

OVERWORLD

Animated Pilot

written by

Michael Webber

EXT. TRAILER PARK - NIGHT

Brisk and spooky. A glowing white moon hangs low in the sky over a mobile home next to a large tree.

INT. MOBILE HOME - CONTINUOUS

EDWARD (early 60s, gray stubble), sleeps peacefully. A gust of wind causes a tree branch to scratch at his window.

He props himself up and looks around groggily as a faint, breezy wail sounds from outside. He stands and grabs a flashlight to investigate.

EXT. TRAILER PARK - CONTINUOUS

He pokes his head out of his door, pointing the flashlight.

EDWARD

Hello?

No response. He opens his door fully and creeps out, eyes darting around. The wail sounds again, coming from the tree.

EDWARD (CONT'D)

Wh-- who's there?

He nervously inches towards the tree.

As he reaches it, TRENT (20), the ghost of a scrawny frat boy, bursts out, waving his arms.

TRENT

AGH!!

Edward flings his flashlight in shock, the beam dancing through the air as it bounces along the ground.

EDWARD

Jesus Christ! What the hell??

TRENT

...I don't know. That's all I had.
Kinda thought you'd... run.

Edward bends over, bracing his hands on his knees.

EDWARD

You can't just do that to a guy!

TRENT

Dude, I'm a ghost. All we do is scare people.

EDWARD

(out of breath)

Scared?? You didn't scare shit, pal. You startled me and activated all my pre-existing conditions.

TRENT

Being startled is the same thing!

EDWARD

Wrong! Being scared is a mental weakness for babies! Being *startled* is dangerous and can happen to anyone!

TRENT

What kind of logic is that??

EDWARD

(wheezing)

You hear this wheezing? You coulda done some real damage here! I'm not an in-shape man, you prick!

TRENT

How is that my fault??

EDWARD

You think I've got insurance? This coulda ruined me! My kid needs braces, man! She was like *this* close from just having to deal with fucked up teeth. And as a woman! Society's harsh!

TRENT

Just say you got scared! Who's gonna give a shit? Your shitty trailer?

EDWARD

Oh, please! You couldn't scare the broadside of my ass!

TRENT

Bro, what are you talking about?? Look at you! I almost scared you to death!

EDWARD

You wish!

TRENT

You know what? Fuck this.

He starts to float off.

EDWARD

Fuck you! Since when do ghosts come out of trees??

TRENT

Since when can't trees be haunted??

EDWARD

Not with people! Did you die yesterday??

Trent gives Edward the finger as he exits.

TRENT

Whatever. Take a big fat shitty look at that. Scared ass bitch. Beta Theta Theta forever!

EDWARD

I knew you were one of those frat ghosts! You're lucky you're all dead, or I'd be suing your ass raw at the start of business hours tomorrow, pal!

MAIN TITLE SEQUENCE

TITLE: OVERWORLD

EXT. BETA THETA THETA FRAT HOUSE - SUNRISE

Establishing. An old overgrown victorian frat house roped off with police tape and in disrepair. The Greek letters Beta Theta Theta (BΘΘ) hang loosely over the front door.

INT. LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

A dusty and brooding space after years of abandonment, strewn with beer cans and lit with candelabras.

WELLS (22), the husky ghost of the frat's party animal president, and CASSIE (21), the ghost of a butch lesbian sorority sister, are on a sagging couch, holding beer cans.

MULLIGAN (19), the dapper ghost of a founding frat member from the late 19th century, stands in front of them, balancing a dusty wine glass on the end of a cane.

MULLIGAN

And this one was called *The Treacherous Teeter*. If you let the glass drop, you were made to pluck the shards from the floor and suck up the wine while suffering cane beatings from your brethren.

Wells and Cassie pretend to take sips from their beers as Trent floats in, defeated. Wells glances back at him.

WELLS

Trent! Pop a float.

CASSIE

Mulligan's been showing us all the shitty drinking games the frat used to play.

WELLS

Cassie and I turned it into a drinking game. We pretend to take a drink every time they get homoerotic.

CASSIE

So the cycle continues.

WELLS

Want in? "Cane beatings from your brethren" is the perfect chance to catch up.

Cassie tosses him a beer can, but Trent lets it phase through him as he spills into an old armchair.

TRENT

Not now. I'm too mad to pretend to drink.

The sentiment draws shock from Wells and Cassie.

WELLS

Whoa, pump the breaks on the Trently. What happened out there?

TRENT

I scared this old guy and he flipped out on me.

Mulligan flicks the glass into the air and catches it.

MULLIGAN

Sounds like a round of "petrify the plebeian" gone horribly awry.

