

Arachniped

By

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INT. APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM

In a dark room with only the glow of the TV set sits RILEY, mid 20s, staring intently at the screen with a controller in hand.

Playing across the screen is a survival horror game with giant spiders. As she moves the character cautiously through the room Riley holds her breath.

Behind Riley descends a spider the size of a half dollar that lands on her shoulder. The creature crawls across her back. She moves her hand and touches the furry arachnid.

She jumps up, SCREAMS, swiping the creature to the floor. She looks around frantically searching for the new location of the enemy.

She spots the Spider moving across the floor near the couch.

Riley whips her head around landing her sight on a newspaper, with a headline reading "Man Squished by Tree", on the coffee table.

She snatches it, quickly rolling it up.

She lunges over to the Spider. Riley slams the newspaper down onto the bug. She recoils her arm, and slams it down again.

Riley releases her tight grip of the newspaper, leaving it covering the body of the Spider. She lets out a sigh of relief, closing her eyes and wiping away a minuscule amount of sweat on her forehead.

The newspaper RUSTLES.

Riley's eyes snap open, glaring at the spot where she left the newspaper. It begins to move towards Riley's feet.

Her jaw drops. Frozen.

The newspaper brushes her foot, she snaps back to reality, stumbling backwards. She regains her footing, and turns.

She leaps behind the couch. She sits up slamming her back against the back of couch, breathing deeply and quickly.

She holds her breath and turns her head.

The Spider appears on the top of the couch as if to taunt Riley. She lets out a GASP, and scrambles to the...

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...KITCHEN. She swings the small lower cabinet doors open, diving in head first.

Cans of cleaner, rags, sponges and a rubber duck fly out of the cabinet.

Riley emerges with a spray can of SPI-GONE in hand, holding it up like Baby Simba. A Magical light appears, illuminating the can.

She spins around, snatching up a small lighter.

Riley flicks the lighter. Dead.

She flicks it once more. The flame appears. Riley smiles.

She turns her head towards the couch. She moves towards her enemy's location in the...

...LIVING ROOM. The Spider moves towards Riley, slowly closing the gap.

Riley moves the SPI-GONE can up in one hand, the lighter in the other. She once again flicks the lighter to life, moving it ahead of the Spray Can.

The front door BURSTS open, outlining STEVE. He flips the switch, illuminating the room.

The Spider and Riley stop dead in their tracks. Riley turns her head towards Steve.

Her finger presses down on the can, a STREAK OF FIRE erupts from the lighter. She releases the trigger.

Steve's eyes widen. He glances down, realizing the presence of the Spider. He quickly picks up his foot.

SLAM.

It comes down atop the Spider. He slides his foot back with a slight SQUELL. A small trail of blood appears under his boot.

Riley drops the items and moves to Steve, throwing her arms around him, giving him a kiss on his cheek.

FADE TO BLACK