

GHOSTS

"Pilot"

Written By

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Based On the UK Television Series GHOSTS

CHARACTER REFERENCE:**THE LIVING:**

Samantha - 30ish, put together, Type A, loves fun but not as much as she loves planning fun.

Ryan - 30ish, thoroughly modern dude, he's a hunk with a love of nerdism, and a talented chef.

THE GHOSTS (in chronological order of when they died):

Thorfinn: Large, hulking Viking. Bit of a neat freak.

Weetamoo - Native American woman. Sarcastic, droll, over it.

Isaac - Revolutionary War officer and statesman. Pompous. Closeted.

Hetty - Society woman from the late 1800's. Wife of a robber baron.

Alberta - African America prohibition era singer. Bit of a diva.

Crash - 1950's Fonzi type, decapitated in a motorcycle accident.

Flower - 1960's era hippie. On a long strange trip.

Pete - 1980's era scout troop leader. Good natured dad type.

Trevor - Douche finance bro.

NOTE: Aside from the fact that some of them have visible injuries, our ghosts look like "normal" people. They appear solid in form, not translucent, etc.

COLD OPEN

INT. BAINBRIDGE ESTATE - BEDROOM - EVENING

An OLD LADY lies in bed, her breathing labored. These are her final moments. At her bedside is TREVOR, a finance bro in a suit (in this moment, we see him only from the waist up).

TREVOR
(softly)
It won't be long now.

We PAN to see ALBERTA, an African American woman in her 30's.

ALBERTA
At least she's comfortable.

Next, we PAN to see PETE, a man dressed as a Scout Master. He has an arrow through his neck.

PETE
(re: arrow in neck)
There are definitely worse ways to go.

REVEAL others also standing nearby: FLOWER (a hippie with claw marks down her back), CRASH (a Fonzi-esque motorcycle greaser with a slash across his neck), WEETAMOO (Native American woman), THORFINN (Viking), ISAAC (Revolutionary War militiaman) and HETTY (older society woman from the late 1800's). They all nod in agreement.

PETE / ALBERTA / THORFINN / ISAAC
Agreed. / Amen. / Yah. / Dysentery
was no party.

WEETAMOO
(re: Old Lady)
I think it is happening.

Some shushes, everyone quiets. Alberta begins to reverently hum *Amazing Grace*. The Old Lady takes her last breath, and her ghostly spirit leaves her body and hovers above the bed.

OLD LADY
(noticing all of them)
Who are you?

HETTY
I am the ghost of your great grandmother.

FLOWER

Hi. Susan Shapiro, but they call me Flower. I wandered over to your property from a music festival back in the Sixties.

(re: claw marks)

And then tried to befriend a bear. Drugs may have been involved.

THORFINN

(Scandinavian accent)

Uh, I am Thorfinn.

(unsure what to say)

I like herring...

ISAAC

She doesn't need the whole roster!

(to Old Lady)

We are ghosts. We all died on this property throughout the years and now we are cursed to live out eternity here, together.

CRASH

(to Old Lady)

It's a real drag.

ISAAC

While most spirits pass on to the afterlife, we for some reason are the unfortunate few who--

At that, her spirit shoots up into the heavens.

ISAAC (CONT'D)

-- and she's gone.

They all groan, somewhat jealously, except for Pete.

PETE

Good for her.

THORFINN

So unfair. She goes up, we stay here. Why!?

CRASH

(looking up)

I wonder what it's like up there?

As Crash looks up to ponder the heavens, his head comes completely detached from his body (at the point where the slash mark across his neck is). The head falls to the floor.

CRASH'S HEAD

Oh no. Not again.

The other ghosts barely react to Crash's head falling off, as this is obviously a fairly common occurrence.

ALBERTA

Now what's gonna happen?

WEETAMOO

What do you mean? Now we continue living in this God forsaken in-between world from which even death can't rescue us.

PETE

Quick reminder, everyone, tonight is charades in the main room.

ALBERTA

No, I mean who's gonna get the house? She didn't have any children.

HETTY

That's true. This house was my pride and joy. And now it could get sold to God knows who. Murderers. Perverts. Irishmen.

ISAAC

Well, no reason to keep milling about up here, I guess. Shall we go mill about downstairs?

The ghosts mumble agreement, and start to file out through the walls. For the first time we see that Trevor is wearing no pants. Hetty stays behind considering the body of her late relative laying in the bed, to whom she now speaks.

HETTY

Let's pray you're not the last Bainbridge, and some dear cousin will take over this grand estate...

From down on the floor we hear:

CRASH'S HEAD

Hey, toots, could you give me a lift? Stupid body left without me.

HETTY

If you think I'm about to touch that greasy mop top...

As Hetty exits through the wall:

CRASH'S HEAD

Hey! Don't leave me with this
corpse! It's scary!

INT. APARTMENT - A FEW WEEKS LATER - DAY

Small, bare bones apartment. SAMANTHA (30ish, put together, Type A, loves fun but not as much as she loves planning fun) and RYAN (30ish, thoroughly modern dude, he's a hunk with a love of nerdom, and a talented chef) are with a REALTOR.

REALTOR

What do you think of the apartment?

SAMANTHA

I mean, it's definitely *in*
Manhattan. I'll give it that.

RYAN

Am I smelling... falafel?

REALTOR

It's above a falafel place.

