

HORROR TOWN USA

Written by

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Two sisters get trapped in Horror Town USA,
where everyone acts like they're in a horror movie.

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COLD OPEN

EXT. DARK ALLEY

At the end of a long, cold alley, we see lightning in a dark cloud hovering over the silhouette of a town.

V.O.

There's a place out there.

INT. ARCHITECTURE FIRM - DAY

Through a glass wall we see into a conference room where NANCY FREDERICK (early 30's) is giving a presentation at the head of a conference table.

NANCY

The abandoned wing of the Hillside Resort is ours to win. My idea is to open up those walls on the west, creating a park like setting for guests to enjoy.

The sign behind her says Frederick Design + Architecture.

V.O.

A place that takes, and doesn't discriminate.

INT. KIM'S APARTMENT - DAY

KIM FREDERICK (late 20's) is seated in front of a backdrop made of mauve toned tapestry and burning incense, her "namaste corner".

KIM

And breathe deep into your solar plexus, releasing any built up tension that may have gathered there.

Reveal to see she's leading an online breath-work class with only 2 participants. Everyone is breathing deeply.

KIM (CONT'D)

Now let out a roar.

We see her roar and hear the participants roar through the computer speaker.

V.O.
*A place where, dead or alive,
everything matters for survival.*

INT. HOSPITAL - DAY

We hear the consistent beep of a heart monitor. The camera rises to the foot of a hospital bed to reveal GRANDPA WILLIE FREDERICK (80's), who is in a coma. GERALD FREDERICK (early 60's, patriarch of the family) is seated next to the hospital bed watching a football game.

GERALD
Aw, come on man! You see that pop?
Ref can't call for shit.

V.O.
And when it calls for you.

The heart monitor starts to speed up.

GERALD
Pop? Dad?!

The heart monitor becomes one solid beep and deafeningly loud...

V.O.
You have no choice but to answer.

GERALD
NURSE!

MAIN TITLES: "Horror Town USA"

END OF COLD OPEN

ACT ONE

INT. KIM'S APARTMENT

Kim is finishing up her breath-work class.

KIM

Namaste. Thank you for attending.
Kim's Korner breath-work class is
by donation, so if you scan the QR
code it'll take you to my Venmo-

Both participants quickly leave the meeting at the mention of money. There's one participant still in the room, but their camera is off.

KIM (CONT'D)

Hey. Thanks for attending. You can
Venmo-

They log out. Kim closes her eyes and recites affirmations.

KIM (CONT'D)

Ok. I am great. I am worthy of
success. I am open and attract
abundance in my life.

She switches from Zoom to a bootleg movie site. A loud, shrill scream comes from the woman on the screen, her hands are blocking her face from an attacker. Kim eats a scoop from a Ben and Jerry's salted caramel brownie pint.

KIM (CONT'D)

Uh un, girl. Why you gotta fall
like that? See, now you gonna die!

There's a knock on the door. She turns off the TV and puts down the ice cream. The apartment is so small she can almost reach the door from the corner she's sitting in. Kim stands to answer it. It's ELIZABETH, a tough, older woman that is Kim's landlord.

KIM (CONT'D)

Hi Elizabeth! Did you try the
persimmon jam I left on your
doorstep?

ELIZABETH

You're late.

KIM

I assure you my flow is healthy...
and heavy.

ELIZABETH

What? No. You're 8 weeks late on
your rent.

KIM

Oh, Elizabeth. I JUST got out of a
class. You know it takes 2 to 20
business days to process a Venmo
transfer.

ELIZABETH

If there's a padlock on your door
Friday, don't be surprised.

KIM

You look stressed. Could I maybe
interest you in a trade? Say, for a
reiki session? I normally charge
\$350 a session so you know, you're
getting a really good deal.

ELIZABETH

A cashier's check for two months
rent plus 5% in my hand by end of
day Friday.

KIM

Not into reiki? I'm also a
certified pilates coach. I can turn
that flab into abs and have you
ready for hot girl summer.

ELIZABETH

This will be your only verbal
warning.

Elizabeth sniffs.

ELIZABETH (CONT'D)

Are you smoking the ganja in my
building?

KIM

Ganja? Elizabeth, have you never
smelled the cleansing effects of
palo santo?

Kim grabs the stick and waves it right in Elizabeth's face.
Elizabeth grabs it, and doesn't even flinch holding directly
onto the burning ember.

ELIZABETH
No marijuana in the building!

KIM
But that's not-

Elizabeth slams the door on Kim.

KIM (CONT'D)
...marijuana.

Kim grabs a box and pulls out a pre-rolled joint. She sparks it. She takes a big hit and opens the Chase Bank app on her phone. She has \$173 in her checking. And balances in the red on credit cards. They're all maxed out. She opens the phone app and dials "Daddy". Gerald picks up.

GERALD (O.S.)
Kimberly?

KIM
Hiii daddyyy.

INT. HOSPITAL - INTERCUT

GERALD
Nooo thank youu.

