

EXT. HOUSE - FRONT YARD - NIGHT

In the front yard of a three-story victorian house, lights shine on a sign that reads: "Jacy Sheridan: Alternative Marriage Counselor."

INT. HOUSE - OFFICE - NIGHT

JACY, early 30s, a psychic medium who is an overly involved marriage counselor, gives a tired smile at a couple exiting her office.

JACY

I'll see you two next week!

Jacy's husband AARON, early 30s, kind and patient, enters and brings Jacy a cup of tea.

AARON

Tough day?

JACY

Yeah...That last couple was rough.
I'll be finished in a few, thank goodness!

AARON

You have to learn to take time for yourself. You come first.

JACY

I'll start as soon as I finish this paperwork.

A couple walks in the office. Jacy cocks her head to the side and Aaron nods and exits. Jacy sighs and turns to SARAH, late 50s, a busy body type, and EVERETT, early 60s, sweet but stern.

JACY (CONT'D)

Good afternoon. What can I help you with?

Sarah points her finger at Everett and puts her other hand on her hip.

SARAH

Everett is an ass! That's what you can help us with.

Everett cuts his eyes at Sarah and then back to Jacy.

EVERETT

Well, Sarah is the most uncompromising, stiff-necked, selfish person I have ever met in my life!

Jacy looks back and forth between Sarah and Everett.

SARAH

Oh! I can't believe I actually chose to spend my life with you, you fastidious bastard!

Jacy stands and holds her hands up.

JACY

Whoa! I think we need to stop right there.

Jacy looks at Everett.

JACY (CONT'D)

Why don't we sit and talk this through?

Everett and Sarah sit on the couch in front of Jacy's desk. Jacy sits, shivers, and takes a deep breath. She rubs her arms and looks at Everett.

EVERETT

We've heard great things about you. You have to help us. Please!

Jacy rubs her eyes with the palms of her hands and then looks up at the couple.

JACY

Of course, I'll help you. Now, tell me what the problem is.

Sarah points at Everett.

SARAH

Everett agreed to stay here with me. And now, he's changing his mind and I'm --

Everett puffs up his chest.

EVERETT

I don't want to live here anymore! It's time to move --

SARAH

He promised me we wouldn't go
anywhere else!

Jacy sits her elbows on her desk and clasps her hands
together.

JACY

We need to find out the root of the
problem. Arguing like this won't
get us anywhere.

EVERETT

We're never going to get anywhere
anyway if she has anything to do
with it.

Sarah turns in Everett's direction.

SARAH

Well, you miserable little --

Jacy shoots up from her chair and walks to the door. She
opens the door and motions for him to walk through.

JACY

Everett, would you mind waiting
outside? I think it may be better
if I take turns speaking to you
alone.

Everett squints his eyes and exits the room. Jacy walks back
to her desk and sits.

JACY (CONT'D)

Now, why don't you want to go?

Sarah fiddles with her dress and closes her eyes.

SARAH

We made the decision to stay here.
Our family is here. He agreed --

EVERETT (O.S.)

I only agreed because you gave me
no choice!

Sarah shakes her head.

JACY

Everett, it's Sarah's turn. Please,
let her speak.

SARAH

He agreed to stay here with me. He knows I've never been good with change. He knew that when we married.

EVERETT (O.S.)

That shoulda been my first clue!

Jacy covers her face with her hands.

SARAH

You shut up! You're upsetting this poor lady. She's tired of you already!

(under her breath)

Can't say I blame her.

EVERETT (O.S.)

Me? You're the one --

Jacy sighs and drops her head. She stands, stomps to the door, and swings it open.

JACY

Everett, just come back in.

Jacy walks back to her desk and plops in her chair.

JACY (CONT'D)

I've had a long day and I really want to help you two, but you've got to work with me here.

Everett paces back and forth behind the couch, arms crossed on his chest.

EVERETT

Apologies, Mrs. Jacy. I'll try and do better.

Jacy nods her head at Everett.