TRENT

And he kept saying he wasn't even scared, which is such a lie!

CASSIE

So?

TRENT

We're a *haunted* frat! If he goes around telling people we're not scary, our reputation's shot!

WELLS

Our reputation died with the rest of us, dude. No one gives a shit about Beta Theta Theta anymore.

TRENT

Guys, come on! This goes beyond loyalty to the frat! This is a matter of *manhood*!
(gesturing at Cassie)
Or...

CASSIE

No, say it.

TRENT

I don't know, "womanhood" sounds kinda weird.

Cassie rises and floats off.

CASSIE

Yeah, I'm out. I'm gonna check on Pledgy.

Trent dismisses her with a wave of his hand.

TRENT

Dealing with an old man's toxic masculinity is more of a guy thing anyways.

Cassie rolls her eyes as Trent turns to Wells.

TRENT (CONT'D)

Wells, our very *testosterone* is on the line! You're a Beta Theta Theta legend! You can't just let us be disrespected like this!

MULLIGAN

I'm inclined to agree with Trent. Assertions of superiority over the elderly are the beating heart of fraternity culture. We won the affection of many of our original members by secretly affixing "Confederacy apologist" signs to the backs of disliked professors.

JUDY (57), the ghost of a sorority alumnus turned trophy wife, abruptly rises up from the floor, startling everyone.

JUDY

You what?? You're telling me young people have been calling everyone racist for centuries??

WELLS

Judy! Stop listening in on our shit!

JUDY

You keep bad-mouthing old people! I have to defend some honor up here, for Pete's sake!

TRENT

He lied about being scared! This guy has no honor!

WELLS

Everyone relax. No one's getting dishonored. He probably thought it was a bad dream. Old people's brains are wired to distort reality around their traumas. Right, Judy?

TRENT

I don't think anyone's ever threatened to sue a ghost in a dream!

JUDY

I had a dream where I arrested a gopher once.

Wells grabs Trent and starts leading him out of the room.

WELLS

Come with me.

TRENT

Where are we going?

WELLS

You're gonna take me to this guy,
and I'm gonna show you how little
of a shit he's giving.

They exit. Judy and Mulligan watch them go, then Mulligan
shoves his cane between his legs and balances on his pelvis.

MULLIGAN

This one was called *A Penis for
Your Thoughts*. We'd see who could
balance the longest on a cane
juttet into the genitalia thusly.

Judy phases back down into the floor.

EXT. BACKYARD - MORNING

Cassie floats out the back door of the frat house and into
the overgrown backyard.

She stops, then phases into the ground.

INT. UNDERGROUND - CONTINUOUS

She phases down to a long-forgotten coffin buried a ways
underground. SKYE (22), the ghost of a rebellious sorority
girl, is already next to the coffin.

SKYE

...But if you match your nails to
your outfit you're basically just
admitting you cared enough to plan
it out, you know? But also fuck it,
sometimes purple looks good with
purple. That's just science.

(noticing Cassie)

Oh, Cassie!

CASSIE

Hey, Skye.

Cassie reaches into the coffin, her hand phasing through the
lid, and yanks out PLEDGY (18), the shrimpy ghost of a fresh-
faced fraternity pledge. He has his arms crossed across his
chest like a resting vampire.

CASSIE (CONT'D)

How goes the hazing, Pledgy?

PLEDGY

Can't talk. I'm in the eleventh hour of pretending to be dead for real and I can't lose focus now.

SKYE

Yeah, but I'm trying really hard to make him. I never waste a captive audience. My aunt taught me that. She was a multi-level marketer.

(suddenly morbid)

Her credit score and marriage never recovered.

CASSIE

Well, the boys are getting weird again. You wanna get out of here for a while?

SKYE

Duh. I actually heard through the grave-vine there's a portal to Hell opening in the woods not too far from here tonight. Wanna party with some demons later?

CASSIE

They hot or what?

SKYE

They're all, like, low-key fucked up. You more just go for the vibe.

CASSIE

Can I vibe one into the sack?

SKYE

I promise you're not gonna want to.

CASSIE

Last I checked, the afterlife is just the sloppy afterparty of life. And I intend to live my death to the fullest.

SKYE

I don't even know if it's possible, to be honest...

CASSIE

Come on. We don't get a lot of chances anymore, Skye. Mama's desperate. Never waste a captive audience, right?

SKYE

Fine. You know what? A month of exclusive access to Pledgy wisp rubs says you won't be able to hook up with one.

CASSIE

Easy. Done.

Skye holds up a leather-bound book with a satanic rune etched into the front cover.

SKYE

Well, they speak this weird-ass demonic language. So you're gonna need to study up.

