MR.MIKE - FOR THE PEOPLE, BY THE PEOPLE, OF THE PEOPLE

- BY BHAVYA CHILAKAPATI

INT. BEDROOM - DAY

Mike is sleeping on his bed. He wakes up to the sunlight streaming down his face through the window. He has a slight smile on his face. His eyes crinkle from the happiness he has woken into. Mike is stretching his arms and legs as he prepares to get down the bed.

MIKE V.O

Today is going to be a great day.

Mike slides down the bed and is walking towards the bath room. His back is to the camera at this point.

INT. BATHROOM - DAY

He is wearing black boxers with the words "NO" written all over them in red.

We see Mike's face in the mirror as he is smiling at himself.

He flashes his teeth in the mirror as if holding a fake smile.

MIKE V.O

NO. I will not drop you off at Target.

He looks at himself with a frown on his face.

MIKE V.O

NO. I will not lend you any money.

He looks at himself scowling in the mirror.

MIKE V.O

NO. I will not take the trash out for you. NO. Not even if you say please.

He looks at himself with a flustered expression.

MIKE V.O

NO. I will not go down on you.

He nods his head side-to-side.

MIKE V.O

Refusing to go down on a woman. The only sentence I hope I never say again.

INT. DOCTOR'S OFFICE - DAY (FLASHBACK)

We see a doctor sitting across a table from Mike. He has a morose expression on his face. He lets out a deep sigh. He looks anguished.

DOCTOR

Mike.

Mike looks at the doctor with fear and urgency in his eyes.

MIKE

Tell me there's a way around it, doctor.

DOCTOR

Mike. Get a grip.

MIKE

But I-

DOCTOR

- "People Pleaser" syndrome cannot be treated with medicines, Mike. I'm sorry but you just have to work on this by yourself. Just train yourself to say NO to people.

MIKE

But doctor, whenever I hear or see the word "PLEASE" I just can't stop myself from doing what is asked.

DOCTOR

I know Mike, but please understand that-

Mike and the doctor realize the mistake of using the word PLEASE. Mike stands up and leaves the doctor's office.

ON SCENE: INT. BATHROOM - DAY

Mike is still nodding his head with a smile on his face as he walks into the shower and turns the water on. He laughs to himself about his condition and is not in the mood to let anything ruin his day. MIKE V.O

I don't know why, but today just feels right. It just feels right! I have a feeling she's the one.

Mike steps out of the shower and applies cologne. He does his hair neat. We can see it is still wet and is falling across his forehead with a slight bounce. He opens his closet. He is looking through the organized cupboard for his jeans. He finds it. We see him discarding the towel. He pulls the jeans up his legs and buckles his belt around his waist. He runs his fingers through a line of shirts and picks out a white one. As he is unhooking it from the hanger he notices a label that says "PLEASE WASH IN COLD WATER ONLY".

Mike slaps his forehead. He immediately jogs up to the washing machine, places the white shirt in the machine and presses the "cold water" button. He stares at the machine expectantly. He is just staring at it as if something will pop open from the machine. He then gets a call from his friend, Rob.

ROB(O.C)

Hey, Mike. Did you start?

MIKE

No, I just saw a label with the word-

ROB(O.C)

-please on it? Please Mike, please just start from home right now.

Mike starts walking towards entrance door of his house and looks enraged.

MIKE

Rob- you son of a... woman.

ROB(O.C)

Bro! I love you man.

EXT. MIKE'S CAR- DAY

Mike is sitting in the driver's seat. He is taking deep breaths and calming himself down.

MIKE V.O

This is OK. Everything is alright. You're just missing a shirt. At least you have your pants on.

Mike is driving. He stops in front of a house and Rob gets in the car. Rob looks pretty dapper, a mismatch to the way he talks. He's one of those guys who dress up only for an occasion and look disgusting otherwise. Mike immediately waves a hand across his nose due to the overdose of cologne on Rob. Rob looks at Mike.

ROB

Siiick bro!

MIKE

Dude. Just go get me a shirt.

ROB

I'm a good friend, Mike. Here. Take this.

Rob gives Mike a blue shirt. Mike wears it and looks at himself in the front mirror. He starts driving the car.

MIKE

OK, all set! Let's go meet her.

ROB

Yeah, just one thing.

Mike turns to face Rob.

ROB

Umm.. she doesn't know about your condition, man.

MIKE

(ASTONISHED)

Rob, bro.. I thought you took care of it.

