHBACKS

EXT. TRAILER PARK - TRAILER - DAY, 1980

Three dirty, young girls (14, 12, 10) stand outside a dirty, old trailer, crying. Their mother stands in the doorway.

Beer cans fall out of a broken down truck, as the girls' father, RICK WARD (30s) -blue collar; works hard, drinks harder- climbs in, drives off.

At the next trailer over, a YOUNG DR. DAVID WICKED (14) watches the whole thing.

INT. TRAILER - BEDROOM - NIGHT

Cheap candles burn. The three girls and young Dave sit in a cramped circle, holding hands, chanting something unheard.

EXT. TRAILER PARK - TRAILER - DAY

A shiny, black luxury car pulls in front of the trailer. The driver opens the back door and PRISCILLA BADHORN (50s) steps out. Heels, pearls, fur coat. Priscilla is old money.

She holds the amulet in one gloved hand and a CHECK in the other. The girls' mother puffs on a smoke in the doorway.

Behind the mother stands CARMAN (14), the oldest of the crying girls. Poor, dirty, and angry, she stares directly at Ramona, as if she can see across this void.

END SERIES OF FLASHBACKS.

Ramona stands in front of the pillar, slightly dazed.

RAMONA (CONT'D)

What the?

But then...RUMBLE! She looks around; the three pillars are shaking. But not just the pillars! The whole house! CRACK! Ramona looks to the pillar in front of her. It seems to be squeezing down on the rock key.

RAMONA (CONT'D)

No no no. Come out.

She tugs on it. STUCK! She yanks again.

The pillar behind her to her left cracks again, collapses. The pillar behind her to her right falls to the ground. She yanks again on the key. The pillar is crumbling...

RAMONA (CONT'D)

Come on! Come on!

One more pull with all her might! And - nothing. With one last crack, the pillar collapses, crushing the key, breaking it into THREE PIECES.

RAMONA (CONT'D)

Nice one, Ram.

But there's no time to think about it. The whole place is falling all around her! She looks to the raccoon above.

RAMONA (CONT'D)

Don't just sit there. Throw me a rope or something!

It squeaks in fear and runs away.

RAMONA (CONT'D)

Hey! Come back! I'm sorry about the trash panda thing! Wait!

She forgets about the amulet thing, looks to the staircase in the wall. Debris falls all around her as she stumbles

UP THE STAIRS

And straight into a STONE WALL.

RAMONA (CONT'D)

No no no no. Come on! Come on!  
Secret brick. Secret brick. Secret--

She pounds on the wall, until SCHWOOP! Secret brick.



INT. MANSION - OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

The walls of the office shake. The bookcase slides, revealing a secret door. Ramona stumbles out.

RAMONA

Thank you every haunted house movie ever made.

She runs around the hole in the floor and into

THE MAIN HALLWAY

Pictures rattle off the walls. An old chandelier crashes. The staircase is collapsing.

EXT. MANSION - CONTINUOUS

Frosty has backed away from the front door, watches as the house booms and shakes!

FROSTY

Oh, that's not good.

She looks through the broken window. Ramona rushing forward.

FROSTY (CONT'D)

Ram! Hurry!

Ramona is nearly there, when BOOM! Part of the house crashes, blocking the window.

FROSTY (CONT'D)

Ramona! Are you ok? Ram! Tell me--

Suddenly... POUNDING from inside the mansion.

RAMONA (THROUGH THE DOOR)

Frosty? Frosty!

INTERCUT - RAMONA TRIES TO ESCAPE THE MANSION

Inside the mansion, Ramona pounds on the door, twists the handle, anything she can do.

Outside the mansion, Frosty hammers on the door, yanks on the handle, anything to free Ramona.

RAMONA (CONT'D)

The house won't let me leave!

FROSTY  
The house didn't want you in there  
remember?!

RAMONA  
Just open the door!

Frosty searches for something -anything!- to open the door.  
She tries to lever it open with a stick. The stick breaks.  
Inside, Ram pushes on the door.

RAMONA (CONT'D)  
Frosty, you're the smartest person  
I know. Help me out here.

FROSTY  
Oh, well sure. There's a hundred  
ways I could get you out, if I had  
some rope, a knife, a few pulleys,  
some levers, chewing gum--

RAMONA  
Frosty!

FROSTY  
What I'm saying is, we didn't  
exactly come prepared.

Inside, BAM! Another beam splinters and collapses.

RAMONA  
I've got an idea. You know when the  
car falls on the baby and it's  
about to explode and the mom lifts  
the car up and saves the baby?

FROSTY  
Hysterical Strength. Norepinephrine  
released from the sympathetic nerve  
systems in times of extreme stress  
in order to--

RAMONA  
Yes. Do that!

FROSTY  
But you're not a baby.

RAMONA  
Are you saying you don't love me  
enough to open this door?!

FROSTY  
No, I'm just--

RAMONA  
Just do it!

Outside, Frosty yanks on the door! Inside, Ramona pushes! Pushing and yanking with all their might!

Until... BOOM! The door opens! Frosty falls back. Ramona tumbles through the door!

RAMONA (CONT'D)  
Go! Go! Go!

END INTERCUT.

The two girls run for their lives, as the house FALLS in a massive pile of dust and lumber!

The two girls collapse into the grass outside, huffing and puffing. They stare back at the pile that was once the Badhorn mansion. The last piece falls in a gentle POOF.

RAMONA (CONT'D)  
You think anyone will notice?

SERAPHINA (O.S.)  
Oh, man, I'm so glad I caught that.

The girls look up to see Sera, who didn't leave after all. She stayed and recorded the devastation in all its glory.

SERAPHINA (CONT'D)  
That was bad. You two are so...

PRISCILLA BADHORN (V.O.)  
Doomed!

INT. BADHORN SHERIFF'S BUILDING - SHERIFF'S OFFICE - DAY

THROUGH A PHONE SCREEN: a Youtube-like app plays the video of the girls running, while the mansion collapses behind them. The TITLE reads: HIGH-SCHOOL LOSERS DESTROY LOCAL HISTORIC SITE. #EPICFAIL.

It's got hundreds of thousands of views and comments.

IN THE OFFICE, a flag sits in the corner. Various plaques and photos on the wall. Sheriff Hunter sits at his desk watching the video on his phone.

Across from him sits PRISCILLA BADHORN (50s, same age as the flashback). She has a real Cruella de Vil type of vibe, only, instead of puppies, her coat is probably made out of children. Next to her - Sera. Next to them - the girls.

PRISCILLA BADHORN  
Doomed, Sheriff!

RAMONA  
What's the big deal? It was just  
some stupid, old, lame...

FROSTY  
...structurally unsound...

RAMONA  
...house that no one ever went in.

PRISCILLA BADHORN  
Stupid old house? Miss Montgomery,  
that building was a testament to  
our heritage. A monument to my  
family's history.

FROSTY  
Ms. Badhorn. Sheriff. We're sorry  
about the mansion. We'll work  
everyday to fix it.

Sheriff Hunter giggles as he continues to watch the video on  
his phone.

SHERIFF HUNTER  
(not listening)  
Oh, man. And then it just all falls  
down. That's hilarious.

PRISCILLA BADHORN  
Sheriff!

SHERIFF HUNTER  
(recovering)  
But wrong! Girls, you should not  
have gone in there. That was bad.  
Hilarious, but bad.

SERAPHINA  
Uh, excuse me. Why am I here?

RAMONA  
Because you dared us to go!

SERAPHINA  
You said you were already going!

PRISCILLA BADHORN  
Sera! Even if you are only half  
Badhorn, I expect more from you.

SERAPHINA

(mumbles)

Sorry, auntie.

PRISCILLA BADHORN

There were items in that house.  
Items that cannot be replaced.

RAMONA

It's not our fault the house fell  
down, and we didn't take anything.

PRISCILLA BADHORN

You remind me of my brother, Miss  
Montgomery. Arrogant, impetuous,  
and always quick to deny any  
faults. I can't stand him either.

SHERIFF HUNTER

Ok, ok, everyone calm down. Sera,  
you've always been an upstanding  
member of our community...

SERAPHINA

Thank you, Sheriff. As you know, I  
am the chief of the junior cadets  
program, a regular volunteer for  
the Badhorn humane society. I also  
regularly attend--

SHERIFF HUNTER

Yes, I know. And, Aurora, you're no  
Sera, but you've never caused any  
trouble.

FROSTY

Thanks?

Hunter turns to Ramona.

SHERIFF HUNTER

Ramona, I know you're new here...

RAMONA

I've been here for over a year.

SHERIFF HUNTER

...and you're having a hard time  
adjusting. So, here's what I'm  
gonna do: You three are gonna spend  
-however long it takes- cleaning up  
the mess you made at the Badhorn  
place, and anywhere else Ms.  
Badhorn or I can think of.

SERAPHINA

What?

FROSTY

Oh, no.

RAMONA

You're giving us community service?  
I can't. I'm going to New York. I'm  
part of a program--

PRISCILLA BADHORN

Perhaps you should have thought of  
that earlier.

SERAPHINA

Auntie, can't you--

PRISCILLA BADHORN

And you - maybe this'll teach you  
to not hang out with riff-raff.  
Let's go.

Priscilla and Sera walk out.

RAMONA

Sheriff, please. Couldn't I just  
start later or--

SHERIFF HUNTER

Tomorrow morning. Eight a.m. See  
you then girls.

The Sheriff goes back to watching the video on his phone,  
laughing, as the girls walk out.

EXT. BADHORN SHERIFF'S BUILDING - DAY

The girls walk out of the Sheriff's office dejected. At the  
curb, Priscilla Badhorn stands in front of that same classic  
luxury car from the earlier flashback. HYMPHREY (70s), a  
proper looking chauffeur-type, holds the door for her.

RAMONA

This is the friggin' worst..

FROSTY

Who knows? Maybe we'll get it done  
and you can make it to New York.

PRISCILLA BADHORN (O.S.)

Miss Montgomery.

Priscilla beckons them over. They reluctantly go. Priscilla stares down her nose at them.

PRISCILLA BADHORN (CONT'D)  
 What did you see when you were in there?

RAMONA  
 (gulps)  
 Nothing.

