

The Haunting of Emily White

Written By

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INT. MATH WING HALLWAY-DAY

The halls are deserted in between classes. A pair a feet run into frame, it is a girl late for class. This is EMILY. Approaching a locker, she furiously opens it. On the top shelf lays a voodoo doll and a book of witchcraft.

A well built senior and her sidekick swagger down the hall. This is RACHEL. Her right hand man is LIZ. The posse shadow over Emily.

RACHEL

Hey freak, are you going to the woods later?

Rachel crashes the books out of her hand. Emily kneels to retrieve her books, but Rachel pushes her up against the locker.

EMILY

Leave me alone!

RACHEL

I asked you a question! Answer me!

EMILY

Get away you ignorant, jerk.

The group suddenly grabs Emily and pulls her down the hall.

INT. THE CLOSET

Approaching the closet, The punks push a trash barrel aside. Underneath is a key. They unlock the door. Inside is a dark abyss. Emily is frightened.

EMILY

Let me go!

LIZ

Shut up, freak!

The girls throw Emily into the dark room, slamming the door behind her. They lock the door while mocking her muffled screams.

EMILY

(O.S.)

LET ME OUT!

RACHEL

HAHAHA! What was that?

LIZ
We can't hear you!

A junior girl passes by and comes to a stop. This is JESSICA.

LIZ
Rachel, stop! It's your sister.

Rachel faces her sister.

JESSICA
You really are doing this on your last day of senior year? Who is in there?

RACHEL
Nobody! Go away!

JESSICA
Tell me!

RACHEL
Go away!

JESSICA
It sucks being your sister.

Jessica storms off. The screams from the closet come to a halt.

RACHEL
Had enough?

There is silence. The bullies unlock the door. Emily isn't in sight. Rachel flips on the light. Standing there is a weeping outline of Emily. The light bulb explodes. A barbaric yell emerges from the dark figure. The door slams shut.

BLACK SCREEN:

SUPER: "Haunting of Emily White"

INT. MATH WING HALLWAY-DAY- 3 MONTHS LATER

We see a P.O.V. shot of Jessica approaching the closet. She begins to open the door. Hearing footsteps from behind, Jessica turns around. Nobody is there. She turns back to the closet and a dirty hand from within, grabs her arm. Jessica is pulled into the closet and the door shuts.

INT. JESSICA'S BEDROOM

The alarm wakes up Jessica. Her breathing is fast. She turns off the alarm and crawls out of bed. She begins to change for school. A knock is heard at the door.

JESSICA

Come in.

Jessica's MOM steps into the room.

MOM

I'm ready to leave. I'm sorry I won't be able to see you go off on your first day of senior year.

JESSICA

Oh stop! You have to take care of grandma.

MOM

Will you be able to last this week with just your sister?

Jessica exhales and rolls her eyes.

JESSICA

Yea I'll be fine.

Mom gives Jessica a hug. Her mom exits the room.

MOM

Love you and good luck!

JESSICA

Thanks.

EXT. HIGH SCHOOL-DAY

Jessica charges down a sidewalk in front of the school. She passes a telephone pole bearing a ripped poster of Emily. It says "Missing".

INT. MATH WING HALLWAY

Jessica is rummaging through her locker. A lively girl bumps into her. This is MARINA.

MARINA

Jessica, got enough space there?

JESSICA

Marina, I'm dreading walking into St. Martin's room!

MARINA

Why? It's the first day.

JESSICA

He had Rachel last year.

MARINA

Oh, damn! Good Luck. I have him an other period.

JESSICA

I just hate that I have to live with her reputation.

MARINA

Well you're not her, so get in there and show your true colors.

JESSICA

Singing 80's songs won't make this better!

MARINA

I'm going to class. I'll see you at lunch!

JESSICA

Ok, see ya'.

Marina strolls off. Jessica shuts her locker. She sees MR. PASSEGIO keeping kids away from the closet. She makes her way towards him.

JESSICA

Mr. Passegio, what is behind that door?

MR. PASSEGIO

Nothing. Administration told me to keep it locked. Just stay away from this closet. You can spread the word to your friends.

JESSICA

Is there something hidden?

MR. PASSEGIO

(Whispering)

Sometimes I see the light flicker or hear whispers, but it is just my imagination. Please, stay away from here!