KIM
Oh daddy, you don't even know what I'm about to ask.

GERALD
(mocking)
"Daddy I need money? Daddy, my business is just about to turn a profit, I just need to hold a little something. Daddy, you know that lady at that last job had it out for me."

KIM
She did! Talking about going bra-less isn't appropriate work place attire. Free the nipple.

GERALD
Look, you've used up all of your favors. It's time to work. (then)
I'm gonna call Nancy-

KIM
Daddy, no.

GERALD

I know she's working on a new account at the firm. I can get you on payroll if you assist her. And you can learn some real skills.

KIM

I don't want to work with her.

GERALD

You don't want to work at all.

KIM

Anyway daddy, she's not gonna wanna see me. Not after that last fight.

GERALD

You let me deal with Nancy. She's on her way here to talk about the Hillside project in Malibu. Just put together a bag for a few days and come meet me at the hospital.

KIM

A bag to go to Malibu?

GERALD

You would rather sit in LA traffic than get a good nights rest in a Malibu resort?

KIM

Fine. How's Grandpa Willie doing?

GERALD

Had a bit of a false alarm earlier. But the doctors increased his sedative so, he's still hanging in there. Fighting.

KIM

Bless his heart. Alright. I'll get my things together and come meet you.

GERALD

And Kim.

KIM

Yes daddy?

GERALD

Pack a bra.

INT. ARCHITECTURE FIRM

Two co-workers, RYAN and DYLAN talk as they make their way back to their desks.

RYAN

We should be spearheading this redesign.

DYLAN

I guess it pays to be in the family.

RYAN

The perks of nepotism.

The co-workers smirk to each other. And turn with shock to see Nancy standing behind them. She heard them. And with every ounce of grace she can muster, she smiles at them.

NANCY

Gentlemen.

She passes them on her way to her corner office.

RYAN

I like your ideas for the renovation.

NANCY

Thank you. It's nice to know I have such deep trust from Junior Developers.

She grabs her purse and a large portfolio case from her office and texts her Dad "20 out".

INT. HOSPITAL

Gerald is at the front desk.

GERALD

When will Dr. Lee be by with my dad's results?

NURSE

Her schedule shows that she should have been in this morning. She may have had an emergency.

GERALD

We were having an emergency this morning. She's supposed to be there for him.

NURSE

Sir, I'll let her know you're looking for her.

An elevator opens and Kim stands with a rolling case, a tote and two large mesh bags. Gerald turns to spot her.

KIM

Hi daddy!

GERALD

Hey Kim.

KIM

So this is the inside of Cedars hospital.

GERALD

You would know that if you ever came to visit your grandfather.

KIM

Daddy you know I can't be around sick and dying people. It weakens my aura.

GERALD

Well let me get these bags out of your aura.

KIM

Thanks.

Gerald grabs the bags from Kim. They begin walking through the hall back to the room. A code blue is announced over the intercom and support staff rush past Kim and Gerald. A NURSE AID knocks down one of Kim's bags that Gerald is holding.

NURSE AID

I am so sorry. Here, let me help you.

The Nurse Aid picks up a bag and a necklace with an oval pendant falls out. Gerald holds it up and stares at it. The Nurse Aid rejoins the code blue rush.

GERALD

You kept this?

KIM

Mom wore that every day. I would play with the pendant. Pretend like I was in Goonies finding treasure.

GERALD

This is the first real piece of jewelry I ever gave your mother.

KIM

She wore it well.

Gerald hands her back the necklace.

GERALD

Don't pawn it.

KIM

Come on now, Daddy.

They round the corner to the room and Nancy is eating Roscoe's next to Grandpa Willie. Going off about her co-workers to him.

NANCY

Grandpa, and then they had the nerve to try to talk down to me. Junior Developers! Talking about (mocking) "I like your presentation" pfff. They know damn well I'm qualified, if not over qualified-

Nancy turns to see Gerald and Kim standing in the doorway.

KIM

Hey Nancy. Good to see-

NANCY

Nope!

GERALD

Aw, don't be like that to your sister. Give her a chance.

NANCY

No thank you. The last time I gave this woman a chance she used my condo as an Air bnb.

KIM

I gave you 25% of the profit.

NANCY
It's my damn condo! Kim-ber-ly.

KIM
I know that, Nance... ber-ly.

NANCY
Gerald!

He gives her a stern look.

NANCY (CONT'D)
Excuse my tone father, but what in the hell is she doing here?!

GERALD
Kimberly, is going to be your partner on the Hillside Resort renovation.

NANCY
So you don't care that this firm is on the brink of folding, do you?!

GERALD
We're not on the brink of folding.

NANCY
I bet we're on the brink of folding because you dip into the company account to bail out Ms. Cleo every time she comes begging.

KIM
I can support myself. I taught a class today.

NANCY
Oh yeah, and how much are you making on your little Kumbaya circles?

KIM
It's breath-work and just fine. I almost have this month's rent money.

NANCY
And what about next month, you gonna siphon more out of Bank of Gerald?

