The Deprived War Angel

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ACT 1 SCENE 1:

(Johnny and his parents come walking through the front door of their house. Johnny is wearing his Cap and Gown and his parents are dressed somewhat formally and somewhat casually.)

JOHNNY

Finally, it's all over. I'm done with school. Time to get some well deserved rest.

(Johnny lays on the sofa, kicks back and crosses his legs)

CATHERINE

Yup, one week!

JOHNNY

Excuse me?

CATHERINE

You heard me, one week.

JOHNNY

You're telling me that I have to be back in school in one week, after going to school for a straight eight months?

(Johnny gets up off the sofa)

JOHNNY

But... but... that's so unfair!

MATTHEW

We know, but Chicago Institute said that your first semester begins June 22nd. So your mother and I decided you are done on the fourteenth, then you can have one week. Then on the 21st you can pack your bags and send you on your way.

JOHNNY

Are you trying to tell me that you two are trying to get rid of me?

MATTHEW

No no no! I didn't mean to make it sound that way. It's just you either start your first semester this coming week OR you start it in March. And unless you're going to get a job, you're leaving next week.

(Johnny crosses his arms and looks down)

JOHNNY

Wow... My own parents trying to get rid of me. I never thought this day would come.

CATHERINE

Again, we're not trying to get rid of you. We just want to get you in that school as fast as possible so you will be out of there even faster. This is all part of growing up.

(Johnny begins to weep)

JOHNNY

I guess you guys are right. Oh well.

CATHERINE

Johnny... Honey, I still remember the first day that I had to leave for college. I was so upset and I never wanted to leave home. Until eventually I was in there long enough and it almost felt like home. I met new people, had a couple of boyfriends, and really enjoyed being able to take care of myself. To be completely honest, I never wanted to leave after my classes were over.

JOHNNY

I understand, it's just something that has to be done.

(Matthew goes over to Johnny and puts his arm around him)

MATTHEW

See, that's the spirit!

JOHNNY

That's the spirit my ass.

MATTHEW

Huh?

JOHNNY

Nothing.

(Matthew takes his arm off of Johnny and walks away)

CATHERINE

Johnny, how about you go upstairs and take off the cap and gown. It's going to get wrinkly.

JOHNNY

Ok.

(Johnny walks out of the scene to the right, and Catherine and Matthew walk out the scene to the left)

ACT 1 SCENE 2:

(Matthew and Catherine are sitting on the sofa next to each other, Johnny walks into the scene.)

(As Johnny is about to walk into the other room, Catherine calls his name)

CATHERINE

Johnny...

JOHNNY

Yea?

CATHERINE

Your father and I are just so proud of you for all that you have done.

JOHNNY

Really?

MATTHEW

Of course we are son. I mean look at what you have achieved. You were the Valedictorian of your class and you got a full scholarship to one of the best colleges in the world, Chicago Institute of Engineering and Science.

CATHERINE

So as a little gift of recognition, your father and I went out and got you a little something to start you off for college.

(Catherine walks to the side of the sofa and pulls out a wrapped gift)

CATHERINE

Here you go sweetie, this is from your father and I.

(Catherine hands the gift to Johnny. Johnny grabs the gift and walks to the love seat parallel the sofa. Johnny unwraps the gift)

JOHNNY

Oh my god. A new laptop?

CATHERINE

Yup, we thought it was something that you would absolutely need.

JOHNNY

Wow, thank you so much!

(Johnny goes over and hugs Catherine and Matthew)

MATTHEW

You're welcome son. It even include the eighteen month warranty.

JOHNNY

Wow, thanks again so much.

(Johnny runs out the scene with the laptop box)

CATHERINE

Uh, I think he liked it!

MATTHEW

You ain't kiddin', that's the last I've seen him run that fast was during his track meet in the eight grade!

CATHERINE

I remember that!

(They both laugh)

(Catherine and Matthew continue to talk about various things)

ACT 1 SCENE 3:

(Max walks into the scene with his father behind him. Max is wearing his graduation gown, and his graduation cap is in his right hand, the dad is dressed down formally. The dad walks into the scene and sits down on the sofa, Max goes to the kitchen, grabs a glass of water, and walks back into the living room and sits next to his father on the sofa.)

MAX

Well, its all over.

BILLY

What are you talking about?

(Max shakes the graduation cap)

BILLY

Oh, well you have the wrong idea.

MAX

In other words, what are you talking about?