JACY

Everett, why do you want to move?

EVERETT

It's just time. We can't stay here forever. You know how this --

Sarah covers her face and wails.

JACY

Sarah, you have to calm down.

EVERETT

This is what happens every time I mention it. She only wants what she wants.

Sarah wails again. Jacy rubs her arms and stretches her neck.

JACY

We have to talk this out. We can't do that if you don't compose yourself a bit.

Sarah calms and sniffles.

SARAH

I'm...I'm sorry.

JACY

It's okay. Your husband has sacrificed so much for you. Don't you think it's time that you do the same?

Sarah looks up at Jacy, tears stream down her face.

SARAH

He's done a lot for me, yes. I'm just afraid to leave.

Everett turns to Sarah.

EVERETT

But I'll be with you. You'll never be alone.

SARAH

You don't know that. You can never know that.

Jacy smiles and slumps back in the chair.

EVERETT

You're such a pessimist! You always have to control everything!

SARAH

Excuse me? What did you just say?

EVERETT

You heard me! You're a controlling, self-absorbed woman who --

Jacy throws her hands up and stands.

JACY

Part of being married is knowing when to let things go. Both of you should have learned that by now.

Jacy storms out of the office and slams the door behind her.

SARAH

Now, look what you did. You drove her away!

EVERETT

She probably got sick of your whining!

INT. HOUSE - KITCHEN - NIGHT

Jacy and Aaron sit at the table. Aaron pours Jacy a shot of whiskey.

JACY

I guess it's worth a shot.

Jacy drinks the shot.

AARON

It's definitely worth a shot.

Jacy stands and puts her hand on Aaron's shoulder. Aaron looks up at Jacy and smiles. Jacy turns and exits the kitchen.

JACY

The last couple of the day is always the hardest.

INT. HOUSE - OFFICE - NIGHT

Jacy, tired, enters the office and sits in her chair. She takes a deep breath and exhales to calm herself.

JACY

The way I see it, you have two choices: stay together or split up. You can't continue to live like this or all hell will break loose.

Everett looks up at the ceiling.

EVERETT

Well, you can tell Sarah that I'm leaving whether she goes or not.

SARAH

Then you can tell Everett that I'm not going anywhere and I'll make sure he doesn't either.

EVERETT

And you can tell her I'd like to see her try!

Sarah turns to Everett and scowls.

SARAH

Oh, watch me!

The teacup on Jacy's desk flies off and across the room. Jacy looks at Everett and then Sarah, confused. Her mouth pops open, and she flies out of her chair.

JACY

I think we should a new exercise that I think may help your situation.

Jacy's eyes grow wide and she puts her hand on her chest.

JACY (CONT'D)

You've just got the energy in here so thick I feel a little off. Maybe, if we do this, we can work through --

The office door flies open, and Aaron runs in. Jacy's eyes roll back in her head and she collapses just as Aaron catches her. Aaron carries her to the couch and lies her down. He fans her and kisses her forehead.

Sarah touches Everett's hand as they watch Aaron care for Jacy.

SARAH

Look how sweet he is with her. You used to be that way with me.

EVERETT

I'm still that way with you. I always will be.

Aaron whispers something in Jacy's ear and kisses her on her cheek.

SARAH

We aren't like that anymore. I wish we were.

EVERETT

We could be. We just have to find a way to compromise on this. We can't stay here forever. We're already starting to change.

Sarah leans into Everett and smiles as she looks up at him.

SARAH

I didn't want to admit it, but I know you're right. It's just hard to leave the grandkids.

Everett kisses Sarah's hand and nods.

EVERETT

I know it is, but we'll see them again soon.

Everett and Sarah wrap their arms around each other as they disappear into a white light. Sarah opens her eyes and sits up.

JACY

It worked!

AARON

It absolutely worked.

Jacy hugs Aaron and laughs.

JACY

We've gotta remember that trick seeing as how ghosts don't think office hours apply to them.

Jacy stands and Aaron grabs her hand as they turn out the light and exit the office.