

# **Fantasma**

Pilot

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Fourth Draft

**FANTASMA****"PILOT"**COLD OPENINGFADE IN:INT. ATTIC - DAY

CLOSE ON FOURTEEN-YEAR-OLD **IZZY** -- CUTE, PERKY AND FAST-TALKING. SHE GROWLS AND SHAKES HER HEAD LIKE A PLAYFUL DOG WITH A SQUEAKY RUBBER DOG BONE IN HER MOUTH..

IZZY

(DROPS BONE) See? It's fun.

REVEAL **ALBERT**, A SMALL SCRAGGLY DOG WITH HIS HIND LEGS IN A WHEELCHAIR STARING AT HER. THEY'RE IN A DUSTY, COBWEB-FILLED ATTIC WITH FURNITURE, TRUNKS, KNICKKNACKS, ETC. FROM THE 1920'S. ALBERT ROLLS AROUND AND FACES AWAY.

IZZY (CONT'D)

That's just rude with 'tude. Come on,

Albert, you need exercise. Fetch!

SHE THROWS THE TOY. IT HITS THE DOOR AND FALLS TO THE FLOOR WITH A SQUEAK.

IZZY (CONT'D)

Now, this is the part where you get  
really excited and take off after it.

ALBERT SLOWLY WALKS TO THE TOY WITH HIS WHEELS SQUEAKING.

VFX: ALBERT TURNS GHOSTLY TRANSLUCENT, ROLLS OVER THE TOY AND PASSES THROUGH THE DOOR.

IZZY (CONT'D)

Where are you going?

VFX: IZZY ALSO TURNS GHOSTLY TRANSLUCENT, CROSSES TO THE DOOR AND PASSES THROUGH. IZZY AND ALBERT ARE GHOSTS.

IZZY (O.S.) (CONT'D)

Don't you pee on that -- Oh, Albert.

VFX: IZZY RE-ENTERS HOLDING ALBERT AT ARM'S LENGTH.

ALBERT IS IN MID-PEE.

IZZY (CONT'D)

You're like a furry sprinkler on  
wheels.

SHE HOLDS HIM OVER A DEAD PLANT AND THEN HEARS A TRUCK AND  
VOICES OUTSIDE.

IZZY (CONT'D)

Someone's here.

IZZY AND ALBERT LOOK OUT A WINDOW TO SEE A U-HAUL TRUCK ON  
THE DRIVEWAY BELOW AND A FAMILY STARTING TO UNLOAD.

IZZY (CONT'D)

A family's moving in? Yaaaay...

ALBERT GROWLS.

IZZY (CONT'D)

I know you don't want anyone living  
here with us, but how else are we  
going to join the living again if we  
don't get a family to fall in love  
with us?

ALBERT ROLLS AROUND AND FACES AWAY.

IZZY (CONT'D)

Don't you turn your wheels away from  
me. I'm not going to be pushy like I was  
with all those other families...

BEGIN MONTAGE:

INT. LIVING ROOM - FLASHBACK TO VARIOUS DECADES

**1930'S FAMILY:** JUST MOVING IN, THEY TAKE A BREAK FROM UNPACKING TO GATHER AROUND A CONSOLE RADIO TO LISTEN TO A SHOW. IZZY ENTERS AND STARTLES THEM.

IZZY

Welllcoooooome!

VFX: GHOSTLY TRANSLUCENT IZZY SLIDES DOWN THE BANNISTER, PASSES THROUGH THE RADIO AND LANDS IN A HEAP. SHE JUMPS UP.

IZZY (CONT'D)

Sorry. Okay, introductions. I'm

Izzy, and you are --

FRIGHTENED, THE FAMILY RUNS OUT THE DOOR, SCREAMING.

IZZY (CONT'D)

-- gone. (CALLS AFTER THEM) Is it

because I'm a ghost or do my pits

reek? (SNIFFS ARMPITS) It's my pits.

**1950'S FAMILY:** THEY GATHER AROUND A BLACK AND WHITE TV AND EAT TV DINNERS ON TV TRAYS. A CLASSIC WESTERN SHOW IS ON WHEN IZZY APPEARS ON THE SCREEN DRESSED AS A COWGIRL.

IZZY (CONT'D)

Howdy, partners. Nice to see y'all

settling in to our home sweet home.

VFX: GHOSTLY TRANSLUCENT, BLACK AND WHITE IZZY STREAMS OUT OF THE TV AND STANDS BEFORE THE FAMILY.

IZZY (CONT'D)

Fun, right?

EVERYONE STARES AT HER SHOCKED.

IZZY (CONT'D)

My name's Izzy, I'm a ghost and so

excited that you're moving in.

FRIGHTENED, THE FAMILY RUNS OUT SCREAMING.

IZZY (CONT'D)

Wait. Come back! (LOOKS DOWN AT  
HERSELF) No wonder they're scared.  
I'm still in black and white.

**1970'S FAMILY:** AN AFRICAN-AMERICAN FAMILY IS UNPACKING -- A LAVA LAMP, BEANBAG CHAIRS, RECORD ALBUMS, ETC. IZZY IN SOLID FORM ENTERS ON ROLLER SKATES WITH A BOOMBOX AND A BIG AFRO.

IZZY (CONT'D)

What's shakin'? Our 'fros are outasight!  
Let's boogie first and then we can rap  
about shackin' up together.

IZZY HITS A BUTTON ON THE BOOMBOX. 70'S FUNK PLAYS. SHE STARTS TO ROLLER BOOGIE BUT LOSES CONTROL.

**VFX:** IZZY TURNS GHOSTLY TRANSLUCENT, SKATES THROUGH FURNITURE, PEOPLE AND WALLS AND FALLS ON HER BUTT.

THE FAMILY FREAKS OUT AND RUNS.

IZZY (CONT'D)

Wait! We're going to do the "Hustle."

IZZY STARTS TO DO THE "HUSTLE."

**END MONTAGE.**

IZZY IS DOING THE "HUSTLE." ALBERT STAIRS AT HER.

IZZY (CONT'D)

Oh, sorry. I got all caught up  
remembering... how pushy I was.

ALBERT ROLLS AWAY.

IZZY (CONT'D)

Rude with 'tude.

