

NIGHTMARE TIME

Written by

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Based on,  
Actual Nightmares

Address - NICE TRY!  
Phone Number - AS IF!

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

An old clock on the wall TICKS.

A rocking chair CREAKS in the corner.

A curtain softly blows, casting a shadow on the wall.

CLOSE ON -- A MIDDLE AGED WOMAN SCREAMS. She sits up in bed, breathing heavy, distraught. She's wearing a metal hat with wires attached.

INT. NIGHTMARE CLINIC - CONTROL ROOM

A DARK HAIREd WOMAN in a lab coat, back to us, sits at a CONTROL PANEL, watching the middle aged woman through a two way mirror.

A YOUNG LAB ASSISTANT approaches the Dark Haired Woman.

YOUNG LAB ASSISTANT

The circadian patterns in her nightmares have increased by seven hundred percent. Any further increase and she'll die.

The Dark Haired woman continues staring through the glass.

DARK HAIREd WOMAN

Good.

She turns to camera and sits on a control panel. It's AUBREY PLAZA.

AUBREY PLAZA

Nightmares. For nearly decades man and woman has been plagued by them. We writhe in bed as demons fill our brain, taunting us, torturing us, crushing our spirits until we are nothing but a dark, vacuous vessel.

She stands and walks, revealing more of the control room. It's octagonal in shape with a Super Computer at its center. The room is surrounded by eight windows -- each one looks into a bedroom with patients sleeping inside.

AUBREY PLAZA (CONT'D)

Tiny Pigs. Baths. Swaddling. Sex. Drugs. All you can eat buffets. More drugs. Karate. Slow jazz. Tacos. We've tried everything to cure nightmares.

(MORE)

## AUBREY PLAZA (CONT'D)

But what is their purpose and *can* they be cured? Here at the Aubrey Plaza Nightmare Clinic of Hollywood we have assembled top scientists to look inside the minds of the most tormented among us in hopes to find answers to these questions.

She walks past another room where a MAN tosses and turns, whimpering. A children's mobile of animals hangs above him and a NURSE plays "Frere Jaques" on a recorder.

Aubrey opens a door labeled "TECHNICAL LAB ROOM".

## INT. NIGHTMARE CLINIC - TECHNICAL LAB ROOM

She walks through the room past lots of LAB ASSISTANTS, wires, beakers with bright liquid and smoke, ANIMALS WEARING METAL HATS, sparks flying, someone dressed as the Grim Reaper wanders about, and tons of other THINGS THAT MAKE NO SENSE.

## AUBREY PLAZA

Using advanced technology we've devised a way to piece together our subjects nightmares into a linear narrative that we can watch and of course analyze, scientifically.

She exits the lab into--

## INT. NIGHTMARE CLINIC - BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

A NURSE takes off Aubrey's lab coat to reveal old-timey pajamas underneath. ANOTHER NURSE hands her a warm glass of milk. A DIFFERENT NURSE puts on a LITTLE METAL SLEEP HAT.

## AUBREY PLAZA

Tonight, we will begin by looking into the mind of Patient 001.  
Aubrey Plaza. Me. Myself.

She lays in bed and pulls the covers up.

## AUBREY PLAZA (CONT'D)

(shuts her eyes, whispers)  
It's nightmare time.

CUT TO:

OPENING CREDITS

INT. NIGHTMARE CLINIC - CONTROL ROOM

TWO SCIENTISTS nod to one another. They dim the lights in the bedroom. Through the window AUBREY sleeps in the bed. We SLOWLY PUSH IN ON HER FACE.

MAN'S VOICE (V.O)

The world of Social Media, much like Nightmares, is a dark realm of human frailty and desire, where the desperate venture to give meaning to their lives. This is exactly the realm Patient 001, stepped into when she closed her eyes just moments ago. Will she resist temptation, or will she Just Click Here...

EXTREME CLOSE UP of her sleeping eyes, twitching.

FLASH! An onslaught of crazy YOUTUBE STYLE VIDEOS and RANDOM IMAGES FROM THE INTERNET overlapping. A "MeNow!" logo appears at the bottom of the screen over all the content.

OBNOXIOUS MENOW ANNOUNCER (V.O.)

Find out what's hot hot hot NOW  
with today's Three Faves of MeNow!

"THREE FAVES OF MENOW" graphic smashes over the images!

OBNOXIOUS MENOW ANNOUNCER (V.O.)

At tres, with 32.1 million MeLovers  
- Johnny Cray-Cray!

ON VIDEO: JOHNNY CRAY-CRAY (19) Asian, sunglasses, pompadour, selfies of him showing off his abs with hot girls and wild animals. He poses and smiles. TING! His teeth glisten.

OBNOXIOUS MENOW ANNOUNCER (V.O.)

At number deuce, with 53.3 Million  
MeLovers, The Boys of Dummer!

ON VIDEO: THREE FRAT BOYS catapult POUNDS OF SHRIMP onto an OLD LADY at an outdoor cafe. A graphic that says "SHRIMP'D" smashes on screen. The boys high five.

OBNOXIOUS MENOW ANNOUNCER (V.O.)

And at number one for the 5th month  
in a row, with 100 million MeLovers  
- Tina Dominoes!

