

The Bug

By

Abigail R. Morris

"Ghost House (A Horror Movie in Real Life)" by Ryan Connolly

2019 Abz Movie Studios

abzmovies@gmail.com
rodebaughal6@students.ecu.edu

EXT. SUBURBAN NEIGHBORHOOD - DAY

A group of teenagers are strolling along a sidewalk. LUCAS(17) and JAMES(16) are doing skateboarding tricks along the side of the curb while LORI(17), SUSAN(16), and KENT(17) walk on the sidewalk.

KENT

If only our parents were out or town of something...

SUSAN

Yeah I'm not trying to be grounded again like last spring break.

KENT

Chill out Susan. It was only a couple'a beers.

SUSAN

(mockingly)

Cut the crap Kent. It was several shots of vodka. We were all wasted.

LORI

Why can't we all just stay at my place and watch a scary movie? Lucas and I used to all the time!

LUCAS

Yeah, when we were like eleven, Lori.

JAMES

Those were the good days.

KENT

Lori we're seventeen now -- scary movies are out.

SUSAN

Well we can't drink at our parents' houses again, so there's no place to party. I guess scary movies are in.

They start to pass by a recently abandoned house that has a condemned sign on the front.

James gets off his skateboard.

(CONTINUED)

JAMES

Woah.

KENT

Ah this is what I'm talking 'bout!
Who's down to check it out?

LORI

Um, no. That's trespassing and I
really don't think it's a good idea
given the fact that-

LUCAS

Ugh, chill out sis! I'm down.

SUSAN

I'm down!

JAMES

Down.

The five begin making their way into the house.

INT. ABANDONED HOUSE - SAME

They begin to explore the house. Kent turns the lights on.

KENT

Hey, the utilities seem to still
work. Must be a recent move.

LUCAS

And they left their furniture?

JAMES

(turning on a faucet)
The water still works too.

LORI

Guys I don't feel good about this.

SUSAN

C'mon girl, it's not like the place
is haunted or anything!

LORI

I didn't say that. I just don't
think we should be-

KENT

Ay' check this out guys!

(CONTINUED)

Kent finds a switch that turns on a radio system. HIGH-BASS MUSIC PLAYS. He begins to dance.

KENT
(while dancing)
Hey, these people had good taste.

James, Lucas, and Susan begin to dance for a moment.

Kent stops suddenly and turns off the radio.

KENT
(turning off radio)
Hey, you guys thinking what I'm thinking?

SUSAN
Yeah, this place is perfect to have a party!

JAMES
Dude -- we could totally get some alcohol in here.

LUCAS
Yeah, we can tell our moms we got invited to a spring break dance or something.

KENT
Well I guess it's settled then!
James, you still got your fake I.D. to get us some booze?

JAMES
Yep! Cops never found it last year.

KENT
Aight' it's set then. This 'gonna be lit!

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Later, the group is hanging out with the radio BLASTING HIGH-BASS MUSIC.

Susan, Lucas, James, and Kent are dancing and drinking beer. Lori is sitting on the couch, using her finger to scroll up on her smartphone.

INSERT - LORI'S SMARTPHONE

(CONTINUED)

Which shows an article with information on the abandoned house. Tidbits of textual information are shown on her phone screen as follows:

- A.) House recently abandoned due to complaints
- B.) Owners hearing screams
- C.) Strange noises

BACK TO SCENE

Lori is anxiously viewing the article.

LORI
Guys, this doesn't look too good.

SUSAN
Lori will you relax a little? Have another beer!

LORI
No, it says here the people who moved out left because they were hearing screams and weird noises in the night.

KENT
Wow, cool story Lori, but you aren't scaring us into leaving with some B.S. story. This party is just getting started!

LORI
Guys I'm not lying! Look, it says it right here!

Lori shows them her phone and they see the local news article that she's talking about.

JAMES
Big deal! They probably just made up those screams to get out of a mortgage they couldn't afford or something.

LORI
No it says here that-

LUCAS
James is right Lori. You need to chill out.

MONTAGE - THE GROUP PARTIES

(CONTINUED)

- A.) Susan and Kent dance together with beers in hand.
- B.) James is balancing a beer on his forehead.
- C.) Lucas rolls his eyes at Lori as she sits on the couch.
- D.) James and Kent are playing beer pong.

END MONTAGE

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Later, Susan decides she needs to clean herself up.

SUSAN
(while dancing)
Man I am wasted! 'Imma go to the
bathroom real quick. B.R.B.

Susan heads upstairs to the bathroom. WEIRD NOISES and CREAKS happen while the group continues to party in the living room.