**FADE OUT.**

**END OF COLD OPENING**

ACT ONESCENE ONEFADE IN:EXT. DRIVEWAY - LATER

THE HOUSE IS A HUNDRED-YEAR-OLD CRAFTSMAN THAT'S IN DESPERATE NEED OF A MAKEOVER. SOMEONE UNDER A BEDSHEET IS BY THE TRUCK ACTING LIKE A SILLY, HALLOWEEN GHOST.

PRETEND GHOST

Ooooooh... I am the ghooost of --

HE BANGS INTO A DRESSER.

PRETEND GHOST (CONT'D)

Ow! Damnit!

LISA MONTEZ COMES OUT OF THE BACK OF THE TRUCK.

LISA

Eddie, what are you doing?

EDDIE

(THROUGH SHEET) Obviously forgetting  
to cut eyeholes in my sheet.

LISA PULLS OFF THE SHEET REVEALING EDDIE MONTEZ -- FOURTEEN,  
GOOD-LOOKING AND A FEARLESS JOKESTER.

LISA

(LAUGHS) Eddie, knock it off. Your  
father might see you.

EDDIE

Come on, Mom. If we're moving into  
this creepy place, the neighbors must  
think we're a bunch of ghosts anyway.  
Let's give them a show. Try it.

HE THROWS THE SHEET OVER HER.

LISA

(HALFHEARTED) Boo.

EDDIE

That is the lamest ghost ever.

LISA

(THROUGH SHEET) Lame?! You want a  
ghost? I'll give you a ghost.

(GETTING INTO IT) Oooooooh!

LISA HOWLS LOUDER AND RUNS AROUND THE DRIVEWAY ACTING LIKE A  
GHOST. EDDIE THEN NOTICES HIS DAD **HECTOR** SCOWLING AT THEM.  
EDDIE YANKS THE SHEET OFF LISA.

LISA (CONT'D)

Oooo! -- Uh-oh.

HECTOR

Lisa, why are you acting like a ghost?

EDDIE

She was making fun of our beautiful  
new house, Dad. I tried to stop her.  
(SOTTO TO LISA) Sorry, Mom. I'm a  
survivor.

HECTOR

I know this place needs some work, but  
these old houses are rock solid.

HECTOR KNOCKS ON A WALL, BUT HIS FIST GOES THROUGH IT LIKE  
PAPER. A MUFFLED LITTLE GIRL'S VOICE CALLS OUT.

GIRL'S VOICE

Eddie's failing his classes!

EVERYONE LOOKS AROUND CONFUSED.

HECTOR

What?

GIRL'S VOICE

Even P.E! He's dumb and out of shape.

THEY OPEN A BOX TO REVEAL EDDIE'S TEN-YEAR-OLD SISTER **MAYA**,  
READING A REPORT CARD WITH A FLASHLIGHT.

LISA

Maya, what are you doing?

MAYA

Looking at a report card that Eddie  
never showed you and throwing him  
under the bus.

EDDIE

Mom, Dad, I can explain. This report  
card is actually a sociology project  
to see if bad students are treated  
differently than good students.

LISA

So that's the story you want us to  
check out?

EDDIE

How about there's another Eddie Montez  
at school and that guy's an idiot?

HECTOR

(OFF REPORT CARD) Straight D's. What  
do you do at that school all day?

CLOSE ON EDDIE AS HE REMEMBERS...

CUT TO:

ACT ONESCENE TWOINT. NORTHRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL - FLASHBACK

A MONTAGE OF EDDIE'S PRACTICAL JOKES, GAGS AND SCAMS THAT HAVE MADE HIM A POPULAR CLASS CLOWN.

- CAFETERIA: EDDIE IS INSIDE A VENDING MACHINE, ACTING LIKE A ROBOT AND DISPENSING FREE SODAS TO STUDENTS AND TEACHERS WHO ARE LAUGHING.
- PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE: EDDIE SITS BEFORE THE STERN PRINCIPAL.

EDDIE

Principal Greer, how could I be the  
one who played chipmunk mariachi music  
over the morning announcements when I  
was busy making sure Mrs. Greer got  
flowers from you for your anniversary?

PRINCIPAL GREER'S LOOK TURNS TO PANIC AS HE GRABS HIS DESK  
CALENDAR.

EDDIE

You sent her favorite, pink.

PRINCIPAL GREER JUMPS UP AND HUGS EDDIE.

- HALLWAY: VARIOUS CLUBS HAVE TABLES SET UP FOR SIGN-UP DAY. EDDIE SITS AT A TABLE CROWDED BY CUTE GIRLS. A SIGN ABOVE HIM READS, "KISSING CLUB -- AUDITIONS, TODAY." EDDIE KISSES GIRLS ONE BY ONE.

EDDIE

Jessica, you're in... Wow, Kara, you  
just made vice president... Next?

BACK TO:

ACT ONESCENE THREEEXT. DRIVEWAY - PRESENT

EDDIE FINISHES REMEMBERING.

EDDIE

Actually, I've been pretty busy.

HECTOR

Finish unloading, and then I'm going  
to unload on you. (THEN, TO LISA)  
You see how I used "unload" in two  
different ways?

LISA

Yeah. All those years of watching  
"Wheel of Fortune" really paid off.

HECTOR AND LISA TAKE SOME THINGS IN. MAYA PICKS UP A BOX.

MAYA

Aw, Mom and Dad find out about your  
embarrassing report card. This day  
just couldn't get any worse for you.  
Oh, wait. Yes, it can.

SHE TURNS THE BOX AROUND, SHOWING IT'S LABELED "EDDIE'S ROOM"  
AND DROPS IT. WE HEAR SOMETHING BREAK.

MAYA (CONT'D)

Oops. Sorry.

EDDIE

Yeah. I had a feeling you'd pull  
something like that. Oops. Sorry.

EDDIE GIVES HER A "GOTCHA" GRIN. MAYA TEARS OPEN THE BOX.

MAYA

My stuff! (CALLS OFF) Daddy!

MAYA PICKS UP THE BOX AND RUNS INSIDE AS AN OLDER WOMAN COMES OUT OF THE BACK OF THE TRUCK WITH AN ARMLOAD OF CLOTHES. SHE'S **GRANDMA ROSA**, HECTOR'S MOTHER.