PRISCILLA BADHORN  
 Are you sure?

Ramona nods.

PRISCILLA BADHORN (CONT'D)  
 The sheriff may have gone easy on you in there, but know this: My family built this town, and I will do anything to preserve it. Should I discover you're lying, I can do much more than send you to your room or give you community service. Much. More.

Priscilla steps into the car. Hymphrey closes the door, turns to the girls.

HYMPHREY  
 Good day, ladies.

INT. RAMONA'S HOUSE - ENTRYWAY - DAY

The door unlocks and Ramona and Frosty walk through, watching the video on Frosty's phone.

FROSTY  
 Sure, over a million people have watched it, but there's seven point five billion people on earth, so, when you think about it like that, it's practically no one.

Ramona, not impressed. BZZT! The video is interrupted by a call from Frosty's dad.

FROSTY (CONT'D)  
 Hey dad! You are not gonna believe what happened! We went to the Old Badhorn Mansion. I know right?

As Frosty speaks, Ramona gets her own phone call.

RAMONA  
Hey, dad.

INT. HOTEL ROOM - NIGHT

Mr. Montgomery, tie loosened, sits in front of a laptop.

MR. MONTGOMERY  
Ramona. How have you been?

INTERCUT - PHONE CONVERSATION

Ramona paces nervously through her home.

Mr. Montgomery sits in his hotel room, too tired for this.

RAMONA  
Oh, you know. Same old. Same old.

MR. MONTGOMERY  
Really? 'Cuz that's not what I  
heard from Sheriff Hunter.

RAMONA  
Well, you did say to have fun...

MR. MONTGOMERY  
Have fun. Not destroy the town!

RAMONA  
Dad! That wasn't my fault! I--

MR. MONTGOMERY  
He said you demolished a cultural  
landmark?

RAMONA  
It's just some old house.

MR. MONTGOMERY  
Ramona, what are you thinking?

RAMONA  
I'm thinking I hate this town. No  
one gets me here.

MR. MONTGOMERY  
You're a teenager! No one gets  
anyone anywhere.



RAMONA

I just want out of here! With this stupid community service, I can't go to New York.

MR. MONTGOMERY

Don't worry about New York, young lady. Once I get back, you won't be leaving your room.

RAMONA

Fine. It's not like there's anywhere to go anyway. Why did we ever come here? I wish mom was still here. She would have never brought me to this stupid--

She stops short. Silence.

RAMONA (CONT'D)

Dad, I'm sorry. I didn't--

MR. MONTGOMERY

I'm on my way back. We'll talk about this when I'm home. Until then, just stay in the house.

Click.

END INTERCUT

Ramona hangs up the phone.

FROSTY

So my dad just said he's just glad we're safe. What'd your dad say?

RAMONA

Just that I'm pretty much grounded 'til I'm like thirty.

FROSTY

That's ok. Lots of people live at home until they're thirty these days.

She puts her head down on the table.

EXT. BADHORN MANSION - DAY

The ruins of the mansion sit, one big pile of debris.

The girls -Ramona, Frosty, Sera- and Dave stand at near the edge of the ruins, wearing orange vests and holding shovels, rakes, trash bags, and other cleaning gear.

The sun shines down, but as the girls talk and work, it slowly gets darker and darker. Sera taps her phone.

SERAPHINA

Ugh. This is the worst day ever. Not only do I have to hang out with you two losers, but I don't even have any coverage. I mean, it just worked yesterday.

RAMONA

I'm surprised this town even has internet. It's like one big time suck.

SERAPHINA

You know what's a big suck? You.

DAVE WICKED

Ok, girls. Calm down. We gotta lotta work to do.

FROSTY

Dave, why are you here?

DAVE WICKED

I told Sheriff Hunter I'd be your chaperone, unless you'd rather him do it.

ALL THE GIRLS

No.

RAMONA

Dave, how are we ever supposed to clean up this mess with these? This is gonna take forever.

FROSTY

She's right. We should have bulldozers, excavators, a couple of crawler-loaders, maybe a trencher.

DAVE WICKED

Uh, here's a shovel. Just put the bricks in one pile and the debris in another.

The girls dig through the trash. Clouds gather overhead.

RAMONA

Ugh. I'm never gonna get this done in time to go to New York.

SERAPHINA

Not with that attitude.

FROSTY

I don't know, Ram. It's not all bad. It's kinda like *Cat Mortuary*. Remember? When the family's house gets destroyed and they realize it was built on some old cat cemetery, and that's why all those ghost cats were there.

SERAPHINA

That movie sucks.

FROSTY

Are you kidding? It launched Rachel Newstark's career. Now, I'll give you that *Cat Mortuary II: Dog Mortuary* sort of lost the thread, but..

SERAPHINA

If you're talking animal-themed horror movies, you need to check out *The Human Caterpillar*. It's about a mad scientist who sews all these people together like a caterpillar, and then he locks them in a cocoon.

FROSTY

Gross.

SERAPHINA

Yeah. It's awesome. Then in *Human Caterpillar II: Metamorphosis*, he turns them all into a butterfly.

RAMONA

That doesn't sound scary. It just sounds disgusting.

SERAPHINA

I know, right? So cool.

As they dig, Frosty notices something shiny in the debris. She grabs it. It twinkles in the sunlight.

FROSTY  
Hey guys. What's this?

Frosty holds up a piece of the AMULET.

DAVE WICKED  
Ooh, shiny!

FROSTY  
What do you think? Galena?  
Chromite? Biophotonic crystal?

DAVE WICKED  
Hard to say without taking it back  
to the shop for keener observation,  
but, of the top of my head, I'd  
say... inter-dimensional meteorite.

SERAPHINA  
Hey, here's another one.

Sera holds up another PIECE. They put the two together.

FROSTY  
It looks like there's a piece  
missing.

THUNDER claps! As Ramona holds up the third piece.

RAMONA  
Here it is.

She walks over. Each girl holds a piece, connecting them like  
a puzzle. More clouds gather, darkening the skies.

RAMONA (CONT'D)  
Hey, Frosty, you remember when  
Priscilla said, "If you're lying to  
me..."

FROSTY  
I think it was more, "Should I  
discover you're lying..."

SERAPHINA  
That's not what she sounds like.  
It's more like, "Should I discover  
you're lying..."

RAMONA  
Guys! That's not the point. I may  
not have told her everything.

SERAPHINA

You lied to my aunt?

RAMONA

I didn't lie! I just told her that I didn't see something when I actually did.

FROSTY

Yeah. That's called lying.

RAMONA

Yeah, ok, fine. But I didn't mean to ok?! It's just that - well, I was in the mansion and I was exploring and I got scared by a raccoon and fell into this weird hole with this weird altar thing and I saw this weird shiny thing, and I put the weird shiny thing into the weird altar thing and then the whole house fell down; and the shiny thing broke and we escaped but then we got arrested and then--

DAVE WICKED

Wait. You saw this before? In the mansion?

RAMONA

Yeah. Right before I had this weird vision about these girls in a trailer park and then Priscilla--

DAVE WICKED

You saw girls in a trailer park?

SERAPHINA

Hey, losers. What's happening?

The amulet starts to glow with mystical power! Tiny lightning bolts start to jump from piece to piece.

FROSTY

Whoa! Electrical charges built up within the different pieces are causing a transference of energy!

SERAPHINA

Yeah. It's lightning, nerd.

RAMONA

I've never seen anything like this.

SERAPHINA

What? In New York, you don't have lightning rocks on like every corner?

RAMONA

Sera, will you just--

DAVE WICKED

Girls! Put those down. Seriously!  
It's not safe. It's--

Dave tries to take the amulet pieces from the girls' hands, but it's too late! The magic lightning from the amulet grows more and more intense! The wind picks up whipping debris around them! Thunder roars! Until...

BOOM!

Lightning crashes from the sky down into the ruins of the mansion, knocking everyone off their feet! The girls and Dave are singed, but ok.

Dave, especially, is burnt, his clothes torn and smoking.

DAVE WICKED (CONT'D)

Man! This was my favorite shirt.

SERAPHINA

Shut up, weirdo. Look.

The girls look through the smoky debris to see...

A HAND, deathly white, shoots through the wreckage. A body pulls itself slowly from the rubble.

The boots are worn from use. The dark workman's pants are stained with dirt and poorly patched. An old sweater, full of holes covers the arms, that lead to a hand, which digs a large MACHETE out of the dirt.

The face is just as white as the hands and covered in a thousand slices and cuts crisscrossed across the face. The lips move slowly, forming a maniacal smile.

And all this appears on the frame of a twelve-year-old girl. BELLE MACHETEFACE is five feet of pure nightmare fuel. She laughs maniacally!

BELLE MACHETEFACE

Ah, yeah! It's good to be alive!

Nearby, another hand reaches out - much larger, covered in fur and straw and ending in claws that shine in the moonlight.

The furry hand tosses the wreckage away and stumbles to it's feet. More straw and fur spill out of the ripped flannel and overalls.

An eight-foot, half-ton wolf creature with the mind of a ten-year-old girl. This is ADA THE SCAREWOLF. She howls!

Ada's voice is deep, but innocent.

BELLE MACHETEFACE (CONT'D)

You were supposed to take the shape of something scary. Not a big cat.

ADA THE SCAREWOLF

I'm ScareWolf, dummy. Way better than StupidFace you chose to be.

BELLE MACHETEFACE

It's MacheteFace. You'd know that--

CARMAN (O.S.)

Will you two knock it off?

A third girl, dressed in all black with a black hoodie pulled over her head. This is CARMAN (14). She appears mostly normal, if a little *off*.

CARMAN (CONT'D)

Not even free for five minutes, and already you two are arguing.

ADA THE SCAREWOLF

She started it.

CARMAN

For forty years, they kept us hidden, trapped in there. But now we're free, and they're the ones who are trapped.

The three girls stand together -the serial killer, the werewolf, and the witch- as thunder and lightning roars from the sky.

BELLE MACHETEFACE

Let's have some fun, huh Carm?

Belle laughs again.

ADA THE SCAREWOLF  
Stop doing that. It's creepy.

BELLE MACHETEFACE  
(mocking)  
Stop doing that.

