

Slip:
2nd Draft

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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)
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
You know what this'll do to
me? What am I supposed to do?

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

LEO
I worked just as hard as any other
teacher here... just as long at
least. What about Rich? He was
"sick" for two weeks last
year! 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 pink-slip 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.

LEO

Do these need to be dated?

Leo points to a package of coffee cakes as Aaron nods and begins putting the dishes away.

AARON

So how are the the roommates working out?

LEO

It's fine.

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

I guess, living with college kids wasn't really my plan though.

AARON

Yeah, but at least your mom cut you a good deal on the house.

Leo continues setting out pastries ignoring Aaron's remark.

AARON

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 and had to come back here? "It's cool" that there are complete strangers living with me? 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 work on the pastry case.

CUT TO

INT. LEO'S HOME- EVENING

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, sleeping in the family room, a spot he rarely leaves.

Leo makes his way back up the stairs as Man in the Planet 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, high school, and even elementary school.

LEO

I'm good, yeah I've been keeping up
on the house, it's coming along.

Leo gazes at the computer screen mindlessly, not paying close attention to his conversation as "the graduate" plays on screen.

LEO

They're alright I guess, I don't
know really, I hardly know
them...Because I have other
friends, why do you care? It's my
house now or do you not remember
selling it to me?

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, feel free to use it.

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 pulls his phone from his pocket and dials.

MAN

Hello?

LEO

Hey dad.

LEO'S FATHER

Leo? Good to hear from you, how've you been bud? I've been meaning to call but it's just been crazy lately.

LEO

Well, honestly that's why I was ca-

(CONTINUED)

LEO'S FATHER

(Interrupting)

Hey! Before I forget, there's this opportunity that could really help me out, could you spot me about 1200 dollars? I promise it'll be worth both our whiles.

Leo's smile fades into a blank stare as he holds the phone silently to his ear.

LEO'S FATHER

Leo? Come on, I can still hear you breathing!

(Laughing)

LEONARD! You answer me when I talk to you!

(Shouting seriously)

Leo lowers the phone and hangs up as he 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.

From the room next to Leo, Joel plays his music off of his laptop as he plays guitar with the song.

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.

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. Joel walks in, sitting on the chair. Joel hands Leo a bag of ice to place on his bandaged hands.

(CONTINUED)

LEO

Thanks

JOEL

Oh, no problem man.

Remmy is woken by the sound of their voice and looks around the room half asleep. The three take a drink of beer and sit quietly together.

JOEL

Hey hey! Rip-Van-Winkle, back from the dead!

REMMY

Heh heh, this dead man is parched too.

Remmy pulls out a beer from inside the couch cushion and opens it, taking a sip. Leo laughs a small smile.

LEO

I owe you an apology, guys. This past few months have been pretty rough and I realize I'm probably not the easiest person to live.

REMMY

Actually I haven't really noticed. But then again, I don't notice much at all. Haha.

JOEL

I think that may be due to your continuous coma. But Leo, don't worry about it, we all have those times.

LEO

That's no excuse though. I don't know, I've never been good with people. Through college, I was staying in, doing homework while my friends went out. I always said no, that 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 friends are going out this weekend camping but I told them no, I can't just skip a whole weekend of studying.

(CONTINUED)

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 graduated a year later, but they didn't slip away from the world like me. They had fun, went out, had a life. And I put myself on this pedestal, 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

It may not seem like it, but things will work out for you. I know it.

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.

(CONTINUED)

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. And you are?

MAN
My name is Everett Davison, I am the principal at the charter school down the road. I've heard you are a teacher?

LEO
Yeah, I worked at Valley High for a year but was let go due to the budget cuts.

EVERETT
Well, my school's English department is looking to fill the position. 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 each other.

The lips of the panel move as they look upon Leo, however their dialogue is inaudible. Leo nods with a straight face as they nod as well, continuing to talk to him.

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

LEO
Thank you.

(CONTINUED)

Leo exits the door. Leo walks down the walkway out to the parking lot, closing his eyes as the sun shines on his face. He continues straight faced with his eyes locked on what lies ahead for him.

THE END