ON VIDEO: TINA (15) blonde, fake everything, talks into her phone on a selfie stick as she walks out of school, totes confident. She spits on a CROSSING GUARD.

TINA

Hey all you dumb bitches! Just got outta class and it was so stupie I wanted to ram a fist up Mr. Benton's dumb old ass. Peep me later at lunch where I'll be making fun of people eating! I hate all of you! Luv ya bye.

INT. JULIE JACOBS' HOUSE - JULIE'S ROOM - NIGHT

Watching the video, enraptured, is JULIE JACOBS, 16 (played by Aubrey Plaza), nerdy, glasses, braces, totes a virgin - just a shit show. Her cat, MR. PRINGLES, sits on her lap.

Julie opens up her own MeNow page. She only has two MeLovers. Julie awkwardly tries to slut herself up and turns to her desk mirror.

JULIE

Okay, Julie Foolie, we got this.

Julie hits record on her computer. She tries to be "bitchy".

JULIE (CONT'D)

Hey MeNow world! It's your cool girl, Julie Foolie! Just got done with school today! It was so stupie and I didn't like it and I learned a lot! Mrs. McVey is a great teacher and she's old and she's stupid but also really intuitive and helpful! She inspires me! Barf!

She hits stop, super fucking proud of herself, and posts it.

A VIDEO COMMENT pops on screen: An ASSHOLE (18) in a dorm.

ASSHOLE

Go fuck your cat, loser! UNFOLLOW!

Another VIDEO COMMENT: A CUTE LITTLE GIRL (4) in her room.

CUTE LITTLE GIRL

I can't keep watching her. I can't keep doing this to myself. Unfollow.

Her follow count reaches ZERO. Text: NO ONE MELOVES YOU. Her world crushed, just as WARREN, 40's, on edge, SLAMS open the door. He wears a red polo "RadioHut" shirt.

WARREN

Lights out, Julie Jacobs! You're sixteen years old, you should be sleeping! Turn off your computer, and get out of your MeYou.

JULIE

It's MeNow, Warren!

WARREN

Hey, HEY! Just because I'm your step-dad doesn't mean you can *step* all over me, ok?!

MOM (40's) sweet, bathrobe, comes to the doorway.

MOM

Please listen to your Step-Dad, sweetie. Our therapist said it would help his self-esteem.

She escorts Warren away and shuts the door--

JULIE

(whispers)

Mr. Pringles, All I want is to be famous on MeNow.

(screaming to the sky)

OH MY GOD it's all I want!!!

She smashes her head against the keyboard, defeated. DING!  
Julie lifts her head and sees...

A flashing red POP UP AD on the screen. It reads WANT TO BE FAMOUS ON MENOW? START YOUR FREE THREE CLICK TRIAL NOW! JUST CLICK HERE. Pulsing arrows point down to three animated red buttons.

Julie considers it. She hovers her cursor over the first animated button. She takes a breath and clicks.

The first button disintegrates and the screen GLITCHES, back to her MeNow page. Still only two MeLovers. Dramatically, she shoves her lamp over and throws herself onto the bed. Mr. Pringles jumps in as she cries herself to sleep.

Later in darkness...

Julie's computer GLITCHES and A RED LASER LIGHT turns on. It shoots out of the computer's Camera. It SCANS Julie's sleeping body, head to toe to head.

COMPUTER  
 (loudly)  
 SCANNING COMPLETE.

It SHUTS OFF.

Then... the computer slowly FADES ON.

A FIGURE forms in front of the computer, blocking the light from the screen. The glow of the computer beams from behind it, creating a halo around the creepy, silhouetted figure.

FADE TO BLACK:

DING!

Julie's eyes SHOOT OPEN. She looks at her clock: 1 AM. Text on her computer reads: YOUR VIDEO UPLOAD IS COMPLETE!

JULIE  
 What? I didn't make a video...  
 (loudly at computer)  
 PLAY!

JULIE FOOLIE stars in the video recorded at night in her desk chair. She looks like Julie Jacobs, but with tons of makeup, no braces, much hotter and in a bikini.

ON VIDEO -

JULIE FOOLIE  
 Hey there, Foolie followers, Julie Foolie here! I'm version two point-0 and ready to blow!

She winks.

JULIE FOOLIE (CONT'D)  
 We're gonna spice things up toniiiiight babies! I was thinking about taking a bubbly bath but how bout I just gut this cat?!

She quickly raises a knife and pulls Mr. Pringles into frame.

ON JULIE

JULIE  
 What?

Julie Foolie lowers the cat out of frame and STABS multiple times downward. And again. And again. The sound of the cat SCREECHING in pain, Julie Foolie laughing. Blood spurts and sprays up, all over Foolie's maniacal face.

Julie Jacobs sees BLOOD on her computer.

JULIE JACOBS

Oh god! Oh god no! No! Ohhh no no!  
Ohhh no! NO GOD NO! OHHHH GOOOOOOD  
NOOOOOO!!!!

JULIE FOOLIE

JK bitches. I'd never hurt Mr.  
Pringles. You know I love dat  
pussy!

Julie Foolie holds up Mr. Pringles, who's very much alive.  
Julie Jacobs tastes the blood from the computer.

