

Ghosted  
Episode 5

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INT. KEIRA'S UNI BEDROOM

SCRATCH of CHALK on board as Keira draws up the ouija board.

Because it's late, their voices are low, intimate.

Beth CRACKS her neck.

BETH

Ugh, did you hear that? Neck.

More CRACKS.

BETH (cont'd)

Back!

CRACK. CRACK.

BETH (cont'd)

Shoulders. Uhhh. Five hour shift and I'm like a set of maracas.

KEIRA

I'm almost done. One sec.

BETH

God, I'm so tired.

SCRATCH of CHALK.

KEIRA

M N O P...

BETH

Should we do this with just two? I heard less than three can be dangerous.

KEIRA

Yeah, well, Wez is busy.

BETH

We could wait until he's free.

KEIRA

No, he... (sighs) he just doesn't wanna do it, Beth. Any of it. Tarot, runes, ouija.

BETH

Oh. He hasn't said anything to me.

KEIRA

He wouldn't. He told me that you're... (sighs) Uh. Never mind.

BETH

I'm what?

KEIRA

Forget it.

BETH

No, tell me.

KEIRA

(big sigh) Fine. He said... he's a bit annoyed with...

BETH

With me?? Why?

KEIRA

He felt pressured. To join in.

BETH

What? But I never forced him. I never insisted, I was always like, 'only if you want to'.

KEIRA

Yeah, but you know how obliging he is.

BETH

Oh God. I'll talk to him.

KEIRA

Mate. He really doesn't want you to. Just, just leave it. Trust me. OK. Let's form a connection. Come closer.

They SHUFFLE CLOSER.

BETH

OK.  
(mutters) Ohhh! Wez is annoyed with me.

KEIRA

Closer. So our knees touch.

BETH

There's salsa on my trousers. Should I change?

KEIRA

No no no. It's almost midnight, we should do it now.  
Do you wanna do the invocation?

BETH

Umm. Yeah. Sure.

KEIRA

Here. Bell.

Keira grabs a small bell off the floor. It resonates as she passes it over.

BETH

Thanks.  
Ready?

Beth RINGS the bell between each sentence.

BETH (cont'd)

(deep breath) We open ourselves up to the realm beyond. We entreat those with good intentions to speak with us. We ask for honest council. With the ringing of this bell, we invite you into this room.

They BREATHE softly for a few beats.

Suddenly, Keira SUCKS AIR in. She GASPS.

KEIRA

Did you feel that?

MUSIC (a hum at first)

BETH

What?

KEIRA

A rush of energy. Like a wave. Did you feel it?

BETH

Maybe! I don't know! Yes, yes I think so. Shall I ask a question?

KEIRA

No, I'll do it. I'll do it.

(MORE)

KEIRA (cont'd)  
How many of you are in the room?

Pause. SCRAPE of glass.

BETH  
It's moving. Oh my God, it's actually  
working.

Both are excited, giddy, GASPing and LAUGHing.

KEIRA  
I knew it would! I knew it!

SCRAPE.

KEIRA (cont'd)  
'One'.

BETH  
One spirit. Oh my God. Oh my God, oh  
my God. Erm, I can't think! Ask  
another.

KEIRA  
Are you always with me?

SCRAPE.

KEIRA (cont'd)  
'No.'  
Beth. Ask the same thing.

BETH  
'Are you always with me?'

SCRAPE.

BETH (cont'd)  
(gasp) 'Yes.'

Their BREATH is ragged.

BETH (cont'd)  
I don't believe it.

KEIRA  
Another. Ask another.

BETH  
Did... did I know you while you were  
living?

Beat.

BETH (cont'd)  
It's not moving.

KEIRA  
It stayed on yes.

BETH  
Ohhh.

KEIRA  
Do you think it's... Gabby? She's the only one that's ever come through.

Beat.

BETH  
Gabby? Is that you?

KEIRA  
Didn't move. 'Yes'. It's Gabby.

BETH  
Ohhhh! Where have you been? Why did you stop talking to me, was it you the first time?

KEIRA  
Too much, you're asking too much. Something simpler. Like... 'how are you?'

BETH  
'How are you?' Isn't that a bit casual?

SCRAAAAPE.