Our three heroes (and Dave) see all of this.

DAVE WICKED  
Girls. I think we're done for  
today.

FROSTY  
Sounds good.

SERAPHINA  
Yup.

They head for Wicked's car. Ramona looks out through the smoke and fog. Carman looks in her direction and for one quick moment, they lock eyes.

FROSTY  
Ram! Let's go.

RAMONA  
Yeah, ok.

Ramona catches up and they jump in Wicked's car, take off.

SERIES OF SHOTS - EVIL SISTERS CAUSE TROUBLE

INT. WHOLESOME FAMILY HOME - NIGHT

THE MYERS, an average middle-aged couple, sit, watching TV.

ON THE TV: Inside an old house, a cute female ghost, POLLY, and a young human male, STEVE (14) hold hands, stare sadly into each other's eyes.

STEVE  
But, Polly, this is your one chance  
to be human again.

POLLY  
I know, Steve, but it's the only  
way to save your dad! Goodbye!

STEVE  
I'll always remember you, Polly!

Polly floats away as...



TITLES ON SCREEN: POLLY THE PETITE POLTERGEIST.

Ending music plays and Mrs. Myers dabs her eyes, when the doorbell rings. They look at each other, surprised.

Mr. Myers OPENS THE DOOR; it's Belle MacheteFace.

MR. MYERS

Well, aren't you downright creepy.  
But in a cute way. But also a  
creepy way. Uh, I don't think we  
have any candy. My wife usually-  
Honey? You get any Halloween candy?

MRS. MYERS (O.S.)

No, dear! It's June.

MR. MYERS

Then why were we watching Halloween  
movies?

MRS. MYERS (O.S.)

It's not a Halloween movie! It's a  
ghost-themed love story.

MR. MYERS

Right. Well, anyway, I guess you're  
a little early. Or maybe late. I  
don't know...

BELLE MACHETEFACE

It's ok. I'm not here for candy.  
I'm here - to kill!

MR. MYERS

Well, that definitely leans more in  
the creepy category. Aagh!

She brandishes a LARGE MACHETE, leaps at Mr. Myers!

EXT. STREET - NIGHT

Ada the ScareWolf stalks the street on all fours, when SNIFF!  
SNIFF! Something catches her nose. She looks and...

INSIDE A HOUSE - Sheriff Hunter sits at the kitchen table, a  
large juicy steak on a plate in front of him.

Ada licks her chops, takes off toward the house.

INSIDE THE HOUSE, Sheriff Hunter licks *his* chops.

PRINCIPAL VANDERBERG  
 Jeez. What a day. "It's not ironic,  
 Sheriff. It's seren-something-ous."  
 I think I know what ironic me--

BOOM! Ada blasts through the wall like the Kool-Aid Man from Hell, knocking Hunter back. She hungrily dumps the steak, plate and all, down her throat; searches for more food.

Sheriff Hunter picks himself up.

SHERIFF HUNTER  
 Hey! You can't just barge into an  
 officer of the law's house and--

Ada growls.

PRINCIPAL VANDERBERG  
 All right, fine. Take it.

Ada rips away the fridge door, greedily dumps more food into her mouth.

EXT. STREET - NIGHT

Carman walks down another street, taking in everything, as Deputy Knights pulls up next to her in a sheriff's car.

CARMAN  
 This place has changed.

DEPUTY KNIGHTS  
 Excuse me, little girl, what are  
 you doing out here by yourself?

CARMAN  
 I'm looking for my parents.

DEPUTY KNIGHTS  
 You shouldn't be out here alone.  
 It's not safe.

CARMAN  
 No. It's quite dangerous.

DEPUTY KNIGHTS  
 (confused)  
 Yeah, anyway, let's get you down to  
 the station. Find your parents.

CARMAN  
 Yes. That would be helpful.

END SERIES OF SHOTS.

INT. DAVE'S SHOP - DAY - LATER

Our rain-soaked crew stumbles into the shop, locks the door.

FROSTY

Guys, this is no one's fault.

SERAPHINA

You know who says it's no one's fault? The people who are to blame.

RAMONA

Us? You're the one who we weren't hardcore.

DAVE WICKED

Ladies! None of you should have been there. That place is bad.

FROSTY

Sorry, Dave. We were just trying to have some fun.

RAMONA

Yeah, you know... some good ol' "go in a creepy old mansion, find a shiny rock thing and stick it in a weird altar" type of fun.

SERAPHINA

Normal teenage stuff.

DAVE WICKED

No. Normal teenage stuff is sneaking into a movie or cow-tipping or dreaming about the girl you're desperately in love with, but she just sees you as a friend, so you decide you'll write a poem for her, and then you spend days working up the courage to give her the poem, but when you do, you realize she's went and got herself a jerk boyfriend, and so then you--

RAMONA

Uh, Dave?

Dave sighs, goes to the front window closes the blinds.

DAVE WICKED

The point is, I think something bad  
as happened.

SERAPHINA

Uh, yeah. What tipped you off  
genius? The eight-foot werewolf? Or  
the machete-wielding psycho?

FROSTY

Actually, that wasn't a werewolf.  
That was Scarewolf, a half-  
werewolf, half-scare...

Sera stares daggers at her.

FROSTY (CONT'D)

You know what? Never mind.

DAVE WICKED

Ok, I'm gonna tell you all  
something. Something that I'm not  
proud of.

SERAPHINA

Is there anything in your life you  
are proud of?

RAMONA

Shut up, Sera.

DAVE WICKED

Ok. So there used to be these three  
sisters - The Wards. They were...  
different. Like all in to haunted  
houses and scary movies. Dressed in  
black. That kinda thing.

The girls stand in the horror shop, dressed mostly in black.

FROSTY

How bizarre.

RAMONA

Yeah, super weird.

DAVE WICKED

Well, this was a different time.  
Anyway, their dad, he left them. No  
one really understood why -the  
girls didn't even know why- but the  
kids in town said it was because  
they were weird.

FROSTY  
He just picked up and left?

SERAPHINA  
What a loser.

DAVE WICKED  
Yeah, he was. He is. Anyway, he left the family, and I guess he was planning to leave town too. But the girls, they wanted him to come back, of course. So they made it so he couldn't leave town.

RAMONA  
How'd they do that?

DAVE WICKED  
They cursed Badhorn.

RAMONA  
Cursed?

DAVE WICKED  
Yeah, so no one could ever leave. In or out.

SERAPHINA  
What? I've lived here my whole life, and I've never heard this.

FROSTY  
Same.

DAVE WICKED  
No one talks about it because, well, you can imagine Priscilla Badhorn wasn't too happy about it. You can't have much of a town when nothing can get in or out.

RAMONA  
What'd she do?

DAVE WICKED  
She told the girls to remove the curse. They didn't, so Priscilla locked their souls up in a rock. Like that one.

FROSTY  
Well, that's certainly an escalation.

DAVE WICKED

Priscilla Badhorn doesn't mess around.

RAMONA

Come on. You guys don't really believe that. Do you?

SERAPHINA

I don't know. Auntie Priscilla, she doesn't like to be crossed.

DAVE WICKED

The Wards were always seen as weird anyway, so when the mom and sisters "moved away", no one really cared. Well, no one except for...

RAMONA

Who?

DAVE WICKED

No one. It doesn't matter.

RAMONA

Ok. So, say that is true...

DAVE WICKED

When you broke that thing, I think you released the souls of the Ward sisters.

FROSTY

That's good, right?

DAVE WICKED

But I think you also cursed the town. Again.

FROSTY

Oh, that sounds bad.

RAMONA

So, you're saying that we are literally trapped in this town? Like no one in or out trapped?

Wicked nods.

RAMONA (CONT'D)

No. No way. No no no.

DAVE WICKED

Ramona! Wait.

Ramona runs out of the shop.

EXT. STREET - NIGHT

Ramona pedals her bike with a fury down a lonely road, past a sign that reads: "Thanks for visiting Badhorn!"

Beyond that sign, a barricade blocks the road. Road closed.

RAMONA  
No way. Not possible.

She rides harder, dodges around the barricade, pedals faster. Nothing but open road.

RAMONA (CONT'D)  
Ha! I knew it. I knew it. Still  
free. Still--

BOOM! Her bike slams into an invisible wall, launching her over the handlebars and into the wall again. She slides down.

RAMONA (CONT'D)  
Ow.

Slowly, Ramona climbs to her feet and feels for the wall.

RAMONA (CONT'D)  
No. No!

She pounds on the invisible wall, crying. There's no escape. But of course! She remembers... She digs through her pockets, until, there it is! Her phone.

RAMONA (CONT'D)  
Hey, Siri. Call Dad.

SIRI VOICE  
Sorry; I didn't quite get that.

RAMONA  
Call. Dad.

SIRI VOICE  
Sorry; I didn't quite--

RAMONA  
Agh!

She goes into her phone; hits the number for Dad.

OPERATOR VOICE

We're sorry. Your call cannot be completed as dialed. Please hang--

Ramona screams in frustration and falls to the ground, hugging her knees.

RAMONA

This cannot be happening.

Her head sinks in near defeat, until, suddenly, HEADLIGHTS. A quick flash of red and blue lights.

RAMONA (CONT'D)

Great. Just what I need right now.

Ramona shields her eyes, as the door opens.

RAMONA (CONT'D)

Sheriff? That you?

Two feet emerge from the car. Carman's feet. She walks toward Ramona, then past her. Carman touches the invisible wall. Ramona stares at her; another girl dressed all in black, similar appearance.

RAMONA (CONT'D)

You. You cursed this place.

CARMAN

No. This place was already cursed.

RAMONA

Look, I get it. This town sucks. Priscilla Badhorn sucks. But take it up with her. I can't be trapped in here.

CARMAN

Trapped? What do you know about trapped?

RAMONA

I don't even wanna be in this town!

CARMAN

You think I wanted to be locked up in that rock for forty years?

RAMONA

I'm not gonna be stuck in here because of some little--



Ramona approaches Carman. Carman holds up her hand and -- Ramona is frozen. She's stuck in place. She struggles to break free. Only her mouth can move.

CARMAN

I don't know who you are, and I don't know why you think you know what's going on.

