

# NEIGHBOR

Moving is a pain in the ass; meeting new people, getting used to new surroundings... When an old friend calls, it makes it more manageable.

“So, was your neighbor out again?” Brittany asked.

“Yes! Oh my god. He is such a creeper,” Kate replied.

“You said he lives with his mom?”

“He does, and I’m pretty sure one day he will be wearing her skin.”

“Well that would be... unpleasant.” Brittany shuddered.

“He reminds me of a mix between Norman Bates and the 40-Year-Old Virgin! I’m just glad our windows don’t face each other.”

“You just be careful.”

“Oh he’s harmless,” said Kate. “He might be creepy, but we say hello, and he’s plenty nice enough. Didn’t we learn to be nice to the crazy person from Dane Cook?”

Kate sharply inhaled, then loudly whispered, “Thanks for the candyyyyy!”

Both girls cracked up laughing.

That night, Kate completed her regular night-time routine. She washed her face, brushed out her hair, locked her door, and laid her head on her pillow.

Sometime around 3AM, nature called. Kate got up, stretched, and groggily went into the bathroom. Down the hall, she caught a glint of something. It was shiny, bouncing off the streetlight pouring in from the front window.

She rubbed her eyes to focus. The glint started to move. Kate followed it up, and saw it was attached to a shadow. The shadow was tall, slender. Kate realized the glint was a knife, and her neighbor wasn’t that harmless after all.

The neighbor moved forward swiftly. He was in the way of the only exit. Kate turned to close herself in the bathroom.

The next day Brittany called Kate. They didn’t usually talk every day, but when you have been friends for that long, you just have a ‘feeling’ when something is wrong.

The phone rang...

And rang...

And rang...

And rang...

And rang...



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