INT. ST. MARTIN'S CLASS

Jessica is casually writing notes from the white board. The kids in the back row are passed out, while other kids scribble in their notebooks. MR. ST. MARTIN lectures the classroom.

ST. MARTIN

So the main goal is to isolate the "X".

The light above Jessica flickers on and off. She glances up, not thinking too much of it.

ST. MARTIN

Take the "x" and divide it by 3...

Jessica hears a noise coming from behind her.

VOICE (O.S.)

Help me, Jessica. Please help!

She turns around.

JESSICA

Sure, what do you need help with?

Sitting behind her is Liz. Liz is confused.

LIZ

The hell you talking about?

JESSICA

Liz, didn't you just ask for help?

LIZ

No, but now I have a question.
Could you turn around?

Jessica turns back to face the whiteboard.

VOICE (O.S.)

Let me out...

Mr. St Martin notices Jessica being distracted.

ST. MARTIN

Jessica, I really don't want to yell at you like your sister.
Please turn around.

JESSICA

Um, sorry Mr. St. Martin. It won't happen again.

ST. MARTIN
Ok, now where was I?.

INT. CAFETERIA

Jessica sits across from Marina while she munches at her sandwich.

MARINA
How was St. Martin's class?

JESSICA
Ten minutes in and I already got yelled at for distracting students. I thought I heard voices in his room.

MARINA
Do we need to get an exorcist?

JESSICA
No, I'm not possessed.

MARINA
Maybe it was Emily?

JESSICA
Who? I was sitting in front of that priss, Liz.

MARINA
No, shush, just listen. Remember that girl Emily White?

Jessica nods her head.

MARINA
Well, she is still missing.

JESSICA
Oh, you think she is a ghost?

MARINA
The last place anybody saw her was the Math Wing. Maybe she's haunting it!

JESSICA
Shut up! She ran away because she was bullied.

MARINA
That's what they want you to think.

JESSICA
Please don't give me that
conspiracy, Illuminati crap!

MARINA
(Groggy voice)
I know what you did last math
class!

Kids at the table give Marina a dirty look.

MARINA
Take a picture it will last longer!
Mind ya damn business.

Marina turns her attention back to Jessica

MARINA
I'm just kidding about all of that.
Just relax. The day is almost over.

JESSICA
You are right.

MARINA
Think of the positive side of this
voice. Maybe she'll give you
answers to tests.

INT. MATH WING HALLWAY

While walking to her locker, Jessica passes the closet.

VOICE (O.S.)
Jessica!

Stopping in her tracks, Jessica turns around. The hallway is empty.

VOICE (O.S.)
Turn Around... Turn around.

Jessica follows the command. She notices that a light is gleaming under the door. Curiously, she approaches the door.

VOICE (O.S.)
Let me out!

JESSICA
Wait, hold on a sec!

The light turns off. The voice is silenced. Jessica tries to open the door, but it is locked.

VOICE (O.S.)
Under the barrel.

Jessica turns to her side. Next to her is a trash barrel. She pushes it aside and finds a ring with two keys hidden underneath. She picks it up. Stalking behind her is Emily. While unlocking the door, Mr. St. Martin appears behind Jessica and pulls her away from the door. Emily is gone.

MR. ST. MARTIN
What do you think you are doing?

JESSICA
(Hesitating)
Uh nothing. I was just... I heard somebody behind the door.

Mr. St. Martin snatches the keys from her hand and places them in his pocket.

MR. ST MARTIN
I don't want you to follow your sister's footsteps. I'm going to have to give you an hour for trying to break into school property.

JESSICA
Are you serious?

MR. ST MARTIN
Does It look like I'm kidding?
Administration said nobody is allowed in there.

Jessica sighs and storms off down the hall.

INT. JESSICA'S BEDROOM-NIGHT

Jessica is pacing around her room; talking on the phone with Marina.

JESSICA
This is bull. I didn't do anything wrong.

INT. MARINA'S BEDROOM

Marina is relaxing on a chair with a book on her lap.

MARINA
Gurl, you tried to break into a room that is off limits. I'm pretty sure it is safe to say what you did was wrong.

INTERCUT- JESSICA'S ROOM/MARINA'S ROOM

JESSICA

There was somebody screaming for help.