SAMANTHA

Okay, that's more convenient than I
need falafel to be.

REALTOR

So they're converting your current
building into condos?

RYAN

Yeah, I work in the West Village so
we'd like to stay close. But, man,
rents have gone through the roof.

(noticing in ceiling)

Not unlike that strange brown
residue. What *is* that?

SAMANTHA

Do you have anything, I don't know,
less cripplingly sad? No offense.

REALTOR

It's cool, I wouldn't live here.

SAMANTHA

It's just, we like to have people
over. Also, I do a lot of work from
home. I'm a freelance journalist.

REALTOR

Nice, how's that going?

SAMANTHA

In any other city I'd say really well. In New York, I'm apparently doing "kitchenette with a mini fridge" well.

REALTOR

The mini fridge is not included.

RYAN

(to Realtor)

Always be closing, Doug.

Samantha gets a phone call and excuses herself.

SAMANTHA

(answers phone)

Hello?

LAWYER (ON PHONE)

Hello, I'm looking for Samantha Duncan. I'm calling about a house.

SAMANTHA

(covers phone, to Ryan)

It's another one. It's cause we signed up for that rental website.

RYAN

We're on a list!

SAMANTHA

(into phone)

I'm sorry, we're only looking at apartments. We can't afford houses.

LAWYER (ON PHONE)

No no, I don't think you understand. I'm not trying to *sell* you a house. I'm a lawyer with McDermott, Herbst and Carpenter, and I'm calling to let you know you've actually *inherited* a house.

Samantha is lost for words. We PUSH IN on her face.

LAWYER (ON PHONE) (CONT'D)

Hello? Hello?

And we CUT TO...

MAIN TITLES

ACT ONE

INT. LAW OFFICE - LATER

Samantha and Ryan sit across from a LAWYER.

LAWYER

The original home dates back to the 1700's. And it's actually been in your family for six generations. Here, take a look.

The lawyer hands Samantha an iPad. The first image is just a title card that reads:

SAMANTHA

"The Bainbridge Estate." You know something's nice when it's got a name.

RYAN

Counterpoint: I named my Kia in high school "Car2-D2."

Samantha swipes to a picture of the house. It's a sprawling, grand old estate. It's very impressive.

RYAN / SAMANTHA

(re: house, blown away)
Whoa. / Oh my God.

LAWYER

Nine bedrooms, on ten acres in the picturesque Hudson Valley.

SAMANTHA

We own this now? Just like that?

LAWYER

Yeah, pretty simple. As I explained on the phone, your relative passed away, and you're the next of kin.

SAMANTHA

I didn't even know her. So sad.
(swipes)
Not sad about this fireplace mantle though. Hello.

LAWYER

Now, there are limited buyers for a property this size. Perhaps an upscale bed and breakfast operator.

(MORE)

LAWYER (CONT'D)

Maybe an agricultural interest of some kind.

SAMANTHA

Okay, this may be nuts, but... what if we kept it? And moved there?

RYAN

I know we were looking for a second bathroom, but not sure we need...

(re: iPad)

Fourteen full and a powder?! I can't refill that many handsoaps.

SAMANTHA

He said it would make a good bed and breakfast. Why don't we turn it into one? I mean, we love to host. Why not make a living doing that?

RYAN

Huh... that's interesting.

LAWYER

Maybe it's none of my business, but this is a rather big undertaking...

SAMANTHA

And we're the perfect people to do it. Ryan's a chef, he could run the kitchen. And I literally write travel articles all the time for work. I know the hotel industry.

RYAN

Yeah. Also, we did inherit a frickin' house. Maybe it's a sign.

SAMANTHA

How long have you been talking about having your own kitchen? You're too talented to be working for someone else!

LAWYER

Should I leave my dad's firm and strike out on my own? Sorry, not about me.

RYAN

What about this? We go upstate, spend the weekend, and check the place out. And then if we like it... full speed ahead.

SAMANTHA

Yes! Ooh, I'll start a list of things to pack!

RYAN

So weird that that's your favorite part of every trip.

SAMANTHA

(re: phone)

Hello, spreadsheet, my old friend.

EXT. BAINBRIDGE ESTATE - DAY

Establishing shot of the house. It's in more disrepair than in the photo we saw, but it's still quite grand.

INT. BAINBRIDGE ESTATE - ENTRANCE HALL - CONTINUOUS

Crash's headless body wanders aimlessly down the hallway.

INT. BAINBRIDGE ESTATE - LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

The body crosses into the room, where all the ghosts are gathered listening to Trevor tell a story.

TREVOR

Okay, so it's the summer of '98. My Lehman Brothers boys and I have scooped a copter to beat the traffic out to the Hamptons. Because that's how we roll. Anyway, we're on the list for a very exclusive shindig at Surf Lodge in Montauk. It's Tara Reid's b-day. Nuff said.

The other ghosts' expressions range from confused to bored.

HETTY

Who is Tara Reid?

TREVOR

Seriously? She was a movie star.

ALBERTA

Silent or talkie, sweetheart?

ISAAC

What is a movie again?

TREVOR

It's like a play that they project on a screen.

WEETAMOO

When you say 'project'?...

THORFINN

What is 'play?'

TREVOR

God, I hate being the most recently dead. Anyway, yadda yadda yadda it was a great night. The end.

