

THE HOLY CANNOLIE'S

"Mommy Scores!"

Written by

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COLD OPEN

FADE IN.

INT. BROOM CLOSET - DAY

Pitch black. The one hanging light with a worn out string turns on. BILL CANNOLIE (33) miserable, married, father of two, towers over his two kids. DEBBIE CANNOLIE (11) sweet but hardheaded, and PAUL CANNOLIE (6) a pretty boy who will never be into GI Joes, stare back with smiles painted across their faces.

BILL

Why are you smiling like that?

Debbie whips out a handwritten list. Clears her throat.

DEBBIE

This is serious stuff Dad.

PAUL

Detrimental!

DEBBIE

To our family if it ever comes to light that we were involved.

BILL

Okay you two I'm not asking you to kill your mother, I'm asking you to scare some sense into her because this whole ghost hunting thing is destroying our bank account.

DEBBIE

We fully comprehend your request however this puts us in an uncomfortable divide between you and Mom.

PAUL

You must make us happy before we make you happy!

Bill tears the list out of Debbie's hand. Tries to read it.

DEBBIE

I want a library card for all counties and non-negotiable sleep over rights moving forward.

BILL
The library card is doable, the
sleep over thing--

DEBBIE
I said non-negotiable. It's in or
I'm out.

She moves towards the door handle. Bill pipes up.

BILL
Okay okay.
(looks at Paul)
Go easy on me son.

PAUL
Well I want all of Debbie's old
dolls and control of my wardrobe.

BILL
You're only six.

PAUL
Age is nothing but a number when it
comes to fashion sense.

Bill gives in.

BILL
Fine. FINE!

He hands the kids two HALLOWEEN MASKS.

BILL (CONT'D)
Your mother's gonna kill me when
she finds out.

Bill turns out the lights.

INT. VERA'S KITCHEN - NIGHT

Bill walks into the kitchen and takes a seat at the table where JOAN CANNOLIE (35) a snooty Georgia peach with a matriarch complex, meditates and holds the hand of her client, VERA TYGER (56) a nosy church lady, stares Bill down.

VERA
You were gone an awfully long time.

BILL
I had to use the restroom.

VERA

I hope you sprayed it down afterwards. I have bad eyes, can't afford a bad nose too.

JOAN

Vera I can't find them pesky ghosts if you keep bumping your gums. Shhhhhh.

VERA

Your all white ensemble is distracting my withered eyeballs.

Joan drops her hands and crosses her arms.

JOAN

This all white piece is meant to bring the spirit world into my realm. I'm like a friggin light bulb right now!

Bill pats Joan's hand.

BILL

Honey calm down.

JOAN

Make yourself useful and rub my shoulders William.

Bill gets up and reluctantly rubs Joan's shoulders. He checks his watch.

VERA

You keep checking your watch Billy boy.

BILL

It's just getting late that's all.

JOAN

I cannot force the spirit world to do what I say on command! If you'd both shut up this would've happened already.

Bill takes a seat. Joan forcefully holds Vera and Bill's hands.

JOAN (CONT'D)

Close your eyes, both of you. NOW!

Bill and Vera close their eyes. Joan closes hers.

JOAN (CONT'D)
Now I'm gonna use my CMF...

BILL
...you mean EMF.

JOAN
I don't believe in electro magnetic
fields William. Only christian
magnetic fields.
(to Vera)
I'm gonna use my CMF skills to once
and for all rid you of your ghost
problem.

Joan, tone deaf, hums and lets go of their hands. She pulls a
bottle of HOLY WATER from her bosom.

JOAN (CONT'D)
(humming)
It's the power of Christ. Because
the power of Christ compels you!

BILL
Isn't that from a movie?

JOAN
Shut the front door and keep them
eyes shut. You'll scare the ghosts
away.

Bill opens his eyes and clears his throat. The kids move in.
Paul crawls under the table and makes it jerk up and down.

VERA
Sweet Lord!

Vera tries to leave. Joan keeps her seated.

JOAN
THEY'RE HERE! This is your house,
you must stay!

Joan spreads the Holy Water around the room like a sprinkler.

JOAN (CONT'D)
The power of Christ compels you ya
little demon spawns!

DEBBIE (O.S.)
(voice changer)
Ha ha ha ha.

Debbie comes out of the hallway in her mask and touches Joan's shoulder. Joan, eyes wide, comes face to face with the Halloween mask. She loses it, squirts the remains of the holy water into Debbie's eyeballs and collapses onto the floor.

DEBBIE (CONT'D)
 (voice changer)
 MY EYES!!!

Paul and Debbie rush out of the room and slam the door on their way out.

Vera and Bill watch as Joan convulses on the floor.

BILL
 Joan show's over.

VERA
 You beat the demons dear.

BILL
 You can get up now.

Joan doesn't move.

BILL (CONT'D)
 Joan?

Bill nudges her with his foot. Vera pulls a gadget from her pocket.

VERA
 Oh goodie I can finally use my Life
 Alert!

END OF COLD OPEN.