

Z+

A Zombie Rom-Com You Can Watch With Your Mom

Shane Fairbanks & Alexander Derbyshire

Original Concept by Odin Woody

CHARACTER LIST/DESCRIPTIONS

SETH MORGAN - First year teacher who struggles to deal with teens in general, but is especially frustrated in the last few weeks of the spring semester when all of his students can't wait to get to graduation and summer.

AMANDA DARLING - First year English teacher that the protagonist is smitten with. Everyone adores her. Whenever SETH sees her in the hallway the refrain from "I Just Died In Your Arms Tonight" plays in his mind and she enters briefly into a wind-blown slow motion.

MALINDA NEWTON - Physics teacher across the hall. She's bitter and burnt out, and she gets especially annoyed by the protagonist's infatuation with AMANDA DARLING because she is secretly in love with the protagonist but shows it through biting sarcasm.

PRINCIPAL ROMERO - A burnt out principal who seems older than he really is. He chain drinks coffee and sounds like a smoker. He keeps telling SETH that the one goal of every school teacher and administrator in the last week of school is to simply survive.

REX "DANGER" TILMAN - The muscle-bound gym teacher. Once a poetry major, he briefly quit college to work in Hollywood as a stunt man, and after becoming ripped, he abandoned a life of intellectualism and became a gym teacher. Now SETH always seeks out his advice because REX is the kind of person who exudes confidence. AMANDA DARLING always gives him the flirtatious eye. When the Zombie apocalypse happens, SETH will think that REX will have all the skills necessary to deliver SETH and AMANDA to safety.

BRENDAN - SETH MORGAN'S teacher's aid. He is a survivalist who always has the weirdest things kept in pockets, lockers, and crawl spaces around the school. SETH will unwittingly depend upon him when the Zombie apocalypse happens.

DR WILHELM BLOCK - A grumpy chemistry teacher who can't stand the students and their horseplay in the lab. He has a plan to whip the students into shape by creating a chemical compound that he will put into the school's water system, lunch food, and free donuts that he leaves in the hallway. He hypothesizes that this compound will turn make the students obedient and subdued for the last week of school. Instead, he will inadvertently spark the Zombie apocalypse.

FRIEDRICH - DR WILHELM BLOCK's lab assistant.

NURSE BETHANY - A school nurse who does not enjoy her job. She's annoyed by the fact that her "Nurse's Office" is a shared space with the copy room, and she's annoyed by the number of students who come in with "headaches" and "fevers" and "bowel eruptions" that they hope will allow them to skip school. Nurse Bethany is a big believer in tough love -- suck it up, you'll be fine. Seth occasionally comes to her for advice - he seems to think that she also can proscribe medications for him to help his current issues, which of course she cannot. Nurse Bethany is oddly obsessed with Dr. Wilhelm Block. She is cute and flirtatious whenever he is around, but he remains incredibly awkward around her. She is willing to do what it takes to make Dr. Block her man, even if it means participating in a malicious plan to use the student body as his grand experiment.

TY - A popular and overconfident senior who coasts through school and is the bane of SETH's classroom existence. He refuses to defer to a first year teacher's authority and is frequently a nuisance who always calls SETH by either his first name or a nickname, which really grinds SETH's gears.

RHIANNA - Ty's girlfriend. She's super stuck up and annoying. Maybe we could make her a cheerleader and TY a football player to really emphasize the cliches for humor.

THE GOTH SQUAD:

THE GOTH SQUAD is a group of teens who play on the Goth stereotype. They are obsessed with darkness, and love the idea of talking about dead people. They will have some scenes for comedic relief interjected into the script, and they allow for some additional characters. The gender of the talent is unimportant and can be played by anyone and we can adjust the names accordingly. This group will survive the Zombie apocalypse by playing dead.

LOUISE (AKA "VICIOUS")

FRANKLIN (AKA "DRAGON")

STACY (AKA "RAVEN")

For other characters, we can have additional teacher's aids. I like the idea of each aid either matching their teacher's personality, or being a polar opposite. Everyone else will play extras and be Zombie fodder.

PLOT SUMMARY

SETH MORGAN is a first year teacher who struggles. He struggles with confidence in the classroom. He struggles with annoying students who don't treat him with any respect. He struggles with finishing the last month of school while students are creating pandemonium in their classrooms. He also struggles with women. He is convinced he's in love with the first year English teacher down the hall, MS AMANDA DARLING. MS DARLING is perfect in every way, and everyone loves her. MS DARLING is always kind to SETH, but keeps him at a distance and treats him more like a puppy, or a friend's cute little brother, but he is definitely stuck in the zone -- the Friend Zone. SETH is convinced that if he just shows more manly confidence that he will attract her affection. To aid him in this, he seeks out the manly advice of REX "DANGER" TILMAN. REX is a man's man, and a former Hollywood stuntman turned gym teacher, but he's got a wit that makes him the king of one-liners. SETH also looks to BRENDAN, his student aid for help in all matters, from classroom management to advice on women.

SETH notices that students are beginning to act even more strangely of late. With only a month of school left, the students went from being rambunctious to being docile and slow moving. All of the student behavior that he's noticed before has turned into something different entirely. Rather than loquacious teens who disrespect his authority, he now has groaning, seemingly very tired, teens who grunt and moan. One even leaned over and bit his neighbor during a test! SETH seeks out the advice of PRINCIPAL ROMERO, who tells him that with only 28 days left in the school year, he just has to survive.

OPENING SEQUENCE

NONDIEGETIC MUSIC PLAYS "KILL THE DIRECTOR" BY THE WOMBATS

Social Media/Smart Phone style montage of students in hallways and classrooms. These roles will be played by characters who have non-speaking roles throughout the film.

Need a few "regular" snapchat video style clips of kids being normal in school and doing updates and snaps.

CUT TO snapchat video of boys updating their feeds with a video of JUSTIN, who sits at a nearby table/desk and looks very ill (and he's about to go into full zombie mode)

STUDENT (O.S.)
Yo, what is up with Justin?

STUDENT 2 (O.S.)
(laughing)
Bro, he looks like he's gonna yack all
over his test.

STUDENT (O.S.)
Dude, he probably got mono from making
out with your girlfriend.

STUDENT 2 (O.S.)
Shut up! My girlfriend loves m--

Suddenly JUSTIN jumps from the table and shoots over toward
the camera to consume the boys.

STUDENT doing a snapchat video is standing in the bathroom
doing poses and flexing in front of the mirror.

STUDENT
Hey girls, just thought you could use
some of this to brighten your day. Hit
me ba--

A zombie suddenly emerges from the bathroom stall and
consumes him.

STUDENT holds her phone in selfie mode doing a live feed to
Facebook and is sitting in class.

STUDENT
Hi peeps, just doing a live update
from Geometry! Hashtag grad day
approaches, and you know what that
means -- peacin' out!

A zombie suddenly appears from off screen and eats her as she
drops the phone, which lands on the floor and shows the brawl
with the zombie unfolding as students run in panic from the
room.

HARD CUT

TITLE SEQUENCE

Open with quick cut of Z+ written in blood red text over a
black screen. Hold for 4 seconds as MUSIC FADES.

HARD CUT

TITLE SEQUENCE

"TWO DAYS EARLIER" appears on screen in blood red text over a black screen and a SCHOOL BELL RINGS.

CUT TO

SCENE 1

INT. CLASSROOM - DAY

A classroom DOOR CLOSES.

SETH MORGAN, a young first year teacher with plenty of pep in his step enters the classroom with a satchel slung over his shoulder and a fresh cup of coffee in hand. He wears a sweater over his collared shirt, khakis, and trendy sneakers and glasses.

SETH

(overly excited)

Gooooood morning, Bridger Central High Seniors! Who's ready to learn some history today?! Woo!

SETH puts down his satchel and coffee at his desk, grabs an expo marker and looks around the room excitedly.

Students sit in various positions that physically display their boredom and lack of enthusiasm. Many are asleep, some with heads on desks, others with heads bobbing and drool forming.

RHIANNA, an attractive, self-obsessed, popular girl leans back in her back-row desk looking into a compact as she applies make-up. Her boyfriend, TY, a good-looking jock wearing a football jersey sits with a football in hand that he spins in one hand and is Snapchatting on his phone with his other hand.

LOUISE (AKA "VICIOUS") sits in gothic attire and makeup reading some Edgar Allen Poe, rather than listening to class.

BRENDAN, SETH'S teacher's aid who sits next to SETH's desk, looks around the room and raises his hand.

BRENDAN

I'm ready to learn history, MR MORGAN.

TY

Nerd.

SETH

Great! That's one on board!

TY

Ooor, we could just sit here for the rest of the school year and learn nothing at all... you know, like what I've been doing all year in this class.

SETH

First of all -- ouch. Second, you and I both know that I can't just let you sit here without teaching you anything for the rest of the year. We still have (*checks his watch*) 28 days of school left!

TY

True or False: As a teacher you get paid the same whether you are working hard or just being a warm body in the classroom?

SETH

(quizzically)

True...

TY

Fact: we don't need to do anything and you will still get paid.

SETH

(catching on now)

Ahhh, Fact: I love teaching and this will be fun.

TY

Fact: This class is boring and you know it.

SETH

Fact: This class will help you in your adult existence.

TY

Fact: This class has nothing to do with the real world.

SETH

Agh! c'mon guys! Let's live a little and learn about all of the exciting dead people in history!

LOUISE

(slowly putting down her book and raising her hand)

I, for one, absolutely love talking about dead people.

SETH

(a little weirded out)

Well, I suppose that's a start. Who else is with me?

Wide angle of SETH in front of the board with arms outstretched in an invitation and a sleepy or distracted classroom. Ty and Brendan are the only ones even remotely attentive to what's going on.

SETH

(excitedly again)

Alrighty then! Dead people it is!

SETH approaches the board and begins scribbling notes.