GRANDMA ROSA

Here, *mijo*. Help me take some of my things in.

SHE HANDS THE CLOTHES TO EDDIE.

EDDIE

Grandma, what's this?

GRANDMA ROSA

I ran out of boxes. That's my lingerie.

EDDIE

Your underwear?! Well, you're going to have to wash them because they're about to be covered in my vomit.

GRANDMA ROSA

That's okay. They're dirty anyway.

EDDIE STARTS TO GAG AS GRANDMA ROSA GOES INTO THE HOUSE.

DISSOLVE TO:

ACT ONESCENE FOURINT. LIVING ROOM - LATER

VFX: GHOSTLY IZZY AND ALBERT SIT ON THE STAIRS WATCHING THE FAMILY.

EVERYONE IS THERE EXCEPT EDDIE. THEY'RE UNPACKING AND CAN'T SEE OR HEAR IZZY AND ALBERT.

IZZY

This time, I'm going to calmly  
introduce us with no gimmicks, no  
costumes and no surprises. Just some  
"nice-to-meetchas" and we're on the  
train to lovesville.

ALBERT GROWLS.

IZZY (CONT'D)

Look, Albert, you're going to be hard  
enough to love with your ghost fleas,  
so you might want to change that growl  
into some adorable face licking.

IZZY STEPS UP BEHIND HECTOR.

VFX: IZZY TURNS SOLID AND IS ABOUT TO TAP HIM ON THE SHOULDER WHEN SHE SEES ALBERT PULLING THE STUFFING OUT OF A CHAIR CUSHION. IZZY STIFLES A GASP AND TURNS GHOSTLY AGAIN.

IZZY (CONT'D)

Albert! What are you doing?

MAYA

(RE: CUSHION) Uh, Daddy, why is your  
chair spilling its guts?

THEY SEE CLUMPS OF STUFFING FLYING OUT OF THE CUSHION.

IZZY TRIES TO STOP ALBERT, BUT HE JUMPS OFF THE CHAIR.

LISA

Hector, I told you to leave that chair  
in the alley. There's something in it.

IZZY CHASES ALBERT WHO RUNS INTO A PILE OF STUFF AND RUNS OUT  
WITH A WIG ON HIS HEAD.

THE OTHERS REACT AT THE SIGHT OF THE WIG SCURRYING BY.

GRANDMA ROSA

My new wig! It's running away!

HECTOR

Everybody calm down. I know what's  
going on. This nonsense is the work  
of Mr. Ha-ha Prankster Man out there.  
He doesn't take anything seriously,  
here or at school. (CALLS OUT) Eddie!

ALBERT RUNS BY, PASSING THROUGH GRANDMA ROSA. SHE SHUDDERS.  
IZZY THEN PASSES THROUGH GRANDMA ROSA. SHE SHUDDERS AGAIN.

GRANDMA ROSA

(DAZED) No. It's not Eddie. There's  
something here, a presence. Can you  
feel it? *Una fantasma.*

HECTOR

A ghost? I'm going to turn Eddie into  
a ghost if he doesn't knock it off.  
(CALLS OUT) Eddie get in here!

EDDIE ENTERS.

EDDIE

Hey, Dad. Were you yelling "Eddie" or "spaghetti?" It doesn't matter. I answer to either.

HECTOR

That. Right there. Your smarty alecky remarks and pranks have done nothing but lead to bad grades. Well, it all ends now.

MAYA

Are you finally going to put him up for adoption?

HECTOR

No. (FLUSTERED) Eddie, you... you... you are going to be home schooled.

EDDIE

Home schooled? Maya's adoption idea sounds good, too.

LISA

(SOTTO) Hector, that's a pretty big decision that we probably should have discussed, and since we didn't, I want no part of it.

HECTOR

(SOTTO) I know. I got stuck, but I already put it out there.

EDDIE

Uh, Grandma? This would be a good time to step in and save your only grandson.

GRANDMA ROSA

Sorry, *mijo*. I can't help it if you have lousy parents who let you fail in school. Besides, I'm tracking some kind of spirit. See, there's a cold spot right here.

VFX: GRANDMA ROSA WAVES HER HANDS THROUGH GHOSTLY IZZY WHO HOLDS ALBERT. IZZY STEPS AWAY, BUT GRANDMA FOLLOWS.

GRANDMA ROSA (CONT'D)

Now, it's cold over here.

IZZY AGAIN STEPS AWAY.

GRANDMA ROSA (CONT'D)

Now, it's over here.

IZZY KEEPS TRYING TO GET AWAY FROM GRANDMA ROSA, AND THEY EXIT TO THE KITCHEN.

GRANDMA ROSA (O.S.) (CONT'D)

Now, it's in here!

LISA

Did she just call us lousy parents?

HECTOR

Who cares, Lisa? (SOTTO) My mouth just wrote a check for home schooling I can't cash. I barely graduated.

EDDIE

Dad, you can't take me out of school. I know my grades don't show it, but I like school. All my friends are there. And if that's not enough, you can stop giving me an allowance.

HECTOR

You don't get an allowance.

EDDIE

Then, this'll be easy for you.

HECTOR

Nice try.

EDDIE

Please, Dad, give me a second chance.

HECTOR

Second chance?

EDDIE

Excellent idea. How's this? If I get a good grade on my next test, it'll prove that I'm getting my act together.

LISA

Maybe Rosa's right. Maybe we are lousy parents. Hector, give him a second chance. That's what good parents would do.

HECTOR

(SOTTO TO LISA) Good idea. That'll give me time to home school me before I have to home school him. (TO EDDIE) Okay. One chance. Your next test in... (OFF REPORT CARD) What's the difference? They're all bad. Your next test in history has to be a good grade.

EDDIE

No problem.

MAYA

Eddie, we all know how this is going to turn out, so should I tell your friends you're getting transferred to Hector High?

GRANDMA ROSA COMES BACK IN FROM THE KITCHEN.

GRANDMA ROSA

It's not a *fantasma*. First it felt like cold spots. Then it felt like little wheels running over my feet. Maybe it's my arthur-ritis. I better go see Dr. Margarita.

