

SCREAM 7

ALTERNATE OPENING

INT. GORMAN RESIDENCE - KITCHEN - SUNDOWN

The back door flies open and OLIVER, followed by his friend, enters the kitchen. Oliver's cracking up, the other kid not looking so pleased. "NEVER GONNA GIVE YOU UP" fades here.

His name is MICHAH HOLDEN. He's a little weird, geeky, but he doesn't give a shit about what people think of him.

MICHAH

You fucking assaulted her man. She knows who you are because Lucas knows who you are. Lucas is gonna KILL you tomorrow at school--

OLIVER

Um, excuse me, stop acting like you're so high and mighty. You're the one who made the calls... Besides, she assaulted me too, nearly busted my balls --

He grimaces, still in obvious pain.

MICHAH

Breaking and entering. I thought we agreed to lure her outside...

OLIVER

It didn't work so I resorted to Plan B. C'mon, she's a good sport, she's Kirby Fucking Reed from STAB 8! She used to pull this shit all the time.

MICHAH

Yeah, before people started slaughtering her friends.

OLIVER

Technically, before *her friends* started slaughtering her *other friends*.

MICHAH

(sighs)

I shouldn't even be here, I'm an accessory to a crime.

OLIVER

Shut up, you were PART of the crime, you're hardly innocent... You gonna make popcorn or what?

MICHAH
I'll pass.

OLIVER
Fine. You pick a movie.

MICHAH
I honestly can't fathom how you can be nonchalant about what just happened.

OLIVER
I just got kicked in the balls, dude. I don't wanna do anything else right now except sit down and watch a movie. I had to haul my ass back here ON FOOT -- You know how much pain--?

MICHAH
I get THAT, I mean about how much trouble you could be in...

OLIVER
(interjecting)
Just pick a damn movie, OK?

Michah pulls out a pair of gloves from his jeans pocket, slipping them on his hands.

OLIVER (CONT'D)
My movies are in mint condition, man. It's not like I wipe my ass with them, you know me better than that...

Michah flips up his middle finger. Oliver smirks.

INT. GORMAN RESIDENCE - LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

MICHAH moves into the living room and opens up the DVD cabinet. He rifles through the selection -- just as he hears Oliver's phone ringing in the other room.

OLIVER
(O.S.)
Hello?

Michah continues looking --

INT. GORMAN RESIDENCE - KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

OLIVER has his cell phone up to his ear.

MAN'S VOICE

Hello.

Oliver frowns, instantly recognizing that voice...

OLIVER

Whoa. Ironical that you call... Is this Lucas? Do you want payback or something?

MAN'S VOICE

You pissed all over the Ghostface name with your stupid stunt. Of course I want payback. And it's not going to end good for either of you in that house.

OLIVER

Is that a *threat*? I'll call the police on your sorry ass if you think you're gonna...

MAN'S VOICE

(interjecting)

If Kirby Reed is going to be attacked, it's gotta be done right. You've gotta have a knife, you've gotta drive it into her skin and you need to scrape the flesh away until she's completely skinned alive. Your filthy excuse of a prank left a BAAAD taste in my mouth.

OLIVER

Whatever, dick head. Thanks for the nice chill down my spine, but I think that's good enough for the night. FUCK YOU and GOODBYE.

Oliver hangs up with a confident smirk, he's very pleased with himself. He moves out of the kitchen nonchalantly.

INT. GORMAN RESIDENCE - LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

OLIVER plops down on the couch next to MICHAH. A DVD is in. Michah looks over at Oliver curiously.

MICHAH

Who were you cussing out on the phone?

OLIVER

Someone made a Ghostface call. It was kinda creepy, knew all about our prank. Think it mighta been Lucas?

MICHAH

(skeptical)

I don't know, man. That doesn't sound like Lucas to me.

OLIVER

If it wasn't Lucas or Kirby Reed herself, then count me spooked. They knew all the details.

Michah goes silent... Oliver brushes past this topic.

OLIVER (CONT'D)

Anyway, what'd you pick?