SCENE 2

INT. SCHOOL - DAY

***NEED NON-DIEGETIC song**

Shots around the school of students and teachers. Need something that looks like the intro to SHAWN OF THE DEAD but without completely mimicking it.

Students walk slowly down the hall with heads down.

Teachers pour coffee and look like they have a hangover.

Nurse Bethany takes a hopeful student's temperature, checks the thermometer and shakes her head dismissively, which makes him slump in sadness.

Pencils tap on a desk to the beat of the nondiegetic song playing in the background.

HARD CUT

SCENE 3

INT. CLASSROOM - DAY

SETH is watching his class take a quiz over material he has just covered in class.

Quick shots of students with heads on desks, not even trying. Then shot of student who quickly marks answers without even reading the questions. Cut to shot of Brendan actually trying to get the correct answers.

SETH

You guys have about 2 minutes left to finish your pop quiz before time runs out.

LOUISE raises her hand.

SETH

Yes, LOUISE?

LOUISE

There are definitely not enough dead people on this quiz.

FRANKLIN

Yeah, this is stupid! I've been waiting all year for some Ivan the Terrible, or Spanish Inquisition - you know - torture and pain!

SETH

Whoa, ok - Franklin, let's take it down a notch.

FRANKLIN

My name is not Franklin, it's Dragon.

SETH

Your name is definitely Franklin.

FRANKLIN

Nope, getting it changed legally on my 18th birthday, so you can only call me *Dragon*.

RHIANNA

(raising her hand)

Will this quiz negatively affect my grade, because I don't want to lose my scholarship to Stanford over it.

BRENDAN

(disbelieving)

You got a scholarship to Stanford?

RHIANNA

(mockingly)

Not yet, *Brendan*, but my daddy paid for the football team's helmets and he's buying me a valedictorian to take my SATs, so *yeah*, I'm getting a scholarship.

Cut to Brendan rolling his eyes.

Cut to Louise and Franklin who sit watching this exchange and deliver their next lines deadpan.

LOUISE

I am so afraid of stupid girls.

FRANKLIN

They're terrifying.

SETH

Well, congratulations on the scholarship, Rhianna, but no, this quiz will not hurt your grade that much. I just noticed that most of you have been zoning out or sleeping in class, and I thought we should take a little quiz to see if you've been paying attention.

Cut to a shot of TY leaning over to look at RHIANNA's quiz.

SETH

(amazed at his audacity)
Ty! This *is* a quiz. No cheating!

TY

(mock surprise)
But I haven't been paying attention, so I thought I'd borrow her answers.

BRENDAN

Not like *she* would have any *correct* answers.

TY

(nodding)
Fact.

SETH

But it is *still* a quiz!

TY

But you just said this quiz won't hurt my grade, so why does it matter?

SETH

Ty, part of being a man is being responsible for your actions, and --

TY

(quizzically)
Wait... Being a man? Seth do you even shave yet?

SETH

(taken aback)
Uh, first of all, you need to call me "Mr. Morgan." I may only be a fewyears

older than you, but I'm still a teacher, even if it *is* only my first year.

TY

Whatever you say, Captain.

SETH

Secondly, *I* shave twice a week, and today just happened to be my bi-weekly shave day, so yes, I shaved today.

TY

What an accomplishment. By the way, Captain, I saw you arriving at school this morning on the bus... Were you riding with the junior high kids?

SETH

(embarrassed)

Ok, the earth is burning, and I'm riding the MET bus just to save the environment and prevent the environmental apocalypse --

TY

Are you sure it's not because of your measly paycheck?

SETH

No, it's the environmental apocalypse --
 my paycheck is perfectly suitable to *almost* afford nice things, but I *choose* not to own a car.

TY

Well if you ever want to save the environment by carpooling, I could pick you up at your mom's house in my Land Rover.

SETH

(embarrassed mumbling)

I don't... live with my mom.

The BELL RINGS and everyone gets up and walks out, leaving quizzes on their desks.

SCENE 4

INT. HALLWAY - DAY

SETH walks down the hallway zig-zagging through groups of students standing in groups.

Camera tracks his movement and we see some students walking very slowly with their heads down, and SETH has a harder time getting around them as they slowly file into rooms.

HARD CUT

SCENE 5

INT. NURSE'S OFFICE - DAY

SETH enters a small room containing a copy machine and various teaching supplies, as well as a cot and some nursing supplies. NURSE BETHANY leans against the wall looking at her phone, obviously bored.

SETH
Hi, Nurse Bethany!

NURSE BETHANY
(from behind her phone)
Mister Morgan, what a delight. What seems to be the problem today?

SETH sits on the cot, prepared to be examined by the nurse.

SETH
I'm not sure if I'm just starting to feel under the weather, or I'm just too stressed, or maybe I need some medication, but something is definitely up!

NURSE BETHANY
Mm Hmm.

Nurse Bethany takes a thermometer and pops it in his mouth. She then takes a stethoscope and listens to his heart beat briefly and then moves to his back.

SETH

(with thermometer in his mouth)
I must have something wrong with me,
because I'm just not as exciting as I
used to be.

NURSE BETHANY

Excited?

SETH

(removing the thermometer)
No, *exciting*. I just can't get the
kids to get pumped about my class, and
I think maybe it's an illness or
something that is making me less
exciting.

NURSE BETHANY

Ooor, maybe it's just the last month
of school and your students all want
to graduate instead of sit in your
boring class.

SETH

Ouch.

NURSE BETHANY

There's definitely nothing I can do to
cure *senioritis*.

SETH

Could the kids be coming down with
something that's making them so
unenthusiastic?

NURSE BETHANY

No. You're just boring.

SETH

But -

NURSE BETHANY

Look, Seth. Everyone comes in here
hoping to get an excuse to go home
sick, or in your case, find a medical

excuse for sucking at life in general.
Do you know how many kids I see a day
who have a "fever"?

A student pops into the room holding his stomach.

STUDENT
(pain-faced)
Nurse Bethany, I think my bowels are
going to erupt.

NURSE BETHANY
Deal with it, Jeremy. I'm not sending
you home.

STUDENT
But -

NURSE BETHANY
Out!

He slinks away holding his stomach.

NURSE BETHANY
See what I mean? Now suck it up, Seth.
Quit being a pansy and finish out the
school year.

SETH
(sheepishly)
Ok, thanks I guess.

SETH slowly rises and exits the room as NURSE BETHANY goes
back to looking at her phone.

CUT TO

SCENE 6

INT. HALLWAY - DAY

SETH walks down the hall and notices several students who
appear to either be in pain holding their stomachs, or have a
drowsy look on their faces and are sweating profusely.

SETH enters the sophomore boys restroom.

HARD CUT

SCENE 7

INT. RESTROOM - DAY

SETH enters the restroom and sees a blank-faced boy in a hoodie vaping by the sink.

SETH
(surprised)
Hey! Vaping is not allowed on school grounds! Give me that!

SETH takes the vape mod from the student who just looks surprised, but otherwise unaffected. Camera holds on his face as SETH's hand disappears with the vape mod from screen, then the student coughs and emits a puff of white vapor.

SETH
Don't you know these things will kill you!

SETH storms out of the restroom.

HARD CUT

SCENE 8

INT. PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE - DAY

SETH storms into the Principal's office with vape mod in hand. He is agitated and moves toward the Principal's desk with purpose.

CAMERA POSITIONED ON A LOW ANGLE, DESK LEVEL VIEW OF THE DOOR OPENING AND SETH ENTERING.

SETH
PRINCIPAL ROMERO, I found another sophomore vaping in the bathroom today!

CAMERA CHANGES TO AN OVER THE SHOULDER SHOT AS PRINCIPAL ROMERO TURNS IN HIS SEAT. SCENE NOW FILMED PRIMARILY IN A DIALOGUE CAMERA POV.

PRINCIPAL ROMERO is a grizzled man with a gravelly voice. His demeanor is that of a cliché cop movie commissioner who's appearance is that of a man who's smoked for decades, who can't tie a tie correctly, and who carries a flask (of coffee) in his coat pocket. Papers riddle his desk in a mass of disorganization. An old ash tray with a pile of burned cigars lies on the corner of his desk. As he turns in his chair, he is chewing contemplatively on a cigar in his hand.

SETH

That's *three* this week!

ROMERO quickly registers that SETH has delivered a contraband tobacco product to his office and has also inadvertently caught the Principal in a cigar-chewing session. He shows a quick moment of surprise, takes the vape mod from SETH, puts it and his cigar in the ash tray, and quickly moves the tray to a desk drawer below.

PRINCIPAL ROMERO

(coughing)

Agh! Again! What's wrong with these kids!

SETH

(pacing)

That's what I've been saying! I feel like I'm constantly dealing with stupid issues!

BETWEEN SETH'S RANTING LINES, DO CUTS TO ROMERO'S REACTION.

ROMERO reacts by nodding or shrugging or demonstrating agreement, but in a way that is almost mocking with hyperbole.

SETH

(still pacing)

First, these kids don't respect me, second, they laugh in my face and could care less about my class, third, they spend all their time on their phones or vaping or driving stupid land rovers, or making fun of my measly paycheck or living with my mom, and fifth --

PRINCIPAL ROMERO
 (interrupting supportively)
Fourth.

SETH
 (back on track, but barely missing
 a beat)
 And fourth, these kids have gone from
 being rambunctious little punks who
 never listen, to a bunch of slow
 moving docile wastes of space who just
 sleep through classes! I feel like I'm
 stuck in an insane asylum and we've
 just given the keys to the inmates!
 (pause for a beat) Or stuck in a mall
 with flesh-eating undead who just want
 to eat my brains and rip out my still
 beating heart!

PRINCIPAL ROMERO
 (taking this moment to interject)
 SETH! Let's calm it down a bit. Have a
 seat.

SETH slumps down into the chair in front of ROMERO'S desk.

