

THE UNHAUNTED HOUSE

Written by

Breanna Rocha

INT. CREATURES HOUSE - MORNING

GOLEM (30s, large clay man) stands in front of a bedroom door. He smiles and shushes the camera. He opens the door and rings two gold bells loudly.

MARCUS (7, a young skeleton boy) groans in his small gravestone bed.

GOLEM

Rise and shine Marcus! It's the first day of the school year, you gotta get to class.

MARCUS

Why do I have to go to school? It's not fair. Lycana doesn't have to go!

GOLEM

Because she's a teenager... and she scares me too much to ask. Anyways, you're lucky to be getting an education bud, this whole online Zoom school is a good thing. Do you know how many creatures before you wish they could have gone to school?

MARCUS

I'm pretty sure you and Uncle Frank are the only ones who ever wanted that.

GOLEM

And you'd be right! Now hurry up and get ready so I can live vicariously through you.

Marcus groans again, and throws the blanket over his head. Golem rings the bells again.

DRACULA (50s, an old angry vampire) appears in the room with a "poof," startling Golem. He gives Golem an angry glare.

DRACULA

It's 7 in the morning. I was just going to bed!

He curses something in Romanian, snatches the bells from Golem's hands, and storms off. Golem makes a "whoopsie" face at the camera.

END COLD OPEN

GOLEM TALKING
HEAD:

GOLEM (CONT'D)

Hello, I'm Golem. Yes, I'm the clay creature from the Jewish folklore. I've been retired now for about... I think around 100 years now. You know, there are a lot of creatures in retirement that I'm sure you didn't know about. For instance, Nessie, the Loch Ness creature, has actually settled down somewhere in the Pacific with her wife and kids. Meanwhile, some of us have retired together. We just figured in this new age of technology and prejudice, it's probably better that we all live together. Strength in numbers and all that. Yeah, I'm kinda the leader of our little group here-

FRANK (30s, very large build, glasses, androgynous) aka Frankenstein, enters the house wearing a trench coat and a big hat. They're struggling as their arms are full of brown paper bags stuffed with groceries.

FRANK

I need help with groceries! Someone please help.

Golem runs over to them, and grabs some of their bags.

GOLEM

Here, let me help.

FRANK

Thank you, honey-
(noticing the camera)
Um... who are these humans?

GOLEM

These are the people that I told you about, remember? I met them at the store, and they wanted to film us for a documentary they're doing about creatures.

FRANK
(skeptical)
Oh... right.

FRANK TALKING
HEAD:

FRANK (CONT'D)
Hi. I'm Frankenstein, but um, call
me Frank. They-slash-they pronouns.
Uh... what am I supposed to say?

GOLEM (O.S.)
Talk about your interests!

FRANK
Right, uh... I love classic
literature, my online analyst
job... puzzles and my boyfriend,
Golem.

GOLEM (O.S.)
Awwwww.

Frank rolls their eyes, but smiles.

AS WE WERE

LUPE (50s, Chupacabra, small hairless dog, walks on hind
legs) walks, hips swaying, over to the two.

LUPE
Hola queridos. Ay! You got my
ingredients.

She pulls Frank down and kisses them on the cheek

LUPE (CONT'D)
Gracias. How was the store?

FRANK
It was fine. Got some stares from a
few humans-

Golem side-eyes them.

FRANK (CONT'D)
...People. I got a few stares from
a few people, but I don't think
they could tell anything.

GOLEM

(to the camera)

Frank is the only one of us who can drive, so they're always the one to get us things from the store.

Marcus walks up to the three of them.

MARCUS

Uncle Frank, can you please help me sign into Zoom? Uncle Dracula doesn't understand.

DRACULA (O.C.)

YES I DO! Your electronical things are cursed!

LYCANA (17, trans-fem werewolf, emo teen rebel) rolls her eyes from the living room couch, playing a live game on the TV.