MICHAH

When A Stranger Calls.

OLIVER

The original I pray?

MICHAH

Yes, sir. Never seen it, figured it was about time, ya know?

OLIVER

(beat)

Wait. Wasn't one of the trivia questions you asked Kirby about this movie?

MICHAH

(guilty smile)

Wikipedia.

Oliver laughs. He leans in -- rubs his hands together, a 'bring-it-on' look on his face.

OLIVER

Come on! Here we go, man -- This movie is like, totally "shit your pants" scary.

MICHAH
That doesn't sound very
comfortable...

The house phone rings. Oliver and Michah both look from their
places on the couch, then exchange looks with EACH OTHER.

OLIVER
You get it.

MICHAH
I thought you were so sure that the
caller was just Lucas. You're
scared aren't you?

OLIVER
You're one to talk, you couldn't
even sit through Rob Zombie's
HALLOWEEN. I've already sat through
one call tonight, it's your turn.

Michah frowns.

MICHAH
Fine.

As he walks away...

MICHAH (CONT'D)
(grumbles under his
breath)
...Pussy.

Michah picks up the phone from the receiver and answers it.

MICHAH (CONT'D)
Y'ello?

MAN'S VOICE
Ironic movie choice.

Michah spies the TV, which has the DVD menu of WHEN A
STRANGER CALLS currently displayed.

MICHAH
Ahh, I get it. WHEN A STRANGER
CALLS... And you're *apparently* a
stranger. And you're calling me.
Funny.
(beat)
Though, I must question... how'd
you know what movie was on?

MAN'S VOICE

The movie's most iconic line just makes it so much more ironic...

MICHAH

I haven't seen it yet, so I'm not very educated on it's most "iconic line". Mind giving me a hint?

MAN'S VOICE

Let's just say that it'd be smart of your friend to close all the windows before he left the house. You never know what could find its way inside...

An evil chuckle follows this. Michah looks uneasy.

MICHAH

OK, look, I know maybe what happened at Kirby's was wrong, but whoever this is, you're really starting to --

MAN'S VOICE

Just sit back and enjoy the show. This is gonna be a LOT of fun.

The line goes dead. Michah looks scared as he hangs up, turning back to face Oliver. He begins speaking so quickly that his words jumble together--

MICHAH

It was him again. He says he made his way inside -- that one of the windows was left open and --

OLIVER

Look, stop freaking out OK? If it bothers you go much, go up there and check the fucking windows.

Michah crosses his arms.

MICHAH

Seriously?

OLIVER

Yeah. Shut up and go check.

Oliver kicks back and relaxes, pressing 'play' on the movie as Michah sighs and starts up the steps.

INT. GORMAN RESIDENCE - UPSTAIRS - CONTINUOUS

MICHAH makes his way out of one of the bedrooms, walking down the hall and making his way to the next room...

INT. GORMAN RESIDENCE - OLIVER'S BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

...A movie geek's paradise. Numerous POSTERS of movies and Indie bands hang all over the wall, but a STAR WARS-themed bed is the centerpiece of this room.

Michah flips the light switch on -- and his mouth drops --

The window is wide open, a slight breeze blowing the curtains slowly in their place.

Michah looks creeped out... He turns to see the closet door slightly ajar. He gulps -- MOVES for it slowly -- and RIPS it open.

INT. GORMAN RESIDENCE - KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

MATCH CUT Michah opening the closet with an INTERIOR SHOT of the kitchen cupboard as OLIVER slides it open. He scratches his head slightly.

OLIVER
Hmm... What to eat?

There's a slight noise behind him. He turns around. Scoffs.

OLIVER (CONT'D)
(to himself)
So fucking stupid. Just your mind
playing with you.

Turning back to the cupboard, he shuts it and standing there by his side is the GHOST --

-- As he turns, his eyes LOCK on the figure. He gasps just as the Ghost BRANDISHES his BLADE and SLICES. Oliver barely has time to react as it's thrust into his chest.