PRINCIPAL ROMERO
 You're a first year teacher, and
 you're in a battle for your life. I've
 been here 30 years, and I only need 10
 more until I can retire! Of course I
 could have retired a long time ago if
 my gold-digging wife didn't love
 dresses and chocolate diamonds so
 much, am I right?

As he delivers this last line he begins to withdraw a silver
 flask from his inner breast pocket. SETH is obviously taken
 aback.

PRINCIPAL ROMERO
 (stopping before taking a swig)
 Oh, how rude of me. Want some?

SETH
 (shocked)
 You're drinking *alcohol* during the
 school day?

PRINCIPAL ROMERO

(confused)

Alcohol? No, this coffee!

He reaches for an empty mug on his desk and pours a snifter of black coffee for SETH and hands him the mug as he delivers his next line.

PRINCIPAL ROMERO

Just a little of the good stuff to get me through these dark days.

SETH

(lifting the mug to his mouth)

You don't cut it with cream or sugar, I see.

PRINCIPAL ROMERO

No, sir! I like my coffee like I like my men -- strong and black!

SETH, startled, spits out a mist of coffee as he coughs in surprise.

PRINCIPAL ROMERO

(finishing a generous swig of coffee)

Look kid, we only have 28 days of school left until summer break. Forget all that garbage they taught you in college about (*mocking*) "uplifting the youth" or "scaffolding the next generation". You have to survive! Didn't you ever hear that the top three reasons to teach are June, July, and August (*holding up his fingers to count*)? Just hold your crap together, hunker down, and survive the next 28 days!

CAMERA SHOULD CUT BETWEEN LINES TO SETH'S REACTIONS ALTERNATING FROM SIPPING COFFEE, TO NODDING WITH RENEWED PURPOSE. END SCENE WITH A SLOW ZOOM ON ROMERO'S FACE FOR DRAMATIC EFFECT.

HARD CUT

SCENE 9

MONTAGE SEQUENCE

EDGAR WRIGHT STYLE MONTAGE of the following:

Coffee cup draining (either someone drinking it or time lapse of liquid disappearing)

Phones answering

(Longer cut) Ash tray comes out of drawer and is placed on desk. Camera holds, then a hand grabs the vape mod out of the ash tray and tosses it into a garbage can barely seen off screen.

(Fast cuts resume) Students yawning

White board marking

Toilets flushing

SCENE 10

INT. HALLWAY - DAY

SETH walks back to his classroom and encounters two teens locked in a romantic embrace as they are making out against the lockers.

SETH
(with a feigned air of authority,
but moving past rapidly)
Hey! Didn't your mom ever tell you not
to make out in public!

The lovers turn and look at him, glare and make scoffing faces, then resume their necking.

SCENE 11

INT. HALLWAY - DAY

As SETH walks through the hall, the bell rings and students flood into the hallways. As they do, SETH slows his pace and turns expectantly toward MS AMANDA DARLING'S classroom. Off screen MS DARLING exchanges pleasantries with students and tells them goodbye.

AMANDA DARLING
(sweetly as she exits the class)
Ok my little poets, have a magnificent
day!

CAMERA CUTS TO SETH IN A VERTIGO EFFECT ZOOM

Non-diegetic music plays the song "I DIED IN YOUR ARMS
TONIGHT" as SETH stares wide-eyed at AMANDA DARLING

CUT TO AMANDA DARLING SPEAKING SILENTLY IN SLOW MOTION TO HER
STUDENTS

CUT TO CU OF SETH LOOKING LONGINGLY IN HER DIRECTION

CUT TO AMANDA DARLING IN SLOW MOTION WHIPPING HER HAIR AROUND
AS WIND BLOWS THROUGH HER HAIR AND A LIGHT MIST BEGINS TO
GENTLY SHOW HER IN MOIST REFLECTIVE LIGHT

CUT BACK TO SETH STILL LOOKING LONGINGLY

CUT TO AMANDA DARLING IN A MEDIUM ANGLE WITH STUDENTS
SUDDENLY HOLDING A FAN (EXPLAINS THE WIND) AND TWO STUDENTS
MISTING HER WITH A SPRAY BOTTLE (EXPLAINS THE MIST)

The music suddenly stops and SETH takes a deep breath and
shakes out his nerves. Now resolved, he walks as confidently
as possible toward MS DARLING

SETH
(sheepishly)
Ha -- Hi, MS DARLING.

AMANDA DARLING
(sweetly)
Hi, Seth! And how many times do I have
to tell you, it's *Amanda*.

SETH
 (smiling with embarrassment)
 Right, ugh - so stupid. (smiles
 widely) Amanda.

AMANDA DARLING
 How's your day going?

SETH
 (stutteringly)
 Oh, great! I taught a really --
 awesome lesson -- and then a quiz that
 was -- just super, and the kids were
 all like -- "Dang, Mr Morgan, you
 really are the best teacher I've ever
 had" -- and it has been like, you
 know, any other normal day.

AMANDA DARLING
 I'm so glad to hear it!

SETH
 (staring awkwardly)
 Yeah! (said breathily)

Pause for a beat.

As they share an awkward moment, the Goth Squad moves into
 frame. Seth notices them with a start.

SETH
 (startled)
 Ah!

LOUISE
 (sarcastic)
 Are you *regaling* Ms. Darling with more
 tales of dead people?

SETH
 What? No, I was actually *regaling* her
 with tales of my awesome teaching
 methods.

LOUISE
 Must have been short lived.

They walk into Ms. Darling's class.

AMANDA DARLING

So, I have class starting in a moment
-- did you *need* something, SETH?

SETH

(a look of intermingled surprise
and nerves passes over his face
and breaks his goofy smile)

Oh -- yeah. I was wondering -- you
know if you aren't too busy this
weekend -- maybe we could... do
something?

AMANDA DARLING

Do something?

SETH

(nervously rapid)

Yeah, do something! Maybe we could
grab a coffee or something -- I'm
partial to caramel macchiato with two
pumps of caramel, myself -- or we
could go to a scary movie maybe -- I
usually don't go to scary movies with
anyone but my mom because I have to
have someone to hold onto for the
flesh-eating zombies scenes and jump
scares --

CAMERA CUTS TO AMANDA LOOKING QUIZZICALLY AT SETH THROUGHOUT
HIS RAMBLING

SETH

(realizing his mistake)

-- But I definitely DO NOT go to
movies with my mom still, or hold on
to her, or anything weird like that, I
mean c'mon! I'm a grown man, for
crying out loud! I shave twice a week,
after all!

AMANDA DARLING

(eyebrows raised, giving an
awkward smile)

Yeah. Well, that sounds fun, but I
have a *ton* of papers on Edgar Allen
Poe to read this weekend, so I'll just
have to see.

SETH

Oh, yeah, me too! We'll just see -- should I call you? You know, just to check in on the Poe situation? Or I could just swing by your apartment and help you grade or something?

AMANDA DARLING

No, that's ok. I'll just -- be in touch.

SETH

Ok.

AMANDA DARLING

Have a great rest of your day, Seth.

AMANDA touches SETH's arm as she says this line, which he obviously interprets as a more than platonic touch.

She walks into her class with the crowd of students that have just entered the room. Seth stands in the hall and watches her go. The BELL RINGS.

AMANDA DARLING - O.S.

Hello my little ravens! Let's see what Poe has in store for us today!

SETH is shaking his head as if to reprimand himself.

SETH

(angry with himself)
That... was... atrocious.

He walks down the hall.

SCENE 12

INT. TEACHER'S LOUNGE - DAY

SETH enters the teacher's lounge where he encounters MELINDA NEWTON, DR WILHELM BLOCK, and various other teachers.

SETH

(cheerily)
Hello, Melinda -- Doctor.

DR. WILHELM BLOCK
(coughs to clear his throat)
Guten morgen, Herr Morgan.

MELINDA NEWTON
Hi, Seth. How's your day?

SETH
(seems distracted)
It's ok, but I just can't seem to get
out of the zone.

MELINDA NEWTON
(confused)
The zone?

SETH
Yeah -- the "*friend zone*."

MELINDA NEWTON
(rolling her eyes, catching on)
Oh, let me guess, you just made
another clumsy attempt at wooing *Ms.*
Amanda Darling and she found your
boyish lack of charm repulsive.

SETH
(taken aback)
Well, I wouldn't say "repulsive."

MELINDA NEWTON
Seth, we've all seen it. It's
pathetic.

DR. WILHELM BLOCK
(nodding)
Jah. Pathetic.

SETH
Ok, but I just want her to like me.
How the heck am I supposed to get out
of the friend zone?

MELINDA NEWTON
(trying to be sweet)
Maybe she's just not that into you?

SETH
But I'm a catch!

MELINDA NEWTON
(hesitant, but still critical)
Eh, well. You are *kind of* a goofball.

DR. WILHELM BLOCK
Jah, a real dumbkopf.

MELINDA NEWTON
You don't have a car.

SETH
Environmental apocalypse.

MELINDA NEWTON
You rarely speak without embarrassing
yourself.

DR. WILHELM BLOCK
It's sad, really.

MELINDA NEWTON
You live with your mom.

SETH
Leave my mother out of this.

MELINDA NEWTON
And you are, overall, a pretty
unexciting figure.

Both Melinda and Dr. Block nod as they pause for a beat.

SETH
Wow.

MELINDA NEWTON
(sweetly)
--but I still think you're great!

SETH
Well, thank you for your vote of
approval. I just need to find a way to
show her that I'm *actually* really
cool.

Melinda raises her brows and looks to the side in a *yeah, wow*
gesture.

SETH

We need to find a way to create some chemistry.

Pause for a beat.

SETH

(flash of realization)

Wait! Dr. Block! You're a chemistry teacher! Do you know of any elixirs -- or, or -- maybe a cologne that could produce a powerful hormonal response?

MELINDA NEWTON

(taken aback)

Seth! You can't *poison* Ms. Darling into being attracted to you!

SETH

It's not *poison*! It's just a little... inspiration!

