

Slip: 1st Draft

By

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INT. ROOM

THREE CLOSET DOORS BARE HOLES AS THE CAMERA DOLLIES INTO THE CENTER HOLE AND FADES TO BLACK.

Leo (Voice Over)
I'd just like to start off by
saying, this isn't anyone's fault;
It's yours.

CUT TO:

INT. CAFETERIA-DAY

An empty cafeteria is occupied by a young man in a chair facing 3 others at a table. LEO FILLMORE, a 24 year old male sits with his hands folded in his lap while left leg bounces impatiently.

LEO
Your.. choices, your actions, they
have consequences, ones which will
hurt me directly. Economically,
professionally, directly, what am I
supposed to do? Hm?

The panel sits quietly out as if they didn't understand the question.

LEO
Is it because I'm the youngest one?
The rookie? I worked just as hard
as any other teacher here, more
importantly, as long as most of the
people here! What about Palmer or
Mitchel? They're just as new as me!
What, the fuck, am I supposed to
do?

CUT TO:

EXT. PARKING LOT- DAY

An empty parking lot contains Leo's car in the center as he makes his way over. As Leo walks, he holds a pinkslip in his hand and his keys in the other. Leo opens the door and sits down as he notices something in front of his car through a dirty and unwashed windshield. He makes his way over, realizing it's his wallet as he picks it up and examines his ID displaying a young version of himself. He stares intently at the wallet until the sound of the car door ajar signal beeps and turns around.

SOUND OF CAR DOOR TURNS INTO THE SOUND OF OVEN

INT. STARBUCKS- DAY

The open oven is shut by Leo wearing a green apron and hat as he retrieves a sandwich. Leo is now bearded and more unkempt than we previously had seen him. He hands out the sandwich to a customer. Aaron, a coworker of his comes out to the front with a few dishes.

AARON

So how're the the roomates working out?

Leo turns to the pastry case and begins arranging pastries, disregarding Aaron's question.

AARON

I'm sure it's nice not living alone for a change right?

LEO

It's fine.

AARON

Cool, cool. You know, all circumstances aside, it is cool having you working here again.

LEO

"It's cool"? "It's cool" that I got fired from my job, couldn't afford my home anymore, had to rent rooms out to college kids, and had to come back to my first job? "It's cool" that I'm making as much, if not less, as my former students? Tell me, what's cool about that Aaron?

Aaron looks down, turns around and heads to the backroom. Leo looks around to find customers staring at him from their seats. He sighs as he continues to clean the pastry case.

CUT TO

INT. LEO'S HOME- NIGHT

Leo enters his home to find JOEL, his room mate with short black hair, sitting on the couch on his laptop. Joel looks up with a halfway smile and nods hello. Leo doesn't say anything and continues to the kitchen where he grabs a beer. He sees his other room mate, REMMY, sitting in the family room watching television and begins to walk away when Remmy begins to turn around to say hello.

Leo makes his way back up the stairs as Echo and the Bunnymen plays in the living room on Joel's laptop. Leo walks into his room and shuts the door behind him.

DOLLY OUT ON SHOT OF THE CLOSED DOOR WITH LIGHT PEEKING OUT THROUGH THE CORNERS OF THE DOOR.

LEO (VOICE OVER)

Hey mom.

INT. LEO'S ROOM

Leo begins to play a film on his computer as he holds the phone to his ear. Leo's room is filled with awards from college, Highschool, and even elementary school.

LEO

I'm alright, how are you? What? Oh, yeah. Sorry, I'm listening.

Leo gazes at the computer screen mindlessly, not paying close attention to his conversation.

LEO

They're alright I guess, I don't know really, I hardly know them...Because I have other friends, just because I live with them, doesn't mean I have to hang out with them, besides they're just kids in college, we don't have too much in common.

Leo looks through his records as he continues on the phone, pulling out a David Bowie album and checking its condition before placing it back in its place. Leo sets his beer on the corner of his record player as he reaches up to grab a book off of his shelf. He knocks the beer off the player, spilling on his carpet.

(CONTINUED)

LEO
SHIT! Mom, I gotta go.

Leo hangs up the phone and runs downstairs to the kitchen to grab a rag as Joel looks up from his Laptop.

JOEL
Everything alright?

LEO
Yeah, fine thanks.

JOEL
What happened?

LEO
Just spilled a beer.

JOEL
Oh, there's some carpet de-odorizer down there I bought last week, feel free man.

LEO
I got it, thanks.

Leo walks back upstairs and closes the door to his room again. He sops up the beer with a rag and throws it in the corner. He then takes off his clothes and lays down in bed and switches off the light.

Dream sequence: Shot of girl walking out into garage, flower, trees, a man and his son, Leo in nice clothing shaking hands with people, Leo standing outside of a crowd of people, leo alone in a field, Leo alone on a street with a spotlight on him (dolly out).

CUT TO

INT. STARBUCKS BATHROOM

Leo splashes cold water on his face and looks at himself in the mirror. He examines the bags under his eyes and wrinkles on his face. Leo still appears young, but is seeming older and more worn out. He pulls out his wallet and looks at his ID once again, examining his young age and smile.

(Knock Knock)
Anyone in there?

