

House Call

written by Alyson Fraser

INT. HOME OFFICE - NIGHT

KYE sits in a room looking at an old television screen. He is hunched over wearing glasses, which you can see the reflection of what is playing on the TV on. On the television, youtubers ALYSON and RUTH are laughing, the video stops and then starts from the beginning. Playing the clip repeatedly. Kye picks up the remote and turns off the TV before getting up and leaving the room. He picks up his phone.

KYE

Hey, House Call. I think I need your help.

CUT TO:

MONTAGE

Various shots of different ghost hunting events and equipment, ALYSON and RUTH participating and the activities and explaining the equipment. Alyson is seen holding dowsing rods.

ALYSON

The dowsing rods...

Ruth has a blindfold on her head and headphones in her hand.

RUTH

We can use the Estes method to communicate...

Ruth and Alyson walk through a hallway, Alyson holding an EMF reader.

KYE (V.O.)

I've had this puppet for a while. Think it might be trying to hurt me.

Shots of old black and white photos slide across the screen.

KYE (V.O.) (CONT'D)

My great uncle owned it. It's been passed down through the men in my family since he died.

INT. DARK ROOM - DAY

A red phone sits on a table, lit by a single light. It rings in the distance. The sound comes into focus as a hand reaches into frame and picks up the phone.

RUTH (V.O.)  
Hello, House Call.

INT. FRONT ENTRY WAY - DAY

A camera is already set up; RUTH and ALYSON are ready to film and intro with KYE.

RUTH  
Hi everyone, and welcome back to our House Call series! Our viewer Kye called in and wanted us to check out his place.

ALYSON  
We gladly took the call and will help him out here. How're you, Kye?

KYE  
Honestly excited to see what the paranormal fuss is about!

ALYSON  
Stay tuned!

The three wait for a beat and then reach to stop the recording.

ALYSON  
Alright, let's just pack this up and move on to the next filming spot. You okay if we start with an interview?

KYE  
Yeah for sure, we can get an interview here on the couch.

RUTH  
The audience loves whatever scary story you can give them.

Kye puts his hands up in the air with a shrug casually.

KYE

Sure, you're the experts.

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY.

ALYSON walks around taking note of her surroundings and exploring the new space. When she notices a shelf of old photographs with candles around them. Almost like a shrine of family photos. Ruth sneaks up behind Alyson.

RUTH

(Teasingly)

Scared already?

Alyson jumps at the surprise of Ruth coming behind her.

ALYSON

God, can you give me a little warning next time?

RUTH

What is the fun in that?

Alyson's eyes are drawn back to the mantle with the photographs on it.

ALYSON

I wonder why these photos are displayed like that it is almost like one of those shrine Things from a stalker...horror....films.

Ruth's eyes follow to where Alyson is looking.

RUTH

I mean, I guess.

Ruth shrugs. Alyson's eyes stay fixed on the photographs, like she is in a trance.

RUTH (CONT'D)

Anyways...I came over here to get you we are set up for Kye's initial interview.

Alyson's eyes finally look over at Ruth.

ALYSON

Yeah, for sure.

Alyson and Ruth walk over to the couch where Kye is seated in front of a camera. Alyson walks behind the camera, adjusts it, and gives Ruth a thumbs up. Ruth then turns to face Kye.

RUTH

Okay Kye, why did you call in for our help?

KYE

I just feel like I'm going crazy. I have had some... weird things happen while living here.

RUTH

What kind of experiences?

KYE

Like lights turning on and off or feeling, I feel like I'm being watched. Footsteps in the middle of the night. That sorta thing.

RUTH

Why don't you move then?

KYE

I don't think it's the apartment though, I feel like I'm the problem.

RUTH

When did you start feeling off?

KYE

It was a few months after I moved in. My parents dropped off some heirlooms and this puppet was part of that.

Kye pulls out a lamb puppet.

RUTH

Why do you think it's the puppet?

KYE

I don't know, I feel like there's something up with it.

RUTH

Okay. So that's where we can start. Am I missing anything?

ALYSON

I have a question. Can you tell us about the family photos over there?

Alyson looks to point at the shrine behind her. Kye re-adjusts his shirt, leans forward and crosses his legs, seeming more closed off than before.

KYE

Why?

ALYSON

Just curious.

KYE

Those are of my great grandparents from when they first moved out here. There's photos of my Grammy and her brother...but he di-

The camera shuts down and the screen goes black. Alyson tries turning it back on, but it is completely out of battery.

ALYSON

Shit. It died.

Ruth comes behind Alyson while Kye is still seated on the couch.

RUTH

There is no way, I charged the battery this morning. And double checked it before I set up.

ALYSON

Well, it's dead now.

KYE

Do you guys have a backup camera or something?