Melinda rolls her eyes dramatically and shakes her head. Dr. Block is looking intrigued but pensive.

DR. WILHELM BLOCK

Nein. I do not deal in chemical compounds to excite or attract ze opposite sex. My work focuses upon making behavioral modification compounds zat *dull* ze senses, or make a subject more *subservient*.

MELINDA NEWTON

What?

DR. WILHELM BLOCK

(ignoring her question)

Speaking of vitch,

Dr. Block pulls out a small pad of paper and clicks a pen to life.

DR. WILHELM BLOCK

Have eizer of you noticed a change in your students of late? *Hmm?* Perhaps, *quieter?* More *attentive?* Less *eezily distracted?*

THE DOOR OPENS LOUDLY into the teacher's lounge and an obstreperous and athletic figure walks in confidently with a protein shaker in hand. He's wearing a tight tank top, patriotic sweat pants, headband, and sunglasses.

REX TILLMAN

(in a booming voice)

What's up teacher's lounge! Hooah!

He gives a round of high fives to everyone in the room. Melinda takes the high five with a smirk of disapproval, as if making fun of him silently to herself. Dr. Block accepts the high five with his notepad in hand with an obvious look of confusion. Seth takes the high five and appears somber and hopeless again.

SETH

Hey, Mr. Tillman.

REX TILLMAN

(suddenly stops, as if an offensive bomb has just been dropped in the room)

Whoa. Dude. How many times to I gotta lay this down for you, Bruh. The name is Rex if we're being formal, or "Danger" if we're friends.

SETH

Sorry, Rex.

Rex takes a seat next to Seth and plops down at the table, placing his protein shaker down next to everyone's coffee cups.

REX TILLMAN

You know what? This is like the third exchange we've had this year. You, sir, have just made it into the friend zone.

MELINDA NEWTON

(mocking)

Oh, he's great at getting into the friend zone.

Seth registers a look of disapproving resentment toward Melinda.

REX TILLMAN
It's official: you can call me
"Danger."

SETH
(quizzically)
Thank you?

REX TILLMAN
So what's good in the teachin hood,
hombritos?

MELINDA NEWTON
(being cheeky)
Oh, Dr. Block was just informing us as
to the best way to *poison* Ms. Darling
into falling in love with Seth.

SETH
It's *inspiration!*

Dr. Block sheepishly looks side to side and puts down his pen
and notepad.

REX TILLMAN
Foreal? Why would you do such a thing,
little man?

Rex playfully slaps Seth on the chest. Seth winces and rubs
the fresh wound.

REX TILLMAN
Well, I wish I could relate, but I
haven't really had any problems in the
Love Department ever since I was a
Hollywood stuntman.

MELINDA NEWTON
You were a Hollywood stuntman?

REX TILLMAN
(proudly)
Heck yeah, Bruh! I couldn't afford
college, so I jumped ship and walked
onto a Hollywood lot to find a job. I
go up to the director and I say, I'll
jump off a building, I'll get blowed
up, I'll get eaten by mechanical
dinosaurs -- use me, bruh!

Everyone at the table but Melinda Newton shows a look of surprise and awe.

REX TILLMAN

I had a good run too: two and a half episodes in the MacGyver remake, then I was star side with Jennifer Lawrence in the Hunger Games until a mistimed explosion nearly blew me to bits in Mockingjay. But it was cool, because J-Law was smitten with me after the accident, and we had a little summer fling. (he winks at Dr. Block)

MELINDA NEWTON

I have a hard time believing *any* of that.

REX TILLMAN

Na, dawg -- Legit. See, check my IMDb page.

Rex pulls out his phone and hands it to Seth who scrolls through an IMDB page with Rex jumping out of an explosion, some movie info, and a cast picture of him next to Jennifer Lawrence's cast photo (we'll need to photoshop this and create a fake webpage to pull it off).

Rex nods proudly and raises his eyebrows toward Melinda.

REX TILLMAN

(looking at Melinda, but addressing Seth)

I even made it onto the Ellen Show. Hit her Seth. Legit, right?

SETH

(shocked)

Yeah, "Danger," you're legit.

REX TILLMAN

Booyah!

He takes the phone and gives Seth a dose of exploding nuggs, then awkwardly gives Dr. Block a second dose of exploding nuggs.

MELINDA NEWTON

(still in disbelief)

So how did you go from a Hollywood set to *here*?

REX TILLMAN

(sounding philosophical)

The accident put it all in perspective. "Life is as tedious as a twice-told tale, vexing the ear of a drowsy man."

MELINDA NEWTON

(nonplussed)

What?

REX TILLMAN

Shakespeare, dude. C'mon. (turning and slapping Seth on the chest again) Am I right?

Seth nods, uncomprehendingly.

REX TILLMAN

Life is short, which brings me back to your original query. Ladies, am I right?

SETH

Yeah.

REX TILLMAN

Look, bruh. After Hollywood, I found that the quickest way to a woman's heart was to get ripped -- but I was already ripped -- so I decided the next best way to a woman's heart is to make a *profession* out of *staying ripped* -- Hence! -- gym teacher.

Melinda chortles and rolls her eyes. Rex puts a hand on Seth's shoulder and leans into him.

REX TILLMAN

Look, bruh. You want to reach Ms. Darling's heart, you gotta be ripped enough and man enough to save her in her time of distress. Her knight in shining armor.

Seth is nodding, a new wave of confidence developing.

REX TILLMAN
So get outta here and go give me 100
hundred pushups!

SETH
Yeah.

REX TILLMAN
(suddenly sounding like a drill
sergaent)
I can't hear you!

SETH
Yeah!

REX TILLMAN
Let me hear your war cry!

SETH
(pitifully weak)
Aghgghh!

REX TILLMAN
That's what I'm talking about! Now go!
Hoo-ah!

Seth gets up to leave and Rex gives him a manly and
enthusiastic swat to the butt as he goes.

Rex turns back to the others.

REX TILLMAN
So, anybody been reading any great
books lately?

Melinda and Dr. Block look at him confused.

CUT TO

SCENE 13

INT. CLASSROOM - DAY

Seth walks into his classroom flexing and feeling his measly
biceps. He sees Brendan cooking an MRE over a small camp set

with a fire burning to heat his meal. Brendan is leaning back casually peeling an apple with a large knife.

SETH
(taken aback)
Brendan!

Brendan stops peeling and slowly brings a freshly-cut piece of apple to his mouth.

SETH
Why do you have a *knife* in school?!

BRENDAN
(apple waiting dramatically at his lips)
You don't?

SETH
Of course not! Put that away! And is that a camping stove?

BRENDAN
(shrugging)
How else am I suppose to prepare my lunch?

Brendan eats the apple slice and puts away his knife.

SETH
Things have been entirely too weird lately for me to deal with this. Please, put out those flames.

Seth sits at his desk as Brendan lowers the flames to the off positions and stirs his MRE with some camp silverware.

BRENDAN
Apparently you've never noticed that I *always* prepare my meals this way in your room during lunch.

SETH
Today's not the day, Brendan. Your peers are stressing me out and being a bigger pain than usual.

BRENDAN

What did you expect? 28 days of school left and you're teaching a bunch of hormonal teens who have been infected with a malicious virus of *senioritis* for the past four years. Operation Graduation is in full force.

SETH

I know, but it seems worse than usual lately. And I'm struggling in other areas of my life on top of it all.

Brendan nods and takes a spoonful of his meal, waiting like a therapist for the moment of free association from this beleaguered soul.

SETH

Say, Brendan. You wouldn't happen to have any dumbbells or free weights would you?

A CLASSROOM DOOR OPENS and in walks Ms. Amanda Darling, much to the surprise of Seth, who makes his glee at seeing her in the flesh all too obvious.

CAMERA CUTS TO SETH IN A VERTIGO EFFECT ZOOM

Non-diegetic music plays the song "I DIED IN YOUR ARMS TONIGHT" as SETH stares wide-eyed at AMANDA DARLING

CUT TO AMANDA DARLING WALKING IN SLOW MOTION TOWARD SETH'S DESK

CUT TO CU OF SETH LOOKING LONGINGLY IN HER DIRECTION

CUT TO AMANDA DARLING IN SLOW MOTION WHIPPING HER HAIR AROUND AS WIND BLOWS THROUGH HER HAIR

CUT BACK TO SETH STILL LOOKING LONGINGLY

AMANDA DARLING

(cutely)

Hi, Seth! And hello, Brendan!

BRENDAN

Ms. Darling.

Seth leaps out of his chair and walks quickly toward Amanda.

SETH
Amanda, long time no see!

AMANDA DARLING
(confused)
I just saw you in the hall, Seth.

SETH
(embarrassed)
I know, but it feels like forever,
right?

AMANDA DARLING
Yeeaaaahh.

SETH
(hands in the air in a sign of
glorious appreciation for his
surroundings)
So what brings you to my auspicious
domain?

Brendan rolls his eyes and takes another bite of apple.

AMANDA DARLING
Well, I was printing some Edgar Allen
Poe --

SETH
(interrupting)
Ah! I loves me some Edgar Allen Poe-
try!

AMANDA DARLING
(fake laugh)
Ah, you know, I've never heard that
one! -- And I found your test sitting
on the printer.

SETH
Ah! Thank you! Hey speaking of which,
I'll have a bunch of tests to grade
this weekend, and I thought maybe we
could, you know, grade our piles of
papers together! I could bring a six
pack of -- soda -- and some snickers
bars and extra red pens, maybe we
could play some soft music and get
some mood lighting going and --

AMANDA DARLING

(interrupting)

--Ah, that... is a... *great* idea and all, but I'm going to have to give a hard pass on that one for now. Maybe some other time.

SETH

Yeah, of course. I'm free some other time too, any time really, I don't... have much going on my calendar, like... ever. So, perfect.

AMANDA DARLING

(sweetly, starting to leave)

Ok, well, have a great rest of your day, Seth. Bye, Brendan!