SHE EXITS BACK TO THE KITCHEN.

DISSOLVE TO:

ACT ONESCENE FIVEINT. BATHROOM - LATER

EDDIE IS PEEING AND TALKING TO HIMSELF IN THE MIRROR.

EDDIE

A good grade. That's all. Why are  
you worried? You never worry. You  
know why? 'Cause you always --  
(GLANCES DOWN) pee on your shoe!

VFX: IZZY APPEARS IN THE MIRROR.

IZZY

Euww! You have terrible aim.

EDDIE LOOKS UP AND NONCHALANTLY ADDRESSES IZZY.

EDDIE

Well, it's because I'm used to the  
toilet being -- (REALIZING) Waaah!

EDDIE FALLS BACK INTO THE BATHTUB, GETTING TANGLED IN THE  
SHOWER CURTAIN.

IZZY

Did I catch you on bath day?

VFX: IZZY STREAMS OUT OF THE MIRROR AND SITS ON THE TOILET  
TANK. SHE'S GHOSTLY.

EDDIE

(SCARED) No. I'm not seeing this.  
I'm not seeing a -- What are you? No.  
Don't answer 'cause I'm not seeing  
this.

IZZY

I can explain. I'm Isabella, but everybody calls me Izzy. Well, not anymore but back when I was living here -- I mean, I still "live" here but now as a ghost. Watch.

VFX: SHE PASSES HER HEAD INTO A WALL AND BACK OUT.

IZZY (CONT'D)

(SPITTING BUGS) Termites. Yecch. Don't you hate that? So, here's the sitch: most people think ghosts are only here to haunt them. (GAME SHOW BUZZER) Ehhh! Wrong. We're actually trying to come back to life. And you want to know how that happens?

EDDIE

No. Ahhh!

EDDIE GETS OUT OF THE TUB AND RUNS OUT WITH THE SHOWER CURTAIN STILL WRAPPED AROUND HIM.

IZZY

(CALLS AFTER) Hey! You didn't wash your hands! (TO HERSELF) Gross, but he sure is cute.

DISSOLVE TO:

ACT ONESCENE SIXINT. BEDROOM - LATER

MAYA AND GRANDMA ROSA ARE ARGUING AS HECTOR ENTERS WITH A TEXTBOOK.

HECTOR

Stop yelling! What's going on?

MAYA

Daddy, Grandma's trying to steal my room.

GRANDMA ROSA

I saw it first.

MAYA

My dresser could go over here where I can put that picture of me riding on your shoulders at the church fiesta. You love that picture.

MAYA MAKES A BIG SHOW OF HUGGING HECTOR.

GRANDMA ROSA

Hectorito, my nightstand could go in that corner where I can wake up every morning and see your baby shoes I kept. (HUGS HECTOR, WHISPERS IN HIS EAR) Send her to live with her cousins in Mexico. I'll pay for the postage.

MAYA AND GRANDMA ROSA START TO ARGUE AGAIN AS LISA ENTERS.

LISA

Hector, why are they fighting? Did they both reach for the same Cheeto again?

HECTOR

No, the same room.

MAYA

Mom, don't you think Grandma should take a room downstairs so the paramedics can wheel her out easier?

HECTOR

You have been putting a lot of butter on your tortillas, Ma.

GRANDMA ROSA

Oh, I see where this is going. The lousy parents are about to spoil another kid by giving in to her. Hope that doesn't lead to bad grades, too.

LISA

(GASPS, SOTTO TO HECTOR) She did it again. She called us lousy parents.

HECTOR

(SOTTO) Maybe we are. I shot my mouth off about home schooling.

(POINTS IN BOOK) And this science book has a bunch of jibber-jabber about "deena."

LISA

(LOOKS) That's D-N-A. You're the lousy parent. (TO MAYA AND GRANDMA) Look, you two, I've got a good parenting idea. You should share this room for a while to see who likes it more.

FLIP TO:

INT. BEDROOM - THAT NIGHT

MAYA IS PEACEFULLY SLEEPING WHEN SHE'S SUDDENLY AWAKENED BY GRANDMA ROSA LOUDLY PLAYING STEEL DRUMS.

MAYA

Grandma! What are you doing?

GRANDMA ROSA

What, *mija*? I always practice my steel drums before I go to bed.

GRANDMA ROSA CONTINUES TO PLAY. AFTER A BEAT...

VFX: GHOSTLY ALBERT ENTERS, PASSING THROUGH A WALL. HE GRABS THE CORNER OF THEIR BLANKET AND YANKS IT OFF THE BED.

GRANDMA ROSA STOPS PLAYING, AND SHE AND MAYA WATCH IN SHOCK AS THE BLANKET SEEMINGLY DRAGS ITSELF OUT THE DOOR.

GRANDMA ROSA (CONT'D)

It is a *fantasma*. It must love my music!

SHE PLAYS AGAIN AS MAYA HIDES HER HEAD UNDER THE PILLOW.

DISSOLVE TO:

ACT ONESCENE SEVENINT. SCHOOL HALLWAY - THE NEXT MORNING

THE BELL RINGS AND STUDENTS STREAM IN FROM CLASSROOMS. EDDIE FILES IN WITH **KYLE**. SHE AND EDDIE ARE BEST FRIENDS AND LIFELONG PARTNERS IN CRIME. HE HAS THE IDEAS, AND SHE HAS THE TECHNICAL KNOWHOW.

KYLE

So if you don't get a good grade, your dad is going to home school you?

That's worse than the summer he tried saving money by giving you haircuts.

(CHECKS EDDIE'S EAR) That chunk of earlobe never grew back.

EDDIE

I know. (TOUCHES EAR) That's why I have to get serious and study hard for that history test.

THEY EXCHANGE A SERIOUS LOOK AND THEN CRACK UP.

KYLE

Yeah, right. (THEN) You remember the sticks this time?

KYLE OPENS HER LOCKER REVEALING A SMALL DEEP FRYER AND INGREDIENTS FOR CORN DOGS.

EDDIE

Yep. Sticking our fingers into the corn dogs and then frying them was not a good idea.