RAMONA

I'm the one who broke the amulet. I know your story, about your dad.

CARMAN

You know my story, huh? No one knows my story. No one knows anyone. But they're going to find out. My sisters are going to destroy this town. I'm going to find my father. And then I'm going to find Priscilla Badhorn.

Carman squeezes her fist. Ramona squirms as her invisible rope bonds grow tighter.

CARMAN (CONT'D)

Don't get in my way again.

She opens her fist and Ramona falls to the ground, gasping for her.

Carman gets in the police car and drives off, just as Wicked and the girls arrive in his car. Frosty runs out.

FROSTY

Ram? Are you ok?

RAMONA

It's true. That was one of the Ward girls. We're trapped here.

FROSTY

I know. I can't even call my dad.

RAMONA

The last time I talked to him, I yelled at him. What if-- the last time I talked to my mom, I... Frost, what if the last time was--

FROSTY

The last time?

The girls look to each other.

FROSTY (CONT'D)  
C'mon, Let's get outta here.

I/E. DAVE'S CAR - MOVING - DAY

Dave drives down the broken road, bumping through potholes.  
Rain pouring down. Trees reaching out like accusing fingers.

Ramona sits next to him. Frosty and Sera in the back.

RAMONA  
So, Dave, how do you know so much  
about this curse?

DAVE WICKED  
Well, I, uh, I just...

SERAPHINA  
Daaavvveee...

DAVE WICKED  
Ok, girls, but I just want you to  
know that the Ward girls, they're  
not evil. They're just--

FROSTY  
Trying to kill everyone in town.

DAVE WICKED  
Yes. I mean, no! They've just--

RAMONA  
Trapped us here for all eternity.

DAVE WICKED  
Yes, and I can see how that would  
make you dislike them, but you need  
to understand that...

Dave trails off, as the car slowly comes to a stop.

SERAPHINA  
Why are we stopping? Hello? Earth  
to moron?

RAMONA  
Sera. Look.

OUTSIDE THE CAR

Screams of terror as a herd of Badhorn parents and kids run  
for their life. Mr. Myers leads the way.

MR. MYERS

Leave me alone, creepy little  
machete girl! Agh!

RAMONA

Creepy little machete girl?

Ramona opens the door, climbs out of the car.

DAVE WICKED

Uhm, Ram. When someone says,  
"creepy little machete girl", I  
think it's best we stay in the car.

The other girls follow Ramona.

DAVE WICKED (CONT'D)

...or not...

EXT. STREET - CONTINUOUS

A machete drags across the broken ground, tiny sparks  
bouncing off the road, until Belle spins her wrist, brings  
the machete up in front of her. She stands in the middle of  
the street. Smiles. Lightning crashes behind her.

DOWN THE STREET, the last of the Badhorn residents run past  
Ramona, Frosty, and Sera.

BELLE MACHETEFACE

Hello. Wanna be my friend?

FROSTY

Is that supposed to be who I think  
it's supposed to be?

RAMONA

Yeah. That's a tiny, little girl  
version of MacheteFace.

SERAPHINA

(yells to Belle)

Hey you weirdo! What are you doing  
here? Don't you know MacheteFace is  
like a fifty year old man? You're  
not even a cute version.

BELLE MACHETEFACE

Oh, you're mean. I don't like you.

SERAPHINA

What did she just say?

DAVE WICKED  
 (from the car)  
 Hey, Sera? Maybe don't antagonize  
 the girl with the machete?

Sera walks toward Belle. Belle makes her way toward Sera.

SERAPHINA  
 MacheteFace? Seriously? You know  
 its bad enough that I don't have  
 any WiFi. I can't even go online,  
 but now I have to--agh!

Belle raises her knife and STAB! She thrusts it toward Sera,  
 who instinctively BLOCKS the blade with HER PHONE.

Sera stares in horror as the blade stops, inches from her  
 eyeballs. But, more than that, it's stuck IN HER PHONE.

SERAPHINA (CONT'D)  
 You stabbed my phone! You little--

Belle reaches back with the machete (phone still stuck to  
 it), ready to stab Sera again when...

Ramona and Frosty grab Sera, the blade just missing them.

SERAPHINA (CONT'D)  
 Hey! Let go! She's got my phone!

RAMONA  
 She's gonna stab you in the face!

SERAPHINA  
 It's worth it!

But they don't go back. The girls take off full-speed down  
 the street where they literally run into...

Dave, who's know out the car.

DAVE WICKED  
 Girls, I can't let you be out here  
 alone. It wouldn't be--

RAMONA  
 Dave! Get in the car!

DAVE WICKED  
 Hey, I just want to remind you that  
 that was my original plan when...

The girls start piling back into the car, as Dave gets a  
 better look at the machete-wielding psycho girl.

DAVE WICKED (CONT'D)  
Is that... Belle?

Belle looks at Dave, as if trying to place him. Dave walks toward Belle.

SERAPHINA  
Yo, Dr. Stupid! Let's go!

RAMONA  
Dave, remember what you said about not going toward the homicidal child?

Belle giggles her evil laugh as she talks.

BELLE MACHETEFACE  
Davey? Is that you?

DAVE WICKED  
Belle, what are you doing?

BELLE MACHETEFACE  
Making friends. You're old. You shouldn't have let her do that to us, Davey.

DAVE WICKED  
I didn't know that she was gonna--  
I'm sorry. I would never--

Belle SWINGS her machete, just missing Dave! He falls to the ground, stumbles back, as Belle swings again and again! Each strike just missing Dave's wicked body!

BELLE MACHETEFACE  
You didn't know, huh?

THWACK!

BELLE MACHETEFACE (CONT'D)  
No clue, right?

THWACK!

DAVE WICKED  
Belle! I swear! I--

THWACK!

The three girls watch in horror, as Dave races to the car. Belle follows, raises her blade again and

SMACK!

Dave opens the car door smacking Belle and knocking her back.

DAVE WICKED (CONT'D)  
Oh my gosh! I'm sorry Belle!

RAMONA  
Don't say sorry to the girl trying  
to kill us!

INSIDE THE CAR NOW, Dave fumbles in his pockets for his keys.

SERAPHINA  
Let's go, loser. Pick it up!

FROSTY  
A little speed would be preferable.

DAVE WICKED  
I'm trying! I'm trying!

SMASH! Belle swings her machete (with Sera's phone still attached) at the driver-side window, shattering it into a million pieces!

SERAPHINA  
That's my phone!

Belle leaps on to the hood of the car. Dave finally finds the key, jams them into the ignition and - nothing.

FROSTY  
Dave. Start the car, Dave.

DAVE WICKED  
I don't know what's going on. This  
has never happened before.

SMASH! Belle swings her machete down again on the windshield.

RAMONA  
The car's not gonna start. We have  
to make a run for it.

DAVE WICKED  
It'll start. Seriously, this--

RAMONA  
Dave. Just trust me on this one.

SMASH AGAIN! Belle brings the machete down again.

They all fumble out of the car as Belle brings the machete down again.

BELLE MACHETEFACE  
Hey friends! Where are you going?

RAMONA  
This way!

Ramona leads the crew  
THROUGH THE NEIGHBORHOOD  
BEHIND A HOUSE AND INTO

EXT. BADHORN FOREST - CONTINUOUS

Our crew runs through the forest, past branches and brambles. The girls hide behind a fallen log. Dave slips and falls to the ground. He tries to get up but keeps slipping.

At the edge of the Forest - Belle. Ki! Ki! Ki! Ma! Ma! Ma!  
Belle lurches forward.

BELLE MACHETEFACE  
C'mon, friends! Let's play!

The girls grab Dave, grab him behind the log. They hide, breathing hard.

RAMONA  
We gotta do something.

DAVE WICKED  
I vote for hiding here forever.

RAMONA  
Frosty, what do you think?

FROSTY  
Uh, well, if we could lure into some place, combine hydrogen and oxygen at about 1800 psi and 800 degrees, and--

RAMONA  
English, Frosty.

FROSTY  
We blow her up.

RAMONA  
You wanna blow up a little girl?

FROSTY  
That is how they stopped  
MacheteFace in *MacheteFace 3*.

RAMONA  
And that's a terrible movie!

FROSTY  
It's just misunderstood!

Sera rolls up her sleeves.

RAMONA  
Sera, what are you doing?

SERAPHINA  
In *MacheteFace 2: Face 2 Face*, Tina  
stops MacheteFace by facing him  
head on.

RAMONA  
Yeah, but in that movie she also  
has a knife.

FROSTY  
A big one.

SERAPHINA  
That thing has my phone.

Sera walks forward. Belle sees her.

SERAPHINA (CONT'D)  
Hey!

BELLE MACHETEFACE  
Oh, it's the mean girl.

SERAPHINA  
Me? I'm not the one walking around,  
dressed like some juggalo reject,  
stabbing phones.

BELLE MACHETEFACE  
I still don't like you.

Belle raises her knife and-- BOOM! Sera punches her in the  
face. Belle falls back, unconscious.

SERAPHINA  
Founder of the Badhorn Middle  
School Girls Junior Boxing Club.

Sera removes her phone from the blade, stuffs it in a pocket.



EXT. STREET - MOMENTS LATER

The crew heads for Dave's car. Dave carries Belle over his shoulder.

DAVE WICKED  
Sera, you just punched a child in  
the face.

SERAPHINA  
It's ok. She had a knife.

DAVE WICKED  
I'm not complaining.

FROSTY  
It was pretty cool.

Dave opens his trunk. Ramona looks inside, sees duct tape.

RAMONA  
You keep duct tape in your trunk?

DAVE WICKED  
For emergencies. Is that weird?

FROSTY  
It's kinda weird. Especially for a  
guy who dresses like an old-timey  
ringmaster and hangs out with  
teenagers all day.

DAVE WICKED  
These are my work clothes. And a  
lot of people keep duct tape in  
their trunk. It's not weird.

SERAPHINA  
Please, let no colleges ever see  
this. "So, Sera, tell us about the  
time you punched a little girl,  
duct taped her, and threw her in  
some creepy old guy's trunk."

DAVE WICKED  
Really. It's not weird.

They toss Belle in the trunk and pile into Wicked's car.