Leo opens the door to an older man walking into the bathroom, squeezing past Leo and shutting the door. Leo makes his way across the lobby when his Manager, AMY, walks in the door.

(CONTINUED)

AMY

Hey. You got a minute before you take off?

LEO

Yeah, of course.

Leo and Amy walk to the back where Amy takes a seat at her desk.

AMY

So I don't know if you've heard, but we have been a little slow lately. That being said, we're going to be needing to cut back hours a lot.

LEO

How much is a lot?

AMY

I'm sorry to do this, especially under your circumstances, but you'll be limited to 25 hours a week.

Leo unfolds his crossed arms and conveys a look of shock as he leans back against the wall and sits on a stack of crates.

MATCH CUT TO LEO SITTING IN SAME POSITION ON HIS FLOOR IN
HIS ROOM

INT. LEO'S ROOM- NIGHT

Leo sits with a beer in his hand with his head leaned back against the wall. He takes a swig and sets it down on his window sill as he walks towards his closet.

SHOTS OF AWARDS IN ROOM, CHILDHOOD PHOTOS, GRADUATION PICTURES COVERED IN BILLS ON BULLITEN BOARD.

The sounds of Leo punching his closet shake the room as tears fall down his cheek. Leo stops, breathing heavily witnessing the damage he has created revealing multiple holes in his closet. He falls down slowly against the closet, sitting on the floor.

A knock comes from the door, as Joel opens it slightly. He walks in and examines the holes in the closet along with the bloodied knuckles of Leo. Joel walks in and take a seat on Leo's bed facing him. The two sit in silence staring at the floor.

(CONTINUED)

CUT TO

INT. FAMILY ROOM- NIGHT

Leo sits on the couch in the dark as the TV glows on his face with the quiet murmur of audio coming from the set. Remmy and Joel walk in, sitting on the chair and other couch. Joel hands Leo a bag of ice to place on his bandaged hands.

LEO
Thanks, appreciate it.

JOEL
Oh no problem man.

The three take a drink of beer and sit quietly together.

JOEL
You guys realize that this is the first time we have actually all hung out together since we moved in?

REMMY
Wow, you're right.

All three sit in silence again.

LEO
Look, I need to apologize to you guys. I haven't been the best landlord, let alone, room mate.

REMMY
That's actually really nice to hear. I thought you hated us dude, never come out with us, I know you're older, but still.

LEO
That's no excuse for me. I don't know, I just have never been good with people. All through college, I was staying in doing homework while my friends went out. They eventually just got tired of inviting me out all together.

JOEL
I know what you mean, I have 18 units this semester. Most of my
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

JOEL (cont'd)
friends are going out this weekend
camping but I told them no, I can't
just skip a whole weekend of
studying

LEO
Why not?

Leo chuckles a little as Joel gives a confused look and
takes a sip from his beer.

LEO
I spent all my time on work like
you and look where it's gotten me.
Getting your work done is one
thing, cutting yourself off from
the world is another. For four
years, I became this hermit, not
allowing myself to go out, not
getting into trouble. Sure I
graduated on time, and my friends
at the time graduated a year later,
but they didn't slip away from the
real world like I did. They had
fun, went out, had a life. While I
put myself on this pedestool,
thinking I was so much better than
everyone for getting good grades
and graduating in four years. It's
funny how the actions you take can
result in such different
consequences. It's your own fault
if you don't like the outcome.

JOEL
I think this is the most I've ever
heard you talk.

Joel and Remmy laugh and take a drink as Joel nods.

JOEL
You know, I think things will work
out for you. At least you have a
roof over your head, good beer, you
know? It could be a lot worse.

The three all watch kung fu on the television as they finish
their beers.

FADE TO BLACK

INT. STARBUCKS- MORNING

The morning crowd forms a line as Leo grabs pastries for customers with his hands bandaged up with an ace bandage to hide his wounds.

LEO
Sausage breakfast sandwich!

A man walks up and picks up the sandwich off of the counter. Leo grabs a few steaming pitchers and begins to rinse them out.

MAN
Would you happen to be Leo?

Leo looks up to find a middle aged man well dressed with his hand out. Leo shakes the man's hand and nods.

LEO
Yes, nice to meet you. And you are?

MAN
My name is Everett, I am the principal at the new charter school down the road and heard you are a teacher?

LEO
Yeah.. I am but was pinkslipped earlier this year.

EVERETT
Well, my school's English department is looking for another teacher and my nephew Joel told me you may be interested?

CUT TO

INT. CONFERENCE ROOM- DAY

A panel of three interviewers sit in front of Leo. They all sit with a copy of Leo's resume in front of them as they examine and whisper to eachother.

INTERVIEWER 1
Mr. Fillmore, after hearing your interview and reviewing your resume, we regret to inform you that we cannot offer you a position at the moment.

(CONTINUED)

Leo's lips tighten and release as he nods in agreement. Leo stands up and buttons his jacket.

INTERVIEWER 1

Now please don't let this
discourage you from applying to any
future positions that may open up.
We'd love to hear back from you.

Leo walks to the door and turns around.

LEO

You know, I don't think I will.

The interview panel looks baffled as they gather their notes and Leo exits the door. Leo walks down the walkway out to the parking lot, closing his eyes as the sun shines on his face. Leo begins to smile as he did years ago, back when he was sixteen.

THE END