KEIRA / BETH  
Ohhh!

KEIRA / BETH (cont'd)  
S. A. D.

KEIRA  
Sad.

BETH  
Oh no, not this again.  
Why are you sad?

SCRAPE SCRAPE

KEIRA / BETH  
Y.O.U.H.U.R.T.

KEIRA  
 (gasp) You hurt...

SCRAPE

KEIRA / BETH  
 M.E.

KEIRA  
 You hurt me.

BETH  
 You hurt me?

KEIRA  
 Do you mean, Beth? Beth hurt you?

SCRAPE.

KEIRA / BETH  
 'Yes.'

BETH  
 I don't understand. What, what did I  
 do? I never hurt Gabby.

KEIRA  
 'What did Beth do to you?'

They wait. Nothing.

BETH  
 Why isn't it moving?  
 What did I do? Tell me.

KEIRA  
 It's stopped working. I think you're  
 too anxious. It's broken the  
 connection.

BETH  
 That didn't matter the first time!

KEIRA  
 There were three of us then. There's  
 only two now, we're weaker.

BETH  
 Gabby. Are you there? Gabby, please  
 answer.

Pause. Nothing.

BETH (cont'd)

Shit!

KEIRA

Deep breaths, Beth. Calm down, then we'll try again.

BETH

What did it mean, I 'hurt' her?

KEIRA

Sssh, just try and relax.

BETH

But what did she mean?

KEIRA

I don't know! Before the accident, did you have an argument?

BETH

No! We never argued!

KEIRA

You said something unkind? You criticised her or...

BETH

No! No, I don't think so?

KEIRA

Calm, Beth. In. Yeah. Out. In.

Beth BREATHES as instructed.

KEIRA (cont'd)

Maybe you said something, didn't realise how it came across? How you were making her feel. You can be like that sometimes.

BETH

What do you mean? What am I like sometimes?

KEIRA

Y'know. Cold? Closed off. Passive aggressive.

BETH

I, I don't... I'm not like that!

KEIRA

You can be. I'm sorry, Beth, I'm just saying. I thought you knew. When you give me the silent treatment, I feel awful. Maybe you did the same to Gabby.

BETH

I don't give you the silent treatment!

KEIRA

Errr, yes you do. You go cold and you won't speak and I'm like, 'what have I done wrong now? She's angry at me, again.'

BETH

Keira, when have I ever done that?

KEIRA

(loud) I'm not imagining it, Beth!  
(quieter) I always say, 'are you OK? You're a bit quiet,' and you're always like, 'I'm just tired' but with this cold, hard stare like you don't even like me.

BETH

No nonono! No! When I say I'm tired, I *am* tired. I'm always tired. Sometimes I'm so tired I can't think, let alone speak, but I'm not being, I'm not trying... it's not personal!

KEIRA

Right. OK. Yeah, if you say so. I think you need to be more careful, then. Because you've made me feel really small sometimes.

BETH

No, that's that's not--

KEIRA

And it's not just me who thinks it, Beth, I've told others and they're like, 'sounds like she doesn't respect you'...

BETH

I don't think like that. That's not who I am.



KEIRA  
Well Gabby thinks it is.

A short SILENCE.

Beth STANDS UP.

BETH  
(small) I think I need to go bed.

Keira gives a COLD LAUGH.

KEIRA  
You're doing it again, do you realise?

BETH  
Doing what?

KEIRA  
You're closing me out.

BETH  
No, no, I'm not, I just, I can't think straight and I'm so tired...

KEIRA  
'Oh tired'! What about Gabby? She's still here, you just gonna walk out on us?

BETH  
No, I...  
Thank you Gabby. I'm sorry you're sad. I love you.

Another COLD LAUGH.

KEIRA  
First contact we've made in ages, and you cut it short.

BETH  
I need to be somewhere quiet.

KEIRA  
Go on then.

Beth WALKS to the door, OPENS it.

BETH  
Keira. I didn't realise I'd hurt you.  
I didn't realise I'd hurt anyone.

KEIRA  
Well, now you know.

BETH  
(mutters) God. I shouldn't be around  
people.

KEIRA  
Maybe not. Goodnight Beth.

BETH  
Goodnight Keira.

Time WHOOSH

INT. LANTERN ROOM

The two women face each other.