BILLY

You start school next week.

MAX

No I don't, my session doesn't begin until September.

BILLY

Wrong, you start next week. When we filled out the applications we signed that you would start in the June session.

MAX

No way. I'm not ready, I'm not going

(Max puts his glass on the coffee table in front of him)

BILLY

You really want to start this again? Its like you want to repeat middle school. You're going to get lazy doing nothing before your session starts, then you're really not going to want to go. And these people gave you a full scholarship. Do you not notice how nice the offer is? Of course you earned it, but these people want you there.

MAX

No, I'm not going. I don't care.

BILLY

Ok let me tell you something. I want at least one person in our family to be successful. Of course your mother and sister went out to war, but they never came home.

(Billy puts his face in his hands and begins to sob)

BILLY

You really can't get rid of this offer. I don't want you to end up like me, a meat slicer at the deli cutting meat for $6.30 an hour. I've had high hopes for you since your first day of kindergarten. Of course you've

had your ups and downs where you completely struggled and had no interest in school. But its time to continue on with this and finish, come out with many degrees, and be something big and successful in life.

MAX

I guess so. I just don't want to go. Like at all.

BILLY

I understand what you're trying to say. I can already see you getting your name tag... Max Ledger, CEO.

MAX

That does sound nice! When should I start packing?

BILLY

Not for a couple days.

MAX

Sounds good, let me go take off my cap and gown.

(Max walks out of the scene, the dad walks the opposite direction off the scene)

ACT 1 SCENE 4:

(The scene is split in half. On the left hand side, there is Johnny sitting on his bed neatly packing his clothes neatly into duffel bags and briefcases. Max's bedroom is on the right. He has trash bags on his bed. He is opening his drawers, balling his clothes up and throwing them into the bag.)

(Johnny's father walks into Johnny's room and brings him dinner on a plate with a drink in a glass. Max's father walks in and hands Max a bag of fast food and a drink in a paper cup.)

(Johnny zips up his bags and stops with the unpacking, he grabs the food from his dad and walks over to his computer desk and begins to eat.)

(Max ties up his trash bags and grabs the bag of food and cup from his father and sits on his bed. As he eats the food, he throws all of his trash on the ground.)

(The scene slowly fades to blacks)

ACT 1 SCENE 5:

(Johnny is in his new dorm room unpacking his bags on the bed towards the back left part of the stage as Max walks into the scene with his father following behind.)

MAX

Hello.

JOHNNY

Hey! What's your name?

MAX

My name is Max and this is my father Bill.

BILL

Nice to meet you!

JOHNNY

Nice to meet you too, Sir.

(Johnny walks over to Bill and shakes his hand. Max walks over to the open bed and begins unpacking his bags)

JOHNNY

So where are you coming from?

BILL

We live in Phoenix, Arizona and–

(Max cuts off his father and makes a few attempts at pronouncing his schools name)

MAX

I went to Saint Bishop Charles Episcopal, Epliscopal, Epayscopal High School?

BILL

He could never pronounce the name of that school. He went to St. Bishop Charles Episcopal High School, you had it right the first time, Maxy Boy.

MAX

Dad! I told you to stop calling me "Maxy Boy."

(Johnny turns back around to his bed and begins to snicker)

BILL

I'm sorry, I forgot that you are all grown up now, it happened all so fast. I just don't know where my family went anymore.

(Bill begins to cry and walks out of the dorm room)

JOHNNY

Hey, is he alright?

MAX

I don't know, let me go check on him.

(When Max walks out the room, Johnny puts his first empty bag inside of the closet. He walks over to the desk next to Max's bed and looks at a picture)

JOHNNY

I wonder who this is.

(Max and his father walk back into the room. Bill is wiping his eyes with a tissue and Max has his arm around Bill's shoulder)

JOHNNY

Are you guys OK?

BILL

We're fine, just an emotional moment. Again I wasn't accustomed to this fast change.

MAX

What's in your hand there, boy?

JOHNNY

Oh, I saw a picture sitting on your nightstand and I became a little too curious. If you don't mind me asking, who is this?

MAX

That's my mother, Rebecca.

JOHNNY

Nice, is she in the war or something, I see she is wearing camoflauge.

(Max walks up to Johnny and faintly speaks directly into his ear)

MAX

Hey can we talk about this later? My dad will have another fit.

JOHNNY

Um, sure?