INT. DAVE'S SHOP - DAY - LATER

The crew stumbles into the shop, locks the door behind them. Sera taps her stabbed phone, in an attempt to get it to work. It's quite broken.

SERAPHINA

Gawd! This is the worst day ever.

RAMONA

Yeah. What will the world do without another update from Seraphina Goodbetter? "OMG guys! Look at me! I'm like so amazing!"

SERAPHINA

You know what your problem is, new girl? You think you're better than everyone just because you're from New York. "In New York, there's art and culture and I can pet the bodega cat while I stand on line." No one stands "on line", you weirdo! It's "in line!"

RAMONA

Me? You're the one who's constantly calling us losers; always reminding everyone of how rich and popular and pretty and smart you are.

SERAPHINA

Yeah. Those are things that actually make me better than you.

THUD! Wicked slams an OLD THICK BOOK on the counter, opens to a page full of arcane symbols and words.

DAVE WICKED

Ladies, you'll have plenty of time to argue about who's better than who after we remove this curse. Look here.

INSERT: The book, opened to a dusty old page reading "LICH."

SERAPHINA

A leech?

FROSTY

Actually, it's "lich." It's an--

RAMONA

Evil soul trapped inside a jar.  
Surprised, Miss Better-Than-  
Everyone didn't know that.

SERAPHINA

Sure. I bet in New York they have  
liches on every corner.

RAMONA

They do!

The girls charge each other; Dave separates them.

DAVE WICKED

Both of you! Calm down. In order to  
remove the curse, the amulet needs  
three souls.

RAMONA

So, we capture the three girls.

DAVE WICKED

Then we create a ritual site, hold  
the pieces of the amulet up high,  
and we cast the spell. That's it.

FROSTY

Spell? What spell?

DAVE WICKED

The "trap-their-soul-in-the-rock"  
spell. Here.

He shows the girls the book.

RAMONA

So, we're witches now?

FROSTY

Cool.

SERAPHINA

Cool AF.

Wicked and Ramona look to Frosty and Sera.

FROSTY

I mean, totally unscientific...

SERAPHINA

And super-nerdy, but still...

FROSTY

(under her breath)  
Pretty cool.

SERAPHINA (CONT'D)

(to herself)  
Kinda cool.

RAMONA

So, get the girls. Create the ritual site. Do the spell. Got it.

FROSTY

And everything goes back to normal.

SERAPHINA

We already got one, thanks to moi. How are we gonna get the other two?

RAMONA

It's a small town. They can't be too far.

As if on cue, a wolf's HOWL fills our ear drums, followed by car alarms, breaking glass, and people screaming.

RAMONA (CONT'D)

Are there a lot of wolves in Badhorn?

Uh-oh. The crew runs...

EXT. DAVE'S SHOP - CONTINUOUS

The sun dips behind the Badhorn Hills, as our heroes topple over each other getting out of the door.

Donut shop workers and sporting goods store employees run screaming through the streets.

ACROSS THE PARKING LOT, in the middle of a street, Ada, the huge, little ScareWolf girl, stands on her hind legs and howls! Then she punches a car's windshield. More car alarms.

RAMONA

Wait. Is that--

FROSTY

ScareWolf. The greatest movie monster of all time.

SERAPHINA

Why aren't they, you know, like normal little girls?

DAVE WICKED

When their souls are released from the phylactery, they can take any form they want.

SERAPHINA  
Like a Gozerian.

RAMONA  
(surprised)  
Yeah. Like a Gozerian.

SERAPHINA  
So, I caught the first one of these things. It's time for you three to start pulling your weight.

Frosty disappears inside the shop.

RAMONA  
Frosty! Where are you going?

SERAPHINA  
She's running away. That's your friend. Ditching us.

That leaves three of them.

DAVE WICKED  
If we had silver bullets, we could shoot her.

SERAPHINA  
You wanted to blow up the other girl. Now you wanna shoot this one? And you guys say I'm mean.

Just then - Frosty reemerges from the shop with a box full of MacheteFace mugs. She walks toward the parking lot.

DAVE WICKED  
Frosty? What are you doing?

FROSTY  
I have an idea.

IN THE PARKING LOT, Frosty drops the box of mugs. The rest of the crew follows her.

FROSTY (CONT'D)  
Sera, you're the top pitcher on the Badhorn High softball team.

SERAPHINA  
Of course. Last game, I had twenty-four consecutive strikeouts, which, as I'm sure you know is a local--

FROSTY  
Great. Take this.

Frosty hands her a mug.

FROSTY (CONT'D)  
I did some quick calculations,  
based on the weight of the mug, air  
temperature, wind speed, distance--

Sera chucks the mug ACROSS THE STREET and beans the scarewolf  
right between the eyes.

FROSTY (CONT'D)  
Or you could just chuck it.

Ada the ScareWolf shakes it off as BOOM! Another mug cracks  
her right in the nose! Now, she's angry.

SERAPHINA  
Take that you lycan loser!

Ramona, Frosty, and Dave watch.

RAMONA  
Your plan is to throw coffee mugs  
at the ScareWolf?

FROSTY  
I didn't say it was a good plan.

DAVE WICKED  
It's all we got right now. Come on.

The whole crew throws mug after mug, many of them hitting,  
until Ada the ScareWolf charges in a frothy fury!

The crew scatters, except for Frosty who's frozen.

RAMONA  
Frosty! Move!

DAVE WICKED  
Holy sh--

But it's too late! Ada the ScareWolf swipes her meaty paw and  
BOOM! Frosty flies through the air, crashing through the  
window of that (now empty)

DONUT SHOP

Where she lands in a pile of glaze and powder and sprinkles.

FROSTY

Ow.

BACK OUTSIDE IN THE PARKING LOT

RAMONA

Dave, go check on her! I'm gonna stop this wolf!

DAVE WICKED

Ramona, I'm the adult. I should confront the--

The wolf rears back, howls!

DAVE WICKED (CONT'D)

You know what, you're right. I'll go check on Frosty.

He runs to the donut shop. Ramona and Sera face the wolf.

RAMONA

Hey! Hey! Over here!

SERAPHINA

Look at us, dummy!

Ada the ScareWolf shakes off the cobwebs, sees the girls, and charges! They scream and sprint in different directions.

The scarewolf chases the girls

THROUGH THE PARKING LOT AND

INTO THE STREETS

Where Ramona leaps over a car; the scarewolf swings, just missing Ramona, and smashing the car's hood.

The wolf knocks over a light pole; Sera barely escapes.

Meanwhile...

BACK IN THE DONUT SHOP

Dave helps Frosty to her feet. She's bruised, but ok.

DAVE WICKED

Frosty, you're covered in frosting.

She is indeed a mess of powdered sugar and sprinkles.

FROSTY

Classic defenestration.

DAVE WICKED  
Yeah, it was-- what?

She dusts herself off.

FROSTY  
But this donut shop has given me  
another idea.

DAVE WICKED  
I think I'm with you. We'll feed  
her donuts until she gets tired and  
goes into a food coma. Right?

Frosty, confused.

FROSTY  
No. C'mon!

They head toward the door.

BACK OUTSIDE

Ramona and Sera run full speed away from the scarewolf.

SERAPHINA  
Wear it out, you said. It'll get  
tired, you said.

RAMONA  
I didn't say it was a good plan!

They dodge, just as the wolf leaps at them again!

INT. SPORTING GOODS STORE - CONTINUOUS

Now in the sporting goods store, Frosty and Wicked walk past rows of sports supplies, camping gear, etc. Frosty examines the various "weapons" in the store.

Baseball bat?

FROSTY  
No.

A chainsaw?

FROSTY (CONT'D)  
Tempting.

A samurai sword?



FROSTY (CONT'D)  
 What's that doing here?

Finally, camping gear. Sleeping bags. Rope. Saws. An Axe.

FROSTY (CONT'D)  
 Here we go...

BACK OUTSIDE

Ada the ScareWolf howls again as Ramona and Sera hide behind the old "BADHORN PLAZA" neon sign.

Under the buzz of neon, the girls listen to wolf's heavy breathing as she smells something nearby.

Slowly Ada moves closer; the girls are close. She can smell their fear.

Ramona and Sera huddle closer together under the sign.

RAMONA  
 Sera, I just want you to know - you were right. Sometimes I do think I'm better just because I'm from a big city.

SERAPHINA  
 And you were right too - I do think I'm better just because I'm better.

RAMONA  
 What? That's not what I--

But before she can finish, Ada turns the corner; sees the hiding girls. A long, tongue greedily moves past sharp teeth, as she stands up in all of her monstrous fur and straw glory!

But then -- the scarewolf's eyes go wide. She yelps in pain, before turning and running in the opposite direction.

Sera and Ram turn to each other, confused. They look out.

Frosty has used the ROPE from the store to LASSO THE SCAREWOLF and is now riding it, like a raging rodeo bull.

FROSTY  
 Come on, you overgrown fleabag!  
 Let's see what you can do!

RAMONA  
 Frosty?

At the sight of Ramona, the wolf charges forward again!

FROSTY  
Outta the way!

Ramona dodges at the last second, the wolf charging into the neon sign! Sparks fly all around!

SERAPHINA  
Frosty! Just hold on!

FROSTY  
An excellent suggestion, Sera. I'm so glad you're here.

SERAPHINA  
(impressed)  
Was she just giving me attitude?

Frosty pulls hard on the rope. Ada continues to thrash!

Dave exits the sporting goods store, wearing a catchers vest and mask; both are way too small. He holds a large bag.

DAVE WICKED  
Don't worry, girls! I'm here to--  
oh no.

The wolf eyes Wicked and CHARGES right toward him!

FROSTY  
Outta the way!

But Wicked is frozen in terror.

RAMONA  
Dave!

SERAPHINA  
Move, you idiot!

But he can't. The wolf is getting closer and closer and...

Frosty yanks hard on the reins. The wolf's face starts to turn blue until...

She falls flat on her face, slides over the concrete of the parking lot, and lands at Dave's feet.

RAMONA  
Are you ok?

Frosty climbs off the wolf's back, dusts herself off.

SERAPHINA  
You lassoed the ScareWolf.

FROSTY

Just a simple honda knot. I figured we couldn't kill her, but maybe we could knock her out.

