

GHOSTS

"Pilot"

Written By

Joe Port
&
Joe Wiseman

Based On the UK Television Series GHOSTS

Writers' Draft
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CHARACTER REFERENCE:**THE LIVING:**

Samantha - 30ish, put together, Type A, can-do optimist.

Ryan - 30ish, nerdy cute, laid back chef, realist.

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

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

Sasappis - Native American man. 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 - 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

1

INT. BAINBRIDGE ESTATE - BEDROOM #1 - EVENING (N1)

1

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's 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), SASAPPIS (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.

SASAPPIS

(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, Hetty Bainbridge.

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. While most spirits pass on to the afterlife, we for some reason are the unfortunate few cursed to spend eternity--

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. In Odin's name, why!?

ALBERTA

Now who's gonna get the house? She didn't have any children.

FLOWER

She should have married that dentist back in '78.

CRASH

(agreeing)

He was a square, but a good square.

HETTY

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. We see for the first time that Trevor is not
wearing pants.

PETE

I just hope someone interesting
moves in. Like a ballplayer, or an
astronaut. What life are you guys
hoping to watch next?

THORFINN

None! I want to go to Valhalla!

PETE

Is that in New Hampshire? Beautiful
area. Carol and I did a 'fall
foliage' tour through there once.

FLOWER

We've heard this story.

SASAPPIS

We've heard every story.

PETE

The year was 1983, and we piled
into the RV ready to stare at some
leaves...

The ghosts grumble and cross out through the walls.

INT. LAW OFFICE - LATER

A young couple, SAMANTHA (Type A, can-do optimist) and RYAN
(nerdy cute, realist who balances out his wife's crazier
impulses) sit across from a LAWYER.

LAWYER

The original home dates back to the
1700's. 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.

RYAN

So we just own this now? Just like
that? What's the catch?

LAWYER

No catch. As I explained to your
wife on the phone, her relative
passed away, and she's the next of
kin.

SAMANTHA

I didn't even know her. So sad. Not
sad about this claw foot bathtub
though. Hello.

RYAN

(to lawyer)
How much do you think we'd be able
to sell this place for?

SAMANTHA

Assuming we want to sell.

RYAN

Are we not assuming that? I assumed
we were assuming that. We're not
moving to a three hundred year old
house in the middle of nowhere.

(concerned)
Right, Sam?

SAMANTHA

Sweetie, I'm just saying, we don't
have all the facts yet. But
obviously, yes, we're probably
going to sell.

(to Lawyer)
He thinks I'm a little impulsive.

LAWYER

Well, there are limited buyers for a property this size. You have your bed and breakfast operators--

SAMANTHA

(immediately)

What if we moved there and opened a bed and breakfast?

RYAN

Seriously?!

SAMANTHA

If someone else could make money doing that, why not us?

RYAN

Sam, we're New Yorkers. We have friends and jobs. Also, I just refilled that metro card. There's like six months on that thing.

SAMANTHA

Aren't you sick of the city? I mean, we've been here a *long time*.

RYAN

We don't know the first thing about running a B&B.

SAMANTHA

You're a chef! That's half of the B's right there. 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.

SAMANTHA

Plus I can write freelance articles from anywhere. So we'll have income while we're getting up and running. Admit it, that's an annoyingly strong argument.

RYAN

(conceding)

It's not bad. But this is crazy.

(MORE)

RYAN (CONT'D)

We haven't even seen this place,
and you want to upend our lives and
move there?

SAMANTHA

Ok, how about this: we go upstate,
spend the weekend. If we love it,
then we talk, just talk, about
moving there.

Ryan can see she's not going to be talked off of this.

RYAN

Okay, sure.

SAMANTHA

Yes! Thank you!

Ryan considers the photo of the house again.

RYAN

It *is* a nice looking place.

SAMANTHA

Right?! And it's ours! For free!

RYAN

There's gotta be something wrong
with it.

SAMANTHA

Mr. Negative. What could possibly
be wrong with it?

Our SPOOKY THEME MUSIC fires up as we CUT TO...

MAIN TITLES

ACT ONE

4 EXT. BAINBRIDGE ESTATE - DAY (D3) 4

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

6 INT. BAINBRIDGE ESTATE - LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS (D3) 6

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.