CASSIE

What? No fair!

SKYE

They recommend learning it by candlelight under the darkness of a new moon, but daytime's probably just as good.

CASSIE

...Fine. Trent's on the verge of tears in there anyways. Pledgy, you're with me.

PLEDGY

Really? I get to hang out with you two?

CASSIE

You're smart and I need to learn enough demonic to get laid by tonight. You could come in handy.

Pledgy unfolds his arms and Cassie releases him. He floats next to her.

PLEDGY

Wow! OK, then... let's do this!

CASSIE

Pledgy!

SKYE

Pledgy!

SKYE (CONT'D)

You had another hour left in the coffin, you dweeb!

CASSIE

Piece of shit!

SKYE

Double hazing tomorrow!

EXT. TRAILER PARK ENTRANCE - MORNING

Wells and Trent float alongside the dirt road.

TRENT

Come on, Wells. If you're gonna make me face this guy again, can you at least help me craft a makeshift plan of attack?

WELLS

Look, I get it, Trent. Young guy like you, all the promise in the world, of course you care about what people say. It's all you have.

TRENT

Well, we can't just let people talk shit about the frat.

WELLS

This is a textbook example of what psychologists call a mental long jump. My cousin was almost a psych minor and he told me about it. You beefed a scare, then you suddenly leap to the old guy shouting from the trailer-tops about it.

TRENT

Old people talk all the time! They can't do anything else! If any hot grandkids catch wind of us, it's over!

WELLS

Trent, as Beta Theta Theta's longest running president with nearly a decade of experience across two planes of existence, I can confidently say our reputation is not in danger. Are we close?

TRENT
 (sighs)
 It's right through here.

Trent leads Wells to a row of hedges.

WELLS
 Then get ready to look like a
 stupid idiot, cause I guarantee
 this guy isn't saying dick about
 the scare.

Wells goes to phase through the hedges. Trent tries to stop him.

TRENT
 Wait! We need a makeshift plan of
 attack!

EXT. TRAILER - MORNING

TELLUM PROMPTER, a slick, aristocratic newscaster, is on the front porch with Edward, holding a mic. Tellum's news crew is set up outside the trailer, and a small crowd has gathered around to watch.

TELLUM PROMPTER
 This is Tellum Prompter with
 Channel 6, bringing you breaking
 news of a man claiming to have gone
 toe to wisp with a former resident
 of the haunted Beta Theta Theta
 fraternity house, where years ago
 on that fateful alumni weekend, a
 handful of Greek lives met their
 untimely ends at the hands of what
 was perhaps the most legendary frat
 party of all time. Can you begin to
 weave this ghostly narrative for
 us, sir?

Edward leans into Tellum's mic as Trent and Wells pop out of a row of hedges in the background.

EDWARD
 I wanna make one thing clear off
 the bat: this guy was not scary.

Trent and Well's eyes go wide as they slowly phase back through the hedges.

EXT. HEDGES - CONTINUOUS

Trent and Wells regroup behind the row of hedges.

WELLS

Wow, that dude is telling everyone.

TRENT

See?? Long jump my ass! That was like a jump in place if anything!

WELLS

Going to the local news is such a bitch move.

TRENT

We can't just let him rip on us like that! We need to go out there and say something back!

WELLS

You're not going to debate this guy, Trent. Without the proper prep work you'd get your shit wrecked.

Trent phases his head through the hedges to eavesdrop. He pulls back.

TRENT

He's out there calling us a joke!

He storms back through the hedge.

WELLS

Trent!

EXT. TRAILER - CONTINUOUS

Edward fumes next to Tellum Prompter.

TELLUM PROMPTER

Well! That was quite the profanity-laden prelude.

Trent rumbles up to them from behind.

TRENT

I'll give you a profanity-whatever pre-whatever!

The crowd gasps as Trent takes a swing at Edward, who turns and dodges it. Trent gives the man a shove, and they glare at each other.

EDWARD

That's him! Can the cameras see how ugly he is?

Tellum slides into position next to Trent.

TELLUM PROMPTER

This is Tellum Prompter with Channel 6, bringing you an exclusive interview with the spirit from beyond the grave who allegedly terrified a man on the brink of his own.

EDWARD

He didn't scare me and I'm not that old!

TELLUM PROMPTER

Spirit! The question on everyone's minds: how is your existence possible? Are you a curse on humanity?

He holds the mic out to Trent.

TRENT

Whatever this guy is saying is bullshit! I nearly scared his ass to death! Beta Theta Theta forever!

EDWARD

And yet look how alive I still am!

TELLUM PROMPTER

Allegations and verbal lashes abound in the trailer park!

