

THE ORB

Written by

The FTVM 290 Class of Fall 2024

Chris Kluebber, known as "CK" (19), in nightclub attire, stumbles into the dark kitchen, turns on a light.

CK opens the refrigerator to see...

A glowing green ORB.

CK closes the fridge, looks around, calls out to another part of the house.

CK
Yo, HB! Did you put a fucking glow
stick in the fridge?

Silence.

CK (CONT'D)
HB!

Still no answer. CK re-opens the fridge and stares at the Orb. CK makes a phone call.

HB (O.S.)
CK, what's up, can't talk right
now.

CK
(into phone)
What is this thing?

CK reaches in the fridge and pulls out the Orb.

HB (O.S.)
What?

CK
In the fridge.

HB (O.S.)
Close the fridge!

CK examines the Orb closer, holds it close to their face.

CK
Too late.

HB (O.S.)
Don't touch it. Just keep the
fridge closed so it stays cool.
What color is it?

CK
 Um, green? What if I did touch it,
 hypothetically?

CK continues to hold the Orb, fascinated and freaked out by it.

HB (O.S.)
 No! So listen-- let me walk you
 through it...

2 INT. BEDROOM - DAY (FLASHBACK)

2

HB (19), a homebody, enters the messy room with a strange package. Stumbling around, and making big steps in the cluttered floor, HB goes straight to their bed.

HB (V.O.)
 ...in the alley behind work, this
 dumpster diver old dude pops up and
 hands it to me. Mumbles some shit.

HB stares at the box.

HB (V.O.) (CONT'D)
 The box was unopened and addressed
 to somebody so I was going to do
 the right thing...

The box's shipping label is illegible. HB stares hard and shakes their head.

HB (V.O.) (CONT'D)
 I tried to be careful with it.

HB shakes the box.

HB (V.O.) (CONT'D)
 You know me, I'm very patient with
 things, but there's a limit.

HB rips open the box. Fog rises as the green light of the Orb illuminates HB's face. HB stares at the Orb, picks it up.

HB (V.O.) (CONT'D)
 It was cold and it had a weird
 feeling holding it, like it was
 vibrating. But other than that...

HB shrugs and puts it on the nightstand.

HB (V.O.) (CONT'D)
 I was kinda disappointed.

3 INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT (FLASHBACK)

3

HB sleeps, the Orb's green light visible on HB's face. The light on HB's face turns red.

The Orb glows red.

ORB
Homebody, it's you! Homebody!

HB wakes from deep sleep.

HB
How do you know my real name?

ORB
I KNOW you. I see you. The you no one else sees.

HB
What are you?

ORB
Are you afraid of me?

HB
Hell no.

ORB
You just peed yourself.

HB
How did you--?

ORB
I know everything. Let me tell you something else about you.

HB (VO)
And then the Orb talked to me like no one has ever talked to me. Nonstop. For hours.

While HB's VO continues, a series of shots: HB intently talking to the Orb, listening, cycling through intense emotions.

HB (VO) (CONT'D)
I truly believe the Orb is my soulmate. We're working on reaching the next level -- mind meld.

4 INT. KITCHEN - NIGHT (FLASHBACK) 4

HB's hands place the red-glowing orb in the refrigerator.

HB (VO)
Orb said I need to let go of my
self construct. And stuff.

5 INT. KITCHEN - NIGHT 5

CK peers into the green-glowing Orb while on the phone.

HB (O.S.)
So that's what I'm doing.

CK
Where the hell are you?

HB (O.S.)
Dude, sunrise meditation circle
with Yoga Club.

CK
Oh damn. Mad respect.

HB (O.S.)
Gonna be one with Orb. Just keep
the fridge closed til I get home
and DON'T TOUCH IT.

CK tosses the Orb back and forth.

CK
You have absolutely NO faith in me.

The Orb's color suddenly changes to red.

ORB
Hello.

CK
Uh... hey. What up.

ORB
How was "Fisheye" tonight?

CK
How'd you know what club I went to?

ORB
I see everything.

HB (O.S.)
Dude, are you talking to the
fucking Orb right now?

CK hangs up the call and stares into the Orb's red glow.

CK
Yo, you're low key beautiful.

ORB
Thank you. I would never have
rejected you like that fool in the
mesh top tonight at the club.

CK
If I tossed it to you, you would
have hit the "woah" with me?

ORB
Yes... if I had arms. I would have
done it... in spirit.

CK
Your one curve is perfect. And your
red glow is fire.

HB tries to call. CK turns the phone over and gazes at the
Orb.

CK (CONT'D)
So... tell me more about yourself.

FADE TO BLACK.