

Assembly Line Student

By

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## OPENING

THE TITTLE APPEARS WITH A BLACK BACKGROUND AND FADES INTO THE FIRST SCENE

### SCENE 1

A frantic alarm goes off. Phil unenthusiastically gets up, gets dressed, brushes his teeth, gets his book bag and leaves his room.

### SCENE 2

Phil's daily routine is shown. Eating breakfast alone, going to classes and barely noticing others in his classes, walking back to his dorm to study, avoiding social interaction at all cost. When confronted with social interaction he would not be able to utter words and would not be able to look the person in the eye. Phil would have a vague and unexpressive way of getting about his day. (This exact scene would be repeated to emphasize the monotony of the routine that Phil lives.

### SCENE 3

The scene now takes place in Phil's dorm. We see Phil studying at his desk with his planner to his right side, with his hair all messy, stressed, from time to time scratching his head and very concentrated on the work he has in front of him. The door opens and Josh (Roommate) enters. He is dressed in sporty clothes, and appears to be a very upbeat person. Josh puts his book bag next to his desk, picks up the soccer ball and directs his attention to Phil.

JOSH

(Enthusiastically)

Hey Phil! You want to go to McDonough field and kick the ball around for a while with Peter and me? It's a really nice day.

PHIL

(Indifferent) Can't. I have to study, It says it right here in my planner. I'm actually out of schedule right now for talking to you.

JOSH

Well, if you change your mind we will be at McDonough.

PHIL

(In a bad mood)  
Ok, have fun.

Phil continues studying, very stressed out as usual. Josh leaves the room with a worried expression on his face.

#### SCENE 4

After talking with Phil, we see Josh go out of the room. He walks through the hallway. While he walks he begins to think about what's going on with Phil.

JOSH

(Monologue in his head/voice over)  
It can't be healthy for Phil to always be stressed out like this. He used to be so happy the first days of school... He made some really good friends, but now he just seems uninterested about everything except his studies. It can't be healthy; I have to do something about it.

#### SCENE 5

Josh arrives at McDonough field. He looks very distant. Peter looks happy and stress free. They say hi to each other and start kicking the ball around, Peter notices that something is wrong. They talk while kicking the ball back and forth.

PETER

(Concerned)  
You seem out of it today. Is everything ok Josh?

JOSH

(Sighs)

It's my roommate, Phil. I'm worried about him, he is very stressed, and seems to become sadder every passing day.

PETER

I've barely seen him lately; as a matter of fact I haven't talked to him since orientation week.

JOSH

(Stops the soccer ball)

Exactly! He is becoming isolated. We have to do something about it... Will you help me?

PETER

Sure man! What do you have in mind?

JOSH

I thought we could find some of the people Phil had met during orientation and do a type of intervention. He needs to know that he is not alone, that he has people who care about him and that are willing to be there for him. Everybody should be at my dorm room before 1pm, he's always back at 1:15pm from class.

PETER

Sounds like a plan. See you tomorrow then.

JOSH

Goodbye, and thanks again!

## SCENE 6

It's the next day; the scene takes place in Phil's dorm. Josh, Peter, and two other friends are waiting for Phil to get back from class. Josh is standing up, and the others are all sitting down waiting for Phil to arrive. They are all very quiet. Finally, Phil opens the door and is

surprised to find so many people in his room; it wasn't part of his routine. Josh would have the first word.

JOSH

(Very calm)  
Hello Phil, please take a seat.

PHIL

(Stressed and scratching his head)  
What is this Josh? I have to study I have my first midterm in next week.

JOSH

Don't worry; we won't take up much time, I promise.

PHIL

(Sits down)  
Ok, you have all my attention.

JOSH

Great! We all have written individual letters for you to read.

One by one each person gives Phil his/her letter. The last one being Josh's letter. Phil reads the letters to himself

PHIL

(Reading to himself)  
First letter: "We were really close during orientation week; you are one of the happiest persons I have ever met. I'm always here for you Phil."

Second letter: "It's ok to relax from time to time, I admire your dedication, but college is a balance of many things, not just studying."

Third letter: "Try not to eat alone, call me up if you want. I'm always available for a friend."

Fourth letter (Josh's letter): "I've known you for a little while, but I know that

this is not you Phil. You used to smile so much; I want you to know that you can always talk to me and that I'm always here for you. We all have work, but you have to take care of yourself also. I'm just a couple of steps away if you need me.  
Sincerely, Your roommate Josh."

After reading all the letters, Phil thinks for a second and then speaks.

PHIL

This really means a lot guys, I'll think about everything you guys said. Thank you.

Everybody leaves the room, but before leaving Josh gives Phil a pat on the back and smiles.

SCENE 7

Later that day, we see Phil at his desk studying as usual. His planner to his right is opened, the planner has written in big red letters: "STUDY". Suddenly, Phil put his pencil down and turns to his right. He stared at Josh's soccer ball for two to three seconds; he lets out a big sigh. Screen fades to black.

SCENE 8

Phil appears walking to the lounge. He taps Josh on the back, he's holding Josh's Soccer ball under his arm.

PHIL

(Happy)  
Want to kick the ball around for a while?

JOSH

(Enthusiastically gives out a light chuckle)  
Sure bro! Let's go to McDonough.

They leave the lounge together. We see them laughing and talking, as they walk through the hallway.

FADE OUT:  
CREDITS APPEAR

THE END