Polite applause from the assembled ghosts as a frustrated Trevor takes a seat. Pete gets up and addresses the group.

PETE

Thank you, Trevor, for that 'talk of the day,' on partying.

TREVOR

It was very high level, you guys don't get it, whatevs.

PETE

Tomorrow of course is 'food club' when Thor will explain the subtle differences between types of cod.

THORFINN

It will be similar to salmon lecture, but more cod focused.

FLOWER

Are rainbows shooting out of Pete's mustache? No? No one else is seeing that? I'm having another weird acid flashback, aren't I?

ALBERTA

Just ride the wave, Sweetie.

PETE

On Wednesday, a very special treat: Isaac has agreed to recite for us a speech he once gave arguing against the Stamp Act in the 1700's.

ISAAC

It's very long, very detailed. But don't worry, I remember every word.

WEETAMOO

(to herself)

We cannot even kill ourselves.
There is no way out.

Thorfinn starts to gesture at something out the window.

THORFINN

Ooh, ooh. It's one of those, how
you say... landship?

They all look out the window to see the car approaching.

HETTY

Not a landship, you nincompoop.
It's a horseless carriage.

EXT. DRIVEWAY - GHOSTS POV - CONTINUOUS

The car pulls up and Samantha and Ryan get out.

INT. BAINBRIDGE ESTATE - LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Trevor immediately spots Samantha and likes what he sees.

TREVOR

(re: Samantha)
Bro. Check out that body. Slammin'.

ISAAC

(re: Ryan)
Indeed. He'd have made a fine
militiaman.

Isaac regards Ryan's body appreciatively.

EXT. DRIVEWAY - CONTINUOUS

Samantha and Ryan drink in the house.

SAMANTHA

Ryan, look at this place!

RYAN

(excited)
I can't not look at it! It's taking
up my entire field of vision!

SAMANTHA

And smell that clean country air.
Mmm! That's the good stuff.

A beat.

RYAN

You getting bit?

SAMANTHA

Big time, let's get inside.

INT. BAINBRIDGE ESTATE - ENTRANCE HALL - CONTINUOUS

Ryan and Samantha enter.

RYAN

Okay, this is *huge*.

SAMANTHA

And it's all *ours*.

They embrace, the camera circling them and capturing their joy. As the camera comes around again, the ghosts are now visible in the space that was previously empty, watching Samantha and Ryan (who are unaware of the ghosts' presence).

PETE

This must be them! The new folks
that own the house.

SAMANTHA

Can you believe this place has been
in my family for six generations?

FLOWER

She's a relative of yours, Hetty!

HETTY

I should hope not! With her exposed
knees, and those harlot's bangs.

Ryan and Samantha walk around taking in the new surroundings,
as the ghosts follow and talk about them.

WEETAMOO

At least there are just two of
them. I do not see any children.

PETE

That still leaves plenty of room
for us.

ISAAC

Yes, two people is manageable.
Limited commotion. It's not an old
lady bed ridden while disease eats
away at her, but we knew those good
times wouldn't last forever.

INT. BAINBRIDGE ESTATE - KITCHEN

Sam opens the cabinets. Ryan fishes something out of his bag.

SAMANTHA

Look at all these different
cabinets. I cannot wait to label
these bad boys! What are you doing?

RYAN

It's sage. I'm cleansing the space.

SAMANTHA

Oh, come on.

RYAN

Babe, this is old house 101. You
light this stuff and it wards off
evil spirits.

We see that the ghosts are all there watching.

ISAAC

(worried)

What did he say?

HETTY

(worried)

Does that work?

SAMANTHA

You don't really believe in that
stuff, do you?

RYAN

Hey, better safe than sorry.

He lights it and wafts the smoke around. The ghosts brace for
some sort of impact, but as they get a smell of the incense,
their momentary concern gives way.

ALBERTA

Oh, that's delightful.

ISAAC / THORFINN

Mmm, *indeed*. / Yah, that's amazing.

As Ryan and Sam cross off to "cleanse" another room, the
ghosts follow closely, jostling for position to get a whiff.

HETTY / TREVOR / FLOWER

I want to smell! / Hey, quit
hogging! / Let me in.

PETE

People, people! There's enough
spirit repellant for all of us,
take turns!

INT. BAINBRIDGE ESTATE - LIBRARY - A SHORT TIME LATER

Samantha and Ryan enter.

SAMANTHA

Ryan, we have a library!

RYAN

This place is like old school rich.

SAMANTHA

Yeah, I did a little googling.
Apparently my ancestors who owned
this place were actual robber
barons. I'm talking cartoon-evil,
"slept on a bed of gold" types.

HETTY

I mean, we did that *once*.

PETE

Okay, they actually seem really
nice.

FLOWER

Totally. They remind me of this
couple I was married to briefly on
the commune.

RYAN

I will say though, it's a lot more
beat up than in the pictures.

SAMANTHA

Sure, it could use a little TLC.
But we can fix it up. Working
together, we can do anything.

PETE

Boy, she is really "can do."

THORFINN

I am rooting for these kids. I
cannot help it.

SAMANTHA

Babe, trust me, this is going to
make an incredible hotel.

The ghosts gasp, horrified at this notion.

THORFINN

What is this word? Hotel?

ISAAC

I'll tell you what a hotel is. A
hotel is our worst nightmare...

