

FRANCHISES AVAILABLE

Pilot Episode

"We Got The Call..."

Written by Aaron Mutter

Adapted for the screen by Wade Cox

FADE IN:

EXT. PARK LADYBIRD LAKE -- NIGHT

SUPERIMPOSE: AUSTIN, TX

The pavement is wet from a recent rain. MAN & WOMAN walk a dog. They walk from street light to street light into and out of the beams. Woman pauses to check behind her as both stop. She sees something off camera.

MAN

What is it, honey?

A dark silhouette manifests in a distant streetlight. They pick up the pace and keep looking behind them to see that the GUNSLINGER is still following them.

Her paranoia about the Gunslinger causes her to miss the ghost appearing right in front of her.

Woman screams and looks back just in time to see:

GUNSLINGER

Draw!

Draws and fires a shot from his pistol.

FADE OUT

Opening credits with musical accompaniment.

TITLE: Ghostbusters Franchises Available

FADE IN:

EXT. DOWNTOWN AUSTIN -- EVENING

Montage of shots of town, ending with bats flying out from under a bridge.

Ghostbusters main song plays during the beginning scenes, length of song is about half TV COMMERCIAL PLAYING ON A TV : plays a prerecorded GB commercial where the GB team says the line below with the phone number showing..

"We are all that stands between you and the things that go bump in the night"

EXT. SIDEWALKS OF AUSTIN HEADING TO A CITY OFFICE -- DAY

The following 4 characters walk down a street:

ROOKIE (Irish male, late-30s, smoking a pipe, RIVERA (Latino male, Late 20s, shit-eating grin), SPAZ (male, 20s, nerdy, aka FNG or 'Fucking New Guy'), and KYLIE (20s, female, goth)

The characters make a short walk to:

EXT. GHOSTBUSTERS OFFICE -- DAY

All enter the office. Kylie indescerinbly talks to DEVIANNA (receptionist, female). The guys are all talking amongst themselves.

Kylie turns to the guys and says:

KYLIE

Thata ways boys you know the drill, no abusing the FNG, least until he washes my car and does my minion biding...I mean it guys the FNG is mine.

Rookie and Rivera shrug and walk away, leading Spaz to an office while also explaining to our newest hire the ins and outs of the business..

ROOKIE

So it's really as simple as this, bi-weekly we drop off invoices to the city for direct billing.

RIVERA

Yeah and sometimes we also drop off damage vouchers for the clients too...it's a thankless job man, but it's got its perks.

A few pretty ladies walk past, smiling, Rivera turns walking backwards to watch them go.

RIVERA (CONT'D)

Yes sir, perks..

They continue down hall.

SPAZ

What if we forget to do that, drop off vouchers I mean?

ROOKIE

Well, FNG, the good people of this city stop paying us and we have our power cut off...no water no lights not a single luxury, oh about the no power thing, also it would be very bad for that to happen, trust me on that one...don't ask.

RIVERA

(in Spanish)

Oh shit!

(in English)

That reminds me!

(MORE)

RIVERA (CONT'D)

When we get back I'm going to show you how we maintain the protective grid...guess whose detail it is to clean that bad boy? The FNG!! hooyah..oh yeah you're my Puta, too! then you do what Kylie tells you to do!

SPAZ

Aww man come on Mr J. can't I get some ghost-busty action! I gots to get me some practice busting ghosts dude! Chicks love that.

Spaz has a bright smile & shit-eating grin goofy expression while walking, Rookie thumbs towards another door.

ROOKIE

FNG's earn their stripes Spaz, you're with Kylie on details until I say otherwise, Eduardo, if you would please lead our young one into the Mayor's office please.

RIVERA

(to Rookie)

Gladly, JJ.

(to Spaz)

Follow me, FNG, you gonna meet the man!

Rivera opens the office door and he gestures toward the man on the phone.

RIVERA (CONT'D)

This is our biggest governmental client, keep him happy and our wallets stay happy too.