TRENT

That was just a warning! I could scare you to death easy!

Edward spreads his arms.

EDWARD

Then do it! Kill me right now!

EXT. TRAILER - CONTINUOUS

Wells has his head sticking through the hedges, watching.

WELLS

Trent, you dumb shit...

He rushes over to rescue his friend.

EXT. TRAILER - MOMENTS LATER

Trent and Edward are locked in a battle of shoves and feeble slaps. Tellum is gesturing the crowd back.

TELLUM PROMPTER
Step back! Let this unfurl!

Wells floats in and grabs Trent. The crowd gasps.

TELLUM PROMPTER (CONT'D)
Another spirit has lunged into the fray!

Wells starts dragging Trent down into the ground.

EDWARD
(pointing)
These cowards are trying to escape through the ground!

The crowd starts to boo. Tellum crouches and holds the mic out to Trent as he sinks, struggling against Wells.

TELLUM PROMPTER
What's going through your mind as you flee this confrontation?

TRENT
Beta Theta Theta house! Tonight!
We'll settle this once and for all!

Wells and Trent phase through the ground. Tellum stands.

TELLUM PROMPTER
And there you have it. A gauntlet has been thrown across the eternal divide as the nation grapples with the events of the last two minutes. This is Tellum Prompter, Channel 6 News.

EXT. FOREST - MIDDAY

Cassie, Skye, and Pledgy stand in a small wooded clearing behind the house. Pledgy is reading the demonic book.

PLEDGY
"Demonic is a language that's more passion than technique."
(MORE)

PLEDGY (CONT'D)

So don't be afraid to really let loose, and above all, just have fun with it." Wow, that's actually a pretty dynamic way to talk.

CASSIE

Can you just skip to the chapter on seduction? I need to know if we're working with food-based or landscaping-based innuendos.

Pledgy flips ahead in the book.

PLEDGY

OK, it says that Demonic pronunciation isn't nearly as important as the pitch and intensity of the breathy snarl you use when speaking.

CASSIE

They just talk all breathy at each other all the time? This is gonna be easier than I thought.

SKYE

It's not as hot as it sounds.

PLEDGY

Here's how to say "my name is..."
Rrrrraaaaah sssssteeee!

Clouds suddenly fill the sky. A crack of thunder.

PLEDGY (CONT'D)

(looking up)

Whoops...

CASSIE

Did you just *summon* that?

Pledgy flips a page.

PLEDGY

Wait, hold on... *Sssssteeee*
rrrrrraaaaah!

The clouds roll away.

CASSIE

There's no way it's supposed to sound like that.

Pledgy holds the book out for her.

PLEDGY

Maybe it's because I can't roll my R's.

CASSIE

(squinting)

Oh my god, their alphabet is hideous. It looks like the step-by-step depiction of a hate crime.

SKYE

Yeah, their culture's based on some really dark themes. That's why they like to party. For the rush of the emotional swings.

(then)

OK, that's a little hot...

CASSIE

Maybe it's... *Rasha rasha!*

A winged imp blinks into existence in front of them. It squeals. Skye and Cassie scream.

SKYE

What is THAT?

CASSIE

You think I know? All I said was rasha rasha!

Another imp appears, with a different look than the first.

CASSIE (CONT'D)

Shit!

SKYE

OK, *not* liking these developments.

The imps hiss at the sunlight and fly off deeper into the shady forest.

CASSIE

Hey!

SKYE (CONT'D)

No no no no no!

Cassie furiously flips through the book.

CASSIE (CONT'D)

Where's "get back here"... Uh...

(hesitantly)

Grogana--

SKYE

Careful, you *swine!*

INT. UNDERGROUND - MIDDAY

Trent and Wells float back to the frat house just under the surface of the ground.

WELLS

What the hell, man? What was that??

TRENT

I was standing up for the frat!
Someone had to!

WELLS

Don't give me that! All you did was give away our position! You ever read the Art of War? Your position is like the balls of your war! You don't give away your balls, Trent!

TRENT

Well, what do we do now?

WELLS

(refocusing)
OK, let's just... game this out.
Let's Wall Street this shit, man.

TRENT

Yeah, let's Wall Street this shit!

WELLS

LET'S WALL STREET THIS SHIT!

TRENT

WALL STREEEEET!

WELLS

You know what rich people do when a poor person gets mouthy? They turn 'em into us.

TRENT

Best friends?

WELLS

Ghosts. They kill them. We need to put our money where our mouths are and scare this dude to death for real. Prove that we mean business.

TRENT

Oh, so now you care all of a sudden?