ROB

Yeah, I did.. by not telling her the truth.

Mike raises his hands up in the air in exasperation.

MIKE

Great! I can forget about meeting her then. You do realize she's going to stop seeing me the minute she knows about my condition?

At this point, he resigns to his own thoughts and is frustrated with his condition and with Rob.

MIKE V.O

How can Rob be so stupid? If I have to date her, she has to know at some point.

ROB

Bro, she's a great person. Just meet her once.

MIKE

No way, man. The only reason I agreed was because I thought she knew about my syndrome.

ROB

Please Mike, just meet her now.

MIKE

Gaaawwddd !!!

Mike is staring at Rob with fury. His eyebrows are bunched together and his lips are tightly pursed against each other.

ROB

Is this how you look when a woman pleads you to go down on her?

MIKE

I have a special facial expression for that.

ROB

Come on. Show me.

MIKE

I look just the way your sister does, man.

ROB

Come on, man. Show me your special sex face. Does it look like this?

Rob rolls his eyes upward. He lolls his tongue out and is proceeding to lick the window. Mike's eyes are following Rob as they reach their destination.

EXT. OUTSIDE THE RESTAURANT - DAY

His eyes fall on a woman sitting on the bench across the restaurant. She is wearing a light yellow summer dress. Mike notices the slight red on her lips and the thin necklace around her neck. He gets the sudden urge to go talk to her. He parks the car and walks towards the restaurant along with

Rob. As Rob is about to go in, Mike tells him he forgot something in the car and lets Rob go in. Mike uses this opportunity to go meet the girl sitting on the bench.

He saunters towards her and is standing near the bench.

MIKE

Hey! So, you're waiting for someone?

BENCH WOMAN

Hey! Actually, I've been waiting for you.

Mike is surprised by that statement and a little curious at the sudden twist of fate. He gazes at her with a slight smile and is excited at the potential prospect of flirting.

MIKE

How so?

The bench woman hands Rob a 5 page pamphlet with the words "PLEASE READ THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS CAREFULLY" written on them.

Mikes eyes pop at the sight of those words and he involuntarily starts to read the terms and conditions in the pamphlet. We show the bench woman mouthing some serious insurance terms to Mike and the focus of the camera is on his expressions.

Mike is desperate to escape from the scene. He is trying hard to avert his eyes from the paper. He is grinding his teeth.

MIKE V.O

Just jump, Mike. Jump and freak her out. She will leave. But no Mike, you have to read the terms and conditions with care. Which means you can't jump. Be careful. In fact you should sit down on the bench and read it if you have to be careful.

He sits down on the bench and reads through the long pamphlet. The woman, like most insurance brokers, goes on with her lecture.

Mike finally finishes reading the document. He jumps up from the bench and runs into the restaurant for fear of hearing the word 'please' again. The woman is left behind staring at him with her mouth open. The camera follows him running in a zigzag direction into the restaurant. The motion is 2x.

INT. RESTAURANT - DAY

He is stopped at the entrance of the restaurant. The receptionist is talking on the phone.

MIKE

My friend is waiting inside. I need to get in.

She looks at Mike and places the telephone caller on hold.

RECEPTIONIST

Sir, can you please wait a minute?

The receptionist gets back to talking on the phone and she hangs up quickly. She notices Mike staring at his watch.

RECEPTIONIST

Sir, you were saying?

There's no reply from Mike.

RECEPTIONIST

Sir, I'm asking you. You were saying you had a friend inside. What's his name?

Mike is still just looking into his watch.

MIKE V.O

Oh my god. Say something, Mike. Just say anything. But you can't, Mike. You need to wait a minute. It's just 49 seconds. 11 more seconds. oops. 8, 7..

The receptionist is exasperated.

RECEPTIONIST

SIR! WILL YOU SAY SOMETH-

MIKE

-My friend Rob. I need to go see him. He is waiting inside for me.

Mike sees Rob sitting at a table and he rushes towards it. He is panting as he takes his chair and slumps into it. He is waving his arms across his chest as if to signal that he can't do this anymore.

Rob is staring at Mike with a dumb and embarrassed expression. He is trying to hint Mike that there's a woman sitting right next to them.

Mike slowly turns his head to his left. He looks at a woman staring at him directly. She looks puzzled by his goofy behavior.

Mike sits up properly in the chair and introduces himself.

ROB

Seana, meet my best friend Mike. And Mike, meet my girl friend, Seana.

SEANA

Mike, pleased to meet you.