INT. MAYOR'S OFFICE -- CONTINUOUS

Office opens on MAYOR BOUDREAUX (bald, soft all over, angry and on the phone), SECRETARY (prim and proper, young and holding a stack of papers), and in the corner SPECIAL AGENT WALKEN (male, 30s, nice suit, smirk)

MAYOR

I don't care what he says!...Yes that's right, tell him it's that or a night along the border in a Mexican jail cell strung up like a Piñata!

Mayor slams down the phone he looks angrily up at the two that just walked into the office, he points at the phone says:

MAYOR (CONT'D)

Willie freaking Nelson, thinks he is so damn important! Threatens to pull out of my SXSW? Then he runs a busload of pot thru one of our towns? I'll have him rolled up and smoked like a strip of bacon....ahh about time the Ghostbusters are finally here, took you long enough.

(turning to Rivera)

Did you clear the Donkey lady bridge yet? We had an agreement with our San Antone counterparts.

RIVERA

Not yet Mr. Mayor. We are getting to that ASAP. Rookie swears we can get to it in a week or so.

MAYOR

You tell him I said he had better do it next week, I'll hold his pasty face to the fire over that, it's costing our state big bucks in tourism...Our two cities have a nice working relationship that I am not letting you clowns screw up.

RIVERA

Yes, sir.

Rivera opens the office door to see Rookie pouring some candy Tic Tacs into his mouth. Rookie looks like a cat that at the canary.

RIVERA (CONT'D)

Hey JJ, Mayor says you better do the donkey lady bridge.

ROOKIE

(whispering to Rivera)

Eduardo, you rat bastard.

Rookie swallows the Tic Tacs and proceeds into the office

ROOKIE (CONT'D)

Umm, yeah we'll get right on that I promise, been so busy breaking in a new team member, meet Spazinski our newest FNG.

Rookie grabs Spaz and steers him by his shoulders to the Mayor, slaps Spaz's shoulder.

ROOKIE (CONT'D)

Just taking him to the various sites, so he can learn daily business routine and such.

MAYOR

Bridge!! next week! make it happen.

Secretary re-enters and hands the mayor some papers and leaves room, the mayor turns and gestures towards Walken.

MAYOR (CONT'D)

Oh and meet Agent Walken here from Federal Paranormal Homeland Defense he is here to chat with you people a bit.

WALKEN

That's Special agent.

MAYOR

YES, yes! what he said...Special Agent. He has some news from the big wigs in DC, and got a big lo' think-tank that has some info for you guys and such.

WALKEN

I was briefed about your team from Congressman Venkman, recently he was informed by some of our NASA scientists that a planetary alignment is about to occur.

He pulls out a small blackberry reading off some details.

WALKEN (CONT'D)

Your founders in New York ...Doctors, Stantz & Spengler concur with our findings. A warning memo from the DPHD that states during these type of events and I'll quote the memo 'vibratory dimensional walls will be thinning, allowing a possibility of a cross-rip event of class 11 level or better'...this is a bad thing, for a fact the last two such occurrences on American soil

Walken looks back to the mayor as he says this for emphasis.

WALKEN (CONT'D)

Both of which took place in greater Manhattan, costing the taxpayers around 10 billion dollars in damages and repairs costs.

Walken pauses for dramatic effect.

WALKEN (CONT'D)

This is potentially a disastrous occurrence..I'm here to pass along
(MORE)

WALKEN (CONT'D)

the update that for the duration of this planetary alignment we can give you access to information, several telemetry resources and limited access to satellite feeds along with liaison to our NASA staff thru me.

(lights up)

Federal funds will be provided, offsetting costs to the city, we are always well informed... if anything is needed please contact me here.

Walken hands out his business card to all.

WALKEN (CONT'D)

Gentlemen the United States Government is expecting you to hold up your end in this deal, we do have a vested interest if any items or creatures exhibiting unusual characteristics manage to turn up I need to be one of the first ones you contact, I will be watching, call me when you hit a roadblock.

Rookie shakes off his self-induced fog and comes back to the world.

ROOKIE

OK, can do, no need to try and convince me how bad those type events can get... after all, I've been through a cross-rip before... not fun.

RIVERA

I hear that cross-rips can make your skin go all pale when that happens, you know like an albino and stuff.

Spaz laughs.