EDDIE SPOTS A LARGE TEACHER, **MR. PLESHETTE**, ENTERING A CLASSROOM WITH A BRIEFCASE.

EDDIE (CONT'D)

Man, I wish there was some way I could get those test answers out of Mr. Pleshette's briefcase.

KYLE

It's probably buried under a giant turkey leg.

THEY LAUGH AGAIN.

EDDIE

Hey, Kyle, what's the craziest thing you've ever heard me say?

KYLE

"Want to see me blow a nose bubble?"

EDDIE

I never said that.

KYLE

We were in second grade. You had a cold. The image of your nose bubble popping all over my crayons still haunts me.

EDDIE

Funny you should say "haunt." What if I told you I think I saw a ghost yesterday?

KYLE

I'd say "nose bubble" was the second craziest thing you've said and you're full of it.

EDDIE

So, you don't believe in ghosts?

KYLE

Of course, not. The whole idea of ghosts doesn't make sense --

DOWN THE HALL, WE SEE...

VFX: GHOSTLY IZZY ENTERS RIDING A 1920'S ERA BICYCLE. SHE'S INVISIBLE TO PEOPLE AS SHE ZIGZAGS THROUGH THEM, COMING TO A WOBBLY STOP.

IZZY

(TO HERSELF) I haven't ridden my bike in a long time, and now I remember why. (RUBS BUTT) Ow. (SPOTS EDDIE) There he is, and he's still cute... even in the shoes he peed on.

EDDIE'S EYES WIDEN AS HE SEES IZZY APPROACH WHILE KYLE CONTINUES TALKING.

KYLE

-- I mean, you never hear about people seeing ghost elephants, ghost zebras, not even a ghost dog.

EDDIE

(RE: IZZY, PETRIFIED) Uhhh...  
Scary...

KYLE

Right, and why do they have to be scary? If ghosts are real, why can't we hang out with them? Go to the movies? Even be boyfriend/girlfriend with them?

IZZY

Ooh, never thought of that. What would that be like?

VFX: IZZY SWIRLS INTO KYLE'S EAR.

EDDIE

Kyle!

KYLE SHUDDERS AS IZZY POSSESSES HER. KYLE/IZZY THEN PLANTS A BIG KISS ON A STUNNED EDDIE. STUDENTS HOOT AND HOLLER.

FADE OUT.

**END OF ACT ONE**

ACT TWOSCENE ONEINT. SCHOOL HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

EDDIE AND KYLE/IZZY ARE STILL IN MID-KISS. EDDIE IS SHOCKED.

VFX: IZZY SWIRLS OUT OF KYLE'S EAR, LANDING NEXT TO HER, DAZED.

IZZY

Wowee-kazowee!

KYLE SHUDDERS AS SHE BECOMES HERSELF AGAIN. SHE REALIZES SHE'S KISSING EDDIE AND BREAKS IT. THEY'RE CONFUSED.

KYLE

Eddie, what are we doing? We're just friends... Right?

EDDIE

Uh, I didn't do it.

EDDIE AND KYLE ARE SUDDENLY AWKWARD.

KYLE

Me neither. I gotta go!

KYLE RUSHES OFF.

IZZY

Surprised to see me?

EDDIE

Oh, no. It followed me to school.  
Are you going to kill me and take my soul? I don't know how it really works.

IZZY

No. I came to finish our talk and I guess score a nice smooch without your girlfriend knowing.

EDDIE

She's not my girlfriend. Please go away before somebody sees me talking to a... to a...

IZZY

Call me Izzy. And you have a lot to learn about ghosts. We can only be seen by people we want to see us. And we can go anywhere, even into people.

EDDIE

You possessed Kyle?

IZZY

Yup. And it was still totally worth it, except for the corn dog crumbs on your lips. How about for you?

EDDIE

What? You're not an evil, soul-sucking force from the afterlife?

IZZY

Euww. No, I told you before. Ghosts want to come back to the living, and the only way they can do that is to get a family to love them.

EDDIE

So, you want to force me and my family to love you?

IZZY

Well, it sounds pathetic when you say it like that. Actually, it has to be real. But here's the kicker, I have trouble meeting families.

EDDIE

Maybe 'cause you're a ghost?

IZZY

Hey, you made a joke. This is working out great. So, let's make a deal: you help me get the "fam" to throw some love my way and I'll help you with that history test you have to take.

EDDIE

How do you know about that? (THEN)  
Oh, right. You haunt our house.

IZZY

Yeah. I like to poke my head into rooms and see what's going on.

EDDIE

(GETTING IDEA) Really... So, as a ghost you could like turn invisible, walk through a wall and, I don't know, reach into my teacher's briefcase.

IZZY

All that and more.

EDDIE

Then, we've got a deal.

VFX: IZZY PUTS HER HAND OUT. EDDIE TRIES TO SHAKE IT BUT HIS HAND PASSES THROUGH HERS, AND HE FLINCHES.

EDDIE (CONT'D)

That's cold. I owe you a handshake.

IZZY

So when do we start studying? If you need to bone up on any historical people, a lot of them go to my gym. You know, Lincoln wears his hat in zumba class.

EDDIE

Studying? No, Ghosty. All you've got to do is get the test answers for me. See you at home.

EDDIE LEAVES AS IZZY PROCESSES WHAT SHE JUST HEARD.

IZZY

(TO HERSELF) Wait, that's cheating.

I can't cheat. (CALLS OFF) And don't call me Ghosty!

VFX: IZZY HOPS ON HER BICYCLE AND RIDES OUT, PASSING THROUGH PEOPLE.

DISSOLVE TO:

ACT TWOSCENE TWOINT. SCHOOL LOCKER ROOM - LATER THAT AFTERNOON

EDDIE ENTERS FROM THE SHOWERS WITH A TOWEL WRAPPED AROUND HIM AND CROSSES TO HIS LOCKER. HE OPENS IT AND...

VFX: GHOSTLY IZZY STICKS HER HEAD OUT.

OTHERS IN THE LOCKER ROOM CAN'T SEE OR HEAR HER.

IZZY

(FURIOUS) I have to talk to you.

EDDIE

(STARTLED) Ah!

VFX: EDDIE SLAMS THE DOOR WHICH PASSES THROUGH IZZY'S HEAD.