Amanda exits the classroom.

WIDE ANGLE OF SETH STANDING WITH TEST IN HAND AND BRENDAN SITTING IN HIS DESK AS THE CLASSROOM DOOR SLOWLY CREAKS CLOSED.

Pause for a beat.

BRENDAN

That... was... atrocious.

SETH

Shut up. Go make me some copies of this test for tomorrow.

Seth plops down in his chair and slumps depressingly as Brendan takes the test and exits the classroom.

CUT TO

SCENE 14

INT. HALLWAY - DAY

Brendan is walking down the hall and encounters NURSE BETHANY who is distractedly walking the opposite direction looking into her phone and adjusting her hair to look pretty.

Their paths cross in front of the Chemistry Lab door, which is closed.

BRENDAN
Hi, Nurse Bethany.

NURSE BETHANY
Brendan. How do I look.

She whips her hair around in a model pose and awaits his response.

BRENDAN
(clearly confused)
Ahhh... Good?

NURSE BETHANY
Just good? How good?

BRENDAN
Ahhh... Good?

NURSE BETHANY
(annoyed)
Learn some synonyms, Brendan.

She enters the Chemistry Lab. The camera stays on Brendan who looks confused. As she disappears into the room, Brendan hears a loud noise, like an EXPLOSION followed by some GLASS DROPPING on the floor.

DR. WILHELM BLOCK - O.S.
Scheisse!

Brendan shrugs and walks on.

CUT TO

SCENE 15

INT. CHEMISTRY LAB - DAY

DR WILHELM BLOCK is standing over some beakers of fluid and boiling chemicals. He is clearly shocked by Nurse Bethany's sudden entrance, and she stands near the door surprised by the sudden mess.

DR. WILHELM BLOCK
Ah! Vat are you doing in here?!

NURSE BETHANY
(flirtatiously)
Well hello to you too, Wilhelm. I just
wanted to sneak in to see you at work.
I love watching you work.

DR. WILHELM BLOCK
Friedrich! Clean up ziss mess!

Friedrich, Dr. Wilhelm Block's lab assistant, is dressed in a lab coat with goggles on. He has quick, nervous movements, and never speaks unless spoken to.

FRIEDRICH
Ja, mein Herr.

Friedrich busies himself in cleaning up the spilled beakers and fluids. BOILING noises and BUNSON BURNERS can be heard in the lab. Dr. Wilhelm Block nervously adjusts his glasses and moves some things around in his workspace, but avoids looking at Nurse Bethany as she seductively moves into his space.

NURSE BETHANY
It's been awhile since I've seen you,
Wilhelm.

DR. WILHELM BLOCK
I've been engaged.

NURSE BETHANY
(mock horror)
To whom?

DR. WILHELM BLOCK
(rattled)
I -- I mean, *busy*. Too busy for you,
especially.

NURSE BETHANY
Oh silly, I know you don't mean that.
Which is why I thought I'd stop by and
see if I can help -- you know --
create some chemistry.

Dr. Wilhelm Block swallows dramatically. He is clearly discomfited by her presence and flirtatious demeanor.

NURSE BETHANY
So what are you working on?

DR. WILHELM BLOCK
An experiment.

NURSE BETHANY
Experiment? What kind?

DR. WILHELM BLOCK
It iz a secret.

NURSE BETHANY
Oh, that is so exciting! You are so brilliant, Wilhelm -- I mean -- *Doctor*.

DR. WILHELM BLOCK
You must leave now. I have vork to do, und ziss experiment requires my full attention.

NURSE BETHANY
Oh, but I want to help!

She starts leaning closer to him and drapes her arm across his shoulder.

NURSE BETHANY
You know what my favorite class in nursing school was?

She inches toward him and whispers in his ear.

NURSE BETHANY
(seductive whisper)
Organic chem.

She pulls away, but she leaves her hand resting coquettishly on his back.

NURSE BETHANY
(seductively)
You know where to find me if you want help with any -- *experiments*. Until later, *Doctor*.

As she moves away, she brushes her hand through his hair and exits. Dr. Wilhelm Block gives a sigh of relief.

DR. WILHELM BLOCK
Zat... vas... atrocious.

Friedrich, who until now was beneath the table cleaning up a mess, inches his head up from beneath the table.

FRIEDRICH
Ja, mein herr.

He inches his head back beneath the table and resumes cleaning.

CAMERA DOES A SLOW ZOOM ON DR. BLOCK

DR. WILHELM BLOCK
I am so close to perfecting ze behavioral modification compound. Wis zis, I can finally control ze annoying und detestable students. Zey vill never again be shouting, und texting, und cheating on zer assignments. Zey vill be *reformed* -- made perfect by ze brilliant chemist, Dr. Wilhelm Block. Und now, it is almost veady.

Breaking from his soliloquy.

DR. WILHELM BLOCK
Friedrich!

FRIEDRICH
Ja, mein Herr.

DR. WILHELM BLOCK
Vee are veady for za final test. Take ziss compound und pour it into ze vater fountains, und put it into ze mystery meat in ze lunchvroom. If ze students do not vant to behave in my lab und only do zer *horseplay*, zen I vill *make* zem behave viss ziss.

Dr. Block hands Friedrich a beaker full of a mysterious liquid.

FRIEDRICH
Ja, mein Herr.

Friedrich exits.

DR. WILHELM BLOCK
(soliloquizing again)
For ze next 28 days, zey vill be ze
perfect, *submissive*, students.

He gives an evil laugh as the camera does a slow zoom on his face.

CUT TO

SCENE 16

MONTAGE SEQUENCE

MONTAGE OF CHEMICALS ENTERING THE SCHOOL'S WATER SYSTEM

CUT TO A HAND POURING CHEMICALS ON DONUTS

CUT TO A STUDENT DRINKING WATER

CUT TO A STUDENT WASHING THEIR HANDS

CUT TO A HIGH ANGLE OF A POT OF MYSTERY MEAT OVER ON AN OVEN
AND A HAND POURING LIQUID INTO THE MEAT, THEN SLOWLY STIRRING
IT TO PERFECTION.

CUT TO

SCENE 17

INT. CLASSROOM - DAY

DRAMATIC MUSIC PLAYS A QUICK NOTE as a title screen appears

27 DAYS OF SCHOOL REMAIN

CUT TO

SCENE 18

INT. CLASSROOM - DAY

HIGH ANGLE OF A STACK OF TESTS SUDDENLY PLOPPING ONTO SETH MORGAN'S DESK WITH A LOUD SMACK.

Seth enthusiastically grabs a copy off the desk and brings it to his podium.

SETH

Ok guys! Your test over the Civil War is today, which I'm sure you remembered to study for, but just in case I thought we could review for a few minutes.

CUT TO WIDE ANGLE OF THE CLASS IN VARIOUS STATES OF LACK OF ATTENTION.

CUT BACK TO VIEW OF SETH AT THE PODIUM, HIS FACE CHANGING FROM ENTHUSIASM TO DISAPPOINTMENT.

SETH

So here we go! Now, the Civil War was fought between North and South because of what issue?

The students sit silently. Some are on their phones, others have heads on desks. Brendan appears to be using number 2 pencils to start a small fire on his desk, but then stops to raise his hand.

BRENDAN

Slavery.

SETH

Perfect! Now which person worked to free the slaves, and invaded the South to make that happen?

Silence prevails.

SETH

I'll give you a hint: He was the first bearded President in American History.

Seth looks expectantly at the students, but they remain silent.

SETH
He was into tall hats!

Still nothing. Brendan looks around to see if any of his peers will try.

SETH
He wore a lot of black and also loved writing poetry.

All of the members of the Goth Squad synchronously turn their heads toward Seth. Louise, is holding the complete works of Edgar Allen Poe, Dragon is doodling frightening demon pictures in a notepad, and Raven is listening to music through headphones.

LOUISE
Was he also obsessed with being buried alive? Because if so, my money is on Poe.

SETH
What? No -- just -- no.

Brendan raises his hand with an exasperated expression on his face.

BRENDAN
Abraham Lincoln.

SETH
BOOYAH!

TY
Wasn't the real reason Abraham Lincoln started the Civil War was because he was a vampire hunter and the South was full of vampires?

SETH
Uh, no. That is wrong on so many levels.

TY
Oh, wait -- that's right I learned that from watching the Abraham Lincoln

Vampire Hunter movie, which was way more interested than anything you talked about in class, so it must be fact.

SETH
(exasperated)
Ugh. I give up. Let's just take this test.

SETH passes out the exam. While taking the exam, a groaning student leans over another student's desk as if looking for answers on the test.

SETH
Hey, Alec, this is a test. No looking at other people's tests --

The student groans and suddenly starts gnawing on the arm of his neighbor. There's an uproar among the non-zombie students and teacher.

STUDENT
Ah! Get off me you creepy cookie! He's biting my shoulder!

SETH
Alec! No!

Seth grabs Zombie Alec and pulls him out of the classroom.

TY
What the f--

CLASSROOM DOOR LOUDLY SLAMS SHUT TO CUT HIM OFF

CUT TO

SCENE 19

INT. HALLWAY - DAY

SETH hauls the zombie student down to PRINCIPAL ROMERO'S office (all the while the zombie trails behind him trying to bite his shoulder and groaning.

SETH
Just when I thought my life couldn't
get any weirder!

ZOMBIE
(snapping at Seth)
Aghgh

SCENE 20

INT. PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE - DAY

OFFICE - SETH leaves the zombie sitting in the office chair outside of PRINCIPAL ROMERO'S office. The secretary is on the phone and looks up quizzically.

SETH
Stay there!

SETH enters PRINCIPAL ROMERO'S office. Principal Romero is sitting at his desk drinking coffee from his flask and looking longingly at a computer screen displaying a boat cruising on the ocean, or a serene beach scene. He is clearly startled by Seth entering the room and rapidly tries to turn off his computer screen, and he clumsily tries hide his coffee flask and straighten his tie to look presentable.