WELLS

You didn't give us a choice! You invited him over! I'm not gonna sit there and watch you get destroyed on live television again.

TRENT

Wow, Wall Street is harsh...

WELLS

Yeah, that's why it's cool.

EXT. TRAILER - AFTERNOON

Tellum takes Edward by the arm and whisks him towards his team behind camera.

TELLUM PROMPTER

You're lucky I was able to save that. We need to get you into makeup.

Edward resists, Tellum drags him onward.

EDWARD

Makeup?

TELLUM PROMPTER

This is the biggest story we've had since that vagrant swallowed a magnet and we were able to hang a spoon off him. We need you to pop on camera.

Tellum's PRODUCER falls in line next to him.

TELLUM PROMPTER (CONT'D)

I'm thinking "the Scare Heard Round the World".

PRODUCER

Too cerebral. What about "Whoop, Scare It Is"?

TELLUM PROMPTER

Good. Run it.

The producer peels off.

EDWARD

What the hell's goin' on?

TELLUM PROMPTER

The media machine is always hungry,
and you and I will be be serving up
delicious eyeballs.

EDWARD

That didn't clarify anything!

EXT. FOREST - AFTERNOON

Cassie, Skye, and Pledgy search for the imps. Cassie scans
the pages of the book.

CASSIE

Pentaaaagooooor!

A large pentagon sears into the forest floor under Skye and
Pledgy. Walls of fire quickly burst out of lines of the
pentagon once it fully forms, causing them to yell and dodge
out of the way. Cassie points to another word in the book.

CASSIE (CONT'D)

Exoorseeeuuuum!

Her head starts spinning around.

CASSIE (CONT'D)

GAH!! Exorseum!

Her head stops spinning.

SKYE

Cassie! Stop fucking around and try
a "come here, boy" or something!

Cassie locates it in the book.

CASSIE

Naaaaariiiii! Mosh avi!

Pledgy peeks over her shoulder.

PLEDGY

That was "bring me the boy." Your
lesbian rasp brought it to a darker
place. I think I'm getting it.

CASSIE

Ha! I knew bringing Pledgy would
help! Getting laid is back on the
menu!

Pledgy takes the book out of Cassie's hands.

PLEDGY
Here, watch this. *Rasha rasha.*

Another imp poofs into existence.

PLEDGY (CONT'D)
Rataah shogonaaaar.

SUBTITLE: "Find the others."

The imp flies off.

CASSIE
What was that?

PLEDGY
I told it to find the others.

CASSIE
It's not gonna know what that means! Are you kidding?

SKYE
You just released another demon into the wild for no reason!
(suddenly morbid)
Who knows how much blood will be on Pledgy's hands by tomorrow...

PLEDGY
What about Cassie's demons?? She used a harsher tone! Hers would kill way more people than mine!

CASSIE
Jesus, Pledgy!

SKYE
Pledgy!! So rude!

Pledgy hangs his head.

SKYE (CONT'D)
(pointing)
Look! Broken branches! They must have gone that way!

CASSIE
(to Pledgy)
See? Yours even flew off in the wrong direction!

PLEDGY
It made so much sense in my head...

Cassie grabs Pledgy and lifts him up to meet her eye line.

CASSIE

I've got a lot of foot rubs and freaky demon sex on the line. We need to catch these things quick and still get me up to speed on a couple "hubba, hubba" equivalents before the party. So let's go.

She flings him forward and the three set off after the imps.

INT. FOYER - AFTERNOON

Trent and Wells float into the old, spacious foyer of the Beta Theta Theta house.

WELLS

Everyone, get in here! Emergency frat meeting!

TRENT

Hit 'em with the context, Wells.

Mulligan and Judy float in.

WELLS

Where's everyone else?

JUDY

Probably looking for something they can vaporize and suck out of a stick.

(elbowing the air)

Just lemme know when they find it.
Ha!

WELLS

Whatever, we don't need them. What we do need is to scare a guy to death.

JUDY

Just tell him it's his anniversary.

She cracks herself up. The others don't react.

JUDY (CONT'D)

Come on, that's funny!

WELLS

Judy, we don't have time for one of your "divorce ruined comedy" rants. Trent's scare went way worse than we thought.

TRENT

WORSE.

WELLS

Why would you emphasize that part?

TRENT

Way worse was taken.

WELLS

Just-- shut up. The guy went whining to the local news about how Trent wasn't scary, then Trent ran out there and clowned it up big time--

TRENT

HUGE time!

WELLS

--and long story short, the guy's coming over here and we've gotta do what Muhammad Ali called a "reverse-poo back at you" and finish what Trent started to prove we're still scary. Any ideas?