RUTH

Yeah, but it's more about if we lost the footage of your interview or not.

ALYSON

Let's charge the batteries again.  
See if the footage is deleted  
after and in the meantime use the  
other camera to film the dowsing  
rods method.

CUT TO:

Ruth finished setting up the backup camera, Kye is hanging around observing the process. Alyson is unboxing the dowsing rods. Ruth presses record, the three of them are speaking directly into the camera.

RUTH

To try and connect with whatever  
entity may be in Kyes house we  
will be using dowsing rods.

ALYSON

Dowsing rods are used by having  
one in each hand, with the ends  
facing forward and parallel to  
the ground. You walk around with  
them allowing the rods to move  
freely, and they will respond to  
yes or no questions. They open  
for "no" and cross for "yes."

Ruth looks over at Kye.

RUTH

You ready to try it out?

Ruth and Alyson offer out the dowsing rods.

KYE

Sure.

Alyson gives the dowsing rods to Kye, but he hesitates.

KYE (CONT'D)

Actually, can one of you do it?

ALYSON

Sure, yeah.

KYE

And this might be weird, but do you think you could use it on the puppet?

Kye brings out the puppet again.

ALYSON

Yeah, we can try it out.

KYE

Okay, thanks.

Kye places the puppet upright and Alyson sits cross-legged in front of it.

ALYSON

Okay, spirit we are going to ask your questions to connect.

Dowsing rods stay parallel to the ground. Ruth sits observing over Alyson's shoulder.

RUTH

Are you a person trying to connect with Kye?

Dowsing rods cross.

RUTH (CONT'D)

Okay we're getting somewhere. Do you know Kye?

Dowsing rods cross again.

Alyson looks back at the shrine.

ALYSON

Are you a close relative to Kye?

Dowsing rods remain open. Kye starts to itch his arm nervously.

ALYSON (CONT'D)

Were you related to Kye in some way?

Dowsing rods cross again. Kye continues scratching and it gets noticeably louder.

ALYSON (CONT'D)

Hey Kye, are you okay?

Kye stares off into space, not acknowledging Alyson.

RUTH

Kye, is everything okay?

Kye snaps out of it and stops scratching.

KYE

Yeah... I just kind of stared  
into space there.

RUTH

No worries, we got our footage  
here.

KYE

Cool. I'm just going to use the  
bathroom quickly.

ALYSON

Okay.

CUT TO:

INT. BATHROOM, DAY

Kye goes into the bathroom and stares at himself in the  
mirror. He takes a deep breath.

KYE

Things are coming together.

CUT TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM, DAY.

Ruth and Alyson go to check the footage.

RUTH

The batteries should be charged  
by now.

Alyson looks confused at the camera.

RUTH (CONT'D)

What's wrong?

ALYSON  
Come check this out.

CUT TO:

INT. BATHROOM, DAY.

Kye pulls out a photo that was in his pocket, it's black and white of a man.

KYE  
I've always idolized you.

CUT TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM, DAY.

ALYSON  
The audio is just super distorted. I thought I checked it out.

RUTH  
That is super strange. Let me just check on the other camera.

CUT TO:

INT. BATHROOM - DAY

Kyes gaze has changed, he now has a sunken brow and his chin is tilted. His look is now more menacing.

KYE  
I found the right pair of girls, didn't I?

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

Ruth has picked up the main camera, as Alyson looks over her shoulder. The camera turns on.

RUTH

Thank goodness. Now the  
footage...

CUT TO:

INT. BATHROOM - DAY - DAY

Kye looks back at the image, admiring the man.

KYE

I'm doing what you always did. I  
like to think you would be proud  
of me, Bruce.

CUT TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM, DAY.

Ruth is looking over Alysons footage as they rewatch the  
video of the interview they just took.

RUTH

Yeah, it cut out right after you  
asked about the photos so we'll  
have to ask that again. But  
otherwise the footage looks fine.

INT. BATHROOM, DAY.

Kye is still looking at the mirror like before. He now begins  
to smile.

KYE

Just be patient, I have a plan.

INT. LIVING ROOM, DAY.

Alyson and Ruth check the backup camera again.

ALYSON

It cut out as soon as I asked  
about relatives, again.

RUTH

Yeah this is really weird.

INT. BATHROOM - DAY - DAY

Kye remains staring at the photo, his eyes get more sunken in.

KYE

They still think it's that silly puppet, don't worry.

Starts laughing manically.

KYE (CONT'D)

They bought it.

CUT TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM, DAY.

Ruth and Alyson start gathering items for the Estes method, Kye opens the bathroom door and walks towards them.

ALYSON

Hey!

Kye stands up and brushes off his jeans. His eyes are red like he has been crying.

KYE

Hey.

ALYSON

Is everything okay?