UPSTAIRS BATHROOM

The muffled music downstairs PLAYS.

Susan looks into the mirror in the upstairs bathroom as she fixes her hair. The door begins to CREAK and open. She turns to the door.

SUSAN
(suspiciously)
Hello?

Susan continues to look at the door for a moment. She then suspects it was nothing. She looks back at herself in the mirror, continuing her grooming.

LIVING ROOM

The others are downstairs partying and drinking at the same time Susan is upstairs.

UPSTAIRS BATHROOM

An air vent in the bathroom makes a STRANGE NOISE. Susan quickly glances at it and begins to walk toward it.

LIVING ROOM

The others continue to dance to the music when Lucas drops his beer cup.

KENT
(slightly frustrated)
Wow, c'mon man!

LORI
Seriously Lucas?

UPSTAIRS BATHROOM

ANGLE ON SUSAN FROM BEHIND CRACKED DOOR

Susan is investigating the air vent when door begins to CREAK again and open further. She turns to look at it in a frightened manner.

LIVING ROOM

The group is dancing while Lucas is wiping up his beer spill.

UPSTAIRS BATHROOM

Susan is looking at the door when the air vent begins to make a STRANGE NOISE again. She turns in haste and looks at the vent.

The bathroom door suddenly SLAMS from behind Susan. She turns toward it. Behind Susan, a SHADOWY FIGURE APPEARS out of thin air.

Susan is still looking at the door, starting to breathe heavily. She then turns around and sees the Shadowy Figure.

She begins to scream but then passes out on the floor.

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Shortly later, Lori is sitting on the couch anxiously.

LORI

Guys, Susan has been up there a while. I'm going to go check on her.

LUCAS

Whatever sis.

Lori starts to walk upstairs.

UPSTAIRS

Lori walks to the corridor of the bathroom.

LORI

(talking behind bathroom door)
Suz, you good?

The Shadowy Figure suddenly APPEARS before Lori. She SCREAMS and runs downstairs.

LIVING ROOM

LORI

(anxiously)
Guys! Guys!

LUCAS

What is it now?

LORI

(stuttering)
Guys, Guys -- I saw a black... thing! Some kind of Shadowy Figure! Just ap-pear in front of me! It may have gotten Susan! We've got to go help her!

KENT

Oh gosh Lori, when will you quit?

JAMES

Yeah cut the drama -- stop trying to scare us.

(CONTINUED)

LORI

Guys! I am not making this up! I'm serious! She could be in trouble!

LUCAS

Fine. C'mon guys, let's go check out this "Shadowy Figure."

The group starts to head upstairs.

UPSTAIRS

The doors begin to CREAK. They come to the corridor and stop in their place, looking around as they call out to Susan.

KENT

Susan?

LUCAS

Suz?

The lights begin to flicker. Suddenly, the Shadowy Figure APPEARS in front of them.

In a hasty reflex, James punches it and it DISAPPEARS into James's body. He freezes in place.

EXTREME CLOSE UP - JAMES'S EYES CHANGE TO BLACK

Lori and Lucas, ahead of James and Kent, call for Susan as they run toward the bathroom.

LORI AND LUCAS

(in unison)

Susan? Susan?!

Kent is behind James who is still frozen in place, oblivious that James has been possessed by the Shadowy Figure.

KENT

(slapping James on his back)

C'mon man, we've got to help Susan!

When Kent slaps James, we see a Shadowy Figure LEAVE his body from behind. His eyes return to normal.

They meet up with the others and barge into the bathroom.

UPSTAIRS BATHROOM

They find Susan passed out on the floor.

LUCAS
(lightly tapping Susan's face)
Susan, wake up! Suz! Suz!

SUSAN
What... where am I? What happened?

They drag Susan out of the bathroom and begin to run out of the abandoned house.

EXT. FRONT OF ABANDONED HOUSE - SAME

The group runs out to the front of the house.

JAMES
What do we do?!

LORI
We need to call the police!

KENT
(stuttering, reaching for his phone)
Alright-alright-alright, I'm calling them -- everyone just-just relax!

Kent dials 911 on his phone to talk to an OPERATOR on SPEAKER-PHONE.

OPERATOR (O.S.)
911, what's your emergency?

KENT
(anxiously stuttering)
Uh yes -- yes there's a black figure thing chasing us, it's-it's inside this abandoned house on uh -- uh... Lenoir Dr. We need the cops here now!

OPERATOR (O.S.)
Okay sir -- to clarify, you said a black figure is chasing you. The suspect is African-American, correct?