SETH
(flustered)
Principal Romero, I have a student
sitting outside who -- well -- tried
to eat another student!

Principal Romero shows a look of mock shock, then nods and shrugs as if he's seen this kind of thing before.

PRINCIPAL ROMERO
Well, I wish I could say that's a new
one, but --

SETH
That's *not* a new one?

PRINCIPAL ROMERO
 Thirty years, Seth. I've. Seen. It.
 All.

SETH
 (exasperated and pacing)
 I'm telling you, these kids are all a
 bunch of monsters! It's bad enough
 that they're so annoying in class,
 they never listen, they cheat
 constantly -- and now they're eating
 each other?!

Principal Romero is pouring himself another snifter of coffee
 and interrupts Seth's train of thought.

PRINCIPAL ROMERO
 Here, this'll help.

Seth swats the cup away.

SETH
 (with the look of a crazed lunatic)
 Coffee won't fix my life!

Principal Romero sits with a look of shock as he slowly
 brings the flask to his mouth.

SETH
 I mean, what is the world coming to
 when we have kids trying to eat each
 other in class?! and --

PRINCIPAL ROMERO
 (interrupting)
 Seth, calm down.

Principal Romero rises from his chair and walks over to Seth.
 He puts his arm around him and guides him slowly toward the
 door.

PRINCIPAL ROMERO
 (soothingly)
 I'll take care of it. You go back to
 class, and on your way splash some
 cold water on your face -- you look
 like death! Remember Seth, you just
 have to survive.

He closes the door.

SCENE 20

INT. HALLWAY - DAY

Continuation of last scene.

WALKING CAMERA FOLLOWS SETH THROUGH THE HALLWAY. AS HE PASSES THE OFFICE, ZOMBIE ALEC CAN BE SEEN IN THE BACKGROUND GNAWING ON THE SECRETARY'S NECK AS SHE SWATS AT HIM WITH HER PHONE.

GNAWING NOISES AND GROANING CAN BE HEARD IN THE BACKGROUND AS SETH MUMBLES TO HIMSELF.

SETH
(mumbling)
Gotta survive. Just gotta survive.

CAMERA FOLLOWS BEHIND SETH AS HE WALKS AND GIVES HIMSELF A PEP TALK

A student approaches and holds his hand up for a high five.

STUDENT
Captain Morgan! What's up?

SETH
(surprised)
Oh, hey.

As the student gives Seth a high five, he passes and gives Seth a pat on the back. He leaves a sticky note on his back that says "KICK ME" and moves on with a grin. Seth doesn't notice.

CAMERA FOLLOWS SETH TO THE SAME SPOT IN THE HALLWAY WHERE HE LAST FOUND THE TWO STUDENTS LOCKED IN A LOVER'S EMBRACE.

SETH
Hey! I told you yesterday no PDA in the hallway. Damn kids and their necking in public, ugh!

As Seth passes by the two students, we see that one of the students is now a zombie and is gnawing on the neck of the girl who attempts to get Seth's attention.

STUDENT
(in a whisper)

Agh, help!

GNAWING NOISES.

CAMERA TURNS ITS WANDERING ATTENTION BACK TO SETH WHO CONTINUES TO WALK DOWN THE HALL PAST MS. DARLING'S CLASSROOM.

Ms. Darling's classroom door is closed as Seth walks past.

A DOOR OPENS AND WE SEE MS. DARLING EXITING HER CLASS BEHIND SETH.

AMANDA DARLING

Seth!

Seth stops suddenly.

CUE THE THEME SONG

VERTIGO ZOOM ON SETH

Cut to slow motion of Amanda Darling's hair blowing in the wind as she curls her index finger toward him in a come hither motion.

Cut to Seth with a look of surprise putting his hand to his chest in a "who, me?" gesture.

Cut to slow motion of Amanda Darling nodding, smiling, and raising a coquettish eyebrow invitingly as she lowers her finger.

MUSIC CUTS OUT SUDDENLY and Amanda and Seth are standing a few feet apart, all the flirtatious drama that just unfolded appears to be a figment of Seth's imagination.

Amanda grabs the "Kick Me" sign off of Seth's back.

AMANDA DARLING

Someone was playing a trick on you.

SETH

Oh, how funny! Kids do that to me all the time because they like me so much, and they know I'm a funny guy. Lots of jokes... good times. (sighing)

AMANDA DARLING

(mock conviction)

Yeah, sounds about right.

THE BELL RINGS AND STUDENTS FILE INTO THE HALLWAY.

AMANDA DARLING

Well, I better go.

SETH

Sure, I'll just see you soon... I hope.

Amanda smiles sweetly, then turns and goes into her classroom. Seth stands there staring at her as she goes.

CU OF SETH'S FACE AS HE STARES AT AMANDA. BEHIND HIM A FIGURE APPROACHES SLOWLY AND RAISES ITS HANDS TOWARD SETH IN A MOCK ZOMBIE MOTION AS INTENSE MUSIC BUILDS.

The hands suddenly drop on Seth's shoulders as the music builds to a crescendo and Seth jumps with a yelp.

SETH

(startled)

Ah!

REX TILLMAN

Caught you starin!

SETH

Jeez, Danger! What the heck! You scared me!

REX TILLMAN

No need to be jumpy, little man. It's just high school.

A few students pass by and exchange exuberant high fives and exploding nuggs with Rex.

STUDENT

Mr. Tillman!

REX TILLMAN

Bruh, call me "Danger!"

STUDENT 2

Yo, Danger SWOLEman!

REX TILLMAN

Hit me with the nuggs, bruh! I better see you in the weight room today!

STUDENT 2

You know it!

Seth is clearly jealous and uncomfortable by this exchange. Rex returns his attention to Seth, then looks at what Seth was looking at.

CAMERA shows a creeper look of Amanda at her desk organizing papers.

Rex WHISTLES

REX TILLMAN

Dude, I can see why you're so into her. She's easy to stare at, foshow!

SETH

I wasn't staring.

REX TILLMAN

Whatever you say, Sam.

SETH

It's Seth.

REX TILLMAN

Whatever. Look, you want a girl like *that* to notice you? You need two things: one, a super cool nickname -- but "Danger" is taken -- and I think you know the other thing.

SETH

What's that?

REX TILLMAN

(chest flexing)

GET HUUUUUGGGGGGEEEE! Get in the weight room and pump some iron!

SETH

I'm on a bit of time crunch. School will be out soon and I need to get her attention *now*.

REX TILLMAN

(more serious)

Ok, if you can't get ripped in the next 27 days, then try poetry.

SETH

(startled)

Poetry? You mean like "roses are red,
violets are blue"?

REX TILLMAN

No, man, more like (clears his throat
audibly), "Doubt thou the stars are
fire; doubt the sun doth move; doubt
the truth to be a liar: but never
doubt I love."

SETH

(in awe)

Where did *you* learn *that*?

REX TILLMAN

Bruh, I already flexed on you with my
backstory in the teacher's lounge:
(pointing to himself) poetry major in
college.

SETH

I guess I didn't believe that you
actually went to college.

REX TILLMAN

Yeah, bruh. Legit. The Hollywood
stuntman career was just a way to pay
the bills and meet hella-hot babes.

Seth is clearly surprised and befuddled by all of this.

REX TILLMAN

(moving in close, conspiratorially)

Now look, there is a hella hot babe in
there that totally digs poetry. I've
given you some ammunition, now fire
away champ.

Rex slaps Seth on the back enthusiastically, sending Seth
stumbling forward toward the class and he walks through the
door with a sense of determination.

CUT TO

SCENE 21

INT. CLASSROOM - DAY

Amanda sits at her desk and is starting to grade papers. Seth enters the classroom and pauses for a beat at the threshold. He takes a deep breath, then walks in with his chest puffed out and a puts on a cool, nonchalant face as he enters. He grabs a chair, spins it around and sits down on the backwards chair.

SETH

Phew! What a day am I right?

AMANDA DARLING

(still focused on her tests)
Yes, it has been.

SETH

Whatcha doin'?

AMANDA DARLING

(sweetly)
Being distracted.

SETH

Yeah, I dig that. I've been so distracted today, I just hope that it all doesn't take away from my workout routine -- did I ever tell you that I've been pumping a ton of iron lately.

Cut to a creeper cam of Rex who is standing just outside the door listening. He smiles and nods enthusiastically at this line.

Cut back to Seth who is flexing and looking expectantly at Amanda.

AMANDA DARLING

Lifting, huh? Hadn't noticed.

Seth pauses for a beat as the wind is taken out of his sails.

SETH

Well, all of those reps have really been helping in the swole department lately -- needed it too since I've been hauling cannibalistic students to the office all day.

AMANDA DARLING

(looking up confusedly)

Wait -- what?

SETH

(nodding with satisfaction)

Yep. I was giving a test today and one of my students leaned over and tried to EAT another student. So I grabbed him by the collar and carried him kicking and screaming down the hall -- saved a life; no biggie.

AMANDA DARLING

(pensive)

That's weird, because my students, while apparently not as hungry as yours, have been acting strangely lately. I mean look at this paper --

Amanda holds out a crinkled piece of lined paper with unintelligible handwriting.

AMANDA DARLING

--This was written by one of my best students, and all it says is "Arghghhghgh" over and over again. What do you think is going on, Seth?

SETH

(feigning coolness)

You can call me Captain, you know.

Another quick cut to Rex shows him nodding and doing an encouraging fist pump outside the room.

AMANDA DARLING

I prefer Seth.

SETH

Yeah, me too.

Amanda goes back to grading.

Cut to Rex who gives a disappointed look.

SETH
So what is the "arrghghg" paper
supposed to be about?

AMANDA DARLING
Poetry.

SETH
Poetry! You know I consider myself a
bit of an amateur poet.

AMANDA DARLING
(suddenly interested)
Really? I could really use a break
from all of this grading. Recite me
some poetry.

