

GIRL'S ROOM

by Japheth Gordon

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

A large space, almost over-designed with cute accent pieces. Empty moving boxes are piled near the hallway.

NIKKI (14) is putting the finishing touches on her desk. DAD (40s) pops his head in the door and looks around.

DAD

Wow. You set up fast.

NIKKI

I wanted it to feel like it's really my room.

DAD

It *is* really your room.

(beat)

Well, goodnight sweetie. If you need anything, I'm right down the hall...

Dad points the wrong way and corrects.

DAD (CONT'D)

That way -- down the hall. Gotta get used to this place.

NIKKI

'Night dad.

Dad exits and Nikki sits alone on the bed. She looks around her empty, silent room, then rests her head on a pillow.

A faint COUGH is heard from the dark corner of the room.

NIKKI (CONT'D)

Dad, is that you?

There's no answer. Nikki sits up, uneasy.

NIKKI (CONT'D)

Hello? Is someone --

A GIRL (14) emerges from the darkness. Pale skin and ripped clothes. She stumbles to her knees COUGHING!

NIKKI (CONT'D)

Oh my god! Are you alright?

GIRL
(still choking)
I'm sorry.

NIKKI
No, let me help you.

GIRL
I...I shouldn't be here. This is a
mistake.

NIKKI
Whatever's wrong, don't worry. My
dad will fix it.

GIRL
Wait! Please. No one else... nobody
is supposed to see me here.

NIKKI
You won't get in trouble.

GIRL
It's not me I'm worried about.
(beat)
I'm back because I need something.

NIKKI
Back from where?

GIRL
I used to live here. This is -- was
my room.
(looks around)
You changed everything.

NIKKI
I didn't know...

GIRL
This is wrong. All of this is --
(coughs). Change it back. NOW!

NIKKI
Who are you?

GIRL
Where's the mirror? There was a
mirror - here - hanging on this
wall.

NIKKI
We got rid of it.
(beat)
(MORE)

NIKKI (CONT'D)

My dad and I cleared all the old stuff out. There was -- Do you know about the things that happened in this house?

The GIRL can't look at Nikki, she's lost in thought. The painful memory causes the GIRL's COUGHING to intensify!

GIRL

I... don't have time.

NIKKI

This is ridiculous...

Nikki unplugs her cell from the charger and starts to dial.

NIKKI (CONT'D)

You need medical help.

GIRL

STOP!

The phone powers down abruptly. Nikki looks up confused and sees the GIRL becoming angry.

The room gets dark and an intense wind blows around!

NIKKI

Wh-what's happening?!

GIRL

You forced me to do this. Why couldn't you just leave things how they were?

NIKKI

I'm sorry.

GIRL

Now I can't return, and I can't let you live here...

NIKKI

(calls out)

Dad!

The GIRL moves ominously close to Nikki.

GIRL

All I wanted was for things to stay the same.

NIKKI

Get out of my room!

GIRL
IT'S NOT YOUR ROOM!

Pictures rattle on the wall as the entire house begins to vibrate!

Nikki cowers in the corner, terrified.

NIKKI
Please. Don't hurt me...

BLACK OUT.

LIGHTS UP...

The GIRL is gone. Nikki stands alone on stage. She smiles a sinister smile and sits on the bed.

NIKKI (CONT'D)
Now I can make things right in here.

As she gets comfortable, we realize that the GIRL, a ghost, has now possessed Nikki's body!