JULIE JACOBS

Catsup...

Julie Foolie licks a bit of the ketchup from her lips.

JULIE FOOLIE

Mmmm hmmm, ketchup. Yo, you know  
what ketchup goes good on? Dicks.

The video glitches - freezes on a still image of Julie Foolie  
deep-throating the ketchup bottle. Jacobs studies the image.

MUSIC HIT! Mr. Pringles jumps in front of the computer. Julie  
SCREAMS.

JULIE JACOBS

Did I do this?

JULIE FOOLIE (O.C.)

No, bitch.

MUSIC HIT! Reveal JULIE FOOLIE standing behind her, in a very  
tight dress.

JULIE FOOLIE (CONT'D)

I did.

Jacobs leaps out of her chair and backs toward the wall.

JULIE

(in shock)

But... Who... How... What...

JULIE FOOLIE

I'm the perfect MeNow version of  
you. You brought me to life. Every  
time you click I'ma make you a new  
hot vid.

She gestures to the pop up ad on the computer - two animated buttons are left.

JULIE FOOLIE (CONT'D)  
 You had three clicks. Now you have two. What do you say? Ready to be famey?

Julie Jacobs, still a little scared, nods.

JULIE FOOLIE (CONT'D)  
 Sweet. I'ma do it.

Julie Foolie gets close to her.

JULIE JACOBS  
 But... But how can I trust you?

JULIE FOOLIE  
 Me? I'm YOU! Take a look. We're already on our way.

Foolie motions for Jacobs to sit. She does. Her MeNow page is on screen showing her MeLover count is rising FAST: 52... 109... 183...

VIDEO COMMENTS Pop Up:

ASSHOLE  
 When did Julie Foolie get so coolie?! Wifey material!

OLD BLACK MAN SITTING ON A PORCH  
 Personally, I'd love to be stabbed by Julie Foolie.

A slow smile spreads across Jacobs' face. Julie Foolie sits on Jacobs' lap. Foolie leans in and kisses Jacobs lightly on her nose - a SPARK of static electricity.

Jacobs, mesmerized, touches her face gently, another SPARK.

JULIE JACOBS  
 What the-

JULIE FOOLIE  
 -That's enough for now, babygirl.  
 (whispers in her ear)  
 Just click here...

Jacobs hesitates. Then clicks the second button. It disintegrates. Foolie disappears.

JULIE JACOBS

Foolie?

She hears a NOISE in the hallway. A SHADOW passes by the crack at the bottom of the door.

INT. HALLWAY - NIGHT

Julie quietly enters the dark hallway. No one there. She walks to the next door over and peeks in.

She sees Mom, in lingerie, waiting in bed, candles are lit.

MOM

Your penis erect yet?

WARREN (O.S.)

Moments away.

Julie dry heaves and heads downstairs.

INT. KITCHEN - NIGHT

A KNIFE stabs into a CANTALOUPE.

Julie scoops it out with a spoon and eats.

BLOOP! She pulls out her phone. A LIVE MENOW VIDEO from Julie Foolie pops up.

ON SCREEN: Julie Foolie, wearing a different bikini than before, stands terrified in a dark closet, near tears.

JULIE FOOLIE

(quietly into phone)

Foolies. Help me. I'm so... I'm so freaked out right now. There's something here. It's hideous... It's totes disgusting... It's...

She peeks her camera out into the darkness -- it looks to be a CREATURE with its back to us. It's hunched over on the bed, GRUNTING and making a lot of disgusting noises.

JULIE'S MOM

What's going on with you? You can never get it up!

They're having sex. Warren turns with a strained look on his face on the verge of tears.

WARREN  
I'm trying my best!

JULIE'S MOM  
Obviously not hard enough!

JULIE FOOLIE  
(turns phone to her)  
It's Warren's limp dick.

A HOT BEAT kicks in.

ON JULIE -- Her face drops.

ON VIDEO -- An auto-tuned SONG that remixes Julie's Mom's statement "You can never get it up" starts to play.

JULIE'S MOM (O.S.)  
(song)  
You can never get it up, never-  
never get it up. You can never get  
it up, ne-ne-never get it up.

WARREN  
(song)  
I'm trying my best-try-trying my  
best-try trying my best.

JULIE'S MOM  
(song)  
Not hard enough. Not hard enough.  
Not hard enough.

As the song plays it cuts to IMAGES OF WARREN, JULIE'S MOM and JULIE FOOLIE making grossed out faces to camera.

Julie Jacobs watches the video, disturbed.

MUSIC HIT! Foolie appears laying across the kitchen counter, wearing a fur coat, spread out like a model.

JULIE FOOLIE  
You like that hot shit? You like  
that sweet, tasty vid?

JULIE JACOBS  
You're going to get me in trouble.

JULIE FOOLIE  
Oh calm down, bae. Old people  
aren't on MeNow.

INT. MOM AND WARREN'S ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Mom is setting up her SLEEP APNEA MACHINE, muttering to herself. Warren sits up in bed, looking at his phone.

WARREN

Alright, let's see what this MeNow thing is all about.

He presses a button on his phone...

INT. KITCHEN - SAME

Jacobs is shaking her head. Something's not right.