LYCANA

Drac, just admit you're about 300 years too old to understand technology.

Dracula murmurs another curse in Romanian from the other room.

LYCANA TALKING
HEAD:

LYCANA (CONT'D)

Sup. I'm Lycana. I'm trans and use she-slash-her pronouns. If you annoy me, I might rip your head off with one swipe of claw, just a warning, so don't annoy me. Also, I'm a werewolf.

AS WE WERE

GOLEM

Why don't you ask Lycana for help Marcus? She understands tech.

He tilts his head to where Lycana is on the couch.

MARCUS

I tried to but when I asked her,
she just grunted at me and said she
was "in a tournament." Then I asked
her to pause it, and then she said
"YEAH SURE LET ME PAUSE MY LIVE
GAME!"

GOLEM

(shaking his head)
Seriously, Lycana?

Lycana just shrugs and continues her playing her game
aggressively.

GOLEM (CONT'D)

Jesus Christ.

Dracula yells in pain from another room.

DRACULA (O.S.)

Dammit Golem!

GOLEM

Sorry, Drac!

FRANK

Sure Marcus, I'll help.

They walk off together.

LUPE

Está bien. Everyone be ready at 6
o'clock sharp for our *Día de los*
Muertos celebratory dinner.

Lupe walks off, hips in the air again.

LUPE TALKING
HEAD:

LUPE (CONT'D)

Hola, soy Lupe. Sí, I am the
Chupacabra. I am the one who keeps
this house together, *todos estos*
idiotas no se acordarían de comer
si no fuera por mí. Anyways, today
is *Día de los Muertos*, a Mexican
holiday celebrating our dead, and
as I am Puerto Rican and Mexican,
I'm celebrating.

(MORE)

LUPE (CONT'D)
 I've been alive for many human
 years now and lost many loved ones,
 so I'm glad I can celebrate them
 with the loved ones I have now.
 It's easy to say this day is very
 special to me.

Golem peaks in from the room's window behind Lupe, so she
 can't see him. He hears this whole monologue and decides to
 make today as special as possible for her.

CUT TO:

INT. CREATURES HALLWAY - AFTERNOON

Golem stares at a bare wooden table in the hallway.

GOLEM TALKING
 HEAD:

GOLEM
 Lupe has put me in charge of
 decorating the *ofrenda* for our
 celebration tonight.

- SHOT OF GOLEM AND FRANK AT A TARGET, WHERE GOLEM GOES UP
 AND DOWN EVERY AISLE, GRABBING ALMOST EVERY SINGLE THING HE
 FINDS. THIS INCLUDES COLORED TISSUE PAPER, SCISSORS, CANDLES,
 FOOD, AND MORE.

GOLEM (O.S.) (CONT'D)
 I am taking it very seriously. Lupe
 is one of the kindest creatures
 I've ever known, so this has to be
 one of *los mejores* days for her.

AS WE WERE

Golem walks to the living room, where Lycana is supposed to
 be making *papel picado*.

GOLEM (CONT'D)
 (to the camera)
 I have enlisted Lycana to cut the
papel picado for the- What is going
 on here?

The camera reveals a mess of the worst *papel picado* you've
 ever seen and colored tissue paper scattered everywhere.

LYCANA
 Dude, I literally have paws for
 hands, what did you expect?

GOLEM
 Alright... this is fine... I can
 fix this.

Marcus pops his head in from the other room.

MARCUS
 I could help-

GOLEM
 (without looking at him)
 No, go to class.

Marcus pouts and walks off.

GOLEM (CONT'D)
 Right, okay... Drac!

Dracula shows up in a "poof" next to Golem. Startling Golem again.

DRACULA
 You called?

GOLEM
 I need you and Lycana to finish
 making the *papel picado* while I
 finish up the *ofrenda*.

DRACULA & LYCANA
 Ugh, seriously?

Lycana glares at Dracula.

DRACULA
 I mean... yay! Family bonding time.