SASAPPIS

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 head? 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.

SASAPPIS

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 Sam and Ryan's 2008 Subaru Outback approaching.

HETTY

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

Crash detaches his head from his body and lifts it up so he see over some of the ghosts who are crowding the window.

7 EXT. BAINBRIDGE ESTATE - DRIVEWAY - GHOSTS' POV - CONTINUOUS 7
(D3)

The car pulls up and Samantha and Ryan get out.

8 INT. BAINBRIDGE ESTATE - LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS (D3) 8

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. Crash returns his head to his neck, but doesn't place the head perfectly and it teeters over onto the floor, with a thud. The headless body starts to wonder off, aimlessly.

CRASH'S HEAD
Ah, jeez, not again.

9 EXT. BAINBRIDGE ESTATE - DRIVEWAY - CONTINUOUS (D3) 9

Samantha and Ryan drink in the house.

SAMANTHA
Holy crap! This beats the hell out
of our tiny fifth-floor walkup.

RYAN
Okay, yeah, it's impressive. But
can you reach the fridge from your
bed? I think not.

SAMANTHA
Mmm! The air is so clean! And that
guy at the gas station in town --
What was his name - Carl? He was
folksy, right?!

RYAN
I mean, he called me a woman for
wearing a video game shirt - which
even if we're stereotyping doesn't
make any sense -- but sure, Carl
had a certain charm.

10 INT. BAINBRIDGE ESTATE - FOYER/GRAND ROOM - CONTINUOUS (D3) 10

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.

SASAPPIS

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.

11 INT. BAINBRIDGE ESTATE - PANTRY - A SHORT TIME LATER (D3) 11

Sam opens the cabinets, as Ryan takes in the kitchen.

SAMANTHA

Look at all these cabinets. Man, I would love to label and organize these bad boys.

RYAN

I love you, but it's very weird the things you find fun.

She smiles and gives him a kiss, then:

SAMANTHA

Said the man that collects action figures.

RYAN

Invests in action figures.

PETE

A young couple could be interesting. I mean, I don't see any baseball bats or NASA gear, but that's okay.

Samantha fishes something out of her bag.

RYAN

What are you doing?

SAMANTHA

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

RYAN

Oh, come on.

SAMANTHA

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 she say?

HETTY

(worried)

Does that work?

RYAN

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

SAMANTHA

Hey, better safe than sorry.

Sam lights the sage 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 Sam and Ryan cross off to "cleanses" 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 repellent for all of us!

12

INT. BAINBRIDGE ESTATE - LIBRARY - A SHORT TIME LATER (D3)

12

Samantha and Ryan enter.

SAMANTHA

Ryan, we have a library!

RYAN

This place is like old school rich.

SAMANTHA

Yeah, I did a little research. 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.

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...

13

INT. BAINBRIDGE ESTATE - FOYER/GRAND ROOM - FANTASY POP (FF-
DAY)

13

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!

14

INT. BAINBRIDGE ESTATE - BEDROOM #2 - FANTASY POP (FF-DAY)

14

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.

15 INT. BAINBRIDGE ESTATE - LIBRARY - BACK TO SCENE (D3) 15
The ghosts are all still there.

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

16 INT./EXT. BAINBRIDGE ESTATE - FANTASY POP (FF-DAY) 16
A guest litters a napkin in front of a horrified Thorfinn.

THORFINN
Why? Why?! Trash can right there!

Thorfinn tries in vain to pick up the napkin, his hand going
right through it. Unseen to him, a guest approaches from
behind and WALKS THROUGH THORFINN, who reacts, pained.

17 INT. BAINBRIDGE ESTATE - LIBRARY - BACK TO SCENE (D3) 17
The ghosts are all there.

PETE
Uch, I *hate* getting walked through.
It's probably the worst pain I can
think of. No, wait, arrow through
the neck. That beats it.

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.

(then)

I know!

TREVOR

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

FLOWER

Whoa...

TREVOR

I know, good plan, right?

FLOWER

Oh, no, sorry.

(waves hand)

I was just seeing some major trails. What are we talking about?

SASAPPIS

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 SASAPPIS, who reacts as though she's been tazed.

SASAPPIS (CONT'D)

Gaghahghaghagh.

RYAN

(calling off)

Found my jacket!