GERALD
Nancy...

NANCY

I have to work twice as hard as everyone else to prove I'm not just in this position because I'm the owners granddaughter. On top of the normal wear and tear of working through misogyny, racism, petty bullshit...

GERALD

I get it. But now it's time include your sister so she can help in the family business.

NANCY

I don't have to share anymore. I'm not a child. I'm a grown ass woman. And I said no.

Off Gerald's look we...

CUT TO:

INT. UBER

Nancy and Kim are in an Uber on the way to the airport. Both facing away from each other looking out the window.

KIM

I promise I-

NANCY

Don't even start.

They sit in silence for a minute. Then Bahamadia "3 The Hard Way" comes on the radio. (<https://youtu.be/J0t-VCKpaNg>)

KIM

Ah shit, Nancy, it's your song. Sir can you turn it up?

NANCY

Actually I prefer it stay quiet.

KIM

You know this song. Rap it, cause you know I don't know how to rap.

NANCY

Nah... no.

KIM

Ey! Ey! Ey! You used to spit all the time back in the day. Come on, you know I don't got rhymes like you. "We gonna rock this motherfucker like Three The Hard Way"

NANCY

...."Ayo, I'm doing this for the crews claimin' that they're better. I'm tickled, ya must be like Sanford on the ripple, little by little. I kick verses of the middle of my brain The Riddler couldn't fuck wit Kannon Riddles, I remain the undisputed..."

She knows she wanted to really spit that, but she's still mad at Kim.

NANCY (CONT'D)

Alright, alright. That's enough.

After a moment they go back to staring out the window as we...

CUT TO:

EXT. HILLSIDE RESORT - EVENING

The uber drops them off and we see the beautiful Malibu ocean, a busy beach with surfers and families alike. Then we turn and see the resort, run down with moss growing on the side. The exterior resembles the Beverly Hills hotel dipped in ash. A woman walks buy wearing a tablecloth as a skirt.

WOMAN

Have you seen my snake?

KIM

Um, no ma'am.

The woman loudly HISSES at them.

KIM (CONT'D)

Devil!

NANCY

Oh shit!

NANCY (CONT'D)

When we get inside, let me do all the talking. You just sit back and look... well, just sit back.

KIM

Uh huh, you the team leader in all
this mess.

They walk into the hotel. On the right side of the hotel is a large tarp slightly flapping in the wind, then it abruptly stops, almost as if it moved in reverse.

INT. HILLSIDE RESORT - LOBBY

The women are greeted by the hotel manager ERWIN(40s, a little odd, but hospitable). He's wearing a faded maroon suit.

ERWIN

Welcome to the Hillside Resort.
Please excuse the dust, we're under
renovations.

NANCY

And that's why I'm here. Hi. I'm
Nancy Frederick with Frederick
Design and Architecture.

ERWIN

Oh yes. Mrs. Frederick-

NANCY

Miss Frederick.

ERWIN

My apologies. (to Kim) And your co-
worker?

KIM

Hi, I'm-

NANCY

Of no significance to this project.

KIM

Kimberly.

ERWIN

Well. Congrats. You both are the
first guests ever to stay in the
new Vista Suite.

KIM

Vista Suite. Sounds fancy.

ERWIN

The Vista Suite is the only completed suite in the renovation area. A sort of model suite. There are two rooms available adjoined by a hallway. And here are your keys. I figured you'd like to be near the main part of renovation. No other guests are staying in that area.

KIM

There's other guests?

Kim looks around.

NANCY

Thank you Erwin.

ERWIN

Of course. I also have you down at 9am for your breakfast meeting in the Sun Bungalow with our property manager Terrance Ken.

KIM

Is he single?

ERWIN

Mr. Ken is in fact happily wed with twin boys.

KIM

Mmmf. Baggage. (then) Well, at least you have a buffet. Is that for everyone?

She points to a buffet.

ERWIN

The evening buffet is complementary to all guests. It closes at 8:30pm.

KIM

Ok ok, shrimp cocktail, haaayy!

Kim snaps her fingers.

NANCY

Excuse her, she doesn't know how to act in public. (then) Erwin, do you know know Mr. Ken? What are his hobbies? Does he take his coffee black or with cream?

(MORE)

NANCY (CONT'D)

And how can I make sure he brings our firm on to design this renovation.

ERWIN

Well he's a bit of a tough nut to crack. But, he is very into knives.

NANCY

...Knives?

ERWIN

Yes, mini butcher cleavers. The Ontario MK3. That's the knife used by the Navy.

NANCY

Ok. I'll be sure to bring my best knife gossip to impress him.

ERWIN

If I may be so forward, I believe the job is yours for the taking.

NANCY

Hey, that's what I like to hear.

KIM

No doubt. Because nobody wanna touch this rundown shit.

ERWIN

If you want to take a peak in the extension area, you're welcome to enter through the back hall. The door code is 2595. Feel free to take a look around tonight.

NANCY

Well thank you Erwin.