(Max finishes up with un-packing his bags and his dad is by his side to assist him)

BILLY

OK Max it's time for me to go. It was a great time with you and I hope you enjoy college... you deserve it.

(Max and Billy walk up to each other and hug. Johnny is on the computer, he gets off and walks over to Billy after Max and Billy are done hugging. Johnny shakes Billy's hand)

JOHNNY

Again it was nice meeting you, Sir.

BILLY

As well as you.

(Max and Billy hug one more time. Max walks Billy to the door)

MAX

I'll see you later dad, I love you.

BILLY

I love you too son. I'll be around to see you again.

(Billy walks out the door, Max waves goodbye to Billy as Billy is walking away down the hall, Max closes the door)

ACT 1 SCENE 6:

(Max's father left the room, Johnny sits on his bed and Max sits on his bed on the other side of the room.)

JOHNNY

Hey man sorry about upsetting your dad earlier.

MAX

Its all cool, just many things have happened lately and he has just been a complete mess.

JOHNNY

Oh I am so sorry, do you mind me asking what happened?

MAX

Well first my mother went out to war for six months out in Iraq. In about late March we found out that she got killed in a car explosion.

JOHNNY

Wow it must be tough, well I'm here for ya man.

MAX

Thanks, but that's not all.

JOHNNY

Oh, there is more. Continue.

MAX

After my mother got killed about three weeks later the government drafted my sister Melissa to Afghanistan to fight the Al Qaeda. About a week later or so we got a call saying that she has been killed in war.

(Johnny puts his hand over his mouth)

JOHNNY

I could never handle the emotional distress you're going through right now.

MAX

Yea its pretty rough. Here let me tell you some things about my past. Before I was a low life rebel. I never wanted to go to school and when I did, I did absolutely horrible. But then when my mother and sister got killed in war, I took the initiative to do better in school to prevent getting drafted as well. Luckily I was able to get my grades up to B's by the end of my Senior Year. The next thing I knew, I was graduating and being called up to the podium to be acknowledged on earning a full scholarship to this school.

JOHNNY

I have to say, you are one of a kind. Usually in a situation like this, people take the matter into wrong hands and do many bad things. Once again, I must congratulate you, I as well received a full scholarship to this school.

MAX

Awesome, I guess this means we will be seeing each other around more often.

JOHNNY

Definitely, besides the fact that we are roommates at the most.

MAX

Exactly.

JOHNNY

So what did you come here to major in?

MAX

I came here to major in Biological Engineering. How about you.

JOHNNY

I came here to major in Ophthalmology. Becoming an eye surgeon is something I have always dreamed off.

MAX

Sounds like a good future. You seem well mannered and sophisticated, I don't see you running into any bumps in the road with continuing on with this career.

JOHNNY

Thanks.

(Johnny looks at the clock on the wall)

JOHNNY

Oh god, look at the time! Sorry man I gotta run, my career planning class starts in seven minutes and it's all the way across the campus.

(Johnny puts on his coat, grabs his book bag and runs out the room.)

ACT 1 SCENE 7:

(Max is laying on his bed with a bottle of whiskey in his hand, Johnny walks into the scene and drops his bag right next to the door.)

JOHNNY

Max...

(There is no response, Johnny stands there for about 5 seconds walks over to the bed. He leans over Max and pushes him a little. The bottle falls out of Max's hand onto the floor.)

JOHNNY

Get up Max!

(Max slowly gets himself up and rubs his head.)

MAX

Where am I?

JOHNNY

Your dorm room.

(Johnny picks up the Whiskey Bottle off of the floor and hands it to Max.)

JOHNNY

What were you doing? We had our AP Chemical Engineering class last period...

MAX

I don't know man. I have just been so depressed lately.

JOHNNY

About what? Talk to me.

MAX

Well I just can't seem to get myself into the groove of not having assistance with my dad with the chores. Then I can't get myself to class because I oversleep. Do I even have to tell you that I am up almost all hours of the night because I'm depressed.

JOHNNY

Is there anything else bothering you?

MAX

Anything? Don't you mean everything? I just want my mom and sister and dad around me to hug and I just want to hear their voice one more time. Is that too much to ask for.

JOHNNY

Well they fought for our country, just be happy that they are safe now.

MAX

Sure...

JOHNNY

Come here.

(Max walks over to Johnny and hugs him)

MAX

Thanks man, I really needed this. I can't take all of this.

JOHNNY

I know its hard times. I'm going through some depression as well.

