

POWER CUT

Horror/Thriller

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1. INT. BASEMENT

Five friends are hanging out in the basement of one of their houses. Three are playing a board game, and two are playing ping pong next to them. The layout of the basement is rectangular in shape, with the middle "cut out" due to the staircase being placed there. The board game table is in the far right corner, with the ping pong table against the back wall in the middle.

THE SCENE BEGINS WITH SHOTS OF BOTH THE BOARD GAME AND PING PONG GAME BEING PLAYED. THE CHARACTERS ARE TALKING WHILE PLAYING THEIR RESPECTIVE GAMES. ONE OF THE CHARACTERS MISSES THE SHOT WHEN PLAYING PING PONG, SO THE BALL BOUNCES TO THE OTHER END OF THE BASEMENT. THE CAMERA FOLLOWS THE CHARACTER FINDING THE BALL TO ESTABLISH THE SPACE IN THE BASEMENT.

ADITHYA

(Playing Catan)

No I'm serious, I can prove that
ghosts exist!

RAFAY

(Playing ping pong)

Ghosts don't fucking exist

ADITHYA

Yes, they do

SHUBH

Do you want 2 wheat for a sheep?

ADITHYA

I don't have any sheep

RAGHAV

Yeah I'll take that trade. Also
ghosts don't exist

ADITHYA

Ghosts do exist! And I can prove it
to you

HERSH

You can PROVE to us that ghosts
exist?

Hersh misses the ball and Rafay scores a point

HERSH

Damnit

RAFAY

Ha take that loser

ADITHYA

Ok here's why ghosts exist. So we live in a 3 dimensional world right? And therefore our bodies are 3 dimensional right?

RAGHAV

Yeah...

ADITHYA

Ok, but the thing is we also have minds, right? But our minds aren't physical, you can't touch them. You can crack open my skull and touch my brain but you can't touch my mind

HERSH

(Sighs)

Yeah

ADITHYA

Sooo, what if our minds exist in this fourth dimensional plane that we can't interact with since we live in a 3 Dimensional world? And what if once our 3D bodies die, we can still exist in that 4th dimension? Or maybe theres like 8 dimensions and only 3 are for our body? How else do you explain the human mind functioning?

SHUBH

A series of electrochemical reactions that are a part of the central nervous system?

ADITHYA

Sure... But what if those fourth dimensional parts of our beings remained even after the three dimensions die off? And we know our minds can influence the physical worlds because they do influence our bodies. So what if the leftover parts of our being that belong in some other dimension can continue influencing the physical world because they never quote unquote died. Isn't that essentially what a ghost is? So therefore, ghosts do exist.

RAFAY

Ghosts don't exist!

ADITHYA

They do exist! I just proved it

HERSH

That's a load of bullshit

RAGHAV

I don't know, he kind of brings up
a good point

ADITHYA

See! I've got Raghav on my side

RAFAY

Ghosts don't exist!

ADITHYA

Yes, they do, I just proved it!

SHUBH

You didn't prove shit, ghosts don't
exist!

ADITHYA

Yes, they do

RAFAY

Ghosts don't exist!

ADITHYA

Yes, they do exist!

EVERYONE

(Very definitively)

Ghosts. Don't. Exist.

Suddenly the lights turn off and they are all in pitch
darkness

2. INT. BASEMENT

The lights are all off and initially no one can be seen.

RAGHAV

See guys, you pissed off the ghosts

Adithya pulls out his phone and shines it in Raghav's face

RAGHAV

Ow, get that thing out of my face

Hersh and Rafay pull out their phones and shine their
flashlights as well.

ADITHYA

Sorry, I think the circuit breaker tripped or something. Also I think I have some actual flashlights in the corner

RAFAY

Can I get one of those, I think my phone's almost out of battery

Adithya walks over to the closet in the corner of the room and Hersh, Shubh, and Rafay follow him. Adithya grabs a big flashlight and hands two smaller ones to Hersh and Rafay

ADITHYA

This big boy oughta give us enough light for now

Adithya tries turning on the large flashlight but it doesn't turn on. Hersh and Rafay in the meantime are shining their flashlights at each other and around the room. They shine it on Raghav who is on his phone

HERSH

Dude are you ok?

RAGHAV

I'm just scrolling through reddit.

ADITHYA

Fuck this, it isn't working.

Adithya puts the larger flashlight down and grabs a smaller one

ADITHYA

Ok, whatever, lets try getting the lights back on.

Adithya goes to the circuit breaker on the other side of the room, and everyone else follows him. Raghav is still on his phone and walks over as well.

Adithya opens up the circuit breaker and shines the flashlight at it. The other boys crowd around him very closely.

ADITHYA

(looking around)

Do you mind?

The boys take one step back but are still quite close. Adithya shakes his head and starts flipping switches.

Raghav meanwhile is in the background on his phone. Suddenly a dark figure grabs him and begins to choke him and drags him off screen. Raghav tries to scream but the figure's hands are covering his mouth so it is extremely muffled.

ADITHYA
 (turning around)
 What was that?

Everyone else turns around but there is no trace of anyone or anything behind them. Adithya shrugs and heads back to work. He flicks the right switch and the lights turn back on.

RAFAY
 What was our score again?

HERSH
 I was leading 20-0

RAFAY
 Yeah ok Hersh

ADITHYA
 Hey I'll play doubles with u guys
 if someone else joins

SHUBH
 Wait what about Catan?