JULIE FOOLIE

Look at all these views! And MeLikes! All the people that know and love us - you. You.

VIDEO COMMENTS ON JULIE'S PHONE:

MIDWEST WOMAN

My husband can never get it up either! She's so relatable!

PRIEST

Julie Foolie is my one true God!

TINA DOMINOES

I don't know who this Julie Foolie betch thinks she is, but... I flippin love her! What a grody ass skank! I need her to punch me!

Julie's MeLover count is going wild! 12,334... 12,467, and rising. So much love! A notification -- TINA DOMINOES HAS RENEWED YOUR VIDEO.

Julie smiles BIG! Foolie LICKS the side of Jacobs' face. A TRAIL OF STATIC ELECTRICITY. She picks up Jacobs' chin, looks deep in her eyes. Jacobs is seduced.

JULIE FOOLIE

You're my babygirl. I want everyone to know you. All you have to do is just click one more time. For me. For you. For us...

Foolie guides Jacobs' hand down to her phone. Her finger hovers over the link. The LIGHTS TURN ON! Julie looks to Warren, in his robe, by the light switch.

WARREN

So... I can't get it up, eh, Julie Foolie?

Foolie is gone. Jacobs looks around, confused.

WARREN (CONT'D)

Well, your fooling days are over. I'm deleting your the MeNow once and for all!

Warren charges upstairs. Julie follows him.

INT. JULIE'S ROOM - NIGHT

Warren grabs Julie's computer off the desk.

JULIE

No, you can't do that, you betch!

WARREN

Oh, I can! I will! And I... I can and I will!

She runs after him as he marches into his office and slams the door. He locks the door with a KEY and swallows it.

INT. WARREN'S OFFICE - NIGHT

Warren searches on Julie's laptop. He clicks RECORD MELIVE. His face pops up in a VIDEO WINDOW.

WARREN

Oh, here we go. Hello, MeNow World!

INT. HALLWAY OUTSIDE OF OFFICE - SAME

Warren's LIVE STREAM pops up on her phone.

WARREN

(In video window)

I'm Warren, Julie Foolie's step-dad. You may remember me from such childish videos as *Can't get it up*. Let me tell you something! Other people's pain isn't funny. Well, to teach Julie a lesson, I'm deleting her MeNow page!

Julie is on the verge of tears. Foolie appears next to her.

JULIE FOOLIE  
 Come on girl. You wanna get to be  
 famey wamey or wut? Just one more  
 clicky wicky.

Jacobs hesitates.

WARREN  
 That's right. Say goodbye to your  
 precious Julie Foolie!

Jacobs decidedly clicks the last animated button!

JULIE FOOLIE  
 K!

Julie Foolie disappears.

INT. WARREN'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

Julie continues to watch Warren's video play out on her phone-

WARREN  
 Okay, general settings.

Julie Foolie appears in Warren's office!

WARREN (CONT'D)  
 Account settings.

Foolie, a sinister look on her face, reaches towards Warren.  
 Her hands SPARK! Jacobs sees this and panics.

WARREN (CONT'D)  
 Delete MeNow.

Warren puts his finger on the mouse pad about to click the  
 button that says Delete MeNow Account. Foolie moves closer.  
 Jacobs BREAKS down the door!

WARREN (CONT'D)  
 Julie Jacobs! You're going to pay  
 for that door!

Jacobs looks at Foolie in horror.

JULIE JACOBS  
 Don't...

Warren slowly turns to see Julie Foolie behind him.

JULIE FOOLIE  
 K bye noooooow!

She grips her hands around his neck, strangling and ELECTROCUTING him at the same time. He SCREAMS as a strong electrical current courses through his body, sending him into violent convulsions. Smoke gushes from his ears, nose, mouth. The room lights flicker as the house's power overloads and then - Warren's head EXPLODES! Jacobs vomits, then CRIES OUT!

JULIE FOOLIE (CONT'D)

I got you famey girl. Look.

Julie looks at her MeLover count. It's going crazy!

A VIDEO COMMENT of an 8-year-old boy.

EIGHT YEAR OLD BOY

I'm going to explode my own parents heads, *today!*

He holds up two frayed and sparking electrical wires.

A VIDEO of a NEWS ANCHOR interviewing a SOCIAL MEDIA EXPERT.

SOCIAL MEDIA EXPERT

What Julie Foolie is doing is saying 'no' to a patriarchal society. It's feminism. Freedom of expression. Freedom of dance.

NEWS ANCHOR

Freedom of vagina.

Julie, panicked, can't breath. A cacophony of NOISE.

JULIE JACOBS

(crying)

Not like this. I wanted people to like me but this is wrong! Screw the internet!

She turns away from Foolie, slamming her fists on the desk.

JULIE FOOLIE

You're so whiny. Is that how I sound too? Ugh.

(mocking her)

Hey, look at me-

Foolie GLITCHES and suddenly she's wearing Julie Jacobs outfit, looks just like her, making fun of her.

JULIE FOOLIE (CONT'D)

I'm Julie Jacobs. I couldn't get dick even if my vag was clickbait.

She walks towards Jacobs.