EDDIE FALLS BACK AND REALIZES GUYS ARE STARING AT HIM.

EDDIE (CONT'D)

(COVERING) Woo! Time to wash those  
gym shorts, right?

THE GUYS ARE WEIRDED OUT AND EXIT, AVOIDING HIM.

IZZY

Wow, you're horrible at covering up.

EDDIE

Big shocker. Not a lot of ghosts pop  
in on me in a locker room.

VFX: GHOSTLY IZZY STREAMS OUT OF THE LOCKER.

IZZY

No. I meant you're horrible at  
covering up.

EDDIE LOOKS DOWN AND SEES THAT HIS TOWEL HAS FALLEN.

EDDIE

Turn around! Turn around!

IZZY TURNS AROUND AS EDDIE SCRAMBLES TO COVER UP AGAIN.

EDDIE (CONT'D)

Izzy, you shouldn't be here.

IZZY

Well, you shouldn't be cheating.

Look, I'm a very responsible person --  
or ghost. You know what I mean.

Anyway, cheating is wrong and I'm not  
going to let you use me to do that.

EDDIE

Wait a minute. You want to use me to  
meet my family. So, who's using who?

IZZY

Rude with 'tude. I'm trying to tell  
you that I know you can get a good  
grade without cheating.

EDDIE

And I'm trying to tell you if I don't  
cheat I'll be stuck home schooled by  
my dad, twenty-four/eight. That's  
right. He'll add another day to the  
week.

IZZY

And something else you don't know  
about ghosts.

(MORE)

IZZY (CONT'D)

We have a sixth sense about the  
living. We can feel their emotions,  
and you're afraid of trying.

EDDIE CAN ONLY STARE AT IZZY FOR A BEAT.

EDDIE

Look, if you won't help me, I won't  
help you.

IZZY

Okay. Fine. I'll just find another  
family to love me. And when I come  
back to life, I'm going to enroll in  
this school, and when we see each  
other, I'm going to ignore you.

EDDIE

You come back in the same body?

IZZY

I don't know. But if a really pretty  
new girl ignores you, it's probably me.

VFX: IZZY STREAMS BACK INTO THE LOCKER, SLAMMING THE DOOR.

AFTER A SECOND, EDDIE OPENS THE LOCKER AND PULLS OUT HIS  
JEANS WITH THE LEGS IN A HUGE KNOT. HE SIGHS.

EDDIE

(CALLS OUT) Anyone got an extra pair  
of pants?

DISSOLVE TO:

ACT TWOSCENE THREEINT. LIVING ROOM - THAT AFTERNOON

MAYA WEARS VERY LONG FALSE EYELASHES AND IS LOOKING INTO A MIRROR. SHE AND GRANDMA ROSA ARE ON THE COUCH.

MAYA

So what, Grandma? They're just false eyelashes. That's not enough to pay me off for the bedroom.

GRANDMA ROSA

Wait. There's more. I'm throwing in my sexy green eye shadow.

GRANDMA ROSA SMEARS SOME NEON GREEN EYE SHADOW ON HER.

MAYA

Great. Put a beer in my hand and I'm you.

LISA AND HECTOR ENTER CARRYING BOXES OF BOOKS AND A SHOVEL. THEY LOOK AT MAYA IN DISGUST.

HECTOR

Ma, we told you Maya's only ten. She can't go clubbing with you.

GRANDMA ROSA

Relax. I'm just trying to bribe her into letting me have that room.

MAYA

Grandma tried to scare me out of there last night by making the blanket fly off the bed.

GRANDMA ROSA

That wasn't me. That was the  
*fantasma*.

HECTOR PUTS HIS ARM AROUND MAYA.

HECTOR

Don't be afraid, *mija*. If she really  
wanted to scare you, she'd show you  
her eleventh toe.

GRANDMA ROSA

Here we go again, letting youth  
disrespect their elders. Well, we all  
know what that is.

LISA

(SIGHS) Bad parenting.

GRANDMA ROSA

I believe I used the word "lousy."

GRANDMA ROSA CROSSES TO THE FIREPLACE.

MAYA

Don't listen to Grandma, Mom. You're  
the greatest, most loving parent ever.

LISA

Aww... Thank you, Maya.

MAYA

Can I have some ice cream?

LISA

Sure, honey.

LISA EXITS TO THE KITCHEN. HECTOR SHOOTS MAYA A KNOWING  
LOOK.

MAYA

(TO HECTOR) And that's how you turn  
their rocky relationship into Rocky  
Road.

MAYA EXITS TO THE KITCHEN. EDDIE ENTERS WITH HIS BACKPACK.

HECTOR

Eddie, come look. These are your new  
home schooling books.

EDDIE PICKS UP A BOOK AND BLOWS OFF THE DUST.

EDDIE

Encyclopedia?

HECTOR

Everything you need to know is in  
those books. When you're done reading  
from A to Z, you'll graduate. I'll  
make you a cap and gown from a record  
album and one of your mother's  
nightgowns.

EDDIE

That's your idea of home schooling?  
Wait. You really can't do this, so  
you just want me to read everything.

HECTOR

No. I'm going to be very involved.  
I'll be your P.E. coach.

HECTOR HOLDS UP THE SHOVEL.

EDDIE

What's the shovel for?

HECTOR

You're going to get exercise by  
digging us a swimming pool.

EDDIE

This is a nightmare. What do you got  
planned for lunch period? Grow my own  
food?

HECTOR

Good idea. I'll go see where I can  
get a plow and a harness in your size.

HECTOR EXITS. EDDIE SHAKES HIS HEAD.

GRANDMA ROSA

*Mijo*, you want me to pray to the  
*espírito* in this house to help you get  
a good grade.

EDDIE CROSSES TO GRANDMA ROSA WHO'S SETTING UP A DAY OF THE  
DEAD ALTAR ON THE MANTLE -- CANDLES, WHIMSICAL SKELETON  
FIGURES, FLOWERS, FRAMED PHOTOS OF DEPARTED RELATIVES, ETC.

EDDIE

I think it's too late for that.

THEY DON'T SEE...