Distant THUNDER.

BETH  
You pushed the glass. Both times.  
Are you lying? Is this another story?

KEIRA  
No.

BETH  
But why would you do that.  
(beat)  
(loud) Come on! Speak!

KEIRA  
I don't know! First time, it was just  
spur of the moment! I was a kid, it  
was a prank. Then you went fucking  
nuts, I didn't expect that, I  
wouldn't have done it if I'd known.

BETH  
And yet you did it again.

KEIRA  
Does it matter! It wasn't real!  
But *this*...  
...this place...  
You can stay here and chat to the  
fucking ghost if you like, but I'm  
leaving.

Keira WALKS to the window.

BETH  
 Wait. How did you know about Gabby?  
 How did you know?

KEIRA  
 Uhhh! Your mum told me.

BETH  
 Mum?

Time WHOOSH.

INT. UNI HALLS

Distant HUBBUB of students moving in.

THERESA  
 --you need to get some TCP on that.

KEIRA  
 Oh OK.

THERESA  
 You don't want your nose to fall off,  
 do you.

KEIRA  
 Right. OK.

Beth calls from inside her new uni room.

BETH  
 (calls) Muuum!

THERESA  
 (calls) Yes, coming! Give me a  
 moment!  
 Sorry, did you say your name was...  
 'Keira'?

KEIRA  
 Yeah.

THERESA  
 Keira, could you do me a little  
 favour? Could you... keep an eye on  
 Beth for me? She lost a friend  
 recently.

KEIRA  
 Oh geez. OK.

BETH'S MUM

Gabby. Road accident. Awful. Beth's very upset, as you could imagine. She needs a bit of distraction, I think, some fun. Don't tell her I said anything. She'd be so embarrassed, her mum asking people to be friends with her, God. And I'm not asking that, I'm just saying could you... show her a little kindness?

KEIRA

Yeah. Course.

Time WHOOSH.

INT. LANTERN ROOM

BETH

Mum??

KEIRA

Beth! Get out of the way!

BETH

No. You're not going anywhere. Not until I know.

KEIRA

Know what?? I have told you!

BETH

What about the last time? The night I left, why'd you do it then? Another 'prank'?

KEIRA

Move, please.

BETH

After you tell me.

KEIRA

You think you're in a position to demand answers? You left! With no explanation! Do you know how that made me feel? It was like grief. Except worse, because you tossed me aside like it was nothing. *You!* As if you had any right to reject me!

BETH

I left because I thought I was  
poison! Because Gabby... YOU... told  
me I was hurting people!

KEIRA

(angry, disbelieving laugh) *That's*  
the reason? Wow. How noble. How  
fucking noble. Shame you couldn't  
spare two minutes to tell me that.

BETH

I left you a note.

KEIRA

'Dear Keira, I've gone. Not coming  
back. Paid this month's rent. I'm  
sorry. Apologise to Wez for me. Love  
Beth.' No kisses!

BETH

Is that all it said?

KEIRA

You don't even remember.

BETH

I wasn't thinking straight.

KEIRA

You could've picked up the phone up  
anytime. Or texted. But no. You left  
me wondering, all this time. You left  
me feeling fucking worthless. You did  
that.

BETH

I left because of YOU.

Half beat

KEIRA

Ohhhh! Just get out of the way!

Keira PUSHES Beth with a GRUNT of effort. Beth gives a small  
CRY.

Keira GRUNTS again as she OPENS the window.

The weather makes itself known. A GUST of wind. RAIN.

Keira pauses on the threshold, reconsidering.

KEIRA (cont'd)  
Oh Jesus. Fuck.

BETH  
You can't go out there. It's raining  
too hard. You'll slip.

KEIRA  
Stop pretending that you care.

BETH  
I care about my insurance. And the  
publicity. If you're going to die,  
I'd rather you did it off my  
property. Just take the stairs.

A RUMBLE of THUNDER.

Beat.

KEIRA  
Fine. Fine. I will.

She SLAMS the window shut. The weather retreats.

KEIRA (cont'd)  
I'm not staying here with you.

BETH  
Good! I don't want you here.

KEIRA  
Key. Hand it over.

Beth throws the KEYS on the floor.