JULIE FOOLIE (CONT'D)  
 Quit being a buzzkill. I just made  
 you the digi-goddess of your  
 generation.

Jacobs looks down and notices a SPARK come from Warren's  
 decapitated body. She gets an idea, changes tactics.

JULIE JACOBS  
 Maybe you're right.

She turns towards Foolie.

JULIE JACOBS (CONT'D)  
 You've done so much for me. You  
 made me famey. You changed my life  
 four-evs.

Jacobs walks towards her as Foolie smiles, satisfied.

JULIE JACOBS (CONT'D)  
 (seductively)  
 And you're so hot and sexy and your  
 bod's so banging...

She's now in her face. Foolie likes it.

JULIE JACOBS (CONT'D)  
 I'm a foolie for you, Foolie.

Jacobs starts making out with Foolie really hard core. They  
 spark a lot. Jacobs gets more aggressive. Foolie pulls away.

JULIE FOOLIE  
 K slow down... don't wanna overload  
 the system.

Jacobs pushes Foolie up against the wall and continues making  
 out. She won't stop. They start sparking even more.

JULIE FOOLIE (CONT'D)  
 (muffled from kissing)  
 Stop it. Stop it.

But Jacobs doesn't stop. Smoke starts rising from both of  
 them as they convulse and spark. The lights flicker, they  
 flicker, a cacophony of noise, and -

Black. The sound of sirens.

FADE TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM - LATER THAT NIGHT

Mom, wrapped in a blanket, sits on a couch. OFFICER CHAZAWAZA walks over and hands her tea. He sits.

OFFICER CHAZAWAZA

We've been seeing this a lot lately. They call it dissociate digitalitis. The modern teenager can no longer distinguish between their digital personality and themselves. They'll do anything to get famey - even if it means killing in cold blood.

MOM

But where could she have gone officer? Where could my Julie be?

OFFICER CHAZAWAZA

We'll find her, you have my word.

He touches her arms.

OFFICER CHAZAWAZA (CONT'D)

In the meantime, get some rest. You've had quite a day Mrs. Jacobs.  
(embarrassed)  
Excuse me, Ms. Jacobs.

Mom blushes. The Officer looks at his hand on her arm.

OFFICER CHAZAWAZA (CONT'D)

Is this okay?

Camera slowly zooms into a computer screen behind Mom and the officer. It has yellow CAUTION TAPE wrapped around it. Through the tape we see a face. It's JULIE. She's mouthing "MOM! MOM I'M IN HERE!" No sound comes out. A HAND covers her mouth from behind and yanks Julie back into the darkness.

INT. NIGHTMARE CLINIC - CONTROL ROOM

From the window, we see THOMAS MIDDLEDITCH. He carefully puts on his METAL SLEEP HAT as a NURSE tucks him into bed, attaching wires to his body.

MAN'S VOICE (V.O.)

High School. A four year black hole in our futile existence. It seeps into the corners of our memories, reminding us we are never enough.

(MORE)

MAN'S VOICE (V.O.) (CONT'D)  
 In his Nightmare time, patient 527,  
 Canadian laugh man, Thomas  
 Middleditch will re-live that  
 hellscape. Will he make it out  
 alive, or will he *Never Let Go Of  
 the Past?*

EXTREME CLOSE UP of his eyes shutting as we CUT TO:

INT. HIGH SCHOOL GYMNASIUM - NIGHT

A BANNER above the stage reads: CLASS OF '07, TEN YEAR  
 REUNION. NEVER LET GO OF THE PAST.

MANDY ROSENBLATT (28), pantsuit, stands on stage and cries  
 while giving a speech. As she does, we scan through a poorly  
 decorated gym full of CLUSTERS OF PEOPLE in their late 20's.

MANDY (O.S.)  
 And so I said to myself, "Mandy  
 Rosenblatt, you were their class  
 president! Get it together!" So I  
 did.

CU -- a GLOVED HAND pours A BRIGHT GREEN LIQUID from a vial  
 into the PUNCH BOWL. Another hand scoops up punch into a cup -  
 STEPHANIE VIOTTI (28), awkward, glasses - drinks it.

MANDY (CONT'D)  
 After high school, I had time to  
 reflect and realize that I was -  
 (holds her cross)  
 God forgive me, a total cunt. So,  
 to anyone that I disregarded, made  
 fun of, or whose parents' marriage  
 I destroyed...

Mandy looks at a NERDY GUY (28) in the crowd.

MANDY (CONT'D)  
 I'm sorry.

The Nerdy Guy nods, accepting the apology.

In the crowd, GARY (28), hipster, trying too hard, and his  
 Russian Model girlfriend MASHA (21) talk to a SMALL GROUP.

GARY  
 Yup! Remember how I used to be a  
 nerd in high school? NOT ANYMORE.  
 You've met my hot Russian model  
 girlfriend, Masha, right? Great.

They're all very impressed.

GARY (CONT'D)

Anyway, gotta go. New York calls.  
See you in another ten or in Hell.

They walk toward the door -- BOOM! JONAS (28) appears in front of them. Jonas wears a very airy, colorful tunic, huge white balloon pants, and a man-bun.

JONAS

Gary. Hello. Gary. Leaving so soon,  
*former* best friend?