(They let go of each other)

JOHNNY

For instance, after graduation my parents informed me that I was heading to college immediately. It made me feel as if they didn't want me around anymore and they were trying to get rid of me.

MAX

Sounds rough.

JOHNNY

It was very rough, but I pushed and got through it, which is what you need to do.

MAX

I completely agree, tomorrow I am off to a fresh start.

JOHNNY

Sounds good. How about we go to the professor and try to get your homework. I would give it to you, but everyone was assigned different things.

(Max walks out of the scene and Max follows behind)

ACT 1 SCENE 8:

(The room is split in half. On the right side there is Johnny sitting on his bed. On the left side there is

Max’s sitting on the sofa.)

(On the left side Johnny walks over to the nightstand next to his bed, picks up the phone and calls Max’s Dad. On the right hand side, Max’s fathers phone rings, Max’s father answers it.)

BILLY

Hello?

JOHNNY

Hey Mr. Ledger it’s me Johnny, Max’s roommate at school.

BILLY

Oh hey Johnny what’s up?

JOHNNY

There is something that is concerning me that I think you should know. I hate to be the parent of Max, but it seems like he isn’t ok.

BILLY

Oh god, what’s the problem?

JOHNNY

Today I walked into the classroom after class and saw Max passed out on the bed with a bottle of whiskey in his hand.

BILLY

And?

JOHNNY

Aren’t you concerned?

BILLY

Of course I’m concerned. When I said, “and?” I was saying like, “and what else?” like, “what else happened?”

JOHNNY

Oh OK. When I walked in the room it was in his hand. I walked over to him and woke him up. He didn’t t even know where he was, that’s how disoriented he was.

BILLY

Oh my goodness, were you able to talk to him?

JOHNNY

I tried as hard as I could. I said everything I wanted to, and he was somewhat understanding. I told him that he has to pull himself together. Because that day he didn't go to class. But yea, I talked to him.

BILLY

Thank you so much, you're such a great roommate. A positive figure like you is something he needs in his life.

JOHNNY

Right right, it seems like he is very stressed.

BILLY

He probably is, I feel bad. But he'll get through it, I know it, I have faith.

JOHNNY

Me too. If anything else comes up I'll call you.

BILLY

Thanks a lot. I'm going to call him now to check up on him. And don't worry, I won't tell him we talked.

JOHNNY

Thanks a lot Mr. Ledger.

BILLY

No, thank you. I'll catch up with you later.

JOHNNY

Ok see ya!

(Johnny walks to the left, off of the scene, Billy walks to the right off of the scene.)

ACT 1 SCENE 9:

(Johnny is in the dorm room sweeping the floor, Max walks in talking to his dad on the phone and throws his book bag onto his bed.)

MAX

OK dad, yeah I'll talk to you later. I'll give you a call tomorrow. OK see ya, OK bye.

(Max hangs up the cellphone and puts it in his pocket.)

MAX

Hey man.

JOHNNY

Hey, whats up?

MAX

Just got back from Engineering. We learned about electricity, and some main rules into wiring a house correctly.

JOHNNY

That sounds cool, how do you feel today?

MAX

I feel a lot better. I needed to get myself out of that groove.

JOHNNY

Right.

MAX

That day when you woke me up I was not there mentally. When you left, I took myself for a walk around the campus and got some fresh air. Just seeing people walking around, socializing, and having fun allowed me to know that there other ways to get over depression.

JOHNNY

There's the Max that I knew. I'm so proud of you man!

MAX

Yea me too. But before I continue on this right path I just want to have a little more fun. Charles from Astrology class invited me to a party tonight. He has open house!

JOHNNY

Oh I don't know, this doesn't sound like a good idea.

MAX

I know, but I just need one more day to get this all out of my system. This will be my last party until Christmas Vacation, promise.

(Max puts his hand out and shakes Johnny's hand.)

JOHNNY

Fine, just don't go too hard, I don't want you to be hung over tomorrow then it will repeat what happened last time.

MAX

I feel ya, don't worry... I'll be fine. Would you like to come?

JOHNNY

I would, but I can't. I have this physics paper due tomorrow, and I have yet to start it.

MAX

Ok, well later on tonight I'm going to ask you again.

JOHNNY

Sure, maybe by later on I will be done or close to done. But I'm telling you right now, I'm drinking one beer. One and done.

