

A GRAVEYARD SMASH

by

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Based on the urban legend
THE 1962 HALLOWEEN MASSACRE

FADE IN:

INT. IRWIN YABLANS HIGH SCHOOL - GYM - NIGHT

"The Monster Mash" plays from a 45 single.

A Halloween party. The room is decorated in bats, ghosts, spider webs, witches, black cats, cauldrons, pumpkins.

SUPER: Clear Lake, Colorado

SUPER: Halloween 1962

The guests (teenagers) are dressed in homemade costumes and masks -- fun and innocuous by 1960s standards, but grotesque and unsettling to modern eyes... as if they're hiding something sinister.

By the folded bleachers and punch bowl, DICK (wearing a SUPERMAN costume) chats with SID (female, wearing an androgynous papier-mache DEADFACE mask and cowboy costume) and FIONA (wearing a maid costume with plaster mask) - all 17, seniors. They share a hearty laugh.

DICK

I can't believe this is our last
Halloween together.

SID

I feel like I've known everybody
all our lives. I just hope I can
meet friends like you in college.

FIONA

Moves are temporary. Friends are
forever.

Dick swings a glass into the punch bowl and raises it, splashing it all over.

DICK

To Sid!

FIONA

(simultaneously with Sid)

To Sid!

SID

(simultaneously with
Fiona)

To me!

Dick takes a Polaroid photo of the girls and himself -- essentially what you'd call a selfie today. FLASH! The SHUTTER makes MECHANICAL NOISES.

In the photo, Fiona gives Dick bunny ears and Sid playfully flips the bird.

Dick shouts out to BARBARA, another senior, wearing a cow costume with a creepy plaster mask.

DICK

Barb!

Dick points at his camera.

BARBARA

I have an idea!

She signals to the entire room.

BARBARA

Everybody squeeze in as best you can! And... beautiful.

DICK

Say cheese!

FLASH! SHUTTER NOISES.

In the photo, among the other guests Sid and Fiona stand in the first two rows. Slightly right-of-center, next to Fiona, is a figure wearing a gray outfit and a BLACK MASK.

As the group breaks away, Barbara points to the stranger.

BARBARA

Who the hell's that?

DICK

Beats me. Probably Ben Tramer.

SID

Tramer's home sick.

BLACK MASK

disappears into a shadowy corner of the gym.

SID

observes the group photo once more.

SID

I don't think that guy's a senior...

KA-CHINK! All the doors lock. The entire room startles at the sudden sound, but ultimately resume their festivities.

"I Put a Spell on You" plays.

SEVERAL MEN SCREAM from a distance.

SID
What was that?

DICK
Probably just saw a spider.

FOUR CORPSES hang down from the ceiling.

Everybody screams.

BLACK MASK

emerges from the shadows, lifts the tonearm off the record.
Everybody panics and tries to flee.

DICK

dashes toward the phone. Not exactly faster than a speeding bullet, but this guy's got legs.

He can barely choke out the word...

DICK
Murder! Irwin Yablans High School
gymnasium. Some yahoo with a
kitchen knife! Get your wazoos out
here!

He slams the phone onto the receiver.

Behind the phone is a cut line, clearly clipped by pliers. A couple sparks fly. Dick doesn't notice any of this.

BLACK MASK

makes his way towards Sid and her friends.

FIONA
Oh, shit...

She has tear streaks on her face.

DICK
Not tonight, asshole...

Dick darts his way back to rescue his pals.

Black Mask slashes Sid and Fiona's faces and plunges his knife into Fiona's heart.

Sid sobs before she suffers the same fate.

Black Mask rips their masks off.

Dick slows down, feeling defeated. He begins to weep. The sound of a SLOWING HEARTBEAT pounds in his head.

Sid tries to elbow the killer before she falls to her death.

She and Fiona share one last teary smile...

FIONA

To Sid.

SID

To Fiona.

...before they both close their eyes for the last time.

Only Dick and Barbara remain of the friend group. Barbara removes her mask, bows her head and weeps before making a run for the bleachers and punch bowl.

Black Mask pursues them.

Sobbing Dick works his feet to save them.

Dick trips over Sid and Fiona's corpses. He yelps.

Black Mask taunts his targets by swinging his knife in a "sexy," disturbing manner. He handles it expertly, as if he's an old pro at this.

Black Mask grips his knife and wipes the blood clean off.

Dick finally makes it, out of breath. But...

Black Mask is gone.

Barbara has a horrified look on her face.

BARBARA

Dick!

Black Mask sneaks up behind Dick and stabs him several times in the back. Dick falls to his knees.

BARBARA

Dick!

Dick collapses, dead.

Brave yet deathly afraid, Barbara crawls toward the punch bowl, grunting.

Black Mask appears to pursue her.

She grabs a glass, swings it into the bowl and splashes it in his--

Wait, he's gone.

Barbara is perplexed and horrified.

KA-CHINK! The doors unlock.

INSERT - GROUP PHOTO

SUPER: Seven people died at night. The killer's mask was discovered in 1969. He was never found.

FADE OUT.

THE END