GARY

Hey Jonas. Listen--

JONAS

Look at us...

Jonas shows him a PICTURE. It's of Gary and Jonas as teenagers. Both awkward looking, dressed as CHESS PIECES. Gary is a BISHOP. Jonas is a ROOK.

JONAS (CONT'D)

The day we won the County Chess  
LARPing tournament. A beautiful  
memory amongst the misery that was  
high school. But now, it appears my  
Bishop has become a King. And has  
entirely forgotten about his Rook-

Gary quickly grabs the picture and points to it.

GARY

See these two people, Jonas? These  
were the two biggest losers in  
school.

He rips the picture.

GARY (CONT'D)

(points to self)

This is a winner who has a million  
dollar start-up and all the coconut  
water he could imagine. So, I'm  
gonna go get on a Red Eye back to  
New York, bone my hot Russian Model  
Girlfriend, then eat a Salmon  
Benedict. But first I'm gonna go  
take a piss. And then-

(to whole crowd)

FUCK ALL Y'ALL!

He grabs his balls, kisses his girlfriend on the cheek, and bursts out the doors.

JONAS

(quiet, to himself)  
Gary, Gary, Gary. You can try to  
leave, but tonight, you shan't be  
able to escape your past...

Jonas looks at everyone drinking punch - some in the crowd are twitching, sweating, including Stephanie Viotti. He laughs, maniacally, a little too long. Reveal Masha still standing next to him.

MASHA

Do you have cocaine?

INT. MEN'S ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

It's lit by the ugly halogen overhead lighting.

Gary pees at the urinal. He feels a presence. He looks towards the stalls. Tilts his head to look under. No one there... Huh. Odd. He turns to his right and BOOM-

Mandy, perched on the urinal next to Gary, holds an empty cup of punch. The whites of her eyes have a bright greenish tint. Green veins on her neck.

GARY

Hi. Think this could wait until I'm  
done?

No response. Gary turns forward. She gets closer.

MANDY

(quiet, in his ear)  
Hey there pussy hair.

GARY

(casual)  
Pussy hair? Oh, yeah, yeah, yeah.  
Now I remember, you guys called me  
"pussy hair" cause my grandmother  
lived with us and she had like  
fifty cats and their hair would get  
on my clothes. But now my  
grandmother's dead and I have  
enough money to go see Billy Joel  
whenever I want. So...

Mandy snarls, revealing sharp, jagged teeth, stained green. Gary really notices her for the first time.

GARY (CONT'D)

Time has not been kind to you.

Gary finishes and zips up, worried. Mandy looks like she's going to be sick, then PROJECTILE VOMITS directly at Gary. Purely instinctual, he dodges it.

He looks back and sees the vomit BURNING A HOLE in the stall's wall, sizzling, steam rising.

GARY (CONT'D)

Huh... Okay.

He looks at Mandy, twitching, staring at him. He backs out of the bathroom, disturbed.

INT. HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

He continues to back down the hall when BOOM! Masha, runs into him, out of breath, terrified.

MASHA

Gary! Gary! Them! They are monsters! They are all monsters!

SPLASH! Vomit hits Masha on the side of her face. It immediately starts SIZZLING.

GARY

Oh my god oh my god! EW EW EW!!!

Masha falls to the ground. Gary turns and sees Mandy - she twitches and walks towards him. BOOM! Masha GRABS his foot, half her face melted.

MASHA

Help me!

GARY

Nope!

Mandy charges at Gary and chases him down the hall. He bursts into--

INT. GYMNASIUM - CONTINUOUS

He locks the door then turns around to see - INSANITY. Tables and chairs overturned. Decorations ripped down. Blood splattered everywhere. BODY PARTS twitching and scattered. GROWLS and SCREAMS echo.

GARY  
WHAT IS HAPPENING?!

STEPHANIE VIOTTI (O.S.)  
(deep voice]  
SHITBAG!!!

Stephanie Viotti, now a monster, stands MID-COURT, head hunched - locks sight on Gary.

STEPHANIE VIOTTI (CONT'D)  
Where's your shitbag, Shitbag?

GARY  
Stephanie Viotti?  
(annoyed, trying to play  
it off)  
Ok, yeah, "Shitbag"! I had to wear  
a colostomy bag for one week  
because of a blocked colon. *One*  
week! Then you and all your friends  
called me shitbag. Well, my  
apartment's roof has a firepit! I'm  
not a shitbag anymore, Stephanie.

STEPHANIE VIOTTI  
Die, Shitbag!

Stephanie SCREAMS and RUNS full speed at him. Gary SCREAMS.  
She's close to him, then-

SWOOSH! She's DECAPITATED by a sword. Her severed head flies  
off. Blood GUSHES out of her neck like a burst pipe, sending  
Gary to the ground, covering him, going down his mouth.

MARGARET (28) girl next door - tattered yuppie clothes,  
bandana around her head stands like a Post-Apocalyptic Hero.  
She wields a KATANA.

GARY  
Margaret LaPearl?

She helps him up. Margaret stares at him for a moment, not  
recognizing him. Flustered, he tries to put himself together.

MARGARET  
Gary Shutzer! Oh wow you look  
different.