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

SASAPPIS

Alright, we haunt these bastards out of here.

And we... FADE OUT.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

18

INT. BAINBRIDGE ESTATE - MASTER BEDROOM - THE NEXT MORNING
(D4)

18

Sam is holding paint swatches up against the wall. Ryan enters with takeout cups.

RYAN

The water from the tap looked disgusting. So I went to that gas station and got us coffees!

(hands her one)

Carl says hi, and called me a snowflake for wearing flip flops.

SAMANTHA

Classic Carl.

(re: paint swatches)

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

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

First of all, if we end up selling, no one's going to care about a little paint. Secondly, that is an interesting idea about the wall. Do you think it's 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 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

Please don't kink shame me.

They hear a pigeon cooing and turn to see it sticking its head out of a hole in the ceiling.

RYAN

And there's a bird in our room,
because of course there is.

SAMANTHA

Okay, sure, the place needs a
little work--

RYAN

It needs a *ton* of work. And that's
gonna take money. Which we don't
have. Or skills. Which we don't
have.

SAMANTHA

Hey, we put together that Ikea
table. Remember that triumph?

RYAN

(recalling, proudly)
Only one extra screw.

SAMANTHA

And isn't it nice to be away from
New York? The smell, the noise--

RYAN

The pigeons.

SAMANTHA

Those are city pigeons. Completely
different. This guy's clean, he's
cute...

RYAN

Here he comes!

SAMANTHA

Hit the deck!

They dodge the pigeon as it flies at their heads.

INT. BAINBRIDGE ESTATE - ENTRANCE HALL

Crash's head is on its side, on the floor. Just then his
headless body wanders by.

CRASH'S HEAD

Hey! Body! I'm down here, daddio!
(then, to himself)
Oh, right, I got the ears.

Crash's Head sighs as the body crosses off. We follow the body as it goes through the wall...

19

INT. BAINBRIDGE ESTATE - GRAND ROOM - LATER (D4)

19

Crash's headless body crosses in and wanders by in the background as all the other ghosts are there, in the middle of a 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.

THORFINN

In retrospect, metal armor probably not best idea. Okay, here we go.

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 Allman Brothers.

HETTY

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. 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.

SASAPPIS

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.

FLOWER

It's like his fingers are magic.

TREVOR

(aside, to Pete)

Makes sense. The ladies used to
call me 'magic fingers' back when I
was alive, if you know what I mean.

PETE

I do and I am wildly uncomfortable.

ISAAC

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

(then)

Now, Pete, tell us more about this
pottery scene...

20

EXT. BAINBRIDGE ESTATE - THE NEXT DAY (D5)

20

We hear a scream.

RYAN (O.S.)

Aaaaaahhhh!!!

21

INT. BAINBRIDGE ESTATE - BATHROOM - CONTINUOUS (D5)

21

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

RYAN

Mother--

(calling off)

Babe! The hot water's out!

22

INT. BAINBRIDGE ESTATE - UPSTAIRS HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS (D5)

22

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 collapse to the ground.

ISAAC (CONT'D)

Man down! Alberta, you're up.
Trevor, you're on deck.

ALBERTA

I was thinking, it kind of feels like I'm *opening* for Trevor. Now I don't *need* to headline this haunting, but wouldn't it just make a whole lot more sense?

(off Isaac's look)

Okay, fine.

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 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.

ISAAC

Close it out, Trevor. You're our final hope!

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)

Aaaaaaaaarrrrrrh!!!

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!

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, we're not dumping a bunch of money into this place. Besides 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

Babe, I YouTubed it. I got this.
(fiddles with knobs)
That should do it.

POX VICTIM NATHAN

That won't do it.

RYAN

I think I got it!

POX VICTIM WILLIAM

No he hasn'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.

24

INT. BAINBRIDGE ESTATE - UPSTAIRS HALLWAY - LATER (D5)

24

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.

25

INT. BAINBRIDGE ESTATE - BATHROOM/BEDROOM #3 - LATER (D5)

25

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.

She starts to open up her laptop but Ryan cuts her off.

RYAN

Sam... I don't want to move here.
I'm sorry.

REVEAL Alberta, Hetty and Thorfinn are in the room.

ALBERTA

Well, this just got interesting.

