

BE A MAN

by

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"BE A MAN"

FADE IN:

INT. HOUSE - BEDROOM - MORNING

THE MAN, around 40, short, fat and bald, American, is sleeping on the bed, wearing only his Chicago Bulls boxers. He smiles in his sleep.

THE MAN (V.O.)
(lispig)
Sometimes, life gets boring. Same
story every day... It's a nightmare.

THE CLOCK turns 7:30 and rings annoyingly.

(NOTE: From this point forward, we don't hear any other sounds than the voice of The Man and his breath.)

The Man's smile vanishes. He opens his eyes and looks around, scared, as if he just had a nightmare.

INT. HOUSE - KITCHEN - MORNING

The Man, standing on a chair, all sweat, is stretching his hand, trying to reach at something.

THE MAN (V.O.) (CONT'D)
And you keep going. Why? 'Cause
you have ideals, you have
expectations, you have those high
goals you're trying so hard to
grasp.

PULL BACK to reveal that The Man is actually trying to grab the COFFEE BOX that's atop the cupboard. He touches it with his fingers.

THE MAN (V.O.) (CONT'D)
But sometimes, those goals can be
too high and trying too hard to
reach them can be dangerous.

The Man loses his balance and falls down, knocking the coffee box down also.

THE MAN (V.O.) (CONT'D)
However, in the end, all that
matters is the result.

The Man, fallen on the floor, blood flowing from his nose, takes the coffee box fallen near him, opens it and sees--

It's empty.

THE MAN (V.O.) (CONT'D)

And the power to get up after a fall.

He gets up, walks nervously towards the door. He stops. He sees a NOTE on the fridge. It reads:

"We're out of coffee. Buy some when you get back. Don't be late! Kisses"

EXT. HOUSE - MORNING

The Man, wearing a black suit that just doesn't suits him, exits, locking the door behind him. His nose is bandaged.

THE MAN (V.O.) (CONT'D)

But still... Same story every day... Same faces...

As he walks down the street, he politely waves at his NEIGHBORS who greet him back.

EXT. BUS STATION - MORNING

The Man is standing near an OLD LADY who holds the leash of her DOG. She politely smiles at The Man, who politely smiles back at her.

THE MAN (V.O.) (CONT'D)

Same routine... It's like a movie you've seen a hundred times before and you know exactly what will happen.

The dog gets closer to The Man's foot and--

Peacefully urinates on The Man's pants.

The Man looks at the dog. Then, he looks at the Old Lady. She smiles at him. He smiles back at her.

THE MAN (V.O.) (CONT'D)

And that is boring. Very boring.

The Man leans and he pulls up his pants, revealing A PIECE OF CLOTH wrapped around his ankle, impregnated with dog piss. He hands it to the old lady who looks at him surprised. The bus arrives and The Man gets up.

INT. SOME COMPANY - THE MAN'S CUBICLE - DAY

The Man is sitting at his desk, typing at his computer.

THE MAN (V.O.) (CONT'D)
 So sometimes you just imagine
 things... Pleasant things... Things
 that make you feel better...

ON COMPUTER SCREEN

We see that The Man is on a sex chat channel under the nickname of "sex^machine", chatting with a certain "naughtyGirl":

"sex^machine: I won the Iron Man
 twice.

naughtyGirl: Wow! Really?"

BACK TO SCENE

THE BOSS, irritated and much taller than The Man storms into the cubicle and begins to yell at The Man, who closes the chat window and desperately tries to close the porn sites windows that keep opening on his monitor.

We see The Boss yelling and making threatening signs towards The Man, who is sweating hard.

THE MAN (V.O.) (CONT'D)
 But life doesn't get better. It's
 just... normal. And then you start
 to think that maybe the whole
 point of it is just that... Finding
 pleasure in normal things...

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. THE MAN'S CUBICLE - DAY

The Man is devouring a hamburger. There are three more hamburgers on the desk.

THE MAN (V.O.) (CONT'D)
 Like a decent meal...

The Man drops ketchup on his shirt.

INT. BAR - DAY

A few EMPLOYEES are having beer at a table. They're enjoying themselves.

The Man is alone, at another table, having a Cola and looking at the Employees.

THE MAN (V.O.) (CONT'D)
Or a beer with your colleagues
after work...

The Employees laugh.

The Man just stares at them.

INT. BAR - TOILET STALL - DAY

The Man is on the toilet, trying hard to... go.

THE MAN (V.O.) (CONT'D)
Or...

A wide smile enlightens The Man's face as he finally gets rid of his burden.

INT. STORE - EVENING

The Man looks around. Then, he looks at his palm. On it, it is written with bold letters:

"COFFEE"

The Man starts walking through the store, looking for coffee.

THE MAN (V.O.) (CONT'D)
Soon, you realize one thing.
You're tired. You're so tired that
you just don't care about anything
anymore.

The Man walks faster and faster, nervously.

THE MAN (V.O.) (CONT'D)
You just want to end it. You want
to finish it. You want to get away
from it. You just want to get out!

The Man exits the store in a hurry.

EXT. HOUSE - EVENING

The Man walks fast towards the door.

THE MAN (V.O.) (CONT'D)
You want to get home. You want to
have a hot bath and sit in front
of the TV with a can of ice-cold
beer.

The Man is now at the door. He puts the key in.

THE MAN (V.O.) (CONT'D)
You want to forget about
everything and to be left alone.
You just want peace!

He turns the key, opens the door and freezes as he sees--

INT. HOUSE - EVENING

The horror... A surprise party for him. There are balloons and decorations everywhere and a big "Happy Birthday" banner in the back. Everyone's there, The Wife, The Neighbors, The Employees, even The Boss. All smiling. All waiting for him to smile.

And he does. But it is not a smile for the occasion. It's a wicked smile. A lunatic smile. He hurries towards the stairs, leaving the guests there, with their stupid smiles starting to fade out.

THE STAIRS

The Man hurries up.

INT. HOUSE - BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

The Man bursts in, with that evil smile on his face. He hurries to the closet. He looks something on the top shelf. He finds it, takes it out. It's a GUN. He looks at it. His eyes spark. He cocks the gun. He heads towards the CAMERA.

CUT TO:

BLACK

FADE IN:

INT. HOUSE - NIGHT

CLOSE ON The Man, wrapped in a towel, sitting on the couch, watching TV with a can of beer in one hand and the remote in the other. We can see the balloons and decorations behind him.

THE MAN (V.O.)
Sometimes, life gets boring..
Sometimes, you just feel the need
to... be a man...

The Man smiles. A wicked smile...

We PULL UP, towards the ceiling and see The Man from above.

We now also see that behind the couch are the scattered bodies of The Wife and the guests, all DEAD.

FADE OUT.

THE END