BETH  
Take them and get the fuck out of my  
light house.

A terrifying explosion of paranormal activity - a KNOCK  
KNOCK KNOCK on the door to the stairs.

Music.

BETH (cont'd)  
Oh my God.

KEIRA  
(gasp) Oh.

BETH  
Oh my God.

KEIRA  
 Fuck this. I'll take my chances on  
 the scaffold.

She OPENS the window again (WEATHER gets louder) and climbs  
 through.

BETH  
 Wait, Keira! It's not safe out there.

KNOCK. KNOCK.

KEIRA  
 Oh!

BETH  
 Maybe it's just Wez? Trying to  
 connect! He wouldn't hurt us!

Keira CALLS behind her as she climbs out.

KEIRA  
 (calls) Wez isn't dead.

LIGHTNING.

KEIRA (cont'd)  
 Moron!

She SLAMS the window behind her.

SCRATCHES on the door.

BETH  
 Wez isn't dead?  
 (shouts) Keira! Keira!!

EXT. WIDOW'S WALK

Beth OPENS the window with a GRUNT and CLIMBS out.

Rain LASHES her.

BETH  
 Uhh!  
 (shouts) Keira!

The WINDOW SLAMS SHUT behind her.

BETH (cont'd)  
 Wez isn't dead??

KEIRA

Oh go back inside, Beth! I'll do this on my own!

BETH

Are you mad?? The rain..!

KEIRA

I'm not going back in there!

BETH

Keira! Is Wez alive??

KEIRA

How... how do I get down?

BETH

Why would you say he was dead? Just to torture me? What about his voice, on the phone?

KEIRA

Beth! You're going to have to help me.

BETH

Help you??

KEIRA

I need you to hang onto me while I lower myself--

OMINOUS GROAN. Scaffolding LURCHES. Keira GASPS.

KEIRA (cont'd)

Ah! It's shifting!

BETH

Keira, come back on the Widow's Walk, get off the scaffolding!

KEIRA

The lower platform, it looks sturdier.  
Help me down! Hold onto me while I--

BETH

Hold onto you? So we can both fall over the edge?

KEIRA

OK. Just give me your cardigan.



BETH

My... cardigan?? What?? Why??

KEIRA

I'll tie it the pole. Swing down to the next platform.  
You could use it after me! There.  
Happy now? I'm helping both of us.  
C'mon. C'mon. Give it to me.

BETH

You can have it after you tell me about Wez.

KEIRA

We don't have time for a long chat--

BETH

--Better make it pithy, then! So?

KEIRA

Fuck!

BETH

Did you marry Wez?

KEIRA

Jealous?

BETH

God! Why would you think I would be jealous?? I never thought of him like that! He was my friend!

KEIRA

No he was MY friend. We stayed in touch, he didn't disappear.

BETH

But you didn't marry him, did you?  
No! I can see it in your eyes.  
God, how was I ever sucked in by you.  
I always knew you lied, but this!  
THIS!  
What about your book on grief? Is that bullshit too? The agent who booked this place? Real?

KEIRA

(laughs)

BETH

Why do this? Why bother? Just, just to hurt me?

(MORE)

BETH (cont'd)  
Or to get close to me? Is that it?

KEIRA  
(derisive) Ah!

BETH  
So we could cry on each others'  
shoulders about poor dead Wez!?  
What about the voice on the phone.  
That really was him, wasn't it. Did  
you get Wez to ring me? Is he in on  
this?

KEIRA  
Wez? Hardly.

BETH  
How then?

KEIRA  
Can't we talk about this later?

BETH  
Tell me or no cardigan.

KEIRA  
Uhhh.  
Voice mails. Cut 'em up. Hung out of  
the bathroom window, played it down  
the phone.

BETH  
You planned this.  
Just to torment me?

KEIRA  
To make you show some contrition! You  
wouldn't take any responsibility on  
your own, you had to be forced! Now  
give me your fucking cardigan before  
I rip it off your skinny--

Keira's voice cuts off on a GASP. She's seen something.  
Music.

BETH  
You psycho.

KEIRA  
(gasp) Beth.

BETH  
One last thing.

KEIRA  
 (small) Behind you.

A HEAVY FOOTSTEP on the metal walkway.