VFX: GHOSTLY IZZY AND ALBERT COMING DOWN THE STAIRS WITH A  
SUITCASE. SHE SHOOTS A DISDAINFUL LOOK AT EDDIE.

EDDIE (CONT'D)

Grandma, you're into all this Day of  
the Dead spirit stuff. Did you know  
that ghosts can come back to life?

GRANDMA ROSA

(PICKS UP PHOTO) Yeah, my mother told me lots of stories about the supernatural. If a family meets a ghost and learns to love it with all their heart, the soul can return to our world.

IZZY LOOKS IMPRESSED AS SHE AND ALBERT HEAD FOR THE DOOR.

EDDIE

Could you love a ghost?

GRANDMA ROSA

Sure, as long as it promises to help me scare your sister.

EDDIE LAUGHS AS IZZY AND ALBERT START TO PASS THROUGH THE DOOR.

EDDIE

Yeah, I probably could have loved a ghost, too.

IZZY PASSES BACK THROUGH.

IZZY

(TOUCHED) Aww... He could love me.

ALBERT GROWLS.

IZZY (CONT'D)

He'll get around to you. You're kind of a lot to throw at somebody new. Let's go unpack our empty suitcase.

VFX: IZZY AND ALBERT FLY UPSTAIRS.

DISSOLVE TO:

ACT TWOSCENE FOURINT. CLASSROOM - THE NEXT DAY

IT'S BEFORE CLASS, AND KYLE ENTERS TO FIND EDDIE AT HIS DESK READING A TEXTBOOK. SHE RUSHES OVER FRAZZLED.

KYLE

Okay, I've been thinking about...

(RE: HER LIPS) this part of our faces touching. I don't remember exactly how it happened, but we must've just bumped into each other, right? Right.

I feel a lot better. Thanks.

KYLE SITS AS THE BELL RINGS. A VERY WORRIED EDDIE CLOSES HIS BOOK AS MR. PLESHETTE HANDS OUT TEST PAPERS.

MR. PLESHETTE

Okay, people. The test is on chapters eight and nine. Keep your eyes on your own paper. Mr. Montez, would you like a test or a pillow?

EDDIE

Mr. Pleshette, I'm disappointed to inform you that we can't take the test today.

MR. PLESHETTE

This should be good. Why not, Montez?

EDDIE STANDS AND DRAMATICALLY HOLDS UP HIS TEXTBOOK.

EDDIE

In my hours of studying and reviewing these chapters, I've discovered gross errors. I believe your integrity as a teacher would demand that you take some time -- a day, a week, whatever, we'll be patient -- to scour through the book and make the necessary corrections.

MR. PLESHETTE

Like what?

EDDIE

There are so many. (OPENS BOOK) Here the chapter is about World War One, but it says World War "I". And don't get me started on the Gettysburg Address. They left out the address.

MR. PLESHETTE

Park it, Montez.

NO ONE NOTICES...

VFX: THE BRIEFCASE ON MR. PLESHETTE'S DESK OPENS. THE TEST ANSWER SHEET SLIDES OUT AND FOLDS UP. A PENCIL WRITES "TO EDDIE" ON IT, AND IT FLOATS TO A GIRL'S DESK NEARBY. THE GIRL TURNS, NOTICES IT, SHRUGS AND PASSES IT BACK.

EDDIE

(SOTTO TO KYLE) You know, if you had jumped in, we could've sold this.

KYLE

(NOT HEARING HIM) Okay, maybe we did  
kiss, but as friends. Friends make  
out -- No, they don't. What am I  
saying?

AS EVERYONE STARTS TAKING THE TEST, THE NOTE GETS TO EDDIE.  
HE OPENS IT, SEES THE TEST ANSWERS AND BARELY STIFLES A GASP.

IZZY (O.S.)

You're welcome.

VFX: GHOSTLY IZZY APPEARS.

ONLY EDDIE CAN SEE OR HEAR HER.

IZZY (CONT'D)

I know you're in a jam with your dad.

EDDIE

(WHISPERS) Awesome.

HE TRIES TO HUG HER BUT HIS ARMS PASS THROUGH HER AND HE  
FLINCHES.

EDDIE (CONT'D)

Cold, cold. I owe you a hug. Thanks,

I knew you'd do the right thing.

VFX: IZZY SMILES AND EXITS, PASSING THROUGH A WALL. SHE  
IMMEDIATELY RETURNS WITH AN INCREDULOUS LOOK.

IZZY

(TO HERSELF) "Do the right thing?!"

VFX: IZZY SWIRLS INTO EDDIE'S MULTIPLE-CHOICE TEST PAPER, AND  
HER FACE APPEARS IN ALL OF THE ANSWER BUBBLES.

EDDIE

Izzy! (OFF LOOKS) Dizzy. Is anyone  
else dizzy? It's stuffy in here.

MR. PLESHETTE GLOWERS AT HIM.

IZZY'S FACES

Look, I got you the answers even though I didn't want to. The least you could do is admit that cheating is wrong.

EDDIE

(WHISPERS) Go away!

HE JABS THE TEST PAPER WITH HIS PENCIL.

VFX: IZZY'S FACES DISAPPEAR FROM THE TEST BUBBLES.

GLANCING AT THE ANSWER SHEET, EDDIE STARTS MARKING HIS TEST.

VFX: A PENCIL FLOATS IN AND STARTS ERASING WHAT HE WRITES.

EDDIE (CONT'D)

Stop it, stop it, stop it!

MR. PLESHETTE AGAIN GLOWERS AT EDDIE.

EDDIE (CONT'D)

(COVERING) Uh, Kyle, is trying to copy my answers. (TO KYLE) Stop it.

KYLE

(BLURTS TO CLASS) Okay, everybody.

We kissed. What's the big deal? (OFF

THEIR CONFUSED LOOKS) We weren't

talking about that, were we?

KYLE SHRINKS INTO HER SEAT.

VFX: GHOSTLY IZZY APPEARS AND GETS AN IDEA.

IZZY

If you won't listen to me, maybe  
you'll listen to me as your teacher.

VFX: IZZY SWIRLS INTO MR. PLESHETTE'S EAR.