Rookie gives a disapproving stare.

MAYOR

Enough on that!.....you Powder!, drop off your vouchers with my Secretary Lisa in there and get out!! move! go away, BRIDGE NEXT WEEK CLEAN OF SPOOKS! AND CREEPY CRAWLEYS Go forth my minions!

Mayor laughs evilly he ushers them out and closes the door behind them.

EXT. MAYOR'S OFFICE -- MOMENTS LATER

Spaz looks at Rookie and Rivera.

SPAZ

Kind of like a demented Mr clean
isn't he?

RIVERA

Wow, now we got men in black
eyeballing us. That's never a good
thing.

Rookie again gestures for Spaz to lead the way down the hall.

They go down the hall to another office.

Kylie wraps up a phone conversation and turns toward the
guys.

KYLIE

Hello boys, everything good?

RIVERA

JJ got bitch-slapped for the bridge.

KYLIE

Seriously? JJ...didn't we just discuss
this a few days ago?

ROOKIE

I was going to do that...honestly,
no really I was.

Neither Rivera nor Kylie gives him a believable look

ROOKIE (CONT'D)

Let's just say it's on the to-do
list

(pauses)

OK,.....subject change, why the happy
happy joy joy face Kylie?

RIVERA

Either there is a sale at hot topic
or you are excited about something.

Rookie smiles.

ROOKIE

I'd bet its something otherworldly,
what's up, what was the call about?

Kylie looks unusually giddy.

KYLIE

Well...I just got off the phone with
Devianna and she has some cases for
us to hop on, It's looking like a
busy week. I love this shit! Here's
what we got.

Kylie opens a notepad and begins to read, excitedly.

KYLIE (CONT'D)

An old favorite of ours 'the Bride'
is lurking about again haunting the
hotel again,

(Pause)

Got a possible poltergeist at a pool,
(pause)

Our favorite cursed-objects home,
the Austin Museum of weird, are
experiencing trouble, they want us
to come take a look,

Got another weird case of a paranormal
attack that involved a man and woman,
the couple were walking their dog,
her boyfriend is in a coma, she wants
to talk to us...

(pause)

Lastly, a call from the Majestic
Theater. Looks like old Harry Houdini
is at it again.

Rookie and Rivera look at each other, questioning.

KYLIE (CONT'D)

Want me to take the FNG with me to
the museum, then do the theater after?
Both are close together.

Spaz looks like an overexcited puppy.

ROOKIE

Yeah, go ahead and take Spaz.

(Turning to Spaz)

Don't let me down FNG, you wanted a
shot at action, this is it.

I'll take Eduardo here and get the
coma guy. You go, take Spaz to the
museum of Werid...try to not let them
keep him.

Spaz stops smiling.

SPAZ

Hey what's that supposed to mean?

Rookie just ignores him and continues speaking.

ROOKIE

Get back with me if anything else
pops up interesting. Keep me
informed, we'll meet back at HQ after.
Come on

(gestures to Spaz to
follow Kylie)

Lets roll.

SPAZ

Aww yeah man..ACTION TIME.

RIVERA

(Catches up to Rookie)
Shotgun! you wanna hit some 'Man
Bites Dog' fast-food after that?

ROOKIE

Yeah I guess so.

They rock paper scissors, Rivera loses.

ROOKIE (CONT'D)

And...You're buying.

Rookie and Rivera walk out with Kylie and Spaz following.

EXT. PUBLIC LIBRARY -- NIGHT

Animated conversation between Rookie, Rivera and Woman.

WOMAN

And then it was..just THERE!! in
front of us screaming 'DRAW!' I
heard what sounded like a gunshot.

Crying and sniffing into tissue paper have running mascara
from tears.

WOMAN (CONT'D)

And then I...I fainted, when I came
to, that man was gone, and Doug was
lying on his back staring blankly
ahead, my puppy Snoogums was just
licking his face.

(between cries)

I thought he was dead.

RIVERA

Then what did you do?

WOMAN

I saw he was still breathing breathing
and called 911, the doctors don't
know why he is in a coma, and they
wouldn't believe me when I told them
about that..that thing that shot at
my Doug!