GARY  
Yup! I've changed.  
(checks her out)  
You haven't.

POUNDING on the door.

MARGARET

Listen, it's not safe here. Someone spiked the punch with something weird.

GARY

Well, don't worry Margaret. I live in New York. I have street smarts. We're gonna get out of here... Together.

(changing subjects)

Have you ever ridden in a Maserati? Mine's parked outside.

Mandy, BREAKS down the door. She locks eyes with Gary.

MANDY

You can't run away from me, Pussyhair!

MARGARET

Pussy hair? Ohhh, the cat hair!

She laughs. Gary's deflated. Mandy charges Gary then--

BOOM! From behind a PIPE goes through Mandy's stomach. More blood sprays on Gary. TED (28), genuinely nice, shoves Mandy's body away.

TED

Hey guys!

MARGARET

You remember Ted right? We were high school sweethearts.

TED

Now we're married!

GARY

Fucking awesome.

GROWLS from nearby. In the darkness glowing GREEN EYES slowly moving toward them.

MARGARET

We have to get to the safe zone. Now.

They start running.

GARY

Safe zone?

MARGARET

The teacher's lounge. There's talk  
of other survivors. And a way out.

INT. HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Margaret peeks around the corner - it's clear. She motions  
for Ted and Gary to follow. They jog down the hall. Gary  
struggles to keep up. He trips.

A BEEFY MONSTER hears and turns. He spots Gary and moves  
towards him. Ted looks back, notices, runs to Gary. Margaret  
turns the corner, distracted, fighting off monsters.

Ted grabs Gary's forearm dramatically and pulls him up.

TED

No man left behind, right?

Ted smiles.

BEEFY MONSTER

(to Gary)

Ahoy, Captain Black Queered!

TED

Black Queered? Ohhh yeah! Cause of-

Gary grabs Ted and uses him as a shield.

TED (CONT'D)

Huh?

Beefy immediately VOMITS venom at them, melting Ted's legs.  
Ted SCREAMS. Gary peeks behind Ted's torso that he's now  
holding up.

GARY

Fuck you, Tanner! Yes, I had  
Iridocyclitis, a form of eye  
herpes!

Gary keeps using the top half of Ted as a shield.

GARY (CONT'D)

And yes I had to wear an eye patch  
for a month because of it!

Beefy spews more venom. Ted puts his arms up to cover  
himself. The venom hits Ted's arms and they melt. He SCREAMS!

GARY (CONT'D)

But have you ever been to an art opening where all the drinks are free? DOUBT IT!

Beefy vomits again and melts Ted's head, leaving only the torso. Ted gurgles as he melts.

GARY (CONT'D)

Ew ew ew!

He throws Ted's torso at Beefy, knocking him out. Beefy falls. Gary backs away, looking at the scene, disgusted. Far ahead, he spies someone in the shadows... Jonas, smiling.

JONAS

Welcome back, Gary...

GARY

What?!  
(realizing)  
Jonas...

BOOM! Margaret grabs him and runs down the hall towards the Teacher's Lounge.

MARGARET

Gary! Where's Ted?

GARY

He didn't make it. He's gone.

Margaret stops them.

GARY (CONT'D)

I think he went the way he would've wanted to.

Margaret starts to cry, but pulls it together.

MARGARET

What were his last words?

GARY

(confidently)  
Get Margaret and Gary to the safe zone.

They nod. Margaret puts her arm up like in Predator.

MARGARET

For Ted.

Gary, impatient, clasps her hand.

GARY  
Sure sure sure!

They run off to--

EXT. TEACHER'S LOUNGE

A sign that reads TEACHER'S LOUNGE dangles crookedly. Quiet. Too Quiet. Wind blows school papers across the floor. Margaret and Gary look at each other, concerned. They enter.

INT. TEACHER'S LOUNGE

It's a post apocalyptic wasteland - barren.

They see SOMEONE in the shadows, looking out the barred windows. This is PETE (28), scar near his eye, been through hell, cigarette dangling from his mouth.

MARGARET  
Pete?

PETE  
Margaret. Gary.

GARY  
Who's Pete?

PETE  
I did the morning announcements,  
Gary. You should know who I am.

MARGARET  
I thought this was the safe zone.

Pete laughs.

PETE  
Don't you get it? There is no safe zone. There never was a safe zone. We got here and we didn't stand a chance. It was a slaughter. Only reason I survived was by... I mean, she didn't even... She wasn't going to... I didn't... But now you're here and there's new hope for-

GARY  
Okay we get it. How do we get out of this god damn hell hole?!

PETE  
I don't know.

GARY  
Dammit! DAMMIT!

MARGARET  
Calm down, Gary.

GARY  
This is not how I'm going to die!

MONSTERS are close to the room.

GARY (CONT'D)  
I hate these monsters! I hate this school! I can't believe I took the bus all the way here for this!

MARGARET  
(to Pete)  
Bus? He said he had a Maserati.

PETE  
Something smells fishy.

GARY  
(fast)  
Oh my god! I KNOW, YOU ASSHOLES! I smelled like fish all of Sophomore year because I had trimethylaminuria commonly known as Fish Odor Syndrome because I had to eat an excess amount of protein due to having Kwashiorkor, which is a severe form of malnu- NO!