(Scene fades to black)

ACT 1 SCENE 10:

(Thursday night, Johnny is sitting at his laptop writing his Physics essay as he hears a knock on the door.)

JOHNNY

Coming, who is it?

MAX

Dude its me Max, open the door!

(Johnny opens the door and Max comes storming in almost knocking Johnny off his feet. Max has a can of beer in his hand.)

JOHNNY

Dude slow down, where is your key?

(As Max is going to the other side of the room, he sits on Johnny's bed and talks breathlessly.)

MAX

I dunno, I was partying so hard it was lost in the rave! And guess what, TOGA! Dude the party starts at 10:30 in Bunsen Hall!

JOHNNY

Dude that sounds awesome and everything but–

(Maxwell cuts Johnny off.)

MAX

But what?

JOHNNY

Dude I would love to go and it sounds awesome, but I have this Physics paper that has to be done, handed into Mr. Valenti by 8:10 and I only have three and a half out of five pages done.

MAX

Come on man, its only from 10:30 to 2:00, I'm pretty sure you can get it done in six hours.

JOHNNY

Man this sounds so cool but I really have to let it slide. I can bet that there is going to be alcohol at the party. I know that I told you that I wasn't going to drink, but when there are parties, there is peer pressure.

(Max gets off of Johnny's bed and walks about 4 feet away from Johnny.)

MAX

Wow, I can't believe you...

JOHNNY

Wow what? What can't you believe?

MAX

You're being a bitch.

JOHNNY

Max shut up, you're wasted out of your mind. So just fuck off and go to your party! How do you get drunk BEFORE a party anyways?

MAX

Pre-party shots, duh.

JOHNNY

So I guess that talk we had earlier about you not getting drunk, that meant nothing...

MAX

Thats exactly what it means, I just said it so you would shut up.

JOHNNY

Real immature.

MAX

Yea, whatever.

JOHNNY

Someone looks cool.

(Johnny walks back to his laptop, sits down and continues to type.)

MAX

COME ON STOP BEING A LITTLE BITCH! Ever since we became roommates all you have been was a little bitch. The only party that you have ever went to was Ms. Capelli's going away party. You're so lame.

(Johnny spins around in his computer chair and stares at Maxwell with intentness.)

MAX

Dude, what are you staring at? What the hell are you doing?

(Johnny gets up out of his seat and stomps his way over to Max.)

JOHNNY

You know what Max, you can fuck off! Your dead to me anymore. Because I came to college to study and get good grades so I can move on in life. Unlike you, going out every night getting high and completely intoxicated. All of these negative actions are going to get you no where besides the corners of streets, selling yourself for alcohol.

MAX

Dude shut up, you're still a little bitch!

(Johnny walks up to Max, toe-to-toe distance, and stares at him.)

JOHNNY

Well if I am such a pussy and a bitch, then why don't you pack your bags and get out because you are nothing to me but a worthless piece of shit!

MAX

Dude you better back up, I swear to god...

JOHNNY

Come on, I'm in your face now, do something. If I'm such a little bitch then swing at me, come on pussy.

(Max grabs Johnny by the neck and they both fall on the bed. Max is on top of Johnny with his hands around Johnny's neck, restraining him from getting up.)

MAX

Fight back motherfucker!

(Johnny lifts his left leg and knees up to Max's abdominal area. Max falls to the ground and Johnny hops off the bed, putting his left foot on Max's neck.)

JOHNNY

WHAT NOW! HERE WE GO! THE TABLES HAVE TURNED, NOW WHO LOOKS LIKE THE IDIOT?

(As Max is on the ground, he is throwing his arms in the air. There is a loud banging and a yelling coming in from the other side of the door.)

MR. SPEARS

LET ME IN, WHATS GOING ON IN THERE BOYS?

(Johnny walks over to the door, looks in the peep hole, and lets Mr. Spears in. Mr. Spears looks around the room in confusion and stares at Max on the ground.)

MR. SPEARS

What happened here?

JOHNNY

Mr. Spears, I can explain!

MR. SPEARS

You better have a pretty good explanation.

(Johnny trying to catch his breath.)

JOHNNY

Mr. Spears you have to understand. I was sitting down doing my Physics paper and Max came storming up in the room. He informed me about this party and I denied his invitation. He got mad at me, words were exchanged. He put his arms on my neck, we landed on the bed. I knocked him to the floor and kept him down with my foot until he calmed down.

MR. SPEARS

Your foot though? For all of the weeks that I have known you Johnny, I don't know what has gotten into you.

