

Untitled [Redacted]: Episode 1

By Nicholas Tran

Rustling Noise. Footsteps.

KEITH

Panting.

KAREN

Hurry up!

KEITH

Groaning.

We've been walking for hours! Is this place really worth all of this?

KAREN

Absolutely! It's in the middle of nowhere and it's a completely empty house. We're going to be able to light it up without having to worry.

KEITH

Groaning.

You better be right about this, or your parents are going to bail us out this time.

KAREN

Trust me, this place is gonna be great! Now hurry up! You're such a slowpoke!

Beat. Footsteps.

KAREN

Look there it is!

KEITH

Panting.

Well, you're right about one thing, it is in the middle of nowhere.

Groaning.

There's still so much more walking.

KAREN

Don't be a wimp, exercise is good for you!

KEITH

We should've brought more water.

KAREN

Eh, it won't be so bad. Now come on!

Beat. Footsteps. Door opening.

KAREN

Woah, this place is sweet! Kinda creepy though.

KEITH

Uhh, more like really creepy. Are you sure about this?

KAREN

Nope! But we've walked all the way out here already so might as well!

KEITH

That's a terrible idea.

KAREN

Does it matter? We've done a lot of terrible ideas in our lives and we're fine.

KEITH

Maybe *you're* fine.

KAREN

Oh please. Now do you have the stuff?

KEITH

Yeah, right here.

Presenting: Big Rainbow!

KAREN

Big Rainbow? Sounds like a something a kid would name their dog.

KEITH

Well, it's supposed to make you feel like a kid, that's for sure.

KAREN

Where'd you get this from again? You sure it's safe?

KEITH

Nope! But I got it from Dominic, who told me that he has a secret dealer for this stuff. And if Dominic trusts it, it's good enough for me.

KAREN

Yeah, but Dominic is an idiot.

KEITH

Yeah, but when he knows his stuff, he knows his stuff. Now, are you in?

KAREN

Psh, of course. Pass me a tab.

KEITH

Here.

KAREN

Huh, it's sweet, like candy. Are you sure Dominic didn't just give you those chalk candies that you get for Valentine's?

KEITH

Don't worry about it, a lightweight like you is gonna feel it soon enough.

KAREN

Shut. Up. *[KEITH laughing]*

Anyways, this place is cool.

KEITH

It's so creepy.

KAREN

Sooo creepy. I love it.

Let's explore, see if we can find any antiques or ghosts.

KEITH

Don't joke about that.

KAREN (*laughing*)

Don't be a wuss, ghosts aren't real. And if we find anything to sell, we might get rich!

KEITH

I swear to God, if we get haunted-

KAREN (*laughing*)

Please. I'd love to get haunted. We can go on TV and get famous. Check out these stairs, they look like something out of a horror movie.

KEITH

Stoooooop it!

KAREN

I'm just saying. Like it even has spots where blood spattered when someone fell down.

Oh, wait. Those are real.

KEITH

Goddam-

KAREN (*laughing*)

Just kidding. Look, no one's been in this house for decades, everything is old and musty, so it looks like it's haunted. But if it really was haunted, people would've probably burned it down by now.

Now come on. Let's check upstairs.

KEITH

I don't know if that's a great idea.

KAREN

Come on! Or do you want to be split up like they do in horror movies?

KEITH

Fine, I'm coming.

God, these stairs are rickety.

Beat. Grandfather clock chiming.

Did you hear that?

KAREN

Hear what?

KEITH

It sounded like a clock going off.

KAREN

Man, is it hitting you already? And you called me a lightweight.

KEITH

I'm serious! I swear I heard something.

KAREN

It's probably the drugs kicking in. We probably should've brought more water, but we'll be fine.

KEITH

Seriously, I-

KAREN

Oh, check this out. This was probably the Master Bedroom! Man, they have a lot of books. They must've loved to read.

I wonder if we can find any jewelry here...

KEITH

I don't know if stealing from the dead is a great idea.

KAREN

I mean, you don't know if they're dead yet or not.

KEITH

Why else would they abandon their home and everything in it!?

KAREN

Dunno, maybe their kid died or something.

KAREN (*cont.*)

Now shut up and help me look.

An uncomfortable beat. Sounds of searching

They have soooo manyyyy boooks. Do you think this is the type of family to hide expensive stuff in their books?

KEITH

I feel like you watch too many movies. And if they have so many books, don't you think there'll be some that we could sell?

KAREN

Oh wait, you're right! Let me see if I can look up any of them on my phone.

Beat.

Damn, no signal, can I borrow yours?

KEITH

Sure.

Beat.

Huh, no signal too.

KAREN

Ooooh, just like in a horror movie.

KEITH

Shut. Up.

KAREN (*laughing*)

Well, I guess we can just figure out what's the oldest ones and just take those this time.

KEITH

This time? You wanna come back?

KAREN

Of course! This place is great! Isolated, moody, full of mysteries, it's the perfect place to get high and chill.

KEITH

We have different definitions of perfect.

KAREN

Don't worry about it, once you stop being a wuss, you'll love this place.

Hmm, 1901, 1898, 1850. There are some really old books here.

Uncomfortable Beat.

KEITH

Screams/Shouts in Terror.

KAREN

Woah, what's wrong dude?

KEITH

Panting. Beat.

Nothing, I thought I saw a face in the mirror.

KAREN

Oh, it's probably just the dust. Are you okay?

KEITH

Yeah, just give me a minute.

KAREN

Dude, is everything alright? You think you need some more water? Here, have some of mine.

KEITH

Thanks.

Beat.

KAREN

Yeah, you've never had this reaction to anything else we've ever taken. And you're right, I am a lightweight, so it's crazy that you're being hit harder than I am.

KEITH

Sorry, I just think I was dehydrated, and this place was just creeping me out.

KAREN

Hey, let's just take a break for a minute.

Beat.

I know, why don't we read some of these books. Maybe that'll help you get comfortable.

Beat.

Let's see...

Uncomfortable beat.

Static.

KAREN (*Distorted*)

Backwards

Man, everything they have here is boring.

Ooh, here's some journals. Do you think there's anything raunchy in them?

DISTORTED VOICE

Backwards

Whose story is this?