

Decommissioned

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

It's a casual house party. Two girls, Jenny (20) and Roxy (20), talk to each other. Sitting at the other end of the room is Zack (20), dressed in drab clothes, exhausted.

JENNY

(hushed)

Roxy! I think that's Zack DeMille.

ROXY

He's so hot Jenny.

JENNY

Definitely, in that artsy, sad-boy way.

ROXY

Let's go talk to him.

Roxy tugs Jenny and they walk over to Zack.

JENNY

(sheepishly)

Hey Zack.

ZACK

(dejected)

Oh. Hey.

ROXY

How's your night going?

ZACK

Oh you know, just the same
pointless night in the endless loop
of days where nothing happens at
all.

JENNY

Would you say that you're... sad?

ZACK

Yeah, I guess.

This elicits a swoon from the girls.

ROXY

Oh my god. Tell us more.

ZACK

I mean, it's hard to get up in the
morning. Some days I can't even get
out of bed.

Another swoon.

JENNY

That's hot though, feeling so
deeply you can't face the world.

ZACK

Not really, it kind of awful. I
hate being like this.

Zack lightly slams his fists on the armrests, to the girls' delight.

ROXY

Ugh! Tell me more about how awful
it is.

ZACK

Well my school grades are tanking,
and this party is the only place
where I talk to people outside of
my shitty family, and then again
it's really only the alcohol
talking.

JENNY

Roxy did you hear that? He
disassociates.

ZACK

I actually can't feel, so my mom
made me start taking medicine.

ROXY

You're sad AND taking drugs? Ugh.

ZACK

Yeah, except I have to be cautious
of overdosing and suicidal
thoughts.

ROXY

I. Love. Pre-mature death. Drug
addictions are the new six-packs.

JENNY

(touching Zack's arm)

It's so hard to find a guy like you
who is just... You're a tortured
artist, like... John Mayer or
something.

Zack starts to cry, realizing his problems.

ROXY
Keep crying!

ZACK
I just really appreciate you guys talking to me like this. There's this stigma against getting help, especially for men, and with your help, I think I can get better.

Beat.

JENNY
(concerned)
Get better?

ZACK
Yeah. I'm gonna start seeing someone—

JENNY
You're seeing someone?

ZACK
Not a girlfriend.

ROXY
Phew.

ZACK
But a therapist!

ROXY
NO.

ZACK
Ha-ha good one.
(coming to)
I'm feeling a lot better guys.
Thanks—wait, where are you guys going?

ROXY
You were way hotter before.

Roxy and Jenny leave.

ZACK
Man, now I'm sad again.

JENNY
(peeps head back in)
What'd you say?

END