JOHNNY

I don't know either, it happened all so fast.

MR. SPEARS

John get out in the hall, let me go talk to Max, see if hes OK.

JOHNNY

Wait, I have a quick question?

MR. SPEARS

Yes?

JOHNNY

How did you hear us? Your not even the monitor for our dorm.

MR. SPEARS

I know, someone from across the hall heard screaming coming from your room so they called me since Mr. McCreery is out on vacation. Now go out into the hall so I can speak with Max.

(Mr. Spears walks over to Max, still laying on the ground.)

MR. SPEARS

OK get up son.

(There is no movement from Max, he is laying on the floor. Mr. Spears leans down and shakes Max.)

MR. SPEARS

Max, get up! Jokes over, get the hell up.

(Mr. Spears puts his ear to Max's mouth to see if he's breathing and checks his pulse.)

MR. SPEARS

JOHNNY GET IN HERE!

(Johnny is comes in the room with fear and distraught.)

JOHNNY

What's wrong? What white lies is he telling you now?

MR. SPEARS
Mr. Spears, "STOP BEING SO SELF CENTERED AND CALL 911, HE'S NOT BREATHING!"

(As Johnny sprints across the room, he grabs his phone and calls 911. Mr. Spears is checking his pulse again.)

MR. SPEARS
He has a pulse, he just not breathing.

(Mr. Spears begins to perform CPR and Johnny is sitting on his bed weeping while talking on the phone with Paramedics.)

JOHNNY
Please send paramedics to Fostra Hall at Owken University on Lancer Drive. Hurry he's not breathing!

(Johnny hangs up the phone and walks over to Max laying on the ground. Him and Mr. Spears lean over the lifeless body. About 5 minutes later Paramedics arrive with a stretcher. They place Max on it, and carry him off the scene. Johnny and Mr. Spears follow behind the paramedics as they leave the scene.)

ACT 1 SCENE 11:
(Johnny and Mr. Spears are inside the Hospital Room where Max is laying on the bed. The monitors beep time and time again.)

JOHNNY
Oh my god, I can't believe what I did. I didn't mean it, I swear! I swear! I swear! Oh my god no, no, no.

(Johnny is crying nonstop)

MR. SPEARS
It wasn't your fault. Just calm down, from the sound of the monitor, he is still in stable condition.

(The nurse comes walking into the scene, she is carrying a clipboard with papers and a pen.)

NURSE PACKINSON
Good afternoon.

MR. SPEARS & JOHNNY

Good afternoon nurse.

NURSE PACKINSON

How are you men doing today?

MR. SPEARS

There have been better days.

NURSE PACKINSON

I understand. Now, are either of you two relatives of Max Ledger.

JOHNNY

No, my name is Johnny MacMannon, I was his dorm mate, and this is Mr. Spears, the dorm monitor at the school that Max and I are attending.

NURSE PACKINSON

I see, is there any way for us to contact either of the parent's of Max?

JOHNNY

That is not necessary. While in the ambulance, I called Max's father. He should be here any minute.

NURSE PACKINSON

OK, well just hit that red button on Max's bed to notify me when his father arrives.

(Nurse Packinson walks out of the scene, Johnny stands up out of his chair and walks over to Max)

JOHNNY

Max, I am so sorry. I didn't mean to do this to you. You will be fine, everything will be fine, I promise.

MR. SPEARS

Johnny there is something that I need to show you. Before the ambulance got to the dorm room, I looked around Max's nightstand to bring some of his stuff. I found an inhaler in the top shelf, there is a possibility that he had an asthma attack. Before you two fought, did you notice any signs of him having troubles breathing?

JOHNNY

Well when he came into the room the first time to tell me about the party, he was completely out of breath. So I guess with that as a factor, and in the event of us fighting, he had an asthma attack and I didn't even notice.

MR. SPEARS

That sounds like it makes sense. But in the end, you two were both wrong for taking care of the situation like that.

JOHNNY

I know...

(Billy Ledger walks into the scene)

BILLY

Where is he?

(Billy walks over to the bed and gets on his knees. He grabs Max's and hand and begins to cry)

BILLY

Son are you ok? Max, answer me.

(Johnny walks over to the bed and hits the red button.)

BILLY

What was that? What are you doing?

JOHNNY

That was just a button to notify the nurse, she asked me to call her in when you arrived.