MARINA

Maybe it was Emily!

Marina hums the Twilight Zone theme.

JESSICA

Cut it out! I swear to god somebody was there! A light was on.

MARINA

Take a breath. I know you are gonna hate me for this, but I'm going to give you some tough love. I really think you are trying to make up for everything your sister did.

JESSICA

I just don't want to be known as the punk's sister. Maybe I am exaggerating, but I know something is behind that door.

MARINA

Ok, I think it's time for you to go to bed.

JESSICA

I'll see you in the morning!

MARINA

Redrum, Redrum!

Jessica giggles and hangs up the phone.

EXT. JESSICA'S HOUSE-NIGHT

The house is dark and silent, but something sinister is brewing inside.

INT. JESSICA'S BEDROOM

Jessica is sound asleep in her bed. The closet door suddenly slams shut. Jessica jolts out of her slumber. She turns on a lamp. Looking around the room, nothing is there. She turns off the light and lies back down.

The closet door opens and begins slamming like a drum. Jessica jumps out of her bed and the door shuts. Frightened,

she makes her way to the hallway door. The closet door opens and a scream roars out of it.

INT. HALLWAY

Jessica rushes out of her room. Entering the bathroom, she turns on the faucet and splashes water onto her face. She looks up into the mirror and pushes her the hair out of her eyes.

INT. HALLWAY

Making her way back to the bedroom, Jessica sees Emily standing on the stairs. Emily sprints towards Jessica. Jessica opens her bedroom door and Emily is standing behind it.

INT. JESSICA'S BEDROOM

Jessica lunges up out of her dream, screaming. She flips on the light. Her breathing is ragged, while she wipes the sweat off of her forehead. Rachel frantically bursts in the room.

RACHEL

What the hell is the matter?

JESSICA

Nothing. I just had a bad dream.

RACHEL

Oh thank god! I thought you were being killed.

Rachel stomps out of the room, shutting the door behind her.

INT. GIRL'S BATHROOM- DAY

Jessica washes her hands. She looks ragged, but covers it well. Marina is in the stall behind her.

MARINA (O.S.)

Are you ok? You are wicked quiet today.

JESSICA

Your girl was in my dream last night.

MARINA (O.S.)

Who?

JESSICA

Emily White.

The toilet flushes and Marina walks out.

MARINA

Are you being serious?

JESSICA

Yes. I never talked to her, so I don't know why she was in my dream.

Another toilet flushes a few stalls down. Liz emerges out of the stall.

LIZ

You should ask your sister about her.

JESSICA

How did she know her?

LIZ

Oh we had some fun with her last year. She was a odd character who hung out in the woods. Maybe you are just as strange as Emily, since you are hearing things that aren't there.

MARINA

What's your damage? You always start unnecessary drama! We are not friends and you had nothing to do with this conversation, so can you mind ya damn business?

LIZ

Unnecessary drama? I don't know what you are talking about?

JESSICA

Come on, Marina. Let's go.

Jessica and Marina storm out of the bathroom.

EXT. JESSICA'S HOUSE- DUSK

Rachel's car pulls up in the drive way. She gets out of the car and makes her way inside.

INT. JESSICA'S KITCHEN

Jessica is doing home work at the table. Rachel walks in from the front door. She enters the kitchen searching for food.

JESSICA

How was work?

RACHEL

I wanted to poke my eyes out, but I need the money to get me into college. How is senior year going?

JESSICA

It's alright.

While Rachel searches for food, an awkward silence occurs. Jessica breaks it.

JESSICA

Do you remember Emily White?

Rachel stops for a second then continues her search.

RACHEL

Isn't she the girl who went missing?

JESSICA

You know who she is. Tell me what you did to her.

Rachel turns to Jessica.

RACHEL

It was nothing serious. We locked her in the closet.

JESSICA

Did you do this your last day of school?

Rachel nods her head.

JESSICA

I was there that day. Why did you do it?

RACHEL

She creeped us out! She did witchcraft and believed in spirits.

JESSICA

Witchcraft? What do you mean?

EXT. WOODS- DAY- FLASHBACK

Emily practices her witchcraft in the woods. Jessica and Liz watch from a distance.

RACHEL (V.O.)

One day Liz and I stumbled upon her in the woods. She was all alone with voodoo dolls and candles. She chanted some weird rhyme. We thought it would be funny to scare her.