INT. BAINBRIDGE ESTATE - LIVING ROOM - FANTASY POP

A horrific future in which Sam and Ryan have turned the Bainbridge Estate into a B&B. Sam and Ryan converse with tourists and guests. People enjoy tea by the fire, laughing, talking, etc. Kids run to and fro, as our ghosts dodge them. Pete sidesteps one, only to have another kid RUN RIGHT THROUGH HIM. Pete reacts, pained, as if he's been tazed.

ISAAC (V.O.)

Every room in this house filled
with people, coming and going.

Alberta dodges a woman who is about to sit on her, getting out of the way just in time, only to have another guest WALK RIGHT THROUGH HER. Alberta reacts as if she's been tazed.

ALBERTA

Gahghahghahah!

ISAAC (V.O.)

It will be lousy with the living!

INT. BAINBRIDGE ESTATE - BEDROOM - FANTASY POP

A young couple of honeymooners make out in bed. We PAN OVER to see Hetty trying to avert her disgusted gaze.

ISAAC (V.O.)

Sleeping in our beds...

HETTY

I don't care if you are man and
wife, that position is not natural.

INT. BAINBRIDGE ESTATE - LIBRARY - BACK TO SCENE

The ghosts are all still there.

ISAAC

And you don't even want to know
about the clutter, Thorfinn, my
fastidious Viking friend.

INT. BAINBRIDGE ESTATE - FANTASY POPS

Three QUICK POPS of guests littering right in front of a horrified Thorfinn (a towel on a floor, a soda can missing a waste basket, a napkin dropped) who tries in vain to pick up the items, his hand going right through them.

THORFINN

Why? Why?! Trash can right there!

Unseen to Thorfinn, a guest approaches him from behind and WALKS THROUGH THORFINN, who reacts as if he's been tazed.

INT. BAINBRIDGE ESTATE - LIBRARY - BACK TO SCENE

The ghosts are all there.

PETE

Not to mention, running an inn is a very risky investment.

ISAAC

I was focusing on why it's bad for us, but sure.

PETE

I'm just saying, I was an accountant in the '80's, at the height of *Newhart*. Retirees were opening B&B's left and right.

("the horror")

I tried to stop them.

THORFINN

Okay, new plan: kill them.

ALBERTA

We can't kill them.

PETE

Yeah, that's not nice.

ALBERTA

Agreed. Plus we literally don't have the ability. Can't pick up a gun. Can't put their feet in cement and drop 'em off a country bridge.

(off their looks)

I went with a bootlegger for a spell, you hear things.

ISAAC

Even if we could physically grapple them, that Ryan fellow would overpower us. Have you seen his shoulders! And that v-shaped back?!

HETTY

We must do *something*. Bainbridge house reduced to a tawdry boarding home? Over my dead body.

(MORE)

HETTY (CONT'D)

(then)

I know!

TREVOR

What if we just tried... haunting?
You know, scare them away. I mean
we are ghosts.

Interested reactions from the rest of the ghosts.

FLOWER

Whoa...

TREVOR

I know, good plan, right?

FLOWER

Oh, no, sorry.
(waves hand in front of her
own face)
I was just seeing some major
trails. What are we talking about?

WEETAMOO

This plan of Trevor's fills me with
discomfort. The line between the
living and ourselves is one which
we should respect. Who are we to--

At that moment, Ryan enters and PASSES RIGHT THROUGH
WEETAMOO, who reacts as though she's being tazed.

WEETAMOO (CONT'D)

Gaghaghaghaghaghah.

RYAN

(calling off)

Found my jacket!

He picks it up off the bed and crosses back out.

WEETAMOO

Alright. We haunt these bastards
out of here.

And we... FADE OUT.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

INT. BAINBRIDGE ESTATE - BEDROOM - THE NEXT MORNING

Samantha is holding up different colored paint swatches against the wall. Ryan enters with coffees.

RYAN

Okay, the water from the tap looked absolutely disgusting, so I went into town and got us coffees!

SAMANTHA

My hero!

(re: her phone)

Aaaand adding "disgusting water" to our fix-it list.

RYAN

(re: list, concerned)

That bad boy sure is growing.

SAMANTHA

I know, right? It's fun to see it all in one place.

(re: swatches)

Okay, gun to your head: Canary Yellow or Lavender Mist.

RYAN

These are my options? Pull the trigger.

SAMANTHA

(laughs)

You can't tell with these swatches. I'll pick up some samples and we'll test them on the wall.

RYAN

Now you're putting up paint? We're not even sure if we're staying. Why don't you just knock down that wall while you're at it?

SAMANTHA

Okay, first of all, if we ended up selling the place, no one is going to care about a little paint. Secondly, that is an interesting idea about the wall. Do you think this is load bearing?

She starts tapping on the wall with her knuckles.

RYAN

Do you have any idea what sound
you're listening for?

SAMANTHA

Nope! But I feel like Joanna Gaines
right now and I'm not mad at that.
Wanna come be my Chip, big boy?

She gives him a kiss, then:

RYAN

Why is it we only role play couples
from *HGTV*?

SAMANTHA

Don't kink shame me.

Ryan's phone chirps.

RYAN

(re: phone)

Aww, man. My boys are all going to
this pop-up Mos Eisley Cantina down
in Soho. It's today only.