Dracula smiles grimly at the camera.

DRACULA TALKING
 HEAD:

DRACULA (CONT'D)
 I am Count Dracula, the best
 vampire to ever exist! That's all
 you need to know, goodbye.

He gets up and "poofs" out of the interview room.

CUT TO:

INT. CREATURES HALLWAY - ALMOST NIGHT

Back in the hallway, Golem finishes the final details of the ofrenda. It's extravagant and a bit tacky, but overall gorgeous. He goes to the kitchen and brings out Lupe. He leads her to the ofrenda, his hands over her eyes.

GOLEM

Okay, and we're here.

He removes his hands from her face.

GOLEM (CONT'D)

Do you like?

LUPE

Ay, mi amor, es muy hermoso. I love it, gracias.

GOLEM

I'm glad you like it. I want today to be perf-

LUPE

I'm sorry to cut you off dear, but I must finish dinner before *mi hermano me arranca la cabeza de un mordisco.*

She tilts her head to the living room, where Dracula sits, staring at them with wide eyes.

GOLEM

Okay, no worries. I'll make sure everything goes well, don't worry.

Lupe pats his cheek kindly and walks off. Golem watches her walk away, admiring her.

FRANK

Hey honey, do you-

Golem screams from surprise and trips onto the ofrenda. A candle falls over and causes all the *papel picado* and bread to set a flame. This sends Frank into a frenzy of panic of stepping on the fire, trying to put it out. Quickly, they are both screaming and trying to put the fire out.

Marcus pops his head out of his room, notices the fire, reenters his room, and comes out with a fire extinguisher. He opens it and puts the fire out, covering Golem and Frank in white powder.

MARCUS

Aunt Lupe is going to kill you
both.

Golem and Frank look at how ruined the ofrenda is, fear in
their eyes.

CUT TO:

INT. CREATURE KITCHEN / DINING ROOM - NIGHT

All the creatures of the house sit around the table, as Lupe
serves them.

LUPE

Thank you for coming. As you know,
today is very important to me-

GOLEM

LUPE, FRANK AND I ACCIDENTALLY
RUINED THE OFRENDA. I'M SO SORRY.

Everyone looks at Golem and Frank, surprised by this
outburst. Frank shakes their head in disappointment that
Golem couldn't keep that secret in for longer than 10
minutes.

LUPE

Ay, it's fine. I made another one
in my room, assuming something like
this would happen.

He smiles from relief, but then realizes.

GOLEM

Wait, what?

LUPE

Mi amor, we live in a house full of
8 creatures; things aren't going to
be perfect most of the time.

GOLEM

But, I heard you say how special
this day was to you. I wanted to
make it perfect.

LUPE

I don't need perfection, I just
need *mi familia* here with me today.
You all here is what makes it
special.

Everyone lets out a big "awww."

LUPE (CONT'D)

I just wish I would have made more
pan de muerto; in the madness of
cooking, I forgot to make some for
both *ofrendas*-

MARCUS

Oh, I brought some.

He pulls some from his lap as though it appeared from thin
air. Everyone stares at him, shocked that he did this.

MARCUS (CONT'D)

What? Something always goes wrong
in this house. Of course, I'm gonna
prepare for it.

They all judge him, waiting for him to change his answer.

MARCUS (CONT'D)

Okay, I got bored on Zoom and snuck
in to make it when Lupe wasn't
looking.

GOLEM

Well, I'm not glad you skipped
school, but that's very sweet
Marcus.

Lycana, who's right next to Marcus, gives him a noogie.
Dracula and Frank bicker with each other, probably talking
about something niche. Lupe grabs Marcus' jaw and shakes his
head lightly, laughing. Golem watches them all and smiles, a
warmth filling him. He couldn't be happier to be a part of
this dysfunctional family.

LUPE

Gracias, Marcus. Okay, everyone dig
in!

FADE OUT.