INT. JESSICA'S KITCHEN

JESSICA

You were the last ones to see her.

RACHEL

Are you saying we killed her?

JESSICA

No! You were just so horrible to her on what was probably the last day of her life.

Rachel's anger takes over. She invades Jessica's space by getting in her face.

RACHEL

Stop blaming this on me! Whatever happened to her afterwards wasn't my fault! Nobody knows what we did and nobody is going to find out!

Rachel treads out of the room, stomping her feet up the staircase.

INT. LIBRARY- DAY

Jessica scans the eclectic, racks of books. She holds a bundle of books under her arm. Marina enters the aisle and approaches her.

MARINA

I'm gonna be on the computers. Just remember we have extra help with ST. Martin in a half hour.

JESSICA

I won't forget.

MARINA

You look tired.

JESSICA

Yea, I haven't been getting a lot of sleep.

Marina notices the books under Jessica's arm.

MARINA

You trying to be a witch? Don't steal my ruby slippers!

JESSICA

God no! Rachel was telling me last night that Emily believed in this stuff.

MARINA

Now I understand why she didn't have friends.

JESSICA

There was something that caught my attention. The books mentioned how a great witch can cross to the other side and back.

MARINA

Like a ghost?

JESSICA

Yes exactly. Any witch can achieve this power. They use it to escape horrible situations. The down side is a witch filled with hate and rage can't come back after crossing over. The only way they can is through possession of somebody in the room they crossed.

MARINA

So when Emily went into the closet, she tried to cross over to escape; but once she made it over, she couldn't come back?

JESSICA

That would make sense. Rachel told me she had voodoo dolls. I'm thinking she tried to abuse her powers and hurt those that bullied her.

MARINA

Gurl I love you, but I think you are way over your head in this.

JESSICA

Marina, I can't get her voice out

(MORE)

JESSICA (CONT'D)

of my head. Maybe if I figure this out, I will undo my what my sister did and Emily's spirit will be free.

MARINA

Whatever you say.

Marina struts out of the aisle. Jessica sits down and studies the books. Flipping the pages, Jessica falls asleep.

MONTAGE: JESSICA'S DREAM

-- Jessica is standing behind a kneeling Emily in the woods. Emily is wearing a hooded jacket. Voodoo dolls lay in the middle of a pentacle formed with rocks and candles

-- Jessica stands before a classroom watching Emily being laughed at by Rachel and peers.

-- Jessica painfully watches her sister push Emily into the closet.

-- Approaching Emily in the woods, Jessica calls her name. Emily turns around revealing a deformed face.

INT. LIBRARY- DAY- DREAM

Jessica wakes up from her dream. She stands up to put a book away. From the other side, Emily grabs Jessica through the rack. Jessica's breathing is cut off from fright.

EMILY

Jessica!

INT. LIBRARY

Marina interrupts Jessica's dream.

MARINA

Jessica! Wake up!

JESSICA

What's the matter?

MARINA

We are late for extra help!

JESSICA

Damn it!

The girls sprint out of the aisle.

INT. ST. MARTIN'S CLASS

The girls rush into the room. ST. Martin is not there. Liz is packing up her bag in the front row.

LIZ

ST. Martin wanted me to tell you
guys that you'll have to reschedule
because you were late.

Liz gets out of her seat and walks past Marina and Jessica. Emily is in the room and grabs a marker from a desk, while she walks to the back of the room.

LIZ

(Sarcastically)
Have a great day!

MARINA

Whatever.

The girls have their backs turned away from the back wall. They are unaware that Emily is behind them.

JESSICA

Crap, he is going to be pissed.

MARINA

Stop, alright. We can make up
something.

Jessica turns around and gasps.

MARINA

Stop worrying about...

Marina is now aware of what Jessica is looking at. The wall is vandalized with "Let Me Out!" Emily's ghost is staring at Jessica.

JESSICA

Oh my god! Do you see her?

MARINA

See who? All I see is the sentence!

The ghost creeps towards Jessica

JESSICA

She is right there!

MARINA

Nobody is there.

Mr. ST. Martin has now entered the room. His eyes fill with anger.

ST. MARTIN
You have gone too far!