INT. GORMAN RESIDENCE - OLIVER'S BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

Michah looks around the closet -- nothing's there except clothes and novelty nerd items. He sighs, relieved. He can hear a struggle going on downstairs.

INT. GORMAN RESIDENCE - KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

OLIVER is thrown aside -- he stumbles across the counter as the Ghost delivers another STAB to his BACK. He SCREAMS.

INT. GORMAN RESIDENCE - OLIVER'S BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

That SCREAM is audible upstairs. Michah grows worried.

MICHAH

Oliver?

And he starts into the hallway --

INT. GORMAN RESIDENCE - KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

OLIVER, bloodied and dying, is pressed against the kitchen counter. The Ghost STABS him unrelentingly, in and out of his back. Pushes him to the ground and PINS him there, shoving a knee in his chest and STABBING repeatedly.

INT. GORMAN RESIDENCE - LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

MICHAH barrels down the stairs, into the LIVING ROOM.

MICHAH

Oliver!

He looks around. No sign of OLIVER at all. The TV is ominously playing 'WHEN A STRANGER CALLS'...

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT - ON-SCREEN ('WHEN A STRANGER CALLS')

JILL answers the phone.

JILL

Hello?

DUNCAN

Have you checked the children?

INT. GORMAN RESIDENCE - KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

MICHAH sneaks into the kitchen and sees a BLOOD SMEAR on the floor. He winces, freaking out. The phone rings.

He picks it up --

MICHAH
(a moment of brief
courage)
Where's Oliver?!

MAN'S VOICE
(mocking)
'Have you checked the children?'
'Have you checked the children?'
(beat)
Have you checked the porch to find
your best friend gutted from GROIN
to STERNUM!?

Michah winces. He PEEKS through the rooms -- at the front door. He gulps...

MICHAH
You... You're serious?

MAN'S VOICE
Does this sound like a fucking joke
to you? Open the door and see for
yourself...

Michah STALKS into the living room --

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT - ON-SCREEN ('WHEN A STRANGER
CALLS')

JILL answers the phone.

JILL
Hello?

DUNCAN
Have you checked the children?

JILL
Robert, I don't think this is very
funny!
(pause)
Robbie?
(pause)
Who is this?

The phone goes dead.

INT. GORMAN RESIDENCE - LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

To the sound of the DIAL TONE BUILDING LOUDLY ON-SCREEN,
MICHAH reaches for the front door -- RIPS it open --

And as the suspenseful dial tone fades... we see that there's absolutely nothing on the PORCH. Michah gulps.

Sighs.

EXT. GORMAN RESIDENCE - PORCH - CONTINUOUS

MICHAH steps on the porch, starting into a running pace as he pulls out his phone, dialing in '9-1-'

CRASH!

The front window SHATTERS as two GLOVED hands reach out and GRAB Michah around the MOUTH and NECK. Very Jason-esque.

Michah tries to SCREAM but he's MUFFLED as he's DRAGGED back into the house through the wrecked window.

INT. GORMAN RESIDENCE - LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

MICHAH's body falls to the ground, in the grasp of the GHOST, who he brings down with him. Michah wrestles free, CRAWLING away. As he gets on his feet, the Ghost DIVES his knife into Michah's FOOT.

Michah HOWLS and FALLS. He starts CRAWLING down the hallway as the Ghost STANDS -- FOLLOWS Michah.

MICHAH
Please... Stop...

The Ghost RAISES his knife and STABS into Michah's BACK. He gives a cry. He rolls Michah over -- so he can stare at his killer's MOCKING MASK.

The Ghost LIFTS a voice changer to his mask with his free hand.

MAN'S VOICE
You tried to fuck with the formula.
You tried to BE. ME.

Another STAB. Deep into Michah's gut.

The Ghost leans in closely.

MAN'S VOICE (CONT'D)
But you're nothing like me.

The Ghost LIFTS his knife once more -- Michah gives one final pleading look --

MICHAH
Please... NO!

-- Before going for a QUICK SLASH across Michah's neck.
Michah's head goes limp against the hardwood floor.

TIGHT on his face --

FADE TO BLACK.

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