Erwin and Nancy smile at each other as Nancy walks off. A bus boy takes her bags and leaves with her. No one offered to help Kim with her bags.

KIM

Oh, that's ok. Don't offer to take my bags. I don't want selfish energy to come into contact with my belongings.

Kim struggles to walk dragging all of her bags.

INT. ARCHITECTURE FIRM

The same two co-workers are leaving for the day.

RYAN

Beer? I'm going to Barney's.

DYLAN

Eh, there's no chicks at Barney's.

RYAN

Like you can get laid.

DYLAN

Pff, whatever. Hey you know that Hillside Resort Nancy's working on?

RYAN

Yeah the one that I won't get a bonus from this year.

DYLAN

Well, I was looking into it. And we're like the 4th firm to go after that project in 12 months.

RYAN

Wow. Really?

DYLAN

Yeah, look at this.

Dylan shows Ryan his iPad. It's opened to a Bloomberg article with the headline "Hillside Resort Money Sucking Renovation Loses Third Investor". Punch in on quote as Dylan reads it; "When I stayed at Hillside I had a terrible nightmare. It felt too real. I took it as sign to exit the project."

DYLAN (CONT'D)

This guy's whole team got sick. And he had a nightmare where he was sinking through the floor and couldn't escape the hotel, or something. He said it was a sign and they bounced.

RYAN

Hmmph. Good luck girlboss.

They laugh and leave with the article open.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT 2

CUT TO:

INT. VISTA SUITE

Nancy rolls out the current floor plan and then a translucent sheet over the floor plan showing the upgrades. She's going over her pitch to herself as she paces back and forth. She swats away a fly.

NANCY

The conversion of the east wing will accommodate 20 individual bungalows allowing for more upscale guests who...

She continues to pace. Kim holds lit sage and is smudging the room. Nancy violently coughs.

NANCY (CONT'D)

Rude! You know I don't smoke weed.

Nancy starts swatting the smoke and the fly.

KIM

Oh you poor lost soul, this isn't weed. It's sage to (uplifting) cleanse the room of any negative energy. Begone ghosts!

NANCY

I don't believe in ghosts, but you can cleanse yourself out of my space.

Nancy splat kills a fly. Kim and Nancy stare at each other. Kim, with eyes locked, walks away continuing to smudge. Nancy continues to practice.

NANCY (CONT'D)

All exterior lighting is solar powered...

Nancy is pacing in front of Kim who is now seated in a crossed leg position with her eyes closed, humming.

KIM

Oooooommmmmmm...

NANCY
 ...with the three hallway extension
 we can use the same power from...

Kim starts chanting loudly.

KIM
 Shiriram Shiram. Shiriram Shiram.
 Shiriram Shiram.

NANCY
 Shush shush shush, shush shush.

Without opening her eyes.

KIM
 Don't interrupt me, I'm
 transcendental meditating.

NANCY
 You obviously hear me working on
 this pitch.

KIM
 Shiriram Shiram. Shiriram Shiram.
 Shiriram Shiram.

NANCY
 Ok, I'm out. You namaste right
 here. I'm going to the other room.

Nancy picks up her bags to leave the room. She crosses over
 Kim who is now doing deep breath-work and a lion's roar.

KIM
 Auuuugghhhhhhhhhhaaaalllllllll.

INT. HALLWAY

Nancy notices the room across the hall has the door open.
 There's a MAID turning down the bed.

NANCY
 Oh, excuse me. I thought we were
 alone in this wing. I don't want to
 bother you if you're working-

The maid just smiles and slowly raises a bedsheet.

MAID
 Do you want your bed turned down?

NANCY

Oh sure, I...

The maid turns and slowly walks towards the bed.

NANCY (CONT'D)

Thank you?

Nancy sits at a desk next to the bed. She opens her laptop. The maid has finished making the bed. She stands at the end of the bed and stares off.

MAID

Do you want your bed turned down?

Nancy turns around, the bed is a mess. Nancy looks confused at the bed, then to the maid.

NANCY

Uh, yeah. Sure. Turn it down.

The maid starts making the bed before Nancy can even finish her sentence. Nancy turns back to her laptop and continues working. The maid is finished with the bed. And stares off.

MAID

Do you want your bed turned down?

NANCY

Yes please-

Nancy turns around. The maid has vanished. The bed is a mess. Nancy calls out.

NANCY (CONT'D)

Hello? Ma'am. Yes, I'd like my bed turned down.

Silence. Nancy stands and slowly walks towards the door. She stops at the bathroom and looks in. The lights off. We just see her own reflection in the mirror. She faces forward to open the front door. There's the maid, but her face is decayed and gross.

MAID

(warped)

Do you want your bed turned down?

Nancy screams! The maid screams and her jaw falls off! Nancy screams even more! Cut back to where the maid was standing and it's Erwin screaming.

ERWIN

I am so sorry, it's just me. I was coming to check to see how the room was and if you needed anything before I left for the evening.

NANCY

But there was... a maid... she...

ERWIN

Priscilla?

Erwin looks around.