RAMONA

Nice.

Nearby, Wicked is still deer-in-the-headlights frozen.

SERAPHINA

Wicked? Dave? Moron!

Finally, he speaks.

DAVE WICKED

I'm sorry. I couldn't move. I was--

FROSTY

Starstruck? I know. ScareWolf is my favorite movie monster too.

DAVE WICKED

Terrified.

Frosty grabs the bag from Wicked, starts packing the wolf in.

SERAPHINA

There's no one around, so I'm gonna tell you this once: that was badass.

FROSTY

Thanks, Sera.

Frosty smiles at Sera, just as the wolf opens its eyes! BOOM! Frosty punches her square in the face. She's out.

FROSTY (CONT'D)

I just punched the scare-- ow!

She shakes her hand in pain.

Ramona and Sera finish stuffing the scarewolf in the bag, and together they haul it into Wicked's trunk. SLAM!

With the scarewolf in the trunk, the car visibly sags.

SERAPHINA

Well, that's two.

DAVE WICKED

That just leaves Carman.

RAMONA

Carman?

Wicked looks away.

SERAPHINA

How do you know so much about these girls? Where you all in some dumb, weirdo club together or something?

DAVE WICKED

When I was a kid, they were my neighbors. We were friends, and Carman... Let's just go grab that book and get outta here.

Frosty and Dave head into Wicked's shop. Ramona lingers behind, turns to Sera.

RAMONA

Why are you always giving Dave such a hard time? His shop's like the one cool thing about this town.

SERAPHINA

His shop is weird.

RAMONA

Yeah, it is weird, but it's supposed to be. Because Dave's weird. That's who he is. And he's nice to you. He stood up for you in the shop. He orders illegal movies for you. If you think the shop is so lame, then why do you go there? Just order that stuff online.

SERAPHINA

And what? Have my parents see it? You think they're ok with their perfect daughter watching *Cannibal Death Camp* or *Apocalypse Holocaust Armageddon*?

RAMONA

You've seen that?

SERAPHINA

I love it! Gory and weird and extreme and just-- yeah!

RAMONA

Wow. Dave mentioned you liked that stuff, but I didn't know.

SERAPHINA

How could you? You're too busy thinking you're the only one who hates this town.

RAMONA

What? You love this town! You're like the queen of this town!

SERAPHINA

You're right. I am the homecoming queen and the math queen and the science queen and the sports queen. And I'm rich and popular and beautiful and well-liked and humble and respected and--

RAMONA

I felt like you were going somewhere with this...

SERAPHINA

I'm all those things. But, as long as I'm here, I'm really just Priscilla Badhorn's niece. I do all of those things because "We have a reputation to uphold, Seraphina!" All I really want to do is go to L.A. and make hardcore horror movies.

RAMONA

You wanna get out of this town and make movies?

SERAPHINA

Yeah. Just like you. But it doesn't matter. Auntie Priscilla will never let me leave this town.

Ada and Belle pound on the trunk. Sera pounds right back.

BELLE MACHETEFACE

Aw, poor widdle rich girl.

SERAPHINA

Hey! Shut up! All she cares about is this town and that name. Curse or no curse, I'm stuck here.

Sera wipes away a tear.

RAMONA

Sera, thats not true. Those things you've done, they're great. Honestly, sometimes I wish I was as smart or as popular as you. But if you like weird, gory, psycho horror films, just own it. Do it.

SERAPHINA

Yeah?

RAMONA

Yeah! It's what make you... you.

The Ward girls pound from inside the trunk again.

ADA THE SCAREWOLF

Yeah, just be yourself.

BELLE MACHETEFACE

(evil voice)

Shut up!

ADA THE SCAREWOLF

Sorry.

RAMONA

I should take my own advice. In the shop, I told you I've seen *CDC*. I've never seen it. To be honest, I don't wanna see it.

SERAPHINA

It is pretty hardcore.

RAMONA

And, to be perfectly honest, one of my all time favorite movies is *Polly the Petite Poltergeist*. I guess you were right - I am pretty... soft core.

SERAPHINA

I've heard your story, about you and your mom. How she was sick, and why you guys moved here. You're not soft core.

Ramona shrugs.

SERAPHINA (CONT'D)

Besides, *Polly's* a classic.

RAMONA

Right?

The girls smile at each other, share a moment.

SERAPHINA

Thanks, Ramona.

Wicked and Frosty emerge from the shop, book in hand.

FROSTY

Got it. Let's go!

As the crew piles into the car, another car -a SHERIFF'S CAR- appears, lights flashing.

Behind it - Priscilla Badhorn's car.

The sheriff's car stops in front of our heroes and Sheriff Hunter -scratched and bandaged up- and Deputy Johns step out.

Hymphrey races to open the door for Priscilla Badhorn, but she's already out of the car.

PRISCILLA BADHORN

I knew you were too lenient with them, Sheriff! Arrest them. Throw away the key! Trespassing. Vandalism. Purloinery.

SHERIFF HUNTER

All right, ya'll. You heard her. You're under arrest for trespassing, vandalism, and - the other thing.

DEPUTY JOHNS

Purloinery, Sheriff. Means to make away with something for one's personal use.

SHERIFF HUNTER

Make away with something for one's personal... You mean "stealing"?

DEPUTY JOHNS

Well, yes, but purloin usually implies that the item was hidden away, though not actively guarded, so that the original owner might not immediately notice that the item was missing, such as "my mother's purloined diary" or "the lovers' purloined letters."

Hunter harrumphs in acknowledgement, looks to the crew.

SHERIFF HUNTER  
That true? You all *purloin*  
something of Ms. Badhorn's?

RAMONA  
Only because she purloined  
something first!

FROSTY  
Yeah! She purloined the town!

PRISCILLA BADHORN  
How dare you! I don't have to  
justify myself to a bunch of  
spoiled children. Lock them up!

DAVE WICKED  
No. I won't let you lock up these  
girls like you locked up the Ward  
girls in your phylactery, you lich!

Priscilla clutches her pearls, recoils in horror.

SHERIFF HUNTER  
What did he just call her?

DEPUTY JOHNS  
A lich, sir. A type of wizard who  
traps souls in a phylactery -a kind  
of jar or container- often in an  
attempt to gain immortality.

SHERIFF HUNTER  
Oh. I thought he said something  
else.

Sheriff approaches the crew.

FROSTY  
Uh, Sheriff, what happened to you?

SHERIFF HUNTER  
Look ya'll, I've had a rough time  
of it recently, so you'll just have  
to come down to the station until--

THUMP! THUMP! THUMP! A noise from the trunk of the car.  
Sheriff looks to the trunk, back to the crew.

SHERIFF HUNTER (CONT'D)  
What's that?



RAMONA

That?

SERAPHINA

Just the two girls they kidnapped.

Everyone, astounded. For different reasons. Priscilla stares down her nose at Sera.

PRISCILLA BADHORN

I thought I told you to stop hanging out with these girls?

SERAPHINA

We weren't hanging out! We just--

PRISCILLA BADHORN

I swear - what your mother saw in that Goodbetter boy I'll never know. It boggles the mind - the Badhorn and Goodbetter lines united. I'm only glad Father never lived to see it. And all of you! Return my property at once!

Sera lowers her eyes, and the girls hand over their pieces of the amulet. Deputy Johns opens the trunk

SHERIFF HUNTER

Oh, hey Sheriff, it's that werewolf you were telling me about! Here I was gonna go look for it, and here it is! This is serendipitous!

INT. BADHORN SHERIFF'S OFFICE - HOLDING CELL - NIGHT

Ramona, Frosty, and Wicked sit in the cell, dejected.

DAVE WICKED

Well, I guess, at least, Priscilla will remove the curse. And y'all will get to see your parents again, and we'll still have the shop, so, there's that...

RAMONA

You'll be back with your dad soon, and I'll be back cleaning up the mansion. It'll be life as usual.

FROSTY

Life as usual? Ram, there's no going back to life as usual.

(MORE)

FROSTY (CONT'D)

Those girls? They're gonna be locked up in that amulet forever.

RAMONA

What does that have to do with us?

FROSTY

It has everything to do with us! You say how much you hate this town, but you're acting just like the people here did forty years ago. You're walking away and abandoning those girls!

RAMONA

Me? I'm abandoning them? If you care so much, why don't you science us a way out of here, Miss Genius?

FROSTY

I don't know, Miss Big City. Why do you always look to me for all the answers? You're the one who's got so much real world experience!

RAMONA

You want some real world experience? Here's some experience: Sometimes things don't work out, and you get trapped in a place that you don't wanna be.

FROSTY

Like this cell with you.

RAMONA

Like this stupid town. Who cares about this curse? I'm never gonna get out of this town. Priscilla's made sure of that.

All tears and anger, Frost and Ramona charge at each other. Dave can barely hold them back!

DAVE WICKED

Girls! Stop! Stop! Ya'll are friends. Don't let Priscilla tear you apart. I know what it's like to lose a friend. I- I taught the Ward girls that curse.

RAMONA

Really?

DAVE WICKED

Yeah. I wanted to help. And I wanted Carman to... to like me, I guess. But then I just sat by like everyone else when Priscilla trapped them. Because I was scared. But I can't sit on the sidelines again. You can't either, Ramona. You're not meant to stay in this town You're meant for big things.

Then...

SERAPHINA (O.S.)

Aww. Are you weirdoes all talking about your feeling in here?

Ramona, Frosty, and Dave turn to see Sera outside the bars. They throw themselves against the bars, grabbing for Sera's throat! But she's just outta reach.

RAMONA

Come here, you little traitor!

FROSTY

Backstabber!

DAVE WICKED

What they said!

Sera shakes her head.

SERAPHINA

What did you want me to do? Get locked up with you? I thought you losers were supposed to be clever.

RAMONA

I guess not. We trusted you. That was pretty stupid.

Sera holds up the cell keys.

SERAPHINA

So stupid, it's smart.

FROSTY

How'd you get the keys?

SERAPHINA

I'm Seraphina Goodbetter. I always get what I want. Now, if I let you out, are you gonna be nice?

RAMONA

How do we know we can trust you?