The girls look over at ST. Martin. Jessica looks back and Emily has vanished.

ST. MARTIN
Imbusch's office. Now!

INT. MR. IMBUSCH'S OFFICE

Marina is slouched in her chair while Jessica is intimidated by IMBUSCH. St. Martin stands in the corner behind the girls.

IMBUSCH
I am so disappointed in you Jessica. I had high expectations of you. I hate to say it, but you are starting to act like your sister.

JESSICA
I am not like...

IMBUSCH
I don't want to hear it.

He turns his attention to Marina.

IMBUSCH
I usually find some inspiration in your free spirit, but this was just wrong, Marina.

MARINA
I'll take that as a compliment.

IMBUSCH
You two are going to serve a week of detention and clean the wall in Mr. St. Martin's room.

MARINA/JESSICA
Yes sir.

IMBUSCH
If you keep up this new persona, you will end up down the same road as your sister.

JESSICA
Yes, Sir.

IMBUSCH

You are free to go.

The girls start to exit the room. Jessica turns back to Mr. Imbusch.

JESSICA

Mr. Imbusch, what is behind the math wing closet door?

IMBUSCH

Nothing. Stay away from it or you are out of this school.

INT. HALLWAY

The girl's heads hang low while they stroll down the hall.

JESSICA

You didn't have to take the blame. It had nothing to do with you.

MARINA

It had nothing to do with you either. You're my girl! I got your back.

JESSICA

Now you believe in Emily?

MARINA

Well how the hell did the writing get on wall because I am damn sure we didn't do it.

JESSICA

You got that right!

The girls continue on down the hall.

INT. JESSICA'S BEDROOM

Marina and Jessica are effortlessly doing their homework. Marina is snacking on a bag of chips.

JESSICA

I need to free her. Tomorrow.

MARINA

You better know what you're doing.

JESSICA

I'll do whatever it takes to end this.

MARINA

I am going with you because, I don't want you to be sucked in there like that little girl in Poltergeist.

Jessica and Marina are unaware that Rachel has been eavesdropping in the hallway.

INT. ST. MARTIN'S CLASS

The girls have just finished cleaning up the writing on the wall. The bell rings for their dismissal.

ST. MARTIN

Good job ladies. I'll see you tomorrow after school.

MARINA

(mumbling)
You too, warden.

ST. MARTIN

What was that?

JESSICA

Nothing. Good Night, see you tomorrow!

St. Martin leaves the room.

JESSICA

Trying to get us into more trouble?

MARINA

Oh please! He didn't hear me.

JESSICA

We will meet back here around seven. ok?

MARINA

Sounds good.

EXT. HIGH SCHOOL- NIGHT

A few lights are still on inside the building. The parking lot is empty and silent.

INT. THE CLOSET

The girls stand before the door. Fear takes control of Jessica, while she hesitates to open the door.

MARINA

It is now or never.

JESSICA

I'm going.

Jessica pushes aside the trash barrel. This time there is only one key. Jessica puts the key in the lock and the door creaks open. A pair of hands grabs a hold of Jessica and Marina's shoulders. Screaming, they turn to see Rachel.

JESSICA

What the hell are you doing here?

RACHEL

Liz told me you have been obsessing over this closet and I overheard you two last night. When you weren't home I assumed you would be here. Nothing is in there, Jess.

JESSICA

Leave us alone.

RACHEL

This all in your head. Give me the key and let's go home.

JESSICA

No! I am fixing your problems like I always have.

RACHEL

Marina, tell her to give me the key.

MARINA

I'm not going to be Dr. Phil in this situation.

RACHEL

Fine!

Rachel pins Jessica against the wall and snatches the key.

JESSICA

Why do you have to be immature and ruin everything?

RACHEL

Look who is talking! Coming from the girl who scribbled all over a wall!

JESSICA
It wasn't me!

RACHEL
Then who did?

Emily's ghost emerges from the closet, pulling Rachel into the unknown. The door slams shut.

RACHEL (O.S.)
Jessica!

JESSICA
Rachel!

MARINA
She has the key!

Jessica turns toward the door.

JESSICA
Rachel, give us the key!

INT. CLOSET

The room is complete dark. We see through Rachel's P.O.V.

RACHEL
I dropped it. It is dark as hell in here. Let me find the light.