ERWIN (CONT'D)

She usually doesn't work this late.

Nancy is starting to calm down.

NANCY

Yeah, she just... startled me, I guess.

ERWIN

I can send housekeeping in if there's something you need.

NANCY

No! No, that's ok.

ERWIN

Alright well, enjoy the rest of your evening Ms. Frederick.

NANCY

Thank you, Erwin.

As he walks off Nancy looks around the hallway, then slams the door.

INT. KIM'S ROOM VISTA SUITE

We hear the toilet flush as Kim comes out of the bathroom.

KIM

And now, I have room for that buffet.

Kim grabs her purse off a chair and we look into the room as she exits. As the door shuts, we notice a bulge in the curtain by the window.

INT. BUFFET

The lights are dim. There's no one there. Kim yells towards the kitchen.

KIM
Is the buffet still open?

Silence.

KIM (CONT'D)
I'll just take a plate.

Still nothing.

KIM (CONT'D)
No need to worry about me, I'm
Kimberly Frederick, VIP guest of
the Vista Suite!

She says proudly. Kim makes her way to the shrimp cocktail. She leans down to grab one. But something's a little off about them. She picks up a cocktail. She inspects it closely and pulls off one shrimp. A long green mucus type substance is stretched from the cup as she looks at the shrimp.

KIM (CONT'D)
This is a delicacy?

Kim puts the cup down, there's a Bus Boy standing right where she puts the cup down.

KIM (CONT'D)
Ah!

He gives a little smile.

KIM (CONT'D)
Oh, so you just gone sneak up on me
like that?

He gives a subtle shrug.

KIM (CONT'D)
I'll forgive you if you get me a
fresh shrimp cocktail.

He just stands there.

KIM (CONT'D)
What you say "you ain't gone eat
what they make here" either, huh?

He gives a little smile.

KIM (CONT'D)

I see, I see. I hate to skip a free buffet, but, your plumbing will thank me later.

He watches her as she walks away. The camera pans down to see he has on an old steel ankle brace on his left foot.

INT. HALLWAY

Nancy is leaving her room as Kim approaches.

KIM

Hey sis, you look hungry.

NANCY

No.

KIM

Come on, my treat.

NANCY

You can't eat vegan off the Wendy's dollar menu.

Nancy walks past her. Kim starts to follow.

KIM

I'm flexitarian. Well, let me just hold \$20 for dinner. It's my per diem.

NANCY

There's a free buffet.

KIM

They are trying to violently murder their guests with that buffet. It's truly disrespectful.

NANCY

Make sure to eat enough for me too.

They come to the door that leads into the extended wing of the renovation. Nancy types in the code. Incorrectly at first.

KIM

What's back here? Ooh, you know of a different buffet?

NANCY

No, but I do know of work.
Something you're highly unfamiliar
with.

She types in the correct code. A thick lock unlocks and the steel door opens. It's dark and only lit by a few hanging work lights. Some of the windows are covered in tarp and slowly flapping in the breeze. There's left over equipment and dusty hotel furniture and fixtures everywhere. She looks up. The "second floor" is just a few planks of wood held up by some scaffolding and indoor cranes. Nancy looks a bit overwhelmed.

NANCY (CONT'D)

Ok. Ok. A blank slate. Infinite
possibilities.

KIM

Well sis, you the one with the big
job. I know you can handle it.

NANCY

We can get this done in under the
timeline. Just takes some planning,
a good crew...

KIM

A prayer, a miracle, and a lot of
tequila.

NANCY

Ignoring you. I'm gonna grab my
iPad, there's-

Nancy turns back, but the door they entered through is gone.

NANCY (CONT'D)

We came through right here? Right?
Did I get turned around.

A tarp flaps loudly in a window sill. They quickly turn
towards the window.

KIM

Maybe there's another exit down
here.

Kim turns directly into a 7ft tall man in work clothes. He
doesn't even budge.

KIM (CONT'D)

Oh, you scared me. My associate and
I were observing the property.

Nancy turns and sees Kim standing with the man. She notices something.

NANCY

Kim...

KIM

Wow. Forgive me, but you have the most solid chest I have ever felt.

NANCY

Kimberly...

KIM

What you do, p90x?

Kim starts aggressively pushing his pecks.

NANCY

Kimberly Ann...

NANCY (CONT'D)

You don't get pecks like this from just working construction. This is prison swole. How much time you serve?

NANCY (CONT'D)

Kimberly Ann Frederick.

Kim turns to Nancy.

KIM

Ugh! What?!

NANCY

RUN!!!

Nancy starts running. We see the 7ft man is wielding an ax. Nancy grabs Kim as she runs by.

KIM

Ahhh!

The ax swoops down right where Kim was standing.

NANCY

Quick, behind here.

They hide behind a large wooden wardrobe. The 7ft man moves slow a la Jason Vorhees. They're loudly whispering.

KIM

Shit Nancy, why the hell was that
guy pissed at us?

NANCY

I dunno, maybe he's a disgruntled
worker?