(Nurse Packinson walks in through the door)

NURSE PACKINSON

Hello Mr. Ledger

(Nurse Packinson walks over to Mr. Ledger, they shake hands)

BILLY

Hi, I'm Billy.

NURSE PACKINSON

Hello Billy, my name is Latrisha, but you can call me Nurse Packinson.

BILLY

OK Nurse Packinson. Now that we know each other, lets talk about Max.

NURSE PACKINSON

So about two hours ago, we received a call from Billy's roommate saying that Max stopped breathing. He's in a partially stable condition, he doesn't seem to be doing good. Except that when he arrived we

gave him an X-Ray Examination and noticed that his Trapezius was caved in.

BILLY

Is he going to be OK?

NURSE PACKINSON

When we noticed that it was caved in, performed an immediate transportation to the ER, where you are, and performed a procedure. In the beginning of the surgery after the first incision, we noticed there was much internal bleeding. The entire time from the school to the hospital, he must've been losing blood, and we didn't even know it. We're not sure how this occurred, when never took the time to talk to either of the gentleman over there.

BILLY

How is it that you guys didn't know that he was losing blood and you guys didn't know it was happening?

NURSE PACKINSON

Well in the ambulance there isn't enough room for the equipment to check for any internal damage, but we do have room for other things, such as the oxygen takes to at least keep some to most of our patients alive until we get to the Hospital.

BILLY

Ok, let me go talk to them and see whats up.

(Nurse Packinson walks over to Max and checks his pulse, Billy walks over to where Johnny and Mr. Spears are sitting.)

BILLY

Hey guys can you follow me? Lets go talk in the Café.

(All three, Billy, Mr. Spears and Johnny walk out the scene.)

ACT 1 SCENE 12:

(Johnny, Billy, and Mr. Spears are sitting at a table in the Café each of them have a drink, all are different, and a bag of chips, different as well.)

BILLY

Hey guys.

JOHNNY

Hey Mr. Ledger, how are you?

BILLY

I'm doing OK, I'm just hoping for the best.

MR. SPEARS

Johnny and I as well.

BILLY

Thanks for the support, I just have a quick question. Do either of you guys know what happened to Max tonight?

JOHNNY

I do. Earlier today Max informed me about some party going on tonight on the campus. Later on he comes back completely intoxicate, he asked me if I wanted to go with him. I denied his invitation and stayed in the dorm. For some reason he got really mad and we got into a fight. He was out of control, it was insanity. I was thankfully able to take control of him. I got him onto the ground, and used my foot on his lower neck to hold him down. Eventually he calmed down. Then—

MR. SPEARS

Then someone from the other dorm heard the fighting and called me, I got over to the dorm as fast as I possible. I asked Johnny to leave the room so I could privately talk to Max, there was no movement or breathing coming from him. I felt for a pulse though, and that was still going on. Johnny came back in the room and called Paramedics, now we're here.

BILLY

Oh my god, this is too much to take. But Johnny, how come you had put your foot on his neck?

JOHNNY

Well I needed some way to restrain him, and I kinda blacked out while fighting. And in the mean time, using my foot seemed like the easiest thing to use at the time.

BILLY

That's completely understandable, I just don't know what got into him. I don't remember him ever being a fighter. I guess he just got beer muscles.

JOHNNY

It was completely out of the blue, I think the main reason of this drinking trip is depression. There were times when he would tell me how many times he missed his mother.

BILLY

Times have been rough for me too, but it's just something we all have to get through together. Together meaning Max and I of course, but the help of you and Mr. Spears would always be great.

MR. SPEARS

And as they both eventually head back to school, I'll be sure to keep a close eye on them both.

BILLY

Fine. Lets just all hope that he's ok.

JOHNNY

Exactly, not much more we can do.

(All three of them walk out of the cafeteria.)

ACT 1 SCENE 13:

(Max, Billy and, Mr. Spears walk into the room. There is a quick beeping noise coming from the monitor next the bed that Max lies in.)

(Billy walks over to the nurses. Johnny cups his hands over his mouth in fear)

BILLY

What's the problem? What's going on? Is he alright?

(Nurse 1 turns around to Billy as Nurse 2, 3 and, 4 work on Max)

NURSE 1

We're not sure what's going on or what happened to Max. We heard screaming coming from his room and we immediately rushed in with First Aid. Now Mr. Ledger, we need you to leave the room until every thing is settled down. We need the room in here just in case we need to roll in a stretcher.