BETH  
 Did you hurt Margot?

KEIRA  
 (terror) Uhhh.

FOOTSTEP.

BETH  
 Well?

FOOTSTEP.

BETH (cont'd)  
 Did you hurt her?

FOOTSTEP.

BETH (cont'd)  
 The blood on your hands..!

FOOTSTEP. More GUTTURAL NOISES OF FEAR from Keira.

New BREATHING. Masculine.

MORE FOOTSTEPS. The guttural, masculine breathing comes closer.

BETH (cont'd)  
 Keira! What did you do to Margot?

KEIRA  
 (terrified) Beth.

BETH  
 Speak! C'mon, what's wrong with you?  
 Answer me!

KEIRA  
 Beth. The Keeper's behind you.

Beat.

BETH  
 Oh don't be fucking ridiculous. I can  
 tell when you're lying Keira.

KEIRA  
 No!

BETH  
Finally--

KEIRA  
No!

BETH  
--how did I not see it? You're not  
even very good at it!

KEIRA  
Get away...

BETH  
God, I feel like an idiot. But I'm  
not going to blame myself for this.

KEIRA  
Get away...

BETH  
Not this time.

KEIRA  
(hysteria) Oh my God! Aaaaa...

Keira SCRABBLES backwards, FALLS.

BETH  
Keira, what are you doing! Look  
where you're going!

KEIRA  
He's right there.

BETH  
You're too near the edge!

KEIRA  
Get away...

BETH  
Keira! Keira, get off the  
scaffolding, get back on the Widow's  
Walk, now!

KEIRA  
He's...

BETH  
Take my hand, quickly!

The structure STRAINS against itself; wood fibres CREAKING  
and SNAPPING, METAL SCRAPING against METAL.

KEIRA  
Please. Don't hurt me. Please.

The SPLINTERED CRACK of old wood. The walkway SHIFTS.

BETH  
Shit.

Part of the WALKWAY COLLAPSES. Keira SCREAMS and falls.

Keira hits the deck with a THUD, and the wind is pushed out of her. Her CRY CUTS OFF abruptly.

BETH (cont'd)  
(calls) Keira? Keira!

She walks to the edge.

Below, a series of COUGHS and GASPS.

BETH (cont'd)  
(gasps) Oh thank God.  
You didn't fall far.  
(calls) Are you hurt?

KEIRA  
(small) Help. Help me, Beth.

BETH  
I'm not going to leave you there,  
Keira!

Heavy masculine BREATHING.

BETH (cont'd)  
(calls) Keep very still! Don't move!

KEIRA  
He's there...  
(keening) I can still see him...

BETH  
(mutters) Oh God, what do I do? What  
do I do.

KEIRA  
Beth. Turn around.

BETH  
(mutters) My cardigan. Yes.  
(calls) I'm going to take my cardigan  
off. Use it to tie yourself to the  
drainpipe.

Keira WHIMPERS.

BETH (cont'd)  
It needs to be tight.  
Keira, I'm going to reach down with  
the cardigan now.

KEIRA  
(childlike) So scared.

GROAN, CREAK OF SCAFFOLDING.

Beth GRUNTS.

KEIRA (cont'd)  
I can't... I can't get it.

BETH  
You're gonna have to move a bit,  
Keira.

KEIRA  
(weak) No...

GROAN of metal and wood.

BETH  
(keening) The Widow's Walk, it's  
shifting! Shit shit shit!

KEIRA  
(sobs) He's still there... go away.

BETH  
Keira, grab the fucking cardy *now*!

KEIRA  
Go away, go away.

BETH  
(mutters) Oh God, she's not gonna  
move.  
(calls) I'm sorry, Keira! I'll have  
to leave!

KEIRA  
No! No!

BETH  
(calls) There's nothing I can do.

KEIRA  
Beth! Please don't leave me! Please.  
Beth.

BETH  
The Widow's Walk, it's not safe...

KEIRA  
I don't want to be here on my own...  
with him.

Frightening GHOST BREATHING intensifies, and then SNAPS off  
as Beth says--

BETH  
Listen to me, Keira. I'm going to say  
one more thing. Just in case  
something goes wrong, I need to say  
this.

KEIRA  
(whimpers) No.