(more sniffles)

I'm not a liar!! I know what I saw
was real, and I'm not crazy!!

Rookie scans her with a PKE meter, it spikes. Rookie gives
an approving nod to Rivera.

ROOKIE

(to Woman)

Did the manifesting Entity say anything other than draw? Can you recall what he was dressed in perhaps, period type clothing, any type of recognizable features?

WOMAN

I think... it's so hard to recall, he definitely had on a cowboy hat, but this IS Texas.

Woman blows her nose.

WOMAN (CONT'D)

Wait, I think, something he said right after the gunshot, before I fainted.

Rivera looking very worried.

RIVERA

So, we got a ghostly gunslinger or the Village People are haunting us. Sadly, I am not betting on the Village People.

(more directly toward
Woman)

It's important, sweetie. If you can remember whatever he said, all of this information helps us nail this ghostly what-sis and I know you want us to get this guy...any and every little bit of info helps.

WOMAN

Yes..he said 'one more to go.' Yes, that was it. What does it mean??!
One more to go! Is he COMING FOR ME NOW?!

She is a bit more hysterical now with tears and sobbing.

ROOKIE

No..no its OK nothing to worry about, we go up against this kind of thing on a routine basis...we can take it from here.

Woman comically falls, crying and sobbing, on Rivera's chest, wailing.

He tries to pat her on the back in a reassuring way.

Rivera mouths the words 'What the Fuck?'

Rookie looks at Rivera and shrugs.

Rookie hands Rivera a Ziploc bag.

RIVERA

I don't think now is a good time to ask for the stool and urine samples...maybe later.

Rookie shoots him an uncomfortable look.

INT. GHOSTBUSTERS OFFICE -- LATER

DEVIANNA

(talking a mile a minute)

HEY there, everybody. I got your addresses here for you!! I was watching the news on the TV just now and saw the thing about that sad couple walking their dog. So sad. And, oh, I ordered pizza what do you want for toppings? I like pepperoni! Thick crust is the best, isn't it? It's like this time I ordered pan crust for the first time. I was sooooo happy and it was yummy. I'm heading out later tonight. I was thinking of seeing a movie. I'm taking my daughter! Do you guys like movies? I like movies.

Kylie and Spaz look at each other, feeling ambushed.

Kylie interrupts Devianna.

KYLIE

Sweetie, we just need the case addresses and to pick up some equipment, but you enjoy that pizza and movie, tell your little girl I said hello. Any other calls?

Devianna walks up to desk without slowing down and picks up a stack of papers.

Stares blankly.

Devianna puts down the stack and picks up Post-it notes off the desk.

She gives them to Kylie.

Kylie turns and heads down a hall.

Devianna leans over her desk to holler information to Kylie.

DEVIANNA

Address is on that scrap of paper!
(MORE)

DEVIANNA (CONT'D)

Much of this stuff, who can tell
really what all this mail is anyways?

Devianna has a mischievous grin, and it broadens when the phone rings.

Spaz finally can't take the unanswered ringing.

SPAZ

Umm aren't you supposed to answer
the phones around here?

Devianna looks miffed and crosses her arms.

DEVIANNA

Aren't you supposed to hit puberty
someday, tiny skinny man!. Whatever!
(into phone)
HELLO IT'S THE FRICKING GHOSTBUSTERS
WHAT THE HELL DO YOU WANT!

Spaz starts sneaking away down hall as to not draw fire from Devianna.

Cross fade to:

BURNARD (white male) sits in the Ghostbuster lab tinkering with some gear. He looks up from his welding goggles and give a deadpan look at Kylie.

BURNARD

Kylie...I thought you don't work on
Mondays.

KYLIE

(Smirking)
I still don't, this is Wednesday...you
need to get out of the lab a bit
more dontcha think?

BURNARD

Fascinating.

He looks at his watch and back to Kylie.

BURNARD (CONT'D)

Why are you in my lab?

KYLIE

There's a couple of possible hauntings
we are checking out, wanted to test
the EVP relay & pick up our proton
packs.

Burnard stares emotionless at her in silence and sits back on his stool.

BURNARD
(flatly)
OK..sure...