HETTY

Very interesting.

THORFINN

Like "finding new type of cod"
interesting.

26 INT. BAINBRIDGE ESTATE - UPSTAIRS HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS (D5) 26

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.

27 INT. BAINBRIDGE ESTATE - BEDROOM #3 - CONTINUOUS (D5) 27

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

RYAN

I came up here with an open mind,
but come on, this whole bed and
breakfast idea, it's crazy. Plus, I
like the city. I like our lives
there...

SAMANTHA

But we've already done the city.
Why can't we do this now? I don't
know what it is, but I feel a
connection to this place.

We see this land with Hetty.

SAMANTHA (CONT'D)

I see a future here. We could raise a family...

RYAN

Of course I want all that. But we're in way over our heads. This place is falling apart.

ALBERTA

It is kind of a dump.

HETTY

Oh shut up.

SAMANTHA

So that's it? We just do what you want?

RYAN

I'm just saying if we're going to do some big crazy move, both of us should have to agree on it.

SAMANTHA

Fine.

She goes to leave then turns back.

SAMANTHA (CONT'D)

It just sucks because this could've been a really cool thing for us. Sometimes you gotta try something a little bold, Ryan. 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.

28

INT. BAINBRIDGE ESTATE - UPSTAIRS HALLWAY - MOMENTS LATER
(D5)

28

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! Oh my God. Sam!!

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

29

INT./EXT. BAINBRIDGE ESTATE - LIVING ROOM - A SHORT TIME
LATER (D5)

29

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. Sasappis points her finger at him, accusingly.

SASAPPIS

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.

ALBERTA

Awww, the husband guy looks so sad.

FLOWER

I remember when I died, Ira looked so scared. Because he didn't want to lose me. And also because he was trying to get away from the bear.

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...

30

INT. HOSPITAL - HALLWAY - LATER (D5)

30

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.

31 INT. HOSPITAL - MRI ROOM - LATER (D5) 31

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.

32 INT. HOSPITAL - PATIENT ROOM - LATER (N5) 32

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 we were fighting about.

33 INT. BAINBRIDGE ESTATE - LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS (D5) 33

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! Which was just like her!

(composing himself)

The point is, life is precious.

34 INT. HOSPITAL - PATIENT ROOM - TWO WEEKS LATER (D6) 34

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 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.

35

EXT. HOSPITAL (D6)

35

Ryan helps Samantha into the passenger seat of their car. He throws a duffle bag into the backseat. As he crosses to the driver's 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.*

36

INT. BAINBRIDGE ESTATE - LIVING ROOM - LATER (D6)

36

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.*

The ghosts clap, politely.

PETE

Thank you, Alberta. I don't know how many times we've heard that song--

SASAPPIS

Four hundred eighty seven.

PETE

-- but it gets better every time.
And now, the waiting is over.
Thorfinn's cod lecture has finally
arrived.

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.

37

EXT. BAINBRIDGE ESTATE - CONTINUOUS (D6)

37

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

Ryan, it's fine, I'm okay with
selling the place. I've had some
time to think about it, and you
were right, the whole bed and
breakfast idea was probably crazy.

RYAN

Well, then call me crazy cause it's happening.

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, over the very vocal objections of my father. 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

Almost losing you made me realize there are way more important things than where we live. If this is your dream, then it's my dream too. As long as I'm with you, then I'm home.

They kiss, then:

RYAN (CONT'D)

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

She laughs and pulls him in for another kiss.

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.

HETTY

I'm happy Samantha's okay.

ALBERTA

Me too.

(concerned)

Wait, who are all these other folks?

FLOWER

It looks like a construction crew.

HETTY

(very annoyed)

O'Malley?

39

INT. BAINBRIDGE ESTATE - FOYER - CONTINUOUS (D6)

39

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.

40

INT. BAINBRIDGE ESTATE - LIVING ROOM - MOMENTS LATER (D6)

40

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

TREVOR

She talked to me. She talked to me. She talked to me. And I think she kinda hit on me? Not sure. There was definitely a spark tho.

41

INT. BAINBRIDGE ESTATE - BEDROOM - MOMENTS LATER (D6)

41

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 not loving it. No big deal. It's just paint.

PETE

(to Trevor)

I think you were right! She can see us.

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