

GHOST BABIES

Written by

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Based on bullsh*t

INT. LIVING ROOM

Vibrantly dressed and chipper NIA opens the front door. A smiling ERN, in his wrinkled button up is on the other side, with content AVA standing beside him, also showing a bright smile.

NIA
Oh mah god, you two made it!

Nia waves them in.

NIA (CONT'D)
Come in, come in.

Ern and Ava enter.

ERN
Sorry we're late.

NIA
Oh, don't worry about it. Come.

Nia guides Ern and Ava across the living room to a table in the dining area.

A lanky and poorly aged DAVID sits at the dining table, his ignorant wife KIMBERLY and her friend JERI sitting at the table as well.

NIA (CONT'D)
David, these are the wonderful people I was talking about.

David stands from his seat.

DAVID
Nice to meet you.

David extends his hand out.

DAVID (CONT'D)
David Blue.

Ern shakes David's hand.

ERN
Ernest James.

DAVID
Oh, quite a grip there!

NIA
I help David run the marketing at
the company. Jeri...

Nia gestures to a waving Jeri.

NIA (CONT'D)
Is David's personal assistant.

KIMBERLY
And my best friend!

David grabs Ava's hand and kisses it.

Ern and Ava give each other a look.

ERN
Uh, I know Nia said you were
looking for a new executive manager-

DAVID
Hold on, let's get to know each
other first. Have a seat.

Ern pulls a chair out for Ava.

AVA
Thank you, love.

Ava sits.

Ern takes the seat between Ava and Kimberly.

JERI
We were just talking about the new
Pixar movie, should be a smash hit.

AVA
Which one?

KIMBERLY
Oh, about the woman who gets
haunted by all the babies she
killed.

AVA
(confused)
A baby killer? Pixar?

KIMBERLY
Yes, it's genius. Girls learn early
about the wrongs of abortion and
taking a life that has no choice
over whether it lives or dies-

AVA
Oh, abortion.

JERI
It's the same thing though.

ERN
Would Disney do that?

JERI
Well, they're doing now since that
woke CEO is out.

Ern and Ava look at each other. Ern looks over at Nia.
Nia scrunches her face.

NIA
Who wants a drink?

AVA
That sounds terrifying.

KIMBERLY
I think that's the point.

NIA
I'll get us drinks.

DAVID
Oh yes, please. Open that bottle I
brought.

ERN
At noon?

DAVID
(shrugging)
It's drink o'clock somewhere.

David burst into loud laughter. Ern chuckles.

AVA
(jokingly)
Sounds like I'd get rid of my
pregnancy if I'm already dealing
with ghost babies.

Ava laughs. Kimberly and Jeri look at each other.

DAVID
So, Nia says you're looking to get
into a more challenging position.
(MORE)

DAVID (CONT'D)
Says your last job wasn't workin'
for ya.

JERI
The point is not to abort in the
first place.

ERN
Yeah, I feel it's moreso limited-

DAVID
You know I've been learning
Spanish. You speak Spanish right.
You're Mexican?

ERN
Columbian.

KIMBERLY
Right Ern.

Ern is wide-eyed.

ERN
I'm sorry, what was that?

KIMBERLY
It's important to teach people
early on the consequences of taking
a life.

ERN
Is this about the abortion cartoon?

DAVID
Don't get into their squabble.

JERI
Well it's wrong.

Ern looks at Ava.

ERN
Uhm, being a cis man, I'm not sure
how much say I have-

KIMBERLY
You have as much say because what
if it's your child?

ERN
I...don't know-

Nia returns with a tray with glasses and two bottles of wine.

NIA

I'm back!

DAVID

Oh, great!

David grabs the bottle of wine and pops it open.

DAVID (CONT'D)

Ern...*Como esta carro?*

JERI

What if she was bearing your child?

KIMBERLY

By the way you two would make very good mixed babies.

JERI

I wish I had a non-white boyfriend.

Ern and Ava eye each other again.

KIMBERLY

What would you do if she was pregnant?

ERN

Well, we currently take the appropriate precautions and try to be as safe as we can be-

DAVID

The best prevention is abstinence.

KIMBERLY

Amen.

Nia hurridly places a glass in front of everyone.

ERN

Yeah.

(chuckles)

But we've agreed that we don't want children, so an abortion would be our course of direction, as long as she agreed to it of course.

JERI

But now you're haunted by them.

AVA

We've had one before...

Jeri and Kimberly gasp.

DAVID
Por que Ern, por que?

ERN
We're already here, so fuck it.
Just have ghost children.

AVA
Still save tons on diapers.

Ava and Ern laugh.

David slowly opens the bottle and furrows his brows at Ern.

NIA
Okay, guys, let's make a toast to
new connections.

DAVID
Yes, of course.

JERI
Well it's not your body, Ern, so
you should not have a say as to
what another person does with their
body.

KIMBERLY
Let alone a woman.

Silence.

Ern watches Nia pour wine into every glass, panicing.

ERN
We should go.

Ern stands from the table. Ava stands as well.

NIA
No, no, you just got here.

KIMBERLY
I don't feel comfortable with them
here.

Ern takes a deep sigh.

ERN
It was nice meeting you David.

AVA
Thank you Nia.

Ern and Ava reach the door. Nia opens the door for them.

NIA
You two really don't have to go.

AVA
It's okay. We appreciate this.

ERN
Thanks for opening this door for
me. Figuratively...and literally.

Ern laughs at himself.

KIMBERLY
All lives matter.

Nia, Ern and Ava look over at the table.

NIA
Except the baby that David paid
Jeri to get rid of.

David coughs up his wine.

NIA (CONT'D)
Had a lot of long nights at the
office, huh?

Nia smiles at Ern and Ava.

KIMBERLY
What is she saying?

NIA
Ya'll should go before it gets
crazy.

DAVID
I have no idea what she's talking
about.

KIMBERLY
That's why you were throwing up all
those days.

JERI
I had the flu.

KIMBERLY
In July?

AVA

I think we can probably stay for
this.

ERN

Yeah, fer sure.