SERAPHINA

Because I have the keys. And well,  
I took your advice.

Sera looks to Ramona.

SERAPHINA (CONT'D)

I told my parents that I love  
hardcore horror movies, and I don't  
care what they think.

DAVE WICKED

What did they say?

SERAPHINA

They said if I ever go near you  
three again, they're gonna take my  
phone away for life.

FROSTY

So what? You think we're all  
losers, anyway.

SERAPHINA

Yeah, well, you're losers, but  
you're cool losers, so... when this  
is all over, I'm gonna start a  
horror movie club at school, and I  
want you guys to be the first  
members.

FROSTY

Really?

SERAPHINA

Yeah. But I'm the president.

They laugh and hug through the bars. Sera unlocks the door.

SERAPHINA (CONT'D)

I also learned Priscilla's plan.  
She's gonna lock the Ward sisters  
back up in the rock. Then she's  
gonna take your shop. And she's  
gonna make it so you two pretty  
much have to do community service for  
the rest of your life.

DAVE WICKED

What? She can't do that!

SERAPHINA

She's Priscilla Badhorn. She can do whatever she wants. Now, Wicked's car is out front. Are we gonna stop her or what?

They all smile a smile of confidence. Then...

PUNCH! Frosty punches Sera in the gut. She doubles over.

FROSTY

That's for getting us locked up.

SERAPHINA

Frosty, I like this new attitude.

INT. BADHORN SHERIFF'S OFFICE - MAIN OFFICE - MOMENTS LATER

Hunter and Johns sit at a desk, deep in conversation. The girls stealthily sneak past them.

DEPUTY JOHNS

Sheriff, what I'm saying is - lie means to recline. Lay means to put down or set in a position for use.

SHERIFF HUNTER

But what if I wanna lay down for a nap?

DEPUTY JOHNS

You lie down for a nap. Unless you did it yesterday, in which case, you lay down for a nap.

SHERIFF HUNTER

That's what I just said!

The girls are almost to the door when...

DEPUTY JOHNS

No, what you said was-- hey!

SHERIFF HUNTER

No, what I said was lay.

DEPUTY JOHNS

Sheriff! Look!

SHERIFF HUNTER

Huh? Hey!

SERAPHINA

Thanks for the keys, Sheriff! We gotta go.

SHERIFF HUNTER

Keys?

Sheriff checks his belt. They're gone.

SHERIFF HUNTER (CONT'D)

They purloined my keys!

EXT. TRAILER PARK - TRAILER - DAY

A cracked road snakes past a busted, wooden sign, nearly hidden by overgrown weeds. The sign reads "BADHORN MOBILE ESTATES." And then, in red spray paint, "SUCKS."

The road winds further through a maze of ancient trees and run-down mobile homes, almost as old as the trees. Screen doors slam as neighbors gather outside, smoking and pointing and texting and excited to see...

A sheriff's car parked in front of a particularly dilapidated trailer, a little farther from all of the rest.

Deputy Knights sits in the car, eyes glazed over.

Carman focuses on the trailer, heads toward the door.

As she does, the door opens and RICK WARD (65) -blue collar lines of hard living etched deep in his face- steps out, can in hand. He throws it back, searching for the last drops. He meets Carman half-way, kneels down. A long embrace.

RICK WARD

I know who you are.

CARMAN

Hi, daddy.

RICK WARD

Hey, sweetie. Where's the rest of the little monsters?

She shrugs. Rick stands up.

RICK WARD (CONT'D)

You don't look a day older.

No reply.

RICK WARD (CONT'D)  
What's with the cop car?

CARMAN  
I been locked up, daddy.

RICK WARD  
Ain't we all? Well, come on inside.

He stumbles into the trailer, Carman follows.

INT. TRAILER PARK - TRAILER - CONTINUOUS

Tight. Lived-in, but not filthy. Rick searches the fridge.

RICK WARD  
Something to drink? I ain't got  
much. Water or...

CARMAN  
No, thank you.

Rick grabs a can, sits down across from her.

RICK WARD  
So, how ya been, Car?

She shrugs again. The can hisses as Rick pops the top. He takes a long swig.

Carman nervously fidgets at the table. Not like an evil sorceress demon. But like a little girl, holding back tears, until she can't.

RICK WARD (CONT'D)  
I guess I know why you're here.  
What happened, it wasn't your  
fault. You know that right? Shoot.  
What did I know about anything? Not  
even thirty with three kids.

CARMAN  
You left us.

RICK WARD  
I left your mom. We just didn't--  
She was-- it was hard.

CARMAN  
You never even looked for us.

RICK WARD  
I did. I called, but your mom...

He trails off. Another drink.

CARMAN

We weren't with her. She-- I told you we were locked up. Trapped.

RICK WARD

I know your mom, she could be... strange. This whole town, this whole world, is weird, ain't it?

CARMAN

Dad, I'm the same age I was when you left.

RICK WARD

Don't matter how old you get, Car. You'll always be my little monster. You and your sisters - you used to really like those scary movies, right? You still watch those?

CARMAN

I'm not talking about movies.

He finished the can, and as they talk, heads to the fridge, visibly drunk now, grabs another can, stumbles back.

RICK WARD

Your mom always said you was too young.

CARMAN

We needed your help. We needed you.

RICK WARD

But I told her they was just for fun. And see? You turned out all right. I just...

He fumbles with the can's pop-top. Carman reaches across, opens the can. The can exhales slowly, all the pressure released. Rick takes a long swig.

The can almost falls from his hand. Carman grabs it, helps him sit up.

RICK WARD (CONT'D)

...just wanted... I'm sorry, Car.

CARMAN

Me too, daddy.



Carman, eyes red with tears, squeezes her hand into a fist. Rick coughs weakly, begins to wheeze, struggling to breathe. Beer spills from his mouth, frothing around his face.

He falls to the floor, clutching his throat.

Meanwhile...

EXT. TRAILER PARK - DAY

Priscilla Badhorn's jag screeches to a halt in front of Rick's trailer. Hymphrey races to open the door for her, but she has no patience. She throws the door open.

Her once perfect look is unravelling. Dirt on her shoes. Hair out of place. She sneers at the trailer as she fingers the three pieces of the amulet on a chain around her neck.

A pounding from the trunk of the car.

BELLE MACHETEFACE (FROM THE TRUNK)  
(little girl voice)  
Pwease, let us out, Ms. Badhorn.  
We're sowwy.

ADA THE SCAREWOLF (FROM THE TRUNK)  
Yeah. We're sorry.

PRISCILLA BADHORN  
Shut up, you freaks.

BELLE MACHETEFACE (FROM THE TRUNK)  
(evil voice)  
Freaks?! Listen old lady, when we  
get outta here, we're gonna--

PRISCILLA BADHORN  
Hymphrey, prepare the children for  
the ritual.

HYMPHREY  
Of course, ma'am.

Priscilla heads toward the trailer. Hymphrey, to the trunk.

BELLE MACHETEFACE (FROM THE TRUNK)  
(evil voice)  
Hymphrey! I'm gonna machete your  
face off! And then my sister's  
gonna eat your brains!

ADA THE SCAREWOLF (FROM THE TRUNK)  
What? Gross.

BELLE MACHETEFACE (FROM THE TRUNK)  
You're supposed to be on my side.

Hymphrey steadies himself, looks less than thrilled.

INT. TRAILER PARK - TRAILER - CONTINUOUS

Rick Ward struggles to breathe.

BOOM! BOOM! BOOM! Pounding on the door.

PRISCILLA BADHORN (O.S.)  
Carman! I know you're in there.

Carman, surprised, releases Rick. He gasps for air.

PRISCILLA BADHORN (O.S.) (CONT'D)  
Get out here, you filthy little  
trailer trash abomination! So I can  
put you and your freak family back  
where you belong.

Carman stands, eyes full of hate, points to the door.

EXT. TRAILER PARK - TRAILER - CONTINUOUS

Priscilla waits outside the door.

PRISCILLA BADHORN  
Don't make me come in there, girl.  
Who knows what I'll catch if I--

BOOM! The door explodes, launching Priscilla into the dirt.

Carman emerges from the trailer, pulsating with power.

NEARBY, Hymphrey has started to set up the ritual, drawing a triangle in the dirt, similar to the one in the old mansion. Belle and Ada lie, tied up in two of the corners.

A crowd is really gathering now.

HYMPHREY  
Ma'am!

He runs toward Priscilla, who is picking herself up.

PRISCILLA BADHORN  
Get your hands off me, you idiot!

Carman marches toward Priscilla.

CARMAN

You locked us up for forty years.

PRISCILLA BADHORN

And I'll put you back in there for  
a hundred and forty more.

CARMAN

I'll die before that will happen.

PRISCILLA BADHORN

Well, that's fine too.

Dust gathers around the two women, as they circle each other, until Carman directs her hands toward Priscilla, blasting her with magic power! But Priscilla blocks with her own magic!

The neighbors, some of whom sit in lawn chairs, whip out their phones. They're definitely interested now.

One NEIGHBOR turns to a friend.

NEIGHBOR

Oh, man! This is better 'en that  
time we were on *Cops*!

I/E. DAVE'S CAR - MOVING - SAME

Wicked's smashed- up car high-tails it toward the trailer park, our crew in tow. Storm clouds gather overhead. Lightning crackles, shoots down from the sky, directly on to one of the trailers. It bursts into flame.

FROSTY

Looks like Priscilla beat us there.

SERAPHINA

I knew she was evil, but I didn't  
know she was like evil, you know?

RAMONA

Dave. Get us over there before they  
destroy the town.

Wicked puts the pedal to the floor.

DAVE WICKED

Not today, liches! Not today!

The car zooms down the road. And we move...

BACK TO THE WARD TRAILER

Priscilla and Carman, locked in a battle for witch supremacy.

PRISCILLA BADHORN

I see you've learned a few things  
since last I saw you.

CARMAN

I had a lot of free time.

Carman gives all the magic power she's got, but Priscilla meets her with equal power.

CARMAN (CONT'D)

You won't win, Priscilla. We're  
free now.

Carman pushes Priscilla back with her magic. She blasts her again. Priscilla screams in pain. But then...

She starts to laugh. She wipes blood away from her face.