SAMANTHA

Awww, the weird bar from *Star Wars*?
I'm sure you're disappointed but
kind of cool that I got that,
right?

Ryan swallows hard, then texts back:

RYAN

(texting)

Can't... upstate at the new
house... spending day...

(then)

What are we doing?

SAMANTHA

We're leaf peeping. The colors are
really brilliant now.

RYAN

(texting)

Staring... at... trees.

With major fomo, he hits send. Sam taps on the wall again.

SAMANTHA

(re: tapping on wall)

Yep. I really don't know what this sound means.

INT. BAINBRIDGE ESTATE - LIVING ROOM - LATER

Haunting game-planning sesh.

ISAAC

Now, let's take inventory of the skills at our disposal. Thor, as we all know, is able to do that thing with the electrics, since he was struck by lightning.

PETE

Right. The metal helmet probably wasn't the best idea.

Thor concentrates hard for a couple beats and the lights flicker a little. Polite applause from the others.

ISAAC

And of course when Flower walks through the living, they experience a momentary hallucinatory effect.

FLOWER

True, though most people seem to actually kinda like it.

TREVOR

Yeah, the goal is to scare them away, not make them want to chill out to some Allmann Brothers.

PETE

Uch, I hate getting walked through. Aside from an arrow going through your neck, it's probably the worst pain I can think of.

WEETAMOO

Ooh, Isaac, what about your thing?!

THORFINN

Oh YAH!

ISAAC

I'm not sure to what it is you refer--

HETTY

You died of dysentery.

TREVOR

Yeah, it smells like a fart when the living walk through you.

ALBERTA

Ooh, it's nasty.

PETE

(chuckling)

Not pleasant!

ISAAC

Okay, I get it! And you needn't be so harsh in your condemnations. Trust me. It's worse for me than it is for thee. Now, moving on--

WEETAMOO

The question is: do we really want to do that to people?

FLOWER

True, is it too mean?

ISAAC

I said moving on! What else?

PETE

Well, I was thinking, since Alberta was a singer in life and can project her humming into the world of the living, why don't we have her scare them... by humming the song from the movie *Ghost*? Huh? Kinda thematic.

WEETAMOO

You know we don't know what that is, Pete.

PETE

Right. The movie thing.

TREVOR

Welcome to my hell.

PETE

You guys would actually love it. There was this amazing scene, the main girl is making pottery--

ISAAC

We don't have time for this.

PETE

And then this hunky shirtless guy comes in, just absolutely ripped.

ISAAC

I mean we do have *some* time, the haunting's not *imminent*, go on.

ALBERTA

It's fine, I get it, I'll hum something scary.

HETTY

Oh, and Trevor must do his amazing thing. That has to be the topper.

TREVOR

You're very kind.

They all AD-LIB for him to please demonstrate, and Trevor obliges. There is an empty cup on the edge of a table. Trevor grunts and groans, trying to push it off the edge. Finally, with tremendous effort and focus, he slowly manages to accomplish the task. The cup lands harmlessly on the rug. The ghosts all applaud as if they've seen something truly amazing.

TREVOR (CONT'D)

(out of breath)

I did it. T-Money did it. I'm incredible.

ISAAC

Troops, I believe we are ready for the mission ahead. Tonight, get your sleep. For tomorrow, we strike.

FLOWER

Why *do* we sleep?

ISAAC

(frustrated)

I don't know, we just *do*.

(bigger question)

Why are we trapped here forever?!

Who knows!!

EXT. BAINBRIDGE ESTATE - THE NEXT DAY

We hear a scream.

RYAN (O.S.)
Aaaaaaahhhh!!!

INT. BAINBRIDGE ESTATE - BATHROOM - CONTINUOUS

We see Ryan in the shower, frantically turning the water off.

RYAN
Mother--
(calling off)
Babe! The hot water's out!

INT. UPSTAIRS CORRIDOR - CONTINUOUS

We see the ghosts, positioned for their haunting offensive.
Isaac enters through the wall.

ISAAC
Okay, people! He's coming out! Man
your posts!

PETE
Good luck, everyone! And have fun!

Ryan enters in a robe. Over the following we switch between
seeing the ghosts and not seeing the ghosts.

RYAN
(calling off to Sam)
The damn hot water stopped! Does
anything in this house work?!

SAMANTHA (O.S.)
Just finishing up something else!

We see the ghosts for a moment as Isaac gives his cue.

ISAAC
Standby, Thor. And... go Thor!

Thor starts to concentrate and try really hard while
gesturing toward the lights. Then, no ghosts: the lights
flicker a little as Ryan passes by, prompting him to flick
the switch up and down a few times. The ghosts reappear and
we see that Ryan's flicking of the light switch shoots the
electricity back at Thor, causing Thor to pass out.

ISAAC (CONT'D)
Alberta, you're up. Trevor, you're
on deck.

ALBERTA
I was thinking, it kind of feels
like I'm *opening* for Trevor.
(MORE)

ALBERTA (CONT'D)

Now I don't need to headline this haunting, but wouldn't it just make more sense--

WEETAMOO

Oh my many gods, not now!

Alberta begins to hum a melody, but her voice is overpowered by the stereo firing up in the other room. Samantha runs in.

SAMANTHA

Yes! I got the bluetooth speaker working!