KYE

Yeah, everything's fine.

Ruth examines his face a bit more.

ALYSON

Oh, okay...

KYE

What's next?

Alyson and Ruth give a look between one another. Then look back at Kye.

RUTH

We could go try the Estes method to see if we can find out anything else.

KYE

Let's do it! We can use my room,  
need me to bring up a camera?

RUTH

We should be...good.

Kye starts to walk to his room. Ruth and Alyson follow  
hesitantly behind him.

INT. KYE'S ROOM - AFTERNOON

Kye, Ruth and Alyson sit crisscross in a circle on the bed,  
while the camera rolls for the YouTube video. Kye is wearing  
a blindfold with headphones on, and a spirit box sitting in  
his lap. Ruth and Alyson look at the camera.

RUTH

Kye is hooked up to the spirit  
box, and we are going to try the  
Estes method.

ALYSON

The Estes method is a twist on  
your standard spirit box session,  
one person wears headphones and a  
blindfold, unable to see or hear  
other people in the room, who are  
asking questions. They answer  
based on what they hear in the  
spirit box.

Alyson and Ruth turn to Kye.

RUTH

I just want to start by saying if  
there Are any spirits wanting to  
connect with Kye or Us they are  
welcome to.

Kye slouches slightly, tilting his head, suggesting that  
something else is with them.

KYE

(blankly)

I do.

Alyson sits up taller and shifts side to side.

ALYSON

What is your name?

KYE

He knows.

ALYSON

Who knows? Kye?

Alyson and Ruth look at each other, uneasy.

KYE

Yes.

RUTH

How does Kye know you?

KYE

Secret.

RUTH

Your secret or his?

KYE

(in a whisper)

Stop

ALYSON

Can you speak up?

Kye turns to face directly at Alyson. His voice is getting louder.

KYE

Stop. Stop. Stop. Stop.

Kye is now acting more intense, he is shaking his head. Ruth and Alyson look towards one another.

RUTH

We need to take him out of this.

Alyson goes to try and take the headphones off Kye but he grabs her wrist tightly. Alyson yelps in pain.

KYE

Stop. Stop. Stop. Stop. Stop.

Ruth goes to knock off the headphones. As soon as she does Kye is silent, and takes off the blindfold. Alyson is rubbing her wrist and glaring in Kye's direction.

KYE

What just happened?

ALYSON

You seriously dont know what just happened?

RUTH

Alyson, geez. That was hard on all of us.

Ruth turns to Kye.

RUTH (CONT'D)

Are you okay? Need anything.

KYE

Yeah...I think I could use some fresh air. But I don't want to be alone after what just happened.

RUTH

Yeah, I'll come with you.

ALYSON

(annoyed)

I'm okay too, thanks for asking.

Alyson storms to the living room.

RUTH

Sorry about her. I will grab our shoes then we can head out.

CUT TO:

EXT. APARTMENT - NIGHT

Kye and Ruth stand outside the apartment. Ruth pulls out a pack of cigarettes; offering one to Kye. He declines, and Ruth pulls one out for herself and lights it. Kye starts to walk away from the building, Ruth following him after a few moments. They walk to a bike path through a slightly wooded area.

CUT TO:

EXT. BIKE PATH - CONTINUOUS

Kye and Ruth walk through the wooded area outside the apartment. She takes a long drag, puffing out the smoke with a long sigh. Kye relaxes, taking a deep breath of the night air.

RUTH  
Feeling better?

Kye's expression darkens, seeming shadowed and blank.

KYE  
I feel soooo much better.

Ruth looks at Kye, a suspicious concern in her face.

CUT TO:

INT. KYE'S ROOM - NIGHT

Alyson packs up the spirit box and blindfold, finding and pulling out an EMF reader. She pulls it out, shrugs, and turns it on. She starts to slowly walk through the room, slowly waving the EMF reader side to side. No readings appear on the main floor, so she starts to head up the stairs.

INT. UPSTAIRS AREA - NIGHT

Alyson makes her way through the area towards Kye's room, where the EMF reader is starting to pick up smaller readings.

INT KYE'S ROOM - NIGHT

Alyson walks into Kye's room, waving the reader back and forth. The reader starts to pick up more of a signal closer to Kye's shelves. She moves closer, waving the reader across the shelves. The reader spikes as she passes it over a box.

CUT TO:

EXT. BIKE PATH - NIGHT

Ruth and Kye walk deeper into the wooded area.

RUTH  
I know it's been a bit, but what were you going to say about your grandmother's brother during the interview.

KYE  
He was sent to death row.

Ruth's eyes go wide as she takes a moment to think of what to say.

KYE (CONT)

My grammy kept a toy of his that he had for years, and it became an heirloom, going from her to my mom to me.