PRISCILLA BADHORN

You're free? No. You're still  
trapped here. With me!

Priscilla fires back at Carman with her own evil magic, and now its Carman's turn to scream, her hands forced to her side, by some invisible rope. She levitates Carman's body over to the top of the triangle.

PRISCILLA BADHORN (CONT'D)

This is even more fun than it was  
the first--

OOMP! Sera TACKLES Priscilla into the dirt.

SERAPHINA

Yeah! Purple belt. Brazilian jiu-  
jitsu! Colleges love when-

Priscilla regains her composure and with a furious wave, Sera goes flying back!

Frosty and Ramona help to release Ada and Belle from their bonds, but Carman makes it to her feet and BLASTS Frosty and Ramona back. They tumble and slide through the dirt.

Carman concentrates all of her magic and rage on Priscilla; Priscilla screams in pain.

CARMAN

You do not know how long I've  
waited for this.

Carman steps forward, giving Priscilla all she's got!

DAVE WICKED (O.S.)  
Carman! Stop!

Carman turns, shocked.

CARMAN  
Davey?

Dave steps forward, smiles at Carman. He holds the BOOK FROM THE SHOP in his hands. Carman smiles back, surprised.

DAVE WICKED  
Hi, Carm.

CARMAN  
What happened? You got... old.

DAVE WICKED  
I guess that's what forty years'll do to you.

CARMAN  
You know, I thought a lot about that poem you wrote me.

Wicked blushes, uncharacteristically shy.

DAVE WICKED  
Oh, did you? I'd forgotten all about that.

He laughs. Two old friends, catching up.

DAVE WICKED (CONT'D)  
I should have never taught you that curse, Carm. I just wanted you to be happy.

CARMAN  
It's not your fault, Davey. We all just wanted to keep things how they were, but things change. Even when you're locked in a weird type of limbo for forty years. Time still rolls on.

DAVE WICKED  
You're right; that's why I want you to know that I--

BOOM! Wicked is blasted back through the dirt. BOOM AGAIN!  
The Ward girls are launched into the air.

Priscilla storms forward, any semblance of that once perfect look altogether gone. She's mad with hatred and power.

PRISCILLA BADHORN

This is all very touching, but it's time for you to go back in the box.

Priscilla clutches the amulet and the book flies to her, opens to the exact right page. She holds the three pieces high and starts reading. The amulet slowly starts to glow.

PRISCILLA BADHORN (CONT'D)

Non possum credere me totum edisse.  
Cibum amo. Draco dormiens nunquam  
titillandus!

Rain pours down. Priscilla laughs maniacally as she chants. The Ward girls levitate into the air. The ground rumbles.

RICK WARD (O.S.)

Hey!

BELLE MACHETEFACE

Daddy?

Rick Ward moves with determination toward Priscilla.

RICK WARD

Get away from my girls, you witch!

PRISCILLA BADHORN

If you love them so much, why don't you join them? I only need three, but I'm sure I could make room for one more.

Priscilla turns toward Rick and he flies into the air. Lightning strikes all around! The three pieces of the each amulet glow with power. They grow closer and closer together, almost nearly whole again.

Our heroes watch this from nearby.

RAMONA

Hey, do you guys remember the ending to *Polly the Petite Poltergeist*?

FROSTY

You mean when Polly sacrifices her chance to return to her mortal body in order to save her crush's dad?

SERAPHINA

Classic.

RAMONA

Yeah. That's it.

FROSTY

Of course I remember. Wait. Ram.  
Don't!

Priscilla distracted doesn't see Ramona coming until...

RAMONA

Hey!

BOOM! Ramona charges and knocks Priscilla to the ground, the book and amulet flying from her hands.

RAMONA (CONT'D)

You messed with the wrong girls.

Rick and the Ward girls fall to the ground.

Ramona crawls through the dirt, toward the amulet. It's at the tips of her fingers, when Priscilla grabs her ankle, pulls her back!

PRISCILLA BADHORN

This is my town! No group of brats  
is going to take it from me!

FROSTY

Ram look out!

Ramona looks to the amulet. It's crackling with power! Nearly complete! The ground rumbles and opens! A demonic VORTEX OF BLINDING LIGHT bursts from the dirt, separating Ram from Frosty and Sera.

NEIGHBOR

Whoa man! Somebody gimme my shades!

Ramona reaches out. The amulet is. Right. There.

RAMONA

C'mon!

So. Close. Got it! She reaches out and grabs it.

RAMONA (CONT'D)

Dave! Read the spell!

She points and book goes flying into Dave's hands.

DAVE WICKED

Ram. I can't. Not with--

RAMONA

Just do it!

DAVE WICKED

Non possum credere me totum edisse.  
Cibum amo. Draco dormiens nunquam  
titillandus!

As Dave reads, the vortex grows larger. It's at the tip of Priscilla's feet now. To her ankles. Starting to suck her in.

HYMPHREY

Ma'am! Your feet. Look oouuttt!

PRISCILLA BADHORN

Hymphrey! You idiot!

Hymphrey runs to help Priscilla, but he's too close to the edge. He falls in and disappears.

The vortex keeps growing. It's pulling Priscilla in, but she still clutches to Ramona's ankle.

PRISCILLA BADHORN (CONT'D)

The amulet needs three souls, girl.  
If I go, so do you. You'll still be  
trapped.

RAMONA

I don't care. I'm not gonna let you  
trap those girls again.

Priscilla, maniacal, is nearly completely engulfed in the vortex. Ramona's feet are getting close when...

Rick Ward charges forward, knocks Priscilla's hand away from Ramona. Priscilla grabs on to Rick Ward's arm, holding on for dear life. Rick Ward teeters on the edge, when...

Carman grabs his other arm. Priscilla pulls him into the vortex, Carman pulling him out.

RICK WARD

Carm. Let go.

CARMAN

No, daddy.



RICK WARD

Girls, I'm sorry. What I did before—  
it wasn't right but it was never  
about you. Do something I could  
never do, and just let go. Let  
yourselves be free. Go out there,  
into this world, have fun, and show  
them how strong you really are.

CARMAN

No.

RICK WARD

Let me do the right thing. I love  
you girls.

Rick Ward smiles and Carman let's go. With a WHOOSH! Rick  
falls into the vortex.

The ground RUMBLES! A HUGE FLASH OF LIGHT and EVERYONE is  
knocked back

DARKNESS.

Then..

EXT. TRAILER PARK - DAY

The storm is over. Sunlight pours over the Badhorn hills.

Neighbors, groggy and confused, scratch their heads.

Ada the ScareWolf is no longer a wolf, but a normal girl.

Belle MacheteFace is no longer an evil serial killer. She's  
returned to her normal girl form.

Carman is still Carman, but it seems as if a weight has been  
lifted off her shoulders.

The three girls give each other a big hug.

Sitting near Ramona, in the dirt, the black amulet. Whole.

Ramona and Frosty dust themselves off. Suddenly, the RING of  
a phone. Frosty searches through her pockets until she finds  
her cell.

FROSTY

Dad! It's so good to hear from you!

Sera notices Frosty on her phone, frantically searches through her pockets, takes out her stabbed, busted phone. She pounds on it a few times and, magically... Somehow....

SERAPHINA

OMG! OMG! It's alive!

SERA'S PHONE POV

Through the Instagram Live type app, we see Sera, shattered screen with a large stab-shaped hole in the middle.

SERAPHINA (CONT'D)

OMG, guys! I have missed you so much! You're not gonna believe what happened. First of all, I punched a monster in the face...

The live viewers and comments quickly rack up.

END SERA'S PHONE POV

Ramona smiles, as her phone starts to ring.

RAMONA

Hey dad.

QUICK INTERCUT - RAMONA AND DAD ON PHONE

Ramona smiles from the trailer park.

Dad barrels down the highway in his car.

MR. MONTGOMERY

Ram! Oh my god, I finally got through. It's the weirdest thing. We got stuck here, and then I tried to call, but the service was-- Anyway, I'm on my way home.

RAMONA

Dad. It's ok. I'm glad you're headed home.

MR. MONTGOMERY

You been staying out of trouble?

RAMONA

Oh, you know. It's Badhorn. Nothing ever happens here.

FADE OUT.

SUPER: THREE MONTHS LATER

FROSTY (PRE-LAP)

All I'm saying is there's no way that a crocodile, hopped up on carbonated beverages, beats Meth Gator.

INT. DAVE'S SHOP - NIGHT

Dave's behind the counter. The girls stand nearby, Frosty and Belle engaged in conversation. Noticeably missing - Ramona.

BELLE MACHETEFACE

And I understand that. But Coke-adile isn't just a soda-pop loving monster. He's got crazy energy, and a brain. Meth Gator's just a drug-addled beast.

FROSTY

Normally, I'd agree, but did you see *Meth Gator 2: The Meth-oding?* You got a lot of catching up to do.

As they talk, DING! The front door chimes and it's - Ramona!

EVERYONE

Ramona!

They laugh and hug.

FROSTY

So cool to have you back. The movie you made? *The Crossing Ghoul?* So awesome.

SERAPHINA

I woulda liked to see more gore, but... it was pretty sick.

ADA THE SCAREWOLF

I love how you took everything about *Danger Stranger* and elevated it. It's true art.

RAMONA

Thanks, guys.

CARMAN

How was New York?

RAMONA

So awesome. Hey, we gotta make a movie here. It's so much fun.

As they stand around, laughing and joking, the DING! Of the front door chimes again.

A MAN (40ish) enters -tall, lean, dark suit and sunglasses. He's got money. He removes his shades and casually makes his way through the shop.

MAN

Nice place.

Dave puts on his wicked voice.

DAVE WICKED

Ah, welcome sir, to Dr. Wicked's  
Bazaar of the Bizarre.

The man leans forward, his casual gaze drifts to the amulet.

MAN

I was told you have things here.  
Things I can't find anywhere else.

DAVE WICKED

Indeed! I am Dr. David Wicked, DDS,  
purveyor of all things perverse,  
dealer of all your doom-filled  
desires, noticer of... etc. Etc.  
How may I be of service?

MAN

My name is Daniel Badhorn. I think  
you knew my sister.

He smiles.

THE END.