

ALL THE GHOSTS ARE GIRLS

Written by

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FADE IN:

INT. CORPORATE TOY HQ; PAWTUCKET, RHODE ISLAND - DAY

NINA OCASION, 20s Filipina doll designer, a petite lumberjack with giant glasses sets up her prototypes on a table at the front of a presentation theater for executive review.

BORED PLANNER

Next up is the Marty styling head
and salon.

VAL JEFFRIES, super WASPY 40s, queen bee marketing VP glances up from her phone.

VAL

Good. Hope this works better than
last time.

Marketing lemmings giggle and put down their phones.

NINA

So, check it out. The talking
feature now syncs to your mobile
device and moves with the mouth. Oh
and we added the color-change
feature to her braces so it's more
aspirational.

VAL

Cute.

NINA

And when you say "Hey, Marty" she
responds like this.

The disembodied styling head opens its mouth AHHHH. Nothing.

NINA (CONT'D)

It must be the batteries--

VAL

What the hell? Is John here?

JOHN, 50s engineer, runs down the steps from the back row.

JOHN

Just checked the servos this
morning-- it should be fine.

Judge-y murmurs from the crowd as John inspects the prototype and Nina whispers with her boss, KAREN, 40s African-American.

KAREN

Why don't we move onto the salon--

VAL

No. Bring them both back next week.
This is unreal.

KAREN

But the salon--

VAL

I'm sick of product development's
excuses. You know Nina, I thought
moving you to this brand would be
great for the team but now I'm
questioning your dedication.

Nina stares at the audience with the same open mouth as the
Marty styling head, minus the blue braces and lip color.

KAREN

She was here all last night
repainting that model.

NINA

Sometimes China gets the facepaint
wrong and our deadline--

VAL

It's always "China, China, China".
Do I have to go on yet another
factory trip to justify your screw-
ups?

Sleep-deprived Nina swallows her angry tears.

NINA

I played with my Marty dolls 'til
seventh grade! I love being on this
brand.

VAL

Yeah, well I'm not seeing it.

NINA

Why? Because I don't walk around in
hot pink suits and stupid heels
like you?

GASP from all the marketers and designers.

NINA (CONT'D)
 And I'm totally dedicated to this
 line. I'll show you love!

Nina grabs the styling head prototype by the hair and makes
 out with Marty who suddenly begins to speak.

MARTY DOLLHEAD
 We should hang more often.

MARKETING BRO
 (to Val)
 Knew she was gay.

Val picks up her Chanel bag and sweeps out of the room, all
 the marketers following.

KAREN
 (to the back of Val)
 It's working now.

INT. NINA'S FACTORY LOFT OVERLOOKING THE RIVER - DAY (LATER)

Nina stares through the tall windows swirling ice in her
 giant tumbler.

NINA
 Nothing ever works for me.

One side of her long hair floats up over her head then falls.

NINA (CONT'D)
 Oh, hi Susan.

SUSAN (V.O.)
 Please don't despair.

NINA
 I'm not. I'm just gonna drink this
 for a while. When they definitely
 fire me that's when I'll despair.

SUSAN (V.O.)
 Is your overseer very angry?

NINA
 It's not even her. I pissed off my
 marketing veep. It really wasn't my
 fault though.

A girl with braids in a plain cotton dress and apron appears
 next to Nina and pats her shoulder.