MULLIGAN

Call me old fashioned, but might we simply lay a sleeping hog at the foot of the door, so when he enters the foyer the hog will be unceremoniously shoved awake and dash off squealing? Such a sudden startle would surely do him in.

JUDY

Boys, we are not bringing a pig into this house. And it sounds to me like you've already put this poor guy through a lot.

TRENT

That's the point! He's going around telling everyone we didn't!

Judy floats off.

JUDY

Don't care. Leave me out of it.

Wells corrals Trent and Mulligan.

WELLS

OK, let's focus up, boys. Even though hogs was stupid, Mulligan had the right idea. There's a ton of studies that say jump scares are the deadliest kinds of scares.

TRENT

We'd better make it the scariest jump scare of all time, just to be safe.

MULLIGAN

If not with hogs, then how?

WELLS

With something so intense, it'll make Wall Street look like Sesame Street.

EXT. BETA THETA THETA FRAT HOUSE - DUSK

Channel 6 News vans and a crowd of onlookers gather on the street in front of the frat house.

Tellum Prompter reports live from the scene. We see him as the camera does, with a WHOOP, SCARE IT IS chyron along the bottom of the screen.

TELLUM PROMPTER

The haunted remnants of the once illustrious Beta Theta Theta house loom behind me, the metaphorically urban backdrop to the ensuing street fight between a prideful local man and a high-school educated ghost. Our champion of the living is preparing himself for battle at this very moment, which affords us the opportunity to consult our supernatural expert who's just arrived on the scene.

Tellum motions in a GHOST HUNTER (40s, female), who's holding a homemade ghost detecting device.

TELLUM PROMPTER (CONT'D)

What are your initial readings?

GHOST HUNTER

My Boo-ometer is spiking like crazy! This place is pushing 12 boos per square foot!

TELLUM PROMPTER
That sounds like a lot.

INT. NEWS TRAILER - CONTINUOUS

Edward, looking a decade younger in his makeup, stares at his reflection in the illuminated mirror he's seated in front of.

EDWARD
(sighs)
Look at yourself, Edward. All you wanted was your father's pride, but all you got was his stubbornness. Too proud to admit that you're terrified of losing your daughter. And look at where it got ya...
(perking up)
All the way to the prime time news!

He stands heroically.

EDWARD (CONT'D)
Don't worry, baby! Daddy's gonna have braces money soon enough!

Tellum slides in through the trailer door.

TELLUM PROMPTER
Your grand finale awaits. Are you ready to make Channel 6 history and look fantastic while doing it?

Edward holds his own gaze in the mirror.

EDWARD
You're goddamn right.

Tellum places his hands on Edward's shoulders.

TELLUM PROMPTER
They'll look back on this broadcast as a turning point for the quality of local news reporting. Come take the stage when you're ready.

He glides out of the trailer. Edward takes a deep breath.

EXT. FOREST - DUSK

The three wander deeper into the forest. Pledgy's scouring the demon book.

CASSIE

OK, I can't see shit. How are we supposed to track this thing in the dark?

SKYE

We're their parents, can't we use, like, our natural parent instincts?

She closes her eyes and spreads her arms.

SKYE (CONT'D)

This is Mother Skye, calling out to Violet, Queenie, and Shitface.

(squinting an eye at Pledgy)

I named yours Shitface.

PLEDGY

Or, how about a slice of this?

(clears throat)

Rrrrraaaaah sssssteeee!

Like before, we hear a thunderstorm roll in. A crack of lightning illuminates the forest.

PLEDGY (CONT'D)

Eh?

Rain starts pouring. Skye shakes out of her pose.

SKYE

Pledgy! Demons hate water! It sends them into a frenzy!

PLEDGY

What??

SKYE

I don't know, maybe.

CASSIE

Nice call back, Pledgy. How about summoning a flashlight next time instead of getting artsy with it?

Another flash of lightning. Pledgy squints around.

PLEDGY

Does anyone else feel like we're going in a circle?

CASSIE

It's pretty hard to tell when we
only have, like, two lightning
bolts worth of vision to go off of.
Just teach me more phrases.

One of the demons cries out in the distance. Skye perks up.

SKYE

Mama's coming, baby!

She chases after the sound. Cassie and Pledgy follow.

EXT. BETA THETA THETA FRAT HOUSE - SUNSET

Wells, Trent, and Mulligan are staging out their jump scare
in the foyer.

TRENT

...Then I'll drop the chandelier
onto the pile of air horns.

WELLS

At which point, I'll burst out of
the closet with the firecrackers.
Then Mulligan, you drop your body
with the rope around your neck and
snap and dangle like you hung
yourself.