(CONTINUED)

KENT

What? No! It's like this ghost... shadowy thing! It just appeared out of nowhere and it's trying to kill us!

OPERATOR (O.S.)

You said a... ghost?

GROUP

(in unison)

Yes!

OPERATOR (O.S.)

Yeah, okay -- I'm tired of these prank calls from you kids.

The Operator HANGS UP.

KENT

Wait, no -- hello? Hello?! This is not a prank! Hello?!

Kent puts his phone back in his pocket and looks toward the rest of the group.

KENT (CONT'D)

She hung up on me!

SUSAN

Well that's just great.

JAMES

What do we do now?

LORI

(looking around)

Wait, where's Lucas?

The group looks around to see that Lucas is not with them. Kent starts to run back into the house to find him.

KENT

(starting to run)

Crap, the shadow thing might have got him -- I'll go find him!

Kent runs back into the house to find Lucas.

INT. ABANDONED HOUSE - SAME

Kent barges through the front door, exclaiming for Lucas.

KENT
(shouting)
Lucas! Lucas?!

Kent begins to make his way back upstairs. The lights, now heavily flickering, turn off completely.

Kent pulls out his cellphone and turns on the flashlight. He continues walking upstairs, slowly.

KENT
(whispering loudly)
Lucas? Lucas, it's Kent. Where are you?!

UPSTAIRS

Kent reaches the corridor and sees Lucas standing in the middle of the hallway by the bathroom door.

KENT
Ah, there you are!

Lucas is in the same trance that James was, frozen and possessed by the Shadowy Figure, unbeknown to Kent.

Kent reaches out to Lucas to motion him to come with him.

KENT
(approaching Lucas)
C'mon man, we've got to get out of here. Let's go!

Lucas randomly pulls out a knife from behind him and STABS Kent in the shoulder. Kent SCREAMS in pain.

Kent looks and sees that Lucas is not himself.

KENT'S POV - LUCAS'S BLACK EYES

Kent stumbles and begins to run downstairs out the back door. Lucas chases after him.

EXT. BACKYARD - SAME

Kent runs into the backyard while Lucas follows after him.

Kent is screaming for the others, hoping they are still out front and will hear him.

KENT
(screaming)
Help! Guys, help!

FRONT OF ABANDONED HOUSE

The others hear Kent's muffled cries and look toward the house.

JAMES
(to group)
That's Kent -- c'mon!

They begin running to the backyard.

BACKYARD

Kent, running from Lucas, trips on some overgrown roots.

KENT
(screaming)
Help! Please, someone help!

Lucas approaches Kent as if he is going to kill him.

Suddenly, James runs up from behind and jumps onto Lucas's back and pushes him to the ground.

INSERT - KNIFE FLIES OUT OF LUCAS'S HAND TO GROUND

BACK TO SCENE

The Shadowy Figure LEAVES Lucas's body, just like it did James in the house.

EXTREME CLOSEUP - LUCAS'S EYES GO BACK TO NORMAL

The group sees the Shadowy Figure leave his body.

JAMES
(to group)
Whatever you do, don't touch it!
It'll control you!

The Shadowy Figure begins to chase them all. The group runs toward the front of the house.

FRONTYARD

The group runs to the frontyard of the house and sits behind one of the house's columns, squeezing together to hide from the Shadowy Figure.

KENT
(whispering loudly)
Shhh! Everyone quiet!

There is a brief pause, then Susan starts to freak out because she sees a huge BUG, a cockroach.

SUSAN
(starting to scream)
Ah!-

JAMES
(whispering, covering Susan's
mouth)
Shhh! It's just a bug.

SUSAN
(whispering)
A big bug!

The group waits for a brief moment and there is SILENCE.

LUCAS
Do you guys think it's gone?

KENT
I don't know but-

The Shadowy Figure suddenly APPEARS before them. The group SCREAMS in unison.

A screaming Kent grabs the giant Bug that Susan was afraid of and throws it at the Shadowy Figure.

The Shadowy Figure POSSESSES the Bug. The group stops screaming.

The possessed Bug begins to crawl toward the group, as if it's trying to attack them. The group of teenagers, mouths agape in unison, look at the Bug in awe as it crawls toward them.

(CONTINUED)

Suddenly, Lori, no longer sitting, smashes the Bug with her foot. The Bug dies (along with the Shadowy Figure). Everyone looks at Lori in shock.

Lori looks at the Bug she just killed then looks up toward the rest of the group.

GROUP'S POV - LORI

LORI
(to group)
And this! Is why we don't trespass.