HE SHUDDERS AS IZZY POSSESSES HIM. MR. PLESHETTE/IZZY  
CROSSES BACK TO EDDIE IN A VERY FEMININE WALK. WITH HAND ON  
HIP, HE PETULANTLY STOMPS HIS FOOT.

MR. PLESHETTE/IZZY

Come on, Eddie. You know a lot more  
than you think you do. I believe in  
you. Why can't you believe in  
yourself? (THEN) Oh my gosh, I have  
no butt!

MR. PLESHETTE/IZZY TUGS AT THE BAGGY SEAT OF HIS PANTS. THE  
CLASS SNICKERS.

EDDIE

"Mr. Pleshette," I got what I wanted.  
I don't need you anymore.

MR. PLESHETTE/IZZY

(GASP) I'm so sorry I ever kissed you.

THE WHOLE CLASS ERUPTS, HOOTING AND HOLLERING AS...

VFX: IZZY SWIRLS OUT OF MR. PLESHETTE'S EAR AND FLIES AWAY.

MR. PLESHETTE SHUDDERS AS HE BECOMES HIMSELF AGAIN. HE'S  
CONFUSED AS TO WHY HE'S STANDING THERE WITH THE CLASS  
LAUGHING AT HIM.

KYLE

(TO EDDIE) Oh, you're just kissing  
everybody, aren't you?

EDDIE BURIES HIS FACE IN HIS HANDS.

DISSOLVE TO:

ACT TWOSCENE FIVEINT. LIVING ROOM - LATER

HECTOR ENTERS TO FIND EDDIE READING AN ENCYCLOPEDIA VOLUME.

HECTOR

Encyclopedia? Oh, got your test back,  
huh?

EDDIE

Yup. What does this word mean?

EDDIE SHOWS HIM. HECTOR TAKES A PAPER FROM IT.

HECTOR

This is your test. You got a C-minus?

EDDIE

(PROUDLY) Yup.

HECTOR

The deal was for a good grade.

LISA ENTERS.

EDDIE

C-minus is a good grade for me.

HECTOR

Fine, but I'm hanging onto these  
encyclopedias. There's still a lot of  
school for you to screw up.

EDDIE

Thanks for the pep talk, Dad.

LISA

(GRABS TEST) You got a C-minus?

That's really good for you. Only good parents raise kids that get C's.

(CALLING OUT) You hear that, Rosa?

I'm not a lousy parent! Come on,

Hector. You can hold your mother down

while I rub this C-minus in her face.

HECTOR AND LISA EXIT.

VFX: GHOSTLY IZZY COMES DOWNSTAIRS WITH THE SUITCASE.

IZZY

Heard all the excitement. Good for you. Have a nice life, cheater.

SHE HEADS FOR THE FRONT DOOR.

EDDIE

You're still leaving?

IZZY

Yeah. I want a family to love me so I can join the living again, but it won't work if I don't love every one of them back.

EDDIE

Okay. Thanks for the C-minus. 'Bye.

VFX: IZZY EXITS THROUGH THE DOOR AND RE-ENTERS.

IZZY

A C-minus? I get you all the answers to the test and that's the best you --

IZZY (CONT'D)

(REALIZES) Wait. You only got a C-minus because you didn't cheat!

EDDIE

Wanted to but this ghost was all hung up on believing in me.

IZZY

Yeah, I know her. I think she's cute, don't you?

EDDIE

Yeah. (THEN) I'd give you a hug, but that doesn't really work too well.

IZZY

Something else you don't know about ghosts.

VFX: IZZY TURNS SOLID, HUGS EDDIE AND GLOWS FOR A MOMENT.

EDDIE

Hey, for a second there you were warm, like a real person.

IZZY

I was? Ghosts aren't warm.

EDDIE

Maybe they are when someone likes them.

IZZY

(DRAMATIC GASP) You love me. One down, four to go!

EDDIE

No, no, no. I said "like."

IZZY

You'll get there. I have to tell  
Albert. He'll be so excited, he'll  
lick himself silly.

VFX: IZZY FLIES UPSTAIRS.

EDDIE STARTS TO GO AFTER HER.

EDDIE

Albert? There's another ghost? Who  
licks himself? I don't like you  
anymore!

FADE OUT.

**END OF ACT TWO**

TAGFADE IN:INT. LIVING ROOM - ANOTHER DAY

GRANDMA ROSA CONDUCTS A SEANCE WITH MAYA, LISA AND HECTOR SEATED AROUND A CARD TABLE WITH CANDLES, TAROT CARDS, CRYSTALS, ETC.

GRANDMA ROSA

(DRAMATICALLY CALLS OUT) Great  
*fantasma* that haunts our home, reveal  
yourself.

HECTOR

Ma, this is a waste of time.

GRANDMA ROSA

And ignore the *idiota* across from me.

MAYA

Bring out the ghost of Grandpa because  
I still say he just ran away.

MAYA GETS KICKED UNDER THE TABLE.

MAYA (CONT'D)

Ow, Grandma!

LISA

That was me.

WE SEE EDDIE OFF TO THE SIDE WATCHING THEM WITH...

VFX: GHOSTLY IZZY.

EDDIE

(SOTTO) Are you sure you want this  
messed-up family to love you? We're  
like the Mexican Simpsons.

IZZY

Yeah, but they'll be my messed-up  
family. Okay, I'm ready to meet them.

THEY CROSS TO THE FAMILY WHEN THEY SEE...

VFX: GHOSTLY ALBERT STARTING TO PEE ON THE FLOOR.

IZZY (CONT'D)

Albert! Stop!

IZZY PANICS AND GRABS ALBERT, HOLDING HIM AT ARM'S LENGTH AS  
HE STARTS TO PEE, SPRAYING THE FAMILY.

GRANDMA ROSA

Do you feel something warm? It's the  
*fantasma!*

LISA

Yeah. I feel it on my arm.

MAYA

The *fantasma's* touching my back.

IZZY

Eddie, help. What do I do?

ALBERT CONTINUES TO SPRAY EVERYONE.

HECTOR

I feel it on my face.

EDDIE HEADS FOR THE KITCHEN.

IZZY

Where are you going?

EDDIE

To get Albert more water.

AS ALBERT CONTINUES TO GHOST PEE ON THE FAMILY...

FADE OUT.