Ghosts: Pete signals for Isaac to pass through the living. Isaac shakes his head, a little annoyed, but then does go right through Ryan, reacting as our ghosts do when the living pass through them:

ISAAC

Gahgahgghahghah!

RYAN

(holding nose)

Oh. *Babe*.

SAMANTHA

(noticing smell)

Ahhh, that wasn't me.

RYAN

Okay, it doesn't work to blame the other person when there's only one other person.

PETE

Close it out, Trevor. Big finish!

Trevor starts to concentrate really hard, attempting to push a vase off a table and have it smash on the floor.

TREVOR

(trying super hard)

Aaaaaaaaarrrrrgh!!!

We CUT TO silence, no ghosts in sight, as Ryan and Samantha pass by the table, we see the vase MOVE THE TINIEST BIT. Ryan and Samantha cross off without noticing. We see the ghosts again. Trevor is wiped, the gang defeated.

TREVOR (CONT'D)

It was just... too heavy...

PETE

Haunting is hard!

INT. BAINBRIDGE ESTATE - BASEMENT - SHORT TIME LATER

Dark and creepy subbasement. A frustrated Ryan opens the door from the kitchen above and a shaft of light shines on the stairs, which he descends. Samantha follows after him.

SAMANTHA

What are you doing?

RYAN

Trying to get this water heater working. I think you just light the pilot, right?

SAMANTHA

It's so creepy down here.

Sam finds a string connected to a bulb and turns it on, REVEALING they are not alone; there is a group of ghosts crammed in there with them, all smallpox victims wearing the burial shrouds they were thrown into a mass "pox pit" grave in. Sam and Ryan are, of course, unaware that they're there.

SAMANTHA (CONT'D)

(relieved)

Much better.

Ryan stares at the old water heater, unsure of what to do.

POX VICTIM NATHAN

Who are these guys?

POX VICTIM WILLIAM

I don't know.

SAMANTHA

Ryan, this thing is ancient. Let's just call a professional.

RYAN

No, I want to take a shower *now*.

Ryan starts fiddling with some knobs, etc.

SAMANTHA

What are you doing? You don't know what any of that is.

RYAN

That should do it.

POX VICTIM NATHAN
That won't do it.

RYAN
I think I got it!

POX VICTIM WILLIAM
No you haven't.

Ryan and Samantha run up the stairs.

POX VICTIM NATHAN
At least they left the light on.

Ryan comes back down the stairs, clicks off the light, then runs back up, leaving all the Pox Pit Ghosts in the dark.

POX VICTIM NATHAN (CONT'D)
Dammit.

INT. BAINBRIDGE ESTATE - UPSTAIRS CORRIDOR - LATER

Pete approaches Trevor, who is trying to move the vase from before with his "power." He grunts, making great effort.

PETE
Trevor, what are you doing? The livings aren't even here.

TREVOR
No, I know. This isn't for them. This is between T-Money and the vase now. It's personal.

He goes back to grunting while trying to move the vase.

INT. BAINBRIDGE ESTATE - MASTER BATHROOM - LATER

Ryan and Samantha stand near the shower. Ryan has his hand under the running water. After a beat:

RYAN
Freezing. Dammit.

SAMANTHA
Alright, well we're going back to the City this afternoon anyway. We can fix it when we come back.

RYAN
You mean... *if* we come back.

SAMANTHA

Okay, the weekend's almost up, so I guess we should have this talk.

She gets out her laptop.

RYAN

You made a Powerpoint, didn't you?

SAMANTHA

Oh, you betcha.

As she zooms through various slides, graphs, charts, etc:

SAMANTHA (CONT'D)

Now, we already knew the house was well positioned to draw visitors from New York, but -- with the new interstate that's almost finished -- the drive time from Boston will be cut by an hour. Which doubles our potential customer base.

RYAN

Sam--

SAMANTHA

And with your farm to table cuisine, we'd have the high end foodie market cornered. So looking at it from a purely business perspective, I'd say--

(blurting)

I really love it and want to live here, please please please!

Ryan braces himself; he knows this won't be well received:

RYAN

I wanted to love it. I really did. But, I don't think I can do this.

REVEAL Alberta, Thorfinn and Flower are in the room.

FLOWER

Whoa.

ALBERTA

Well, this just got interesting.

RYAN

This place is way more work than I was expecting. And not just that. Sam, it's... a really big change.

SAMANTHA

I'm ready for a big change. We've been in the city a long time. I want our own business. I want you to run your own kitchen. I want to see much less public urination.

RYAN

I like the city. I like our life there. I like our friends...

THORFINN

(does a little dance)
They're going to le-eave. They're going to le-eave.

INT. BAINBRIDGE ESTATE - UPSTAIRS HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

With great effort, Trevor continues attempting to move the vase, as Pete cheers him on. INSPIRATIONAL MUSIC PLAYS (a la the end of a dramatic sports movie).

MUSIC CUTS OUT, GHOSTS DISAPPEAR. We see the vase, sitting atop the table, start to wobble slightly. Finally, it falls onto the floor, rolls a couple feet, and comes to a rest.

MUSIC SWELLS, GHOSTS REAPPEAR. Pete and Trevor celebrate Trevor's grand victory. It is the greatest moment ever.

INT. BAINBRIDGE ESTATE - BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

Sam and Ryan are as before. Alberta, Thor and Flower watch.