Ruth remains silent, taking another drag of her cigarette.

CUT TO:

INT. KYE'S ROOM - NIGHT

Alyson kneels on the floor, holding the box in her lap as she sets the EMF reader down beside her. She notices the puppet and waves the reader at it. The reader spikes.

Alyson looks to the puppet curiously. She picks up the reader, pulling it away from the puppet. The reading dies down a little. She holds it close again. The reading picks up.

She turns off the reader, placing it on the floor beside her and the puppet and starts looking through the contents of the box.

CUT TO:

EXT. BIKE PATH - NIGHT

Ruth puffs out a cloud of smoke.

RUTH

Why was he on death row?

Kye ignores Ruth.

KYE

I've been a bit of a fan of him for a long time now. Could call him an idol of mine.

Ruth looks more concerned.

RUTH

And, why is that?

KYE

I've been thinking a lot about him, and I realised we're more similar than you might think.

CUT TO:

INT KYE'S ROOM - NIGHT

Alyson picks through newspaper clippings inside the box. She picks one up, the headline reading, "Small town girl, missing." She puts the clipping aside, finding more headlines of missing girls. She comes across a clipping reading, "Small town murderer sentenced to death row after terrorizing town for a decade."

ALYSON

What, the...

CUT TO:

EXT. BIKE PATH - NIGHT

RUTH

What do you mean?

KYE

It's funny how hard someone will try and hide from their family. It's almost funnier when the hidden and public bits are more connected than you think.

Ruth starts shaking, slightly backing away from Kye.

CUT TO:

INT. KYE'S ROOM - NIGHT

Alyson skims over the article, her eye catching the name "Bruce Wheeler." Alyson puts the clipping aside, picking up a photograph. There's a pair in the photo, a man and a woman standing together. She turns over the photo and on the back is written, "Great Uncle Bruce at new house."

CUT TO:

EXT WOODS - NIGHT

Ruth looks around her nervously, letting Kye walk ahead of her as she slows her walk a little.

RUTH

I think we should start heading back.

KYE

I need a little more air.

Ruth stops.

CUT TO:

INT. KYE'S ROOM - NIGHT

Alyson compares the photo of Great Uncle Bruce to the description in the newspaper.

ALYSON

Oh, fuck.

Suddenly the puppet inches towards the door, trying to escape to Kye. Alyson turns to watch it slide across the floor. She drops everything and starts towards the front door, grabbing the puppet as she leaves.

CUT TO:

EXT. BIKE PATH - NIGHT

Kye turns around to face Ruth. His eyes are sunken; his face looks hollow. Ruth is starting to look scared.

CUT TO:

INT. APARTMENT DOOR - NIGHT

Alyson races to the door, jumping into the shoes trying to put them on, once they slip on she races out.

CUT TO:

EXT. BIKE PATH - NIGHT

RUTH

We should be heading back now.

Kye ignores her.

RUTH (CONT'D)

Kye?

Kye stands still for a moment, his face expressionless, looking at Ruth. Kye suddenly runs at Ruth. Ruth tries to run. Kye catches up to her, grabbing her arm and pulling her towards him, Ruth twists her ankle as she's pulled in.

CUT TO:

EXT. OUTSIDE OF APARTMENT - NIGHT

Alyson is running towards the bike path. Tries to call Ruth but it goes right to voicemail.

ALYSON

Shit!

EXT. BIKE PATH - NIGHT

Kye has a tight grip on Ruth who is trying to relieve herself. She's limping a bit. Suddenly she hears Alyson's voice from the distance.

ALYSON (O.S.)

RUTH!

Kye and Ruth both look over. Kye's eyes widen as he sees Alyson running.

Alyson runs into the park, finding Ruth trying to get away from Kye. She catches up to them.

ALYSON

(Shouting)

RUTH, RUTH!

RUTH

ALY!

ALYSON

RUTH! LIGHTER!

RUTH

WHAT?! WHY?!

ALYSON

LIGHTER!

Ruth relieves herself and reaches for her lighter, tossing it to Alyson.

EXT. HILL, NIGHT.

Alyson catches it and keeps running towards a hill. Kye, seeing Alyson running past with the puppet in her hand, lets go of Ruth and starts to run after Alyson. Ruth takes a second to breath before running after them.

Alyson runs to the top of the hill where there is a large fire pit. She throws the puppet in. She quickly lights the lighter and throws it into the pit, setting the puppet on fire.

Kye collapses on the hill and starts to cry. Ruth slows down and walks to the top of the hill, she leans on Alyson because of the pain in her ankle. Alyson and Ruth stand silently, watching the fire burn.

After a couple moments Ruth's phone rings in her pocket. She takes a deep breath before pulling out the phone and picking up.

RUTH

House call...

CUT TO BLACK