SETH
(deer in the headlights look)
Um... sure.

Pause for a beat as Seth searches his memory.

Outside the door, Rex is mouthing the parts of the poem to help encourage him, but he winces as Seth butchers it.

Also cut to Rex with dumbbell doing curls enthusiastically while Seth butchers the poem.

SETH
Ah... "Doubt thou the stars... art...
a liar. Doubt thou art... a fire;
doubt the... the move... no wait, the
sun is a mood; doubt... that I love...
the truth."

Rex winces dramatically, pulls his sunglasses down from off his head and walks away.

Amanda sits with a pen to her mouth and arms crossed, judging him hard with eyebrows raised.

SETH
(nodding)
Shakespeare.

Pause for a beat.

AMANDA DARLING

Well, it was better than "arrrrhghgh."

SETH

(rising from his chair)

Yep, dropping the mic. And on that high note, I better peace out and go get some reps in the iron depository. Check you later -- Captain out!

Amanda shakes her head and smiles, then returns to her grading.

CUT TO

SCENE 22

INT. HALLWAY - DAY

Seth is walking through the hall toward the sophomore boys bathroom. He mumbles to himself.

SETH

Atrocious. Just atrocious. Such a dork.

CUT TO

SCENE 23

INT. RESTROOM - DAY

SETH enters the restroom and encounters a zombie student vaping.

SETH

Hey! What did I say about vaping at school?!

Seth grabs the vape mod out of the zombie student's mouth and holds his hand in an accusatory point near the Z's face as the student emits a puff of vapor.

Pause for a beat.

Suddenly the Z tries to bite at Seth's extended finger.

SETH

Ah! What are you doing?

He runs out of the restroom.

CUT TO

SCENE 24

INT. CLASSROOM - DAY

Seth enters his classroom in a panicked rush. He encounters Brendan who is doing a series of karate moves with a bow staff. Seth is taken off balance as he is nearly hit.

SETH

Brendan, what the heck!

BRENDAN

Oh, sorry Mr. Morgan.

SETH

You could have decapitated me!

BRENDAN

I didn't see you there.

SETH

You have a bow staff at school?

BRENDAN

(slight shrug)

You don't?

SETH

No! Now put that away! I have a ton
work to do.

SCENE 25

MONTAGE SEQUENCE

MONTAGE OF SETH GRADING PAPERS AND DRINKING COFFEE

CUT TO

SCENE 26

INT. CLASSROOM - DAY

Seth is sitting at his desk grading. Brendan sits in a desk using a flint to spark a fire on his homework. Off screen a series of noises can be heard outside the classroom.

ZOMBIE - O.S.

Arrrrrgughgh

CRASHING NOISE of a table being overturned and items spilling on the floor. Seth looks up from his papers and Brendan looks up from his pyromania activity.

SETH

Did you hear that?

ZOMBIE - O.S.

Arrghghghg

BRENDAN

Yeah.

MELINDA NEWTON - O.S.

Ahhhhhh!

Seth and Brendan both spring to life and run toward the chaos across the hall.

SCENE 27

INT. RESTROOM - DAY

Inside Melinda Newton's class the Z's have surrounded Melinda and a few still human students at her desk near the back of the classroom.

SETH
Ms. Newton!

MELINDA NEWTON
Seth! Help us!

Z's start to turn and move slowly toward Seth and Brendan.

BRENDAN
Uh oh -- these kids are definitely
zombies.

SETH
Zombies don't exist.

BRENDAN
Then how do you explain this!

MELINDA NEWTON
There is no scientific explanation for
this!

BRENDAN
Well, there's only one way to find
out.

Brendan takes a yardstick off the whiteboard marker shelf and quickly whacks a Z in the head. The Z falls to the floor, but then slowly rises back up.

CAMERA ANGLE BEHIND THE Z FOR THIS SHOT. Z FALLS OFF SCREEN THEN RISES AND WE SEE THE LOOK OF HORROR FOR SETH AND BRENDAN.

Seth and Brendan scramble to find things to hit or throw at the Z's as nondiegetic music plays.

MELINDA NEWTON
Aim for the head!

SETH
Why the head?!

BRENDAN
Haven't you ever seen any zombie
apocalypse movies?

SETH
My mom and I don't like scary movies!

More brawling with the Z's takes place as Seth and Brendan draw the Z's away from Melinda Newton's desk.

SETH
Come on! Get out of here!

As Melinda and the couple of human students escape from behind the desk, the Z's take notice and swarm to attack the still living students and consume them in a pile. Melinda, Seth, and Brendan escape the classroom and run downstairs to the teacher's lounge.

SCENE 28

INT. TEACHER'S LOUNGE - DAY

Melinda, Seth, and Brendan enter the teacher's lounge and close and lock the door behind them. After a few moments of heavy panting, Brendan pulls up a chair at the table and plops down. Melinda stands against the counter and is trying to calm herself down. Seth begins pacing the room.

MELINDA NEWTON
Oh my God, they ate my kids. Poor
Hailey, she's a -- a --

BRENDAN
Zombie.

They hear a fumbling sound emitted from the bathroom in the teacher's lounge. Everyone goes tense.

DR. WILHELM BLOCK - O.S.
Scheisse!

SETH
Did you hear that?

Brendan nods, his eyes suddenly aflame like a hunter stalking his prey. He quietly moves over to the utensil drawer and draws out a butter knife. He hands Seth a spoon.

The three of them inch toward the door as they hear more muffled sounds and dramatic music builds to a crescendo.

They open the door to reveal Dr. Wilhelm Block and Friedrich crammed into the bathroom together holding clipboards and beakers as defense weapons.

Pause for a beat.

SETH
(sighing relief)
Ah, geez. You guys scared us! We thought you might be a -- a --

BRENDAN
Zombie.

SETH
Have you guys noticed the kids being weird, you know, like attacking innocent victims and eating each other?

Dr. Wilhelm Block and Friedrich both click their pens and begin writing some notes on their notepads/clipboards.

DR. WILHELM BLOCK
Attacking und eating, you say?

SETH
Yeah, is that why you're hiding?

DR. WILHELM BLOCK
Hiding? Nein. Friedrich und I ver... conducting an experiment.

MELINDA NEWTON
In the bathroom.

DR. WILHELM BLOCK
Ja.

BRENDAN

Together.

Dr. Block and Friedrich exchange a look, then start nodding at their questioners.

DR. WILHELM BLOCK

Ja.

SETH

Well experiment time is over. Get out here, we have a situation.

Everyone moves back into the lounge and Seth begins pacing.

SETH

(speaking to himself, but for all to hear)

This all started with students acting weirdly docile -- unenthusiastic during my exciting lessons -- then they started gnawing on each other -- then a full-out attack -- they swarmed like slow, stupid wolves to fresh meat -- and a head wound briefly disoriented them, but pens and marker throwing did little to stop them.

As he is saying this line, Dr. Wilhelm Block and Friedrich both pop their pens and take notes on their clipboards, nodding synchronously behind Seth as he paces.

SETH

What could all of this mean?

BRENDAN

Zombies.

SETH

Dr. Block -- is there any scientific explanation for all of this?

Dr. Block and Friedrich both stop writing and slowly exchange a look.

DR. WILHELM BLOCK

Vell. It sounds as though my experiment has come to fruition.

MELINDA NEWTON
What experiment?

Dr. Wilhelm Block and Friedrich both sit down slowly and synchronously at the table, and place their clipboards down, then fold their hands on the table.

DR. WILHELM BLOCK
Are eizer of you annoyed vis ze fact
that your students are so
disrespectful?

SETH
(quizzically)
Yeah.

DR. WILHELM BLOCK
Do eizer of you vish zat zey would be
better during class und do zer
assignments visout being little jerks?

MELINDA NEWTON
(quizzically)
Yeah.

Dr. Block claps his hands and leans back with an air of triumph.

DR. WILHELM BLOCK
Zergut! Zen you are velcome!

MELINDA NEWTON
(quizzically)
What do you mean, we are welcome? Did
you have something to do with this?

DR. WILHELM BLOCK
(shrugging, mockingly sheepish)
I -- vis ze help of mein laboratory
aid Friedrich, here --

Friedrich nods.

DR. WILHELM BLOCK
-- May have placed a behavioral
modification compound in ze school
drinking fountains, und school lunch,
und snack machines, und --

MELINDA NEWTON

Wait! You *poisoned* the school!

DR. WILHELM BLOCK

Not *poisoned* -- inspired!

SETH

So if this behavioral modi-whatever you did is everywhere, why have we not been effected?

DR. WILHELM BLOCK

Ah! Zat is probably due to vat I call ze "Vater Bottle und Sack Lunch" variable of ze experiment!

BRENDAN

See, Mr. Morgan! This is exactly why I always cook MRE's for lunch and carry my water in my canteen!

MELINDA NEWTON

So you turned the entire student body into flesh eating monsters --

BRENDAN

--Zombies.

MELINDA NEWTON

-- because you didn't like their behavior?!

DR. WILHELM BLOCK

(shrugging)

Zey were always horseplaying in ze lab.

SETH

Wait, this means that the infected (pause for a beat) stu --

BRENDAN

--Zombies.

SETH

--Right, the infected could be all over the school and not just in Melinda's and my classroom?

DR. WILHELM BLOCK
Zat is precisely correct.

SETH
Oh my God! -- You know what this
means?

Pause for a beat.

Seth looks at Brendan and they speak at the same time.

SETH
We have to rescue Amanda!

BRENDAN
We have to kill the Zombies!

Melinda rolls her eyes.

MELINDA NEWTON
(frustrated, then mocking)
Shouldn't we just try to escape the
building and survive? (mocking tone)
I'm sure *Ms. Darling* is already
sweetly consuming human flesh and
groaning with undead delight as we
speak.

SETH
I can't leave her. I have to be a
man's man and rescue her in her time
of need.

