

This is Tad

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INT. TAD'S BEDROOM - MORNING

Tad lies awake on his couch in his underwear. It's cramped. A couch and table make up the room and pizza and take out boxes litter the floor.

NARRATOR

This, is Tad.

Insert of Tad's room. Bookshelves, the couch, clothes scattered on the floor, and a window looks out into the real world.

Tad sits up and stretches.

NARRATOR

He lives in the basement of his ex-girlfriend Caroline's house.

BANG

NARRATOR

She's sweet.

CAROLINE (O.C.)

Tad! Tad! Are you awake?

Tad rubs his eyes and stands up. His arms hang lazily at his sides and his gut protrudes slightly. He rubs it and sighs.

NARRATOR

He woke up hours ago.

CAROLINE

Tad, I need to give you something.

Banging continues on the front door.

Tad blinks.

NARRATOR

Tad's been ignoring Caroline for three weeks.

Tad walks to a sheet of paper spread across the wall and makes another tally mark. He hit twenty-five.

He walks over to the sink and begins brushing his teeth.

NARRATOR

He avoids Caroline by almost never leaving his room.

CAROLINE

TAD!

Tad spits into the sink. He looks up and into his eyes. Toothpaste remains on his lips. He puts his hand up to a note that is stuck in the mirror frame. He pulls it out, reads it, and moves it back.

NARRATOR

Today's a big day, he's meeting a friend.

Tad walks over to his bedroom window and pops it open. He starts shimmying out.

NARRATOR

He never uses the door.

EXT. BLEACHERS - MORNING

Tad and Rachel sit on opposite benches on top of a small hill. Rachel sips a blue slushie.

TAD

I don't see why we can't sit next to each other.

RACHEL

You smell disgusting.

Tad avoids looking at her and remains focused on his knees.

TAD

Can I have some of your...

RACHEL

You can't honestly think you can keep living down there?

TAD

I pay rent.

Rachel says nothing but gives Tad her drink.

Tad grabs it. He looks down at his clothes and smells in his shirt.

TAD

It's not that bad.

Rachel rolls her eyes.

NARRATOR

Rachel can't stay mad at Tad, even
(MORE)

NARRATOR (CONT'D)
when he's being such a turd.

RACHEL
Tad talk to her, you're being a
turd.

TAD
I know.

The two sit in silence.

RACHEL
You hungry?

TAD
Not really.

RACHEL
Are you not eating?

TAD
I ate late last night.

NARRATOR
It's true. He had to wait until
three in the morning before going
upstairs to get some cereal from
the fridge. He left it half eaten
sitting on his floor.

INSERT

A bowl of soggy Cheerios sitting in Tad's room.

RACHEL
You're pathetic.

TAD
I just don't want to hurt her.

RACHEL
Oh my word...

She stares Tad down.

RACHEL
You can't keep living like this.

Tad shrugs his shoulders and drinks the slushie.

TAD
You want some...

RING

An emo girl on a bike rolls up and in a hurry.

GIRL ON BIKE

Are you Tad?

TAD

Uh...

GIRL ON BIKE

I was told to give this to you.

The girl hands Tad a note and rides away. She rings her bell in farewell.

Rachel grabs the note from Tad's hand and opens it up.

RACHEL

(reading)

Tad, I'm leaving. I'm sorry but this is goodbye.

TAD

What does she mean.

Sirens go off in the distance.

RACHEL

Well, I guess that solves your problems.

Tad doesn't say anything.

He looks down at the note again and then back up.

NARRATOR

Three weeks go by.

MATCH CUT TO:

INT. CHURCH - AFTERNOON

Tad sits blank faced in an empty pew. He wears a white shirt and black bow tie. Everyone around him wears all black. Everyone stands except for Tad. He catches on late and stands a couple seconds later.

INT. TAD'S BEDROOM - MORNING

Tad sits on the edge of the couch. The room is empty but for a few scattered boxes and the couch.

NARRATOR

This is Tad.

Tad gets up and walks to the mirror, stares at himself. He sucks in his gut and stands up straight

NARRATOR

He's moving out today.

He brushes his teeth and suddenly spits. He chokes a little bit. He looks back up and light tears fill his eyes.

NARRATOR

But he doesn't know what to think of that.

Tad reaches up his fingers to the note next to the mirror. He grabs and reads it. When he's finished he lets it fall to the ground. He picks up a box and walks out the door.

The door shuts leaving the room empty but for the note. We read it. "You're special. I love you. -Caroline."

FADE OUT