BETH  
I'm sorry you've spent the last ten  
years wondering why I left. And I'm  
sorry I didn't take the time to tell  
you to your face that I needed to get  
away, to start again. I really wish I  
could go back and change that, but I  
can't.

A SHIFT of metal and wood.

HEAVY GHOSTLY BREATHING.

BETH (cont'd)  
And I'm also really sorry that for  
the last ten years, while you've been  
obsessing and plotting, I'm sorry  
that I've barely spared you a  
thought.

HEAVY FOOTSTEPS.

BETH (cont'd)  
And to be perfectly honest, I *can't*  
*wait* to never think about you again.  
So I'm going to leave again. I'm  
going to drop this cardigan--

KEIRA  
(whispers) Beth.

BETH

--which probably isn't even very useful, I'm going to drop it down, and you really, really need to make an effort to catch it. To save yourself.

KEIRA

He's coming closer...

BETH

Because I'm not risking myself any more.

KEIRA

Beth! Beth. Watch out.

BETH

OK. Here it comes, ready or--

BIG CRACK OF TIMBER.

Beth GASPS.

A moment of SILENCE, and then a small--

BETH (cont'd)

Oh!

The sound of RENDING TIMBER and METAL rushes in as they plunge.

THUNDER rumbles.

Long SILENCE.

INT. LIGHT HOUSE - SOME TIME LATER

WIND across the coast.

MERTA

Our brains re-wire themselves over and over, across a lifetime. Loneliness rewires a brain. And so does grief. And fear. And rage. Powerful experiences, they create new neural pathways. Some of these paths become well-trodden - the Keeper, he returns to the same place, time after time, looking for something he'll never find. Rage and loneliness and grief and fear. They rewire the brain.

(MORE)



MERTA (cont'd)

But so does hope.  
And Beth still had hope, as she lay  
there on her back, with her old  
friend by her side, both of them  
looking up at the stars. Beth's hope  
was that she would finally be free of  
her ghosts.

Wind fades into silence.

THE BUYER

Huh. Fascinating. Did either of them  
survive the fall?

MARGOT THE PARROT

Getaway! Getaway! Braaaaark!

MERTA

Sssh Bobby. Noisy thing.

POTENTIAL NEW OWNER

Bobby?

MERTA

After my husband.

MARGOT THE PARROT

Margot. Margot.

MERTA

Shhh Bobby! Shh!

MARGOT THE PARROT

Getaway!

MERTA

I'm a widow.

THE BUYER

Sorry to hear that.

MERTA

Mmm.

Right! Have you seen enough?

Merta STANDS to usher her out.

THE BUYER

Oh. Yes. Lovely building.

BZZZZT. BZZZZT of lights flickering.

MERTA

So do you think you'll take it?

THE BUYER

I'll have to think about it. If I did, I wouldn't manage it myself. Don't fancy living up here. Not that it's not lovely! But it's a bit... it's a bit lonely.

MERTA

This life doesn't suit everyone.

THE BUYER

If I did want to pursue this any further, do I call you or..?

MERTA

No no. I'm just the cleaner.

THE BUYER

OK. Maybe I'll install you as manager! Haha. Erm.

She opens the front door - CREAK.

It's RAINING again.

THE BUYER (cont'd)

Okey dokey! Thanks again for showing me round!

MERTA

Bye now.

The buyer CLICKS open her car door.

THE BUYER

(calls) Oh! You never finished your story! Did they survive?

A RUMBLE of THUNDER.

MERTA

Raining again.

THE BUYER

Ugh! Do you want a lift anywhere?

MERTA

No thank you.

THE BUYER

Are you sure??

MERTA

I'll take shelter in the light house.  
(mutters) Plenty of company there.

Shpooky music.

The End

CREDITS

You have been listening to Ghosted -  
by Long Cat Media

Written by Lindsay Sharman  
and directed by Lindsay Sharman and  
Laurence Owen

Music, sound design and editing by  
Laurence Owen

Ghosted starred Beth Eyre as Beth,  
and Lucy Roslyn as Keira  
with Tessa Hatts as Merta, Laurence  
Owen as Wes, Hayley Evenett as the  
Buyer and Lindsay Sharman as Beth's  
mum Theresa.

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