DR. WILHELM BLOCK
(mocking)
Gut luck vis zat. Friedrich und I are
going to vait it out in here und
continue vorking on ze formula for a
countermeasure to avoid detection by
ze students.

BRENDAN
--Zombies.

DR. WILHELM BLOCK
Ja.

SETH
Fine. The rest of us stay together. We
need a plan.

Seth starts pacing the room and Brendan paces in the opposite direction, they both work to concoct a strategy.

During this part of the scene, Seth will speak in a voice over as we include a Montage of SETH, BRENDAN and MS NEWTON going through various plans, until they finally decide on one.

SETH

How can we get to Amanda's room and heroically save the day?

A flash of inspiration. He snaps his fingers.

SETH

I know! We'll exit the teacher's lounge go through the band room, back up to Ms. Darling's room, save her life, then all run to my mom's house, have a nice cup of tea, and wait for this whole thing to blow over.

MELINDA NEWTON

Wait -- what will we do if we run into more of those... *things*?

BRENDAN

Zombies.

MELINDA NEWTON

Right.

SETH

Yes, we need some kind of weapons.

BRENDAN

I have a stockpile in my locker.

MELINDA NEWTON

You have *weapons* in your locker?

BRENDAN

You don't?

Seth snaps his fingers.

SETH

We exit the teacher's lounge, stop at Brendan's locker, go through the band

room, save Amanda, run to mom's, have a nice cup of tea, and wait for this whole thing to blow over.

MELINDA NEWTON

Wait, do you really think that you can fend off an entire student body of flesh eating monsters?

BRENDAN

Zombies.

MELINDA NEWTON

Ugh, yes -- all by yourself? What if there are other people *besides Ms. Amanda Darling* (mocking) that need our help?

SETH

Right. We need some more muscle.

BRENDAN

Someone who can take down an army of the undead.

Flash of inspiration.

SETH

Danger!

BRENDAN

Danger!

Seth snaps his fingers.

SETH

Exit the lounge, stop at the locker, go through the band room, find Danger in the gym, rescue Amanda, run to mom's, have a nice cup of tea and wait for this whole thing to blow over.

Cut from the final montage to Melinda, arms crossed and looking unenthusiastic as she raises her eyebrow mockingly at Seth's plan. Brendan stops pacing and is standing next to her as he turns to look at Seth. He flashes a grin of excitement as he nods his approval for the plan.

SETH

Let's do this!

CUT TO

SCENE 29

INT. HALLWAY - DAY

The trio turn left out of the teacher's lounge and run to a locker in junior hall. Brendan opens his locker and there is a montage of the various weapons in his locker similar to the HOT FUZZ WEAPON ROOM MONTAGE.

Seth and Melinda look inside the locker dumbfounded.

CUT TO CAMERA ANGLE INSIDE LOCKER LOOKING UP AT THE TRIO.

SETH

You *really* have a lot of weapons.

BRENDAN

You don't?

A group of zombies turn and see the trio at the locker and begin moving toward them.

SETH

We gotta go!

They grab as many weapons as they can, slam the locker and run toward the band room.

CUT TO

SCENE 30

INT. BAND ROOM - DAY

The trio runs into the band room. A group of Zombies trail behind them making "ARGGHGH" noises.

SETH

Quick! Barricade the door!

Brendan pulls the door shut and is holding onto it as Z's start BANGING on the door.

BRENDAN

Hurry!

Seth and Amanda scurry around the room and create a small barricade that leaves the door safely shut for the time being.

SETH

Phew! That was a close one.

Brendan starts looking around the room quickly.

BRENDAN

We need to find an exit.

He opens the door to Mr. Wahrman's office. Upon opening, a Zombie Music teacher is standing over a music stand with saxophone in hand and he turns his dead gaze to the trio who stop dead in their tracks at the threshold of the door.

Cut back to Music Z who opens his mouth and spills out a bunch of zombie blood (like Thriller-style black blood) and groans.

BRENDAN

Nope, nope, nope, nope!

MELINDA NEWTON

Barricade the door!

They quickly close the door and barricade that as well. You can see a Z face and hand through the window BANGING and GROANING.

The group hears a faint "ARRRGHH" SOUND emitting from the instrument storage room. They raise their weapons and inch toward the door, and slowly open it.

DRAMATIC MUSIC reaches a crescendo as they see the GOTH SQUAD in the room with arms raised and moving like Zombies.

SETH

Ah! Kill them!

LOUISE

(startled)

No! We're not dead yet!

MELINDA NEWTON

What?

FRANKLIN
We're practicing.

BRENDAN
Practicing what?

LOUISE
Being dead.

Camera cuts to the Seth, Brendan, and Melinda who are all clearly confused.

LOUISE
If an army of the dead are marching,
we choose to join them. We are
practicing our moves for when they
inevitably consume our flesh, and tear
it from our limbs, and rip out our
still-beating hearts, and --

SETH
Ok, ok, we get it! Well, we are in a
rescue and survival mission, so you
are free to join us if you'd like.

Suddenly they hear a THUD and two whispered voices emitting from the band storage closet.

BRENDAN
(fierce and ready for a fight)
What was that?

The trio slowly raise their weapons in preparation for a fight as they inch toward the closet space. Dramatic music builds to a crescendo as they open the door.

CUT TO LOW ANGLE INSIDE THE CLOSET AS THE DOOR SUDDENLY OPENS WITH THE TRIO RAISING THEIR WEAPONS FOR THE ASSAULT.

TY
(frightened)
Don't kill us!

CUT TO OVER THE SHOULDER ANGLE SHOOTING OVER THE TRIO AND INTO THE CLOSET.

SETH
(starting to attack Ty with a
yardstick)
Ah! My worst nemesis is a --

TY
 (fending off his weak blows)
 We're NOT zombies!

BRENDAN
 (hand extended in a hazzah)
 Thank you!

SETH
 (stopping the attack on Ty)
 What?

RHIANNA
 We were just making out down here when
 we heard a bunch of *band geeks* start
 eating each other like a bunch of fat
 kids at a Golden Coral buffet!

TY
 We thought we'd wait here until
 someone came and rescued us.

SETH
 (sarcastically)
 Well, you're in luck because it looks
 like we're rescuing you.

TY
 If that's the case maybe we'll just
 keep waiting.

RHIANNA
 (phone in hand)
 Gawd! I can't even get service in this
 dungeon to update my snapchat story.
 Is tiktok not working for anyone else?

BRENDAN
 (sarcastically)
 We've been a little too busy surviving
 the Zombie apocalypse to update our
 stories.

RHIANNA
 As if anyone would even be following
 your story, *Brendan*.

SETH

Look, we have got some more people to rescue -- you know, knight in shining armor, man's man kind of activity to get on with here --

TY

Iiiii'd rather sit here and make out until the army shows up to kill all these zombies.

RHIANNA

Ty, I am *not* going to just sit here while zombies or whatever are taking me away from my followers.

LOUISE

Clearly she's survived this long because she has no brains for the Zombies to consume.

TY

Fine. I'll be happy to rescue us.

Ty and Rhianna get up and exit the closet.

SETH

(incredulous)

You? I'm the one that has gotten our group this far!

TY

I was here surviving already, soooo technically I'm the bigger hero.

SETH

Bigger hero?

TY

I'm also taller.

MELINDA NEWTON

Will you too shut up already? Seth, stick to the plan, let's go! (*to the Goth Squad*) Are you guys coming with us or not?

LOUISE
I think I speak for all of us when I
say, "I'd rather be caught dead."

BRENDAN
Have it your way.

Melinda and Brendan storm off and down the hallway. Rhianna trails behind them, glued to her phone. The Goth Squad exits in the opposite direction as Seth and Ty have a staring contest.

TY
After you *captain*.

SETH
(trying to sound tough)
Beauty *before* age.

Ty walks out and Seth follows him.

CUT TO

SCENE 30

INT. HALLWAY - DAY

As the group exits the band room, they slowly move into the art foyer.

RHIANNA
(on her phone)
Where the hell are we going?

BRENDAN
We're headed to the gym to find
"Danger" Tillman.

RHIANNA
Why?

SETH
We need more muscle.

TY
Yeah you do.

MELINDA NEWTON
I know a short cut -- let's cut
through the art room.

CUT TO

SCENE 31

INT. ART ROOM - DAY

As they quietly enter the art room, a group of Z's are in the corner of the room working on a painting together. They drop their work and begin moving toward the group knocking and tripping over art supplies and canvases as they go.

BRENDAN
Attack!

The group starts throwing art supplies, swinging their weapons and taking out a few Z's.

MELINDA NEWTON
Head for the door!

They run to the exit and run up the stairs.

CUT TO

SCENE 32

EXT. COURTYARD - DAY

The group exits the art room and runs up the stairs.

MELINDA NEWTON
Over there! The back door!

The group runs to the door and pull on the handle, but it doesn't moved. Zombie noises can be heard trailing behind them as they share a panicked moment.

BRENDAN
Dammit! It's locked!

TY
Got it.

He types in a "007" code casually.

TY
I spend a lot of time in the weight
room.

SETH
Me too.

Zombies turn the corner in the courtyard and the group
hurriedly runs through the door and slams it behind them.

CUT TO

SCENE 33

INT. GYMNASIUM - DAY

The group runs into the small gym. There they encounter a
bunch of Z's in gym uniforms slowly moving around playing
soccer. They all turn and face the group.

MELINDA NEWTON
Run!

BRENDAN
Let's cut through the weight room!

SETH
My thoughts exactly!

TY
I'll hold them off!

Ty sees a container full of balls of various types. TY is
able to do by throwing various balls at the zombies and beats
a few with a lacrosse stick, then runs to the weight room.

DODGE BALL TO THE HEAD IN SLOW MOTION, 300 style Z deaths

CUT TO

SCENE 34

INT. WEIGHT ROOM - DAY

The group runs through the weight room and Seth, who is trailing behind notices a bunch of dumbbell weights along the wall. He slows his pace and looks to see if anyone is watching