The ax smashes through the wardrobe. The women both scream.

NANCY (CONT'D)

Ahhh Jesus!

KIM

Ahhh where is my sage?!

Kim and Nancy run just as the ax smashes through the wardrobe.
The ax is stuck and the 7ft man tugs once then pulls it out
on the second try.

Kim and Nancy flip over a huge couch and hide behind it.

KIM (CONT'D)

Oh my God! I don't ever want to be
so mad at my boss I'd want to kill
them. This is why I don't work.

NANCY

You don't work because your lazy
ass has had everything handed to
you, and you're still a fuck up.

WHACK! The 7ft man's ax slices through the couch right
between their eyes. Kim and Nancy scream and run, looking
around for an exit.

KIM

All this damn construction and they
didn't make a door?!

The 7ft man steps into frame in the background. They turn and
spot him.

NANCY

There! In there!

They spot a door. They open it, but have to catch themselves
so they don't fall through. It's not a door leading to a room
but a door leading to the middle of a winter storm cloud.
It's bottomless. There's grey snow and debris flying around,
lightning and thunder roaring, and ear piercing winds.

This doesn't compute. But they quickly slam the door. The 7ft
man is closing in on them. Across the room they spot another
door. It has light illuminating from around the sides so it
MUST lead to safety. They open the door cautiously. Kim tests
the floor.

KIM
I think it's safe.

Kim turns to Nancy. We see the 7ft man approaching. Kim grabs Nancy inside the door. They run into the room and slam the door.

The room is a pretty large semi-finished suite. The electricity glitches.

NANCY
Is he in here?

KIM
I can't see.

They continue to back up.

KIM (CONT'D)
Just stay quiet and maybe he'll-

Kim and Nancy bump into something. They slowly turn and see it's the maid from before. But there's two of her; an identical twin. They're both holding bedsheets and gesturing in sync. They look like holograms.

MAID 1	MAID 2
Do you want your bed turned down?	Do you want your bed turned down?

They sound warped, like a tape player running out of battery. The 7ft man is chopping the bed up. His head does a quick turn and he spots them. They run to the front door and slam it shut. The 7ft man's ax pierces through the door, making a square hole. He sticks his blank sinister face through the hole, a la The Shining.

Nancy and Kim are patting down the walls trying to find a real exit.

NANCY
I don't get into drama, this is your department.

KIM
Not now Nancy, a man is trying kill us both.

NANCY
Maybe I can sacrifice you, and I get to live. (to the 7ft man) Hey! She's over her. Take her, spare me.

KIM
Shshhhshhhh!!!

Kim puts her hand over Nancy's mouth. Nancy spits.

NANCY
Eww, your hands taste like armpit
sweat.

KIM
Thanks. It's patchouli oil you
uncultured winch!

The 7ft man slams his ax as Kim ducks. It gets lodged into
the dry-wall. They both scream and run.

Nancy runs up a set of temporary metal stairs.

KIM (CONT'D)
Really? You're gonna run up-stairs?
Stupid, ain't you never seen a
horror movie?

That sparks something in Kim.

KIM (CONT'D)
A horror movie.

Flash back to the evil Maids, slowed down with muffled sound.

MAID 1	MAID 2
Do you want your bed turned down?	Do you want your bed turned down?

KIM
This is... like a horror movie.

Flash back to the 7ft man's ax hitting the door and him
peering through.

Kim snaps out of it and follows her sister.

The 7ft man is now standing under the stairs. Nancy trips and
her right leg slips between two steps. The 7ft man grabs his
ax and swipes at Nancy's leg, but Kim grabs and pulls her leg
up just in time. They fall up the stairs then continue
running.

KIM (CONT'D)
Don't fall Nancy, think horror
movie rules. We can survive this.

NANCY
I don't watch that trash.

KIM

In some horror movie there's like, a Dead Part and an Alive Part. The Dead Part is where the paranormal and scary things happen. The Alive Part is normal life, where it's safe.

NANCY

Well if we're in the Dead Part, how do we get to the Alive Part?

KIM

By following horror movie rules. Just... trust me.

This is the first time in the history their relationship that Nancy trusts her younger sister Kim.

The 7ft man slowly moves to the metal stairs and maneuvers his muscular mass up the metal stairs. Kim and Nancy are walking over planks of wood. Kim is moving with ease, thanks to yoga, Nancy is having trouble. They're getting more spread out and sketchier as they move.

NANCY

Stop chasing us! If you want your site back, take it! We don't need to compete.

The 7ft man methodically makes his way to them, he's so big that the planks of wood are moving and cracking as he walks.

KIM

Nancy look. He's can't reach us. He's too big for the planks. If he tries, he's gonna fall through the floor.

NANCY

And so are we. In a horror movie doesn't the villain always survive even if he falls to his alleged death? We won't.

Kim looks around for a solution. In the corner of the second floor is the Bus Boy from the buffet. He's kneeling down, hiding. Kim spots him.

KIM

Hey! Pssst, hey!