MULLIGAN

I shall appear as dead as a
doornail!

WELLS

Right? That feels right.

TRENT

I think we've really hit the sweet
spot.

MULLIGAN

Yes, quite tastefully done.

WELLS

Then boys, I don't mean to
overstate this, but I think we've
got the scariest jump scare of all
time on our hands.

TRENT

I can't wait to see the look on
this guy's face as he dies!

WELLS

Easy, Trent. We're doing this cause we have to, not cause we want to. Alright, get in your positions. They've been teeing up this segment outside for so long, this guy's gotta be coming in any second.

Wells retreats into a coat closet. Trent floats up to the chandelier. Mulligan grabs a length of rope and throws one end over a banister and ties the other into a noose.

GHOSTHUNTER (O.C.)

(muffled, outside door)

We're up to 14 bpsf now! Whatever's going on in there is shaping up to be scientifically scary!

TELLUM PROMPTER (O.C.)

(muffled, outside door)

That's your cue to lean in, America!

EXT. BETA THETA THETA FRAT HOUSE - NIGHT

We see Tellum prompter reporting from the front porch as the camera does. The storm raging around them.

TELLUM PROMPTER

As you can see, the stage has been dramatically set. We give a full-throated thank you to our supernatural expert for helping establish the stakes, and now all that's left to do is eagerly await our hero.

EXT. NEWS TRAILER - CONTINUOUS

A flash of lightning strikes in the distance as Edward bursts out of his trailer with a heroic pose. Two news workers flick on a pair of spotlights flanking the steps down from the trailer door, sending beams into the sky.

Tellum's producer arrives promptly to escort Edward to the front porch with an umbrella.

EXT. BETA THETA THETA FRAT HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Back to the news feed.

TELLUM PROMPTER

And hark! Like Prometheus
descending Mt. Olympus with the
gift of fire, our soon-to-be local
legend emerges with the gift of
entertainment!

EXT. FOREST - MOMENTS EARLIER

Cassie, Skye, and Pledgy tear through the woods. Pledgy is furiously flipping through the book.

PLEDGY

I think the closest you could get
would be "I welcome you inside me,"
but it's a little shaky.

The spotlights from the news crew beam into the night sky, illuminating the forest. Another imp call sounds in the distance.

SKYE

What's that?

PLEDGY

I don't know, but I bet the demons
are heading for it.

CASSIE

Lights means people. Pledgy, does
that book tell you how to stop
these things?

PLEDGY

I think I can figure it out.

CASSIE

Then the sexy talk can wait.

PLEDGY

Oh, thank god.

EXT. BETA THETA THETA FRAT HOUSE - NIGHT

Back to the news feed. Edward stands next to Tellum at the front door. The porch is now lit with the spotlights.

TELLUM PROMPTER

This is Tellum Prompter, Channel 6,
reporting live from the final send
off for the man who accepted a
ghost's challenge to a scare-off.

(MORE)

TELLUM PROMPTER (CONT'D)

Give us a detailed and expansive tour of your mindset going into this battle of composure.

EDWARD

My mindset is one absent of fear.

TELLUM PROMPTER

Did our supernatural expert's findings have any noticeable effect on your psyche?

EDWARD

Nope. These guy's aren't scary. I don't care what no boo-hickey says.

TELLUM PROMPTER

So the thought of walking into a dark abyss to confront an otherworldly spirit from the death realm while on live television is not scaring you in the slightest?

Edward's confidence cracks a bit.

EDWARD

Uh... no...

TELLUM PROMPTER

Then lead on, brave soul! The nation is behind you.

Edward swallows hard as he eyes the door. He glances back at the camera, then back to the door.

A crack of thunder causes him to flinch as he reaches for the doorknob, hand shaking. Just as he's about to grab it...

JUDY (O.C.)

Hold up! I come in peace!

Judy rises slowly from below the porch, hands raised.

EDWARD

Gah! Who are you?

JUDY

One's popping out of a closet,
one's coming down on a chandelier,
and one's pretending to hang
himself.

She pushes the door open to reveal the candlelit foyer. Trent releases a rope holding the chandelier up in frustration.

TRENT

Damn it!

In rehearsed synchronicity, Mulligan's body falls in the noose right as the chandelier hits the floor. Wells bursts out of the closet with firecrackers popping.

WELLS

Judy! What the hell??

JUDY

The old people send their regards!

TRENT

This is officially worse than the time I possessed that raccoon and got stuck in it!

A window deep inside the house shatters as the three imps claw their way in. Ghosts and humans alike perk up at the sound and look into the house.

