

Down in the Pit – opening

Chris got a rejection letter from the owners of the defunct institution, and he was so enraged that he nearly cancelled the whole show. His sister and cofounder, Brittany, had warned him not to spend any money on the trip until it was a sure thing. After all, the owners only opened their doors for prestige TV shows, not dinky little YouTube channels.

But Chris had already gone ahead and booked a cheap motel and flights for the whole crew.

The letter plainly conveyed no interest in letting “cheapskate amateurs” profit off the fame of the property, and added that they wouldn’t give a rate to blind veterans in medical school. Chris crumpled the letter into a ball, and it took all his restraint not to call the bastard and deliver a verbal beatdown. Britt calmed him down, and she was polite enough not to bring up her forewarning.

That’s when the cameraman, Matt Shen, mentioned the backup spot. His uncle was a doctor in Laredo, and one Halloween night he told a story about a place called Bryce Cremation Service. The most infamous institution in the Texas medical community, they were known as a bunch of cheapskates and corner cutters. After an audit in ’97, investigators found a mass grave in the basement. The ashes they provided to customers turned out to be nothing but burned scrap paper.

There was no doubt among the crew that this crematorium was brimming with supernatural activity. Maybe even demons. Brittany agreed, and after a little convincing, Chris picked up his head and gave the team a knowing smile.

And with that, the Price of Paranormal Parley headed to Texas.