Kylie is confused, Burnard is oblivious.

Spaz slinks in and up to Burnard.

Burnard is welding and jumps a bit when Spaz taps him on the shoulder.

SPAZ
Hey, man, I'm officially going on a
ghost bust, celebration time baby!
Give me some skin!

Spaz holds out his hand for a high-five....Burnard doesn't understand.

BURNARD
Why? Are you growing skin cultures?
That actually interests me, can I
join that project?

Burnard stares blankly.

SPAZ
Oh that's right...you're not normal.
OK Mr Spock, you go back to your
welding thing never mind me.

Burnard goes back to welding.

Spaz follows Kylie out. They talk indiscernibly as they gather equipment needed for the mission.

Burnard is surrounded by his electronics, and looks like a mad scientist.

END SCENE 2

Scene 3

Rookie and Rivera arriving at HQ as Kylie and Spaz are about to leave Rookie: "Glad we caught you before you head out Eduardo and I got a very interesting talking to, done by the girlfriend of the coma guy"

KYLIE
Well don't leave us hanging, what's
the sitch?

ROOKIE

Might be too early at this point to confirm but I think we have a entropic event. Imminent...expect a sharp increase in ectoplasmic activity. Just a FYI for you to think on.

Rivera: " So yeah, me and JJ, we were talking in the car, we think its research time at city hall library again, so what do you say? You, me and Rookie there...study time? Just like the old days?" both Rivera and Kylie look at Rookie, and his faraway look, he pulls out his pipe to smoke it.

KYLIE

Oh, hell. That's never a good sign, you always fiddle with that freaking pipe when you have bad news. So it is bad? Exploding monkeys bad? or 'hell with impending doom' bad?

ROOKIE

(fiddles with his pipe)

I ...am not really sure.

Rookie pauses for dramatic effect and searches for his words.

ROOKIE (CONT'D)

Well, according to the PKE readings of the girlfriend and the coma guy, I at least think I know what's happened.

Others gather around as he speaks

ROOKIE (CONT'D)

All living creatures have PKE readings....usually they give off positive PKE measurable energy, our PKE meters are calibrated to work on negative readings specifically tuned, which in turn shows the presence of ghosts or otherworldly entities....you following me so far?

Spaz is now huddling around the three and injecting himself into the conversation.

SPAZ

HA! So what it means is.. that means...yeah I'm lost I don't get it...I got nothing.

KYLIE

It means, Spaz, that he got a funky unexpected reading from those two.

ROOKIE

Exactly, in a way at least, the girl showed residual spectral contact emanations, but the coma guy...that was the freaky one. His PKE reading was flat, zero.

RIVERA

Hey, I thought you said everybody got a PKE charge.

ROOKIE

They do, normally, zero indicates lack of psychokinetic energy, in other words his soul has been completely extracted.

(lights pipe)

Now as I know, all of our traps are accounted for ...so that leaves me relatively unsure of what we are dealing with here.

SPAZ

All of our traps are accounted for. What has that got to do with it?

Kylie gets in Spaz's personal space and mocking sweet, she talks to him.

KYLIE

Do you recall little FNG, any information I told you when we were training with our gear? The part about, when you close the trap don't look directly at it?

She toys with him and feigns sexual energy, flirting/toying with him.

Spaz stares at her with a little fear and infatuation.

SPAZ

Yeah, kinda...

Both Rookie and Rivera are smiling at the way Kylie is handling Spaz Rookie: "good advice, I'd listen to her FNG...as to your question the 'me' mentioning the traps refers to a nasty incident with the Denver franchise branch run by Ed Spengler, long story short a domestic terrorist got hold of a few traps and went on a soul grabbing spree" at this point in a creepy dramatic fashion Bernard pops up behind Kylie startling her and Spaz both have Bernard look at spaz in a long awkward passive aggressive stare as he finishes the story

BURNARD

Dr Constantine, former colleague to Pavel Karnov of the Denver team was stopped, the cross-rip incursion prevented...and I swore to never eat egg salad ever again from that day forward.

Confused stares all around.

BURNARD (CONT'D)

What? I got sick and vomited, same exact day, it was unpleasant, I'm sorry.