The imps come thrashing and screeching into the foyer. Everyone screams and scrambles out into the yard. Edward clutches his heart and keels over.

The camera wobbles and falls as the cameraman flees. The imps crawl outside as the news feed CUTS TO BLACK.

EXT. BETA THETA THETA FRAT HOUSE - SAME

Cassie, Skye, and Pledgy tumble through the foyer and up to the open front door, hot on the demons' heels. They scream as they take in the scene.

SKYE

Watch out for Shitface! He might have inherited Pledgy's diarrhea!

Pledgy steps out onto the porch and holds the book out at the demons, who are terrorizing the humans in the yard.

PLEDGY

Bataaah Vatahhh!

A purple vortex shoots out of the book, pulling the imps into it and out of existence.

Everyone slowly collects themselves. Tellum dusts himself off and motions to his producer.

TELLUM PROMPTER

Get the med kit from the van!

MULLIGAN
 (pointing)
 The plebeian's been petrified!

Trent floats up to Edward's body lying on the porch.

TRENT
 Did he die? He fucking died, didn't
 he? Ha! Dude, we got him!

WELLS
 Trent, shut up!
 (to Cassie)
 What were those??

CASSIE
 Shut up, Wells!

SKYE
 I mean, honestly, only one kill is
 basically a miracle.

EDWARD'S GHOST rises from his body. Trent spreads his arms.

TRENT
 What's up, dude? You like that?
 Who's not scared now, bitch?

EDWARD'S GHOST
 Oh, whatever! You didn't do shit!
 It was those other crazy things!

TRENT
 Doesn't matter! They were on our
 team!

EDWARD'S GHOST
 The hell they were! You and all
 your little ghost friends were
 scared too!

TRENT
 So you admit you were scared?

EDWARD'S GHOST
 Nuh uh! That didn't count!

Tellum's producer runs over to Edward's body with the med kit and pulls out a defibrillator. He charges the paddles and shocks Edward's chest. Edward's ghost gets sucked back into his body as he gasps to life.

EDWARD

I meant it like "you, and your friends too," not me!

TRENT

Oh, yeah right!

WELLS

Oh thank god...

EDWARD

Yeah, cause now you care that I died, right? Gimme a break.

WELLS

I'm just happy you lived cause I didn't wanna have to hang with your loser ass for the rest of eternity!

Trent low-fives him.

The cameraman sets the camera back up as Tellum approaches, still shaken.

TELLUM PROMPTER

Uh... well, I'll spare the viewers the gruesome details, but... suffice it to say that this man lost the challenge pretty spectacularly.

EDWARD

What? No! Come on!

TELLUM PROMPTER

An ambulance has been called, which will soon whisk him shamefully out of the public eye.

TRENT

Yes! We did it!

WELLS

We did it!

Cassie, Skye, and Pledgy join him.

SKYE

No, we did it! We just saved your asses!

TRENT

Beta Theta Theta forever!
 (to Tellum)
 Are you getting this on camera?

WELLS

Beta Theta Theta forever!

MULLIGAN

Beta Theta Theta forever!

PLEDGY

Yeah! Beta Theta Theta forever!

Cassie and Skye exchange a look and shrug.

CASSIE

Beta Theta Theta forever!

SKYE

Beta Theta Theta forever!

Ambulance lights flash across the porch as paramedics arrive and carry Edward out on a stretcher.

EDWARD

Noooooo!

The ghosts keep chanting.

TELLUM PROMPTER

Well, there you have it. The haunted Beta Theta Theta fraternity is still capable of a proper scare. I'm Tellum Prompter, and this was Channel 6 News. May God have mercy on our souls.

The cameraman lowers the camera and the crew begins to pack up. Cassie and Skye start floating off.

CASSIE

Alright, I've gotta go try and get laid.

SKYE

And I need to witness it.

Pledgy starts to follow.

PLEDGY

Yeah, we've got a party to catch.

Cassie stops him.

CASSIE
Not so fast, Pledgy. We'll take it
from here.

PLEDGY
(hanging his head)
Really? Oh...

CASSIE
And don't forget, double hazing
tomorrow.

Her and Skye leave.

WELLS
Hey, Pledgy. Get me a fake beer.

TRENT
Make that two.

Pledgy sighs.

END CREDITS

EXT. DEMON PARTY - NIGHT

A group of strange, twisted DEMONS party in a clearing in the woods. Cassie approaches one seductively.

CASSIE
Raka aka chaka praka.

SUBTITLES: You can dig my trench, if you know what I mean.

DEMON
Shoganar... oxoly...

SUBTITLES: You're not really my type.

The demon walks off as Skye walks up, grinning. Cassie sighs.

END OF EPISODE