The Bus Boy looks at Kim.

KIM (CONT'D)

Help us!

The Bus Boy looks at Kim and Nancy. Then he looks at the 7ft man. Then he looks down and shakes his head, helpless.

KIM (CONT'D)

Hey, come on, we need your help.

The Bus Boy musters up just enough strength to point towards a push broom. Kim mouths "Thank you" to the Bus Boy.

KIM (CONT'D)

Nancy, grab that push broom.

Nancy not taking her eyes off the menacing 7ft man, who is still stuck.

NANCY

What?

KIM

That push broom.

NANCY

You crazy? You want me to fall through the floor?

KIM

I'll hold onto your leg. You lean and get it.

NANCY

If you drop me to my death, I will kill you.

KIM

Nancy, now!

Nancy leans down and inches towards the push broom. She makes contact and it moves further away.

NANCY

Oh shit, I'm gonna fall, I'm gonna fall, don't drop me.

KIM

Keep going, you got it.

The 7ft man leap frogs to another plank closer to the sisters, the same plank of wood where the push broom lays.

KIM (CONT'D)

Nancy grab it!

Nancy's fingers inch closer and closer and she grabs the broom just as the 7ft man's ax slams down on the plank. Kim pulls Nancy back and she stands up straight holding the push broom.

With a loud crack, the 7ft man's massive weight is breaking the board beneath him. He falls through and slams sideways on bare concrete. His body is still. Kim and Nancy look down.

NANCY

Oh thank God! I did not want to die today. That was a good trick to grab that broom so he would move and then he'd slam and break his own board. Hell, how'd you come up with that.

KIM

Well I was going to get that broom because the Bus Boy-

Kim turns and points to the corner where the Bus Boy was, but has now vanished.

KIM (CONT'D)

...told me to.

Nancy is looking where Kim is pointing.

NANCY

What Bus Boy?

KIM

He was, right there. He helped us.

NANCY

Ok you must still be high, snap out of it. How we gonna get down.

Kim and Nancy look down. The 7ft man's body has disappeared.

KIM

We might be safer, right here.

NANCY

HELP! HELP! PLEASE HELP US!

They stand hopelessly alone on a plank of wood in the renovation wing.

END ACT 2

ACT 3

INT. HOSPITAL - NIGHT

Gerald is leaving Nancy a message.

GERALD

Hey Nancy, just checking in, again. Must have had service out there in Malibu. I was just calling to say, I know this is a big gig for you, but remember that you're a Frederick. And you deserve to be in a leadership position. I know you'll do the company and the family proud. Thank you for helping your sister out. She needs... guidance. I love you, Nance.

Gerald hangs up the phone. We see he's tried Nancy 4 times in the past few hours. He looks a little concerned but not too worried. He looks over at Grandpa Willie. His chest slowly rises and falls as he's deeply unconscious.

CUT TO:

INT. DEAD PART HOTEL

Nancy and Kim are standing on the same plank of wood. Nancy has a death grip on the push-broom.

KIM

We need to get down. Keep moving.

NANCY

No, I think I'll stay right here. I live here now. Forward my mail.

KIM

You don't want to stay in the Dead Part. Focus. We have to get to the Alive Part. Say it with me.

KIM (CONT'D)

We have to get to the Alive Part.

NANCY

We... have to get... to the Alive Part.

They walk to the stairs and head down. All of the furniture that was strewn about has now been stacked together like a proper garden maze.

NANCY (CONT'D)

We're dead!

Nancy starts heading back up the stairs and Kim grabs her and pulls her next to her.

KIM

We're not dead. It's a labyrinth.
Like in The Shining.

NANCY

Well go ahead and dim my shine,
because I'm not going anywhere.

KIM

We can figure it out Nancy.

NANCY

What if that 7ft tall disgruntled
worker comes charging at us again?

KIM

He's big and clunky. We'll be able
to see and hear him before he gets
to us.

NANCY

I'm keeping this broom for
protection.

They move through the maze. They turn a corner, it's a dead end. They move through, left, left, right. There's a desk turned sideways and an ax smashes down on it. The women scream and run!

They keep hitting dead ends. Left, right, right. Then the next left they make they run into the Bus Boy. He slowly points with his towards the door that we previously saw leads to the storm. Kim nods at the Bus Boy and Nancy finally sees him. He and Nancy hold eye contact, then she takes off.

They're back at the door that leads to the winter storm.

KIM

Do you see him?

NANCY

Mmm mm, no.

KIM

Quiet, just listen.

There are two metal folding chairs. They whisper back and forth.

KIM (CONT'D)
Nancy, grab that chair.

NANCY
Yes, I need a seat.

KIM
No, we're gonna put the broom
between the two chairs. We'll egg
him on to come get us. Then when he
gets close, we'll open this door
and he'll trip on the broom and
fall into the storm.

NANCY
You want me to lure this mother
fucker over to me? Uh un, nope!

KIM
Nancy, it's our only chance of
escaping the Dead Part.

NANCY
Right now, I really hate both
parts.