Burnard stares off and begins pacing the room.

BURNARD (CONT'D)

If no one is currently using stolen traps to power any Egyptian amulets we can rule that out...could be a succubus, spectral psychokinetic vampire...and there is the very disturbing possibility of a ritual.

SPAZ

Ritual? Is that like when you have to drink 10 beers in a row without puking or else you have to screw a goat?

Kylie looks at Rookie and Rivera mouthing 'What the fuck?'

BURNARD

NO, that's hazing, a ritual is different...really goats?

ROOKIE

Burnard!

Burnard pauses and looks to Rookie.

ROOKIE (CONT'D)

Did you find out something relevant?

Burnard nods and goes to a dry erase board.

BURNARD

A possible bit of useful information that I have learned, this is not the first time a series of Coma victims have appeared in that same area, if this is related there will be one more victim ending a cycle that will in turn end with the comatose patients dead.

Burnard pauses.

BURNARD (CONT'D)

This pattern goes back almost 150 years....if the phenomenon repeats in a chronological localized predictable pattern then we may have a ritualistic Eldritch energy manipulation designed to bring about a particular goal utilizing stolen souls as fuel to breach dimensional walls.

All move closer waiting for the punchline when...

Phone rings, statling everyone.

KYLIE

(to nobody in particular)

Jeez! I nearly peed myself...I got it.
(into phone)

Hello?, yes, when? About 30 mins ago? OK, thanks.

Kylie hangs up.

KYLIE (CONT'D)

That was Devianna, said we got a second call from our poltergeist location, activity just kicked up in a big way, about an half hour ago, seems there may be more to this one than we thought.

ROOKIE

How about Eduardo and I go with you guys help set up your gear there for the poltergeist, then the two of us will break off for the library. You, Burnard, and Spaz hit the museum. Eduardo and I will go and pick out the old maps and microfiche newspapers for the area, research some answers on this ritual idea of his, then we all meet up after. Sound good?

All nod in agreement.

ROOKIE (CONT'D)

OK, let's roll out! Time to make the doughnuts.

BURNARD

(to Kylie)

I never understand that phrase. We don't make doughnuts, we don't produce pastries of any type, and what does he even mean?

Kylie rustles Burnard's hair.

KYLIE

Oh, you special child!
It will be OK wittle guy!

SPAZ

That's not funny man, now I want
doughnuts...can we stop on the way
at Krispy Kreme?

END SCENE 3

ACT 2

SCENE 1

EXT. HAUNTED POOL -- EVENING

Quick rundown for total story gunslinger, learn about previous victims kylie gets slinky as bait, doesn't work, Spaz becomes bait pool scene for Kylie and Spaz research library all check in montage for bride, have funny scenes Montage capture of Houdini (sets up the containment escape scene) inter cut to back to HQ new victim appears gunslinger strikes again

HQ exposition again get a call for bride ghost after bride spaz get super slimed deal with a new ghost call, disco dancer montage bits of equip set up fight for the Disco, spaz gets slimed again back at HQ trouble is getting worse and mayor is worried receive call from Walken, with ominous tones and warning have containment alarm go off for funny scene with Burnard head to museum of weird, learn origin of gunslinger, Burnard discovers that an artifact is its medium, (hand in jar) track the gunslinger, fight gunslinger, and blast his hand in jar weakens the gunslinger, gunslinger gets trapped learn about gunslingers master the Cthulhu priest back at HQ putting away the gunslinger Burnard has kit-bashed a device based off the warning of the gunslinger and Walken to collapse a cross-rip from within Devi takes her kid to the mall, vanishing kid, the GB are alerted sky darkens ghost are running rampant Mayor is furious and wants action! fight the mall, other franchises show up to help

(use local GB fans in Austin, there are at least 15 to 20)

rookie goes thru cross rip Kid get rescued, Priest is blasted as device implodes while Rookie and girl escape gets back with mommy, Mayor is on hand for good press he tells them of a new case to start on the following day the team victory and business as usual new ending scene as GB learns of a Native American legend gone wrong and off to battle a Thunderbird, must mean overtime.... credits