ADITHYA
 Can we just say I won, I was
 leading by like 6 points anyways

SHUBH
 Hey man, it's my first time playing

ADITHYA
 Soo ping pong?

The boys are about to start their new game of ping pong when suddenly they realize...

SHUBH
 Hold up, where is Raghav?

The lights suddenly turn off again

ADITHYA
 Ah shit not again

SHUBH
 Wait but where's Raghav?

RAFAY
 I dunno, maybe he went to the
 bathroom

SHUBH
 Yeah but I didn't hear anyone going
 up the stairs

ADITHYA
 Where'd I put that flashlight

Adithya grabs his flashlight and heads back to the circuit breaker. Rafay follows him. The dark figure appears and drags Rafay off screen. He again grabs him in a chokehold and rafay appears to struggle for a few seconds.

Adithya arrives at the circuit breaker and tries to open the door. We see the dark figure

opens the door but before he can try fixing it the lights turn back on automatically.

Adithya shrugs and heads back to find Hersh and Shubh playing ping pong. He is expecting to see Rafay there playing ping pong as well but he isn't there. Adithya walks around the basement looking for him but he isnt found anywhere.

ADITHYA

Hey did Rafay head upstairs?

SHUBH

I thought he followed you to the circuit breaker?

ADITHYA

Yeah I thought so too. I could hear him standing behind me too

HERSH

What do you mean you heard him standing?

ADITHYA

I mean I heard his breathing behind me but when the lights turned back on he wasn't behind me.

HERSH

I'm gonna go check on them

ADITHYA

(Shouting)

Rafay? Are you upstairs? Raghav?

Hersh heads upstairs but can't open the door.

SHUBH

I'm starting to get kinda spooked

HERSH

(coming back down the stairs)

Yo the door is locked, I can't open it.

ADITHYA

Raghav?! Is this a prank, do you guys know about this?

SHUBH

Ok, what is going on right now

Suddenly the lights turn off and turn back on 2 seconds later. Suddenly Shubh is missing.

ADITHYA

OK WHAT. THE. FUCK.

HERSH

Shubh?!

ADITHYA

Shubh?! Raghav?! Rafay?! Guys, this isn't funny anymore, you can come out now.

HERSH

Ok, I'm starting to think your basement is actually haunted

ADITHYA

Ghosts aren't real, these guys are just playing a prank

HERSH

What? What happened to your whole fourth dimension bullshit?

ADITHYA

I just pulled that out of my ass, ghosts aren't real

HERSH

Ok, but we literally saw Shubh disappear in front of us.

ADITHYA

Oh come on, you really think a ghost killed Raghav?

HERSH

Killed, kidnapped, eaten alive, I dont know, but they all just disappeared.

The lights suddenly turn off and Adithya turns on his flashlight. He sees a dark figure strangling Hersh. Adithya slowly starts to back up, when the dark figure looks up at him and lunges at him. Adithya runs away around the basement and goes up the stairs. He aggressively tries opening the door, but the door does not unlock.

ADITHYA

(crying, screaming)

Please, someone open the door, please!

3. INT. BASEMENT

Adithya gives up and closes his eyes and crawls into a fetal position, preparing for the worst. We hear footsteps going up the stairs

For this scene, all the formerly "disappeared characters" speak in a lifeless and unnatural way.

THE CAMERA ZOOMS IN ON THE BULB OF THE FLASHLIGHT, AND THEN ZOOMS OUT TO SHOW THAT THE LIGHTS ARE NOW ON. ADITHYA HESITANTLY OPENS HIS EYES, AND LOOKS AROUND TO SEE NO KILLER. HE PATS HIS OWN BODY TO CONFIRM TO HIMSELF THAT HE IS ALIVE.

HERSH
(off camera)
Rajan? Come down here

Adithya looks around the corner to see Hersh and Shubh standing there. Their eyes are super wide and they have unusually large smiles on their faces. Their posture is extremely stiff while standing.

SHUBH
Let's finish our game

ADITHYA
(confused)
Guys? What the fuck just happened.

HERSH
Come down, we will explain

ADITHYA
Where are Rafay and Raghav?

SHUBH
They're here, playing ping pong

ADITHYA
Fuck that I'm not coming down there.

HERSH
Let's finish our game

ADITHYA
Are they really down there?

RAGHAV
(off screen)
Adithya, come down

RAFAY
(off screen)
We were just playing. A prank.

ADITHYA

I'm keeping my flashlight on. Ah
fuck what am I doing

Adithya very reluctantly walks down the stairs with his flashlight on. He walks down to see Rafay and Raghav standing against the wall, in a similar stiff posture with strange smiles on their faces.

RAFAY

Welcome back. Got you good, didn't
we?

RAGHAV

Come, sit down

Raghav points at the floor.

ADITHYA

Oh I don't think so.

Hersh and Shubh force Adithya onto his knees. Adithya is still holding his flashlight. Hersh knocks it out of his hand and it lands standing up, but the light turned off. Adithya lunges forward and just as he manages to turn the light back on, the lights in the basement turn off.

Adithya lets out a sigh, relieved that he was able to turn the lights back on. Suddenly, the flashlight starts flickering and he begins to panic. He begins shaking the flashlight to try and get the batteries running again.

The flashlight begins to flicker even more, seemingly almost dead. Suddenly a figure pulls Adithya by his legs off screen. Adithya screams out and the flashlight completely turns off, shrouding the frame in darkness.