They set up the broom between the chairs in front of the door and stand behind them. And just as expected, the 7ft man appears. The sisters stand guard by the door. The 7ft man stands directly opposite them, his ax by his side. They're facing off in an intense game of chicken. The 7ft man's thick boots start stomping towards the woman.

KIM
Nancy, brace yourself. On the count
of three I'm gonna open the door.
You fall to your right.

NANCY
Fall? What?

KIM
Just do it!

The 7ft man's boots go from stomping to fast jog.

KIM (CONT'D)
One... two...

The 7ft man's running full speed for the first time. His heavy ax rises through the air.

KIM (CONT'D)
Three!

Nancy drops to the ground and Kim opens the door. The wind is so loud. The 7ft man trips over the push broom and gets engulfed by the grey debris from the storm.

KIM (CONT'D)

Yes, bitch! I know that black people die first in a horror movie, but not this black bitch, BITCH!

The 7ft man's body is being pulverized by the debris, splitting him into tiny pieces like he's being stoned to death mid-air. A thick black blood-like substance splashes on both sisters. The door slams shut on it's own. The sisters stand there, stunned.

NANCY

I don't like being in a horror movie.

They wipe off the gunk. A Shadow Person moves behind them. They turn around, and a new DOOR slams shut. Clearly where the Shadow Person escaped to. There's a glow of light peering through the door.

NANCY (CONT'D)

Uh un... no ma'am.

KIM

Nancy, we have to try it.

Kim walks over to the door. It's doesn't have a doorknob. Kim pushes on it, and it's locked.

KIM (CONT'D)

Weird, it was just open.

NANCY

See, I respect when God closes a door. Nope!

Kim brushes her hands around the corners of the door.

KIM

There's gotta be a way to open it.

NANCY

You always go meddling in shit that's none of your business.

KIM

Yeah well at least I'm not afraid to live my life.

NANCY

Live your life? At the expense of me and daddy. I always have to be the one to come in and fix things whenever you drop the ball. And you're bleeding daddy dry. So what, you can kick back and do yoga and smoke weed watching movies all day?

KIM

Well at least I'm not some stuck up corporate workhorse who puts work before living a fulfilling life.

NANCY

You think you can just float through life without any consequences.

KIM

You call it floating, but I actually enjoy my life. I'm not just existing. I have dreams.

NANCY

And when you fail at achieving those dreams, you call Daddy like he's your personal savior.

KIM

You always using work as an excuse, that it will hide the fact that you're miserable and lonely.

NANCY

I had to work! Because since mom died, I had to step up and take care of you. Of the both of us. Dad was a fucking wreck, he'd go days without eating.

KIM

I never asked you to do that.

NANCY

And I kept you on track so you could at least graduate high school. And you barely did that.

KIM

I always knew I was worth more than what the school system was offering me. And I followed my passions through this life.

NANCY

And look at the dead end it's led you to. A grown ass woman still leeching from Daddy. You use the people around you and that's why YOU are the one who's lonely and miserable.

Both sisters are heated. But, the door loudly unlocks and slowly creaks open. Kim moves towards the door. Nancy rolls her eyes and reluctantly follows.

NANCY (CONT'D)

Oh thank God, we're outside.

KIM

Finally, the Alive Part.

They appear to be at the front of the hotel. However, everything's different in a dark way. In the distance there are neon signs flickering. There's a mini tornado of trash and a paper flies up and sticks to the sister's feet. Kim picks it up and reads the masthead.

KIM (CONT'D)

Horror Town USA?

The front page is a picture of them and the headline "Visitation on the Incline in Horror Town USA".

NANCY

Kim, that's us. What are we doing on the front page?

KIM

Looks like... we're still in the Dead Part.

NANCY

No, no, we're outside. In the Alive Part. Right?

KIM

Look around you.

They look around. They hear screams and see shadows far down the road and ominous objects moving through windows of various buildings.

KIM (CONT'D)

We're in the Dead Part. That means we're still inside a horror movie.

They turn to their right. There's the Bus Boy. Standing innocently.

NANCY
Hey! Hey!

The Bus Boy starts to run.

NANCY (CONT'D)
I swear that Bus Boy looks so familiar.

KIM
He seems like he was trying to help us. Let's follow him.

Kim steps on a branch. The crack sound s a TRAP BEAT starts playing. Kim stops and frantically looks around.

KIM (CONT'D)
Oh no.

NANCY
What is it?

The dark form is getting closer. The trap beat gets louder and the bass is big.

KIM
No, not this kind, please no.

The dark form is closing in. Oh shit, the high hat just kicked in!

NANCY
What is going on Kimberly?

This beat is lit! Kim closes her eyes and shakes her head.

KIM
We're in a Rap Horror Musical.

The dark form turns into another sinister ghoul.

NANCY
RUN!!!

END ACT 3

TAG

INT. HOSPITAL

Grandpa Willie is fast asleep. Pan from his left ankle where we saw the scar up to his face. His eyes open.

CUT TO BLACK.