INT. MATH WING HALLWAY

The light shines through the cracks in the door.

RACHEL (O.S.)
Found it!

The Key comes sliding out from under the door. Jessica leans down to grab it, but the key is sucked back under the door.

INT. THE CLOSET

Rachel turns and sees Emily standing behind her. Rachel lets out a blood curdling scream. The light goes out.

INT. MATH WING HALLWAY

JESSICA
Rachel?

Marina and Jessica pound on the door.

JESSICA
Please answer me!

MARINA

Is there another key?

JESSICA

Oh my god there is! St. Martin took the other one when I was trying to go in there last week.

MARINA

Let's go check his room!

JESSICA

Just hold on, Rachel!

Jessica and Marina sprint down the hallway.

INT. ST. MARTIN'S CLASS

The room is dark when the girls enter. Marina flips on the light.

MARINA

It's gotta be in his desk.

Jessica ransacks the desk. Pulling out drawers and throwing papers, she searches for the key. The light turns off.

JESSICA

Turn on the damn lights!

MARINA

I didn't shut them!

JESSICA

Oh crap! She's here!

Marina lets out a scream and points to the back wall. Jessica looks up and sees the writing. The wall has a large pentacle drawn on it. Next to it says "She's Mine!".

MARINA

Can you see her?

JESSICA

No.

Jessica dives back into the drawers. A student desk runs over Marina sending her to the ground.

MARINA

What the hell?!

Jessica sees Emily pushing over desks making her way towards the front of the class. Marina is terrified. Jessica finally

finds the key. Emily is standing before her. She knocks over the items on the desk.

JESSICA

Run Marina!

INT. MATH WING HALLWAY

Jessica and Marina run down the hall for their lives. The locker doors burst open and closed. Emily is fast on their heels.

INT. THE CLOSET

The girls bash into the closet. Jessica's hands begin shaking as she tries to unlock the door. She sees Emily lurking towards them.

MARINA

Hurry up!

JESSICA

I'm going!

Jessica pulls the door open and Emily is behind it. Emily screams while wind burst out of the door.

Jessica sees Rachel. She reaches and pulls Rachel out. The girls shut the door and run out of the school.

EXT. HIGH SCHOOL MAIN ENTRANCE- NIGHT

The girls sprint down the main stairs and approach Rachel's car. They try to catch their breath and embrace in a hug.

JESSICA

Rachel, I'm sorry about that!

Rachel stands motionless. She has zoned out. Jessica ends the hug.

JESSICA

Rachel! Are you ok?

Rachel snaps out of it.

RACHEL

Yes I'm fine! Let's get out of here.

MARINA

Can I sleep over tonight?

JESSICA

Yes you can.

The girls get into the car and drive off.

INT. JESSICA'S BEDROOM-NIGHT

Marina lays on the floor while Jessica is cuddled into her bed.

JESSICA
Do you think anybody is going to believe us?

MARINA
Hell no! We would be sent straight to the ward.

JESSICA
I'm assuming we shouldn't tell anybody.

MARINA
That sounds like a good idea.

JESSICA
I'm going to bed. Good night.

MARINA
Good night!

Marina gets up and turns off the light. They fall asleep.

MONTAGE: JESSICA'S DREAM

- Rachel tells Jessica about Emily.
- Emily violently stabs a voodoo doll in the woods.
- Jessica explains to Marina how a witch can cross back over.
- Jessica stares at the wall in ST. Martin's room. It bears "She's Mine!"

INT. JESSICA'S BEDROOM

Jessica wakes up with a realization.

JESSICA
Marina! Emily wasn't after me! She used us to get Rachel in the closet to cross back over.

Jessica looks down, but Marina is not in her room. Eerie whispers and a scream come from the bathroom. Jessica gets up to investigate.

INT. BATHROOM

Jessica opens the door. Marina is on the ground. Jessica kneels down.

JESSICA
Marina! Wake up!

Marina is not breathing. Sobbing and wiping the tears off her face; Jessica looks into the mirror. A pentacle is drawn on the mirror. The bathroom door shuts, revealing Rachel standing behind it. Her eyes are darker than before. Jessica sees her sister.

JESSICA
Why did you do it, Rachel?

RACHEL
I'm not Rachel.

The screen cuts to black. We hear Jessica scream.

THE END