SAMANTHA

I don't think you're worried about too much work, or missing the city. I think you're afraid. Afraid we would pick up everything and open a bed and breakfast and fail.

RYAN

I'm not afraid.

SAMANTHA

Really? It's like three years ago when those investors approached you about opening a restaurant, and you pulled out at the last second.

RYAN

That wasn't the right situation. They wanted me to be one of three head chefs. It was literally "too many cooks!"

SAMANTHA

That wasn't right, this isn't right. It's never right.

She starts to exit, then turns back.

SAMANTHA (CONT'D)

You can't always play it safe.
Sometimes you gotta try something
bold to get what you deserve in
life. Put up some Canary Yellow and
get out of your neutral palette
mindset.

She crosses out. Ryan calls after her.

RYAN

Neutrals go with everything and are
great for resale! Did you get
nothing from *Love It or List It*?!

ALBERTA

I don't know what any of those
words mean, but I know he ain't
getting any tonight.

INT. HALLWAY - MOMENTS LATER

Pete and Trevor are still there, as Sam crosses in. In her
annoyed state, she fails to see the vase lying on the ground
by the stairway. Pete sees the disaster in the making:

PETE

Uh-oh... Watch out!

They wince as Samantha trips over the vase and tumbles
horrifically down the staircase, landing with a thud.

TREVOR

Bro. That's not good.

Having heard the commotion, Ryan rushes out of the bedroom
and down the stairs. Sam's POV: Vision blurred. The blurry
figure of Ryan comes to Samantha's aide in the foreground.

RYAN

Sam! Sam! Are you okay?!

Pete and Trevor appear, blurry, at the top of the stairs, as
a confused Sam passes out, and we... FADE OUT.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

INT. BAINBRIDGE ESTATE - LIVING ROOM - A SHORT TIME LATER

The ghosts watch from the window as EMTs load Samantha onto a gurney, while an ambulance waits nearby. Ryan tries to comfort the unconscious Samantha. The ghosts all turn and look at Trevor, who tries to avert their gazes. Weetamoo points her finger at him, accusingly.

WEETAMOO

Murderer!

TREVOR

Okay - again - accident. You gotta believe me. I would never intentionally hurt anyone that hot.

Thorfinn watches as Ryan watches, forlorn, as the EMTs load Samantha into the ambulance.

THORFINN

Awww, the husband guy looks so sad.

FLOWER

I remember when I died, Ira looked so scared. Mostly because he was trying to get away from the bear.

WEETAMOO

Life is so short. And then you die. And then things go downhill from there.

They watch as the ambulance pulls away.

ISAAC

Poor fellow. Can you imagine if she doesn't make it? What a terrible last memory for him. Ending things in an argument.

PETE

Carol and I argued the last time we spoke. It's funny, it seemed like such a big deal at the time, and now I can't even remember what it was we were arguing about...

EXT. HOSPITAL - LATER

Ryan runs alongside the gurney, holding Samantha's hand as EMT's rush her into the building.

One of them motions for him to 'stay there' as they rush her into the ER. We see her hand slip from his grip as they wheel her away.

PETE (V.O.)

You never think when you close the door behind you, that that's going to be the last time you ever walk through that door.

INT. HOSPITAL - LATER

Ryan watches from the other side of a glass panel as Sam slides into an MRI machine.

PETE (V.O.)

But then I had my accident, and I realized I'm never going to see my wife again.

INT. HOSPITAL - LATER

Samantha lies unconscious in a hospital bed. Ryan lays awake, concerned, on a chair nearby.

PETE (V.O.)

Never going to be able to talk to her. To hold her. To tell her how much I love her.

(then)

Oh, wait, I remember what my wife and I were fighting about.

INT. BAINBRIDGE ESTATE - LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

The ghosts are all there, as we left them.

PETE

(building anger)

She ate all the donut holes. And she doesn't even like donut holes! It was just to spite me!

(composing himself)

The point is, life is precious.

INT. HOSPITAL - TWO WEEKS LATER

Ryan is there, beside an empty hospital bed. A DOCTOR is there talking with him.

DOCTOR

It's a tough loss.

We hear a flush and Samantha who enters from the bathroom. Sam is dressed normally, but wears a neck brace.

SAMANTHA

What's wrong?

RYAN

(re: doctor)

He's also a Mets fan. The Phillies rallied in the ninth.

SAMANTHA

Just promise me you were at least this upset when I was technically dead for three minutes.

RYAN

Totally. I mean, it wasn't a playoff game...

She laughs and they kiss.

RYAN (CONT'D)

Let's get you home.

EXT. HOSPITAL

Ryan helps Samantha into the passenger seat of their car. He throws a duffle bag into the backseat. As he crosses to the drivers side, we hear a pre-lap of Alberta singing a spiritual: *Going To Shout All Over God's Heaven*.

ALBERTA (V.O.)

(singing)

*Everybody talkin' 'bout Heaven /
Ain't goin' there.*

INT. BAINBRIDGE ESTATE - LIVING ROOM - LATER

Alberta continues singing. She is performing for the rest of the ghosts.

ALBERTA

(singing)

*Well, I'm gonna walk / I'm gonna
talk / All over God's Heaven.
Heaven.*

It ends, and the ghosts clap respectfully.

PETE

That was lovely. And now, as our memorial service continues, Flower would like to say a few words.

Flower stands and addresses the ghosts.

FLOWER

We didn't know Samantha super well.
But we hope today that she's in a
better place. If she is in fact
dead. And if her name is in fact
Samantha, I'm not sure.

She looks to the other ghosts, they're also not sure.

THORFINN

(looking out window)
Landship! Landship! They're back!

We see that Sam and Ryan's car is pulling up.

HETTY

She's alive!

TREVOR

Oh, thank God. Any scarring?
(re: face)
How's the punim?

The ghosts rush to the window to look.

EXT. BAINBRIDGE ESTATE - CONTINUOUS

Sam and Ryan's car comes to a stop. Ryan grabs a thick folder out of his bag.

SAMANTHA

I thought we were going home.

RYAN

I just wanted to swing by the house
and show you something. So... while
you were sleeping for two weeks --

SAMANTHA

Coma.

RYAN

I had a contractor come out, just
to give us an estimate on what
needs to be done. And it turns out,
it's waaaaay more than we thought.
New foundation, new roof, new--

SAMANTHA

Okay, Ryan, you made your point.
Besides, it's someone else's
problem now.

RYAN

Nope. It's our problem.

At that moment, a large truck and a couple of pickup trucks start pulling up. They all have "O'Malley Construction" written on the side, with a large four-leaf-clover logo.

SAMANTHA

What's going on?

RYAN

That's the contractor. If we're going to make a go of this thing, we're going to need a little help.

SAMANTHA

(thrilled)

We're staying?

RYAN

Oh, we are doubling down, baby. I maxed out the credit cards. I cashed in the IRA, whatever that is. We are deeply in debt. If this bed and breakfast doesn't work, we are really screwed.

SAMANTHA

I don't understand. What happened?

RYAN

You were right, I *was* afraid of failing. But then I realized, there are way worse things. Like almost losing you. And as long as we're together, no matter what happens, I can't fail.

Samantha is lost for words.

RYAN (CONT'D)

Was it corny? Did it sound corny? I'm not gonna lie, I practiced it.

SAMANTHA

Shut up and come here.

They kiss, then:

RYAN

Also, while you were in the coma I binged three seasons of *Newhart*. The B&B thing looks fun.

(MORE)

RYAN (CONT'D)

We get involved in people's lives,
we have funny misunderstandings...

She pulls him in for another kiss, mostly to shut him up.

INT. BAINBRIDGE ESTATE - LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

The ghosts are watching from inside as Sam and Ryan exit their vehicle. Workmen start to unload their trucks, and enter the house, bringing all sorts of equipment inside.

PETE

(re: Sam and Ryan)

Aww, they made up.

ALBERTA

I'm so happy Samantha's okay.

(concerned)

Wait, who are all these other
folks?

FLOWER

It looks like a construction crew.

HETTY

(very annoyed)

O'Malley?

ISAAC

(realizing)

Oh no! They must be staying and
turning it into a hotel after all!
There will be people everywhere!

THORFINN

The clutter!

PETE

Okay, yes, the hotel will be a
nightmare but, gosh darnit, I did
miss those crazy kids.

A construction worker WALKS RIGHT THROUGH PETE, who reacts as if he's been tazed.

INT. BAINBRIDGE ESTATE - FOYER - CONTINUOUS

Ryan talks with the contractor as Samantha looks around, finally back home. Many workers scurry about, setting up equipment, etc. She looks over to see Trevor, smiling at her (his lower half obscured by a chair he is standing behind).

SAMANTHA

You're dressed kind of nice for a
construction worker

She crosses off. Trevor looks around - was she talking to him? He doesn't see anyone else around. Ohmigod, she was talking to him! Ryan approaches Sam.

RYAN

(to Sam)

Come with me, I have a surprise for
you.

INT. BAINBRIDGE ESTATE - LIVING ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

The rest of the ghosts are looking out the window, watching as the construction crew works busily. Trevor enters in a bit of a panic.

TREVOR

She talked to me she talked to me
she talked to me she talked to
me...

INT. BAINBRIDGE ESTATE - BEDROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Ryan is there with Samantha. The room has been painted the canary yellow Samantha was pushing for earlier.

RYAN

It's the canary yellow you wanted!

SAMANTHA

Awww. Babe.

RYAN

You know, I wasn't sure about it at
first, but it's kinda growing on
me.

Behind Ryan, Hetty appears by walking through the wall. Samantha sees this and is stunned.

SAMANTHA

What the hell...

RYAN

Yeah, it's a lot of yellow. Maybe
we do a more muted accent wall.

The rest of the ghosts start to ENTER THROUGH THE WALLS,
slowly closing in on Ryan and Samantha.

SAMANTHA

This can't be real...

RYAN

It is. I did it while you were in the hospital.

The ghosts are now right behind Ryan.

SAMANTHA

OHMIGOD!

RYAN

Okay, you're souring on it. No big deal. It's just paint.

SAMANTHA

Who are you?

RYAN

It's me, Ryan. Baby, maybe you need to lie down.

ISAAC

I can explain.

As Isaac speaks, Samantha can see and hear him, but Ryan cannot.

ISAAC (CONT'D)

We are ghosts. Those poor spirits who dwell on, compelled for reasons unknown to --

Just then, Samantha notices Crash's headless body walking toward her.

SAMANTHA

Aaaaaaahh!!!

As Samantha screams we... FADE OUT.

END OF SHOW