BILLY

Can I just see him really fast?

NURSE 1

Not at the moment. Now please leave, we need this space.

(Billy begins to raise his voice)

BILLY

But he's my son!

(Mr. Spears walks up behind Billy, and grabs his shoulder)

MR. SPEARS

Come on Mr. Ledger, just give them time. We'll sit out in the waiting room.

BILLY

No move, he's my son... LET GO!

JOHNNY

Mr. Spears just let go, we'll wait outside.

(Johnny and Mr. Spears walks out of the scene)

BILLY

Is he going to be OK? I can't take this!

NURSE

We're not sure, what's wrong now please, move to the side.

BILLY

No!

(Billy tries to get over to his son, Nurse 2 keeps working on Billy as Nurse 1, 3 and, 4 try to hold Billy back. Billy tries to shake them off as much as he can)

BILLY

NO! NO! NO!

NURSE 3

SECRUITY... SECURITY!

(Officer Bird comes into the scene)

OFFICER BIRD

Come with me please, you don't wanna make this any harder.

BILLY

Fine, I'll go!

(Officer Bird stands behind Billy as they start walk out of the room. The monitor that was beeping begins to turn into a flat line. Billy and Officer Bird stop walking, Billy immediately turns around, pushes officer bird out of the way and runs over to the bed. He gets on his knees, grabs Max's hands and begins to break down into an immense crying session. Nurses 1, 3 and, 4 walks away from the bed. Nurse 2 walks over and takes Max's pulse on his neck.)

NURSE 2

He has no pulse. Mr. Ledger... Billy, your son is dead.

(Slowly fade the scene out to black, preferably about 10 seconds, while Officer Bird and Johnny stand still while Billy weeps over his son)

ACT 1 SCENE 14:

(Johnny and Billy are the dorm room, Johnny is laying on his bed under his blanket, while Billy is packing all of Max's belongings up.)

BILLY

Johnny I know this is very hard, and this is coming from his father, but you cannot beat yourself up from this.

(Johnny springs up, sitting up, throwing the cover forward)

JOHNNY

How am I supposed to go on in life knowing that I killed someone? What are my parents going to do and say? My future is ruined.

BILLY

Just remember, all you have to do his get through court on Monday and talk to the Judge. I'll be there to back you up but I won't let the judge know I'm doing it purposely. You don't deserve to be incarcerated for something that wasn't done on purpose.

JOHNNY

I know but I will still probably end up as jail bait.

(Johnny throws his hands over his eyes, falls back into a laying position and begins to scream)

BILLY

Don't worry, I'll help you get out of this, I promise. Here is a little something I thought you should have this, it will remind you Max is still with you.

(Billy hands Johnny a black suitcase with a Pistol and three bullets in it)

JOHNNY

What is this?

BILLY

It's a pistol, when his sister got killed in war, the couriers gave it to us when they told us that she died.

When they came to our house, it was given to Max. Well now I want you to have it.

JOHNNY

Thank you so much, why do you have it here with you?

BILLY

Max wanted to bring it with him, it made him feel like he was with his sisters, the gun hasn't been shot in about a year, there is about three bullets remaining. We kept it as our little secret from the school.

JOHNNY

Wow... I... I can't believe you're giving it to me, thank you.

BILLY

You're welcome, I have the gun from my wife back at home. Well it was really nice knowing you and we may never speak again, I have to go.

JOHNNY

Alright.

(They both continue to hug as the scene slowly fades to black)

ACT 1 SCENE 15:

(Johnny is sitting on his bed, he has the big black suitcase sitting on his legs)

JOHNNY

Although he said he would help me from being in jail. I just can't continue life with this thought tying my head in a thousand knots.

(Johnny opens up the briefcase and takes out, takes out the gun, and gives it a delicate lick)

JOHNNY

I guess it won't taste too bad...

(Johnny picks up the bullets out of the suitcase, and loads the gun. He then walks over to where he had killed Max)

JOHNNY

Max, this one is for you. You don't deserve be dead, so I do not deserve to be alive. Here I come to be with you... you pain in the ass.

(Johnny puts the gun to his mouth, waits five seconds then pulls the trigger. Johnny falls and lays on the

ground with blood pouring out of his mouth)

(Fade to black)
(Fade in from black, having autopsy officers inspecting the body)
(Fade to black)
(Fade in from black, having an ambulance crew take Johnny's body)
(Fade to black)