A SMALL PIECE OF PAPER floats out of Gary's jacket.

GARY (CONT'D)  
Forget this! I am so much better than this place, losers!

The paper lands on the ground.

GARY (CONT'D)  
I'm the winner now! I'm the winner! You're loser pieces of shit!

Margaret picks up the paper.

MARGARET  
*One Russian Model: \$107?*  
 (to Gary)  
 What is this?

She notices a PAMPHLET sticking out of Gary's inside pocket. She takes it out and reads it.

MARGARET (CONT'D)  
 "101 Ways to Lie and Impress at a  
 10 Year Reunion?"

Gary looks to Pete and Margaret, scared. He breaks down.

GARY  
 Fine! Okay! I was lying! None of  
 it's true! I don't have a Russian  
 Model girlfriend, I didn't make a  
 startup company, and I can only  
 afford sushi from bodegas! I get  
 Bodega sushi!

PETE  
 Look, Gary, whatever happened in  
 the past doesn't matter. We're here  
 now. And we can move on. We  
 survived this place once and we can  
 do it again. But we have to do it  
 together.

Pete tosses Gary a METAL PIPE.

PETE (CONT'D)  
 Together.

Monsters are closing in, in a face off ready to fight. Gary looks to the Monsters, then to Pete and Margaret, then the monsters, then Pete and Margaret.

GARY  
 Nope.

He literally climbs on top of Margaret and into a vent.

GARY (CONT'D)  
 I'm sorry, Margaret. I used Ted as  
 a human shield. Anyway, bye.

We see MONSTERS close in on them.

INT. BACK HALLWAY - NIGHT

Gary pushes through the vent and falls to the ground. He gets up, brushes himself off then limps towards an EXIT sign. BOOM! Jonas appears in front of the door.

JONAS

Well, well, well. Hello, Gary. Are you enjoying the reunion?

Gary stops. He's had enough - he's defeated.

GARY

Oh, goddammit, Jonas...

JONAS

(calm)

You thought you could leave me behind, didn't you. Well I wanted to show you the truth - show you that you can't escape who you are.

Jonas walks calmly towards him.

JONAS (CONT'D)

You big shot New Yorker. Hobnobbing with your philanthropists, going to car shows, while I stayed here working at Teavana-

GARY

Oh my god Jonas I don't care. None of it's true.

JONAS

What's that?

GARY

I live a pretty shitty life in New York. I was lying about all the "cool" stuff. I was a loser in high school and I'm a loser now.

JONAS

Oh. I... I don't know what to say. I feel a little silly having done all this then.

(He nods)

I acquiesce. Your move sir Garelot.

He takes out a BISHOP chess piece from his pocket and drops it on the ground. Gary stares at it, then gives in.

GARY

I have no moves to make. It's a true zugszwang... Jonas of Arc.

He takes a ROOK from his pocket and drops it on the ground.

JONAS

You still have it. Remember when we played against Seventh Sanctum? They thought they had us with the Queens gambit? But then we countered with the -

GARY AND JONAS

Bishops prayer. D4 to b5. Take out their queen, their knight... checkmate.

They laugh, then nod to each other.

JONAS

You hungry? We could get a bite.

GARY

Sure, Jonas. I'd like that.

They walk out, arms over each other's shoulders.

EXT. SCHOOL - DAWN

The sun is coming up over the horizon.

GARY

Look, a new day is on the horizon, Jona-

CRUNCH!

A SWORD goes through Gary and Jonas' heads, through their ears. It's Margaret. Pete looks on.

MARGARET

School's out, Gary.

Margaret readies herself to yank the sword out when--

INT. SLEEP CLINIC - NIGHT

Thomas Middleditch STARTLES awake!

INT. NIGHTMARE CLINIC - CONTROL ROOM - NIGHT

Aubrey stands in tableau with a bunch of DOCTORS and NURSES and the GRIM REAPER DUDE. They all still wear their clinic outfits, but are a little more dressed up, drinking wine. Aubrey, drunk, walks towards camera.

AUBREY PLAZA

Well that's it for tonight. Hope you had fun, but if you didn't who really cares. Because life is pointless, and time is a dream... We're all just animals really...

She gives a thousand yard stare into nothingness. Then she shakes it off and walks. We see the GIANT NIGHTMARE TIME COMPUTER. It looks very "retro 60's futuristic." Aubrey stands in front of it.

AUBREY PLAZA (CONT'D)

Now go to sleep my little babies. And remember, if you see something scary when you shut your eyes, don't you worry. It's just a little nightmare... OR IS IT?

Her eyes glow red and she ZAPS into the computer. The computer goes wild, then stops. Monitor waves on the computer starts moving as Aubrey talks from inside the computer.

AUBREY PLAZA (V.O.)

I'm in the computer. I AM THE COMPUTER!

She laughs. The monitor waves go crazy. Her laugh gets more maniacal as her voice contorts - low, guttural and monster-like.

AUBREY PLAZA (V.O.)

(monster voice)  
Nighty night now...

She continues laughing as creepy music plays and WE ZOOM OUT up and over the Nightmare Clinic and into the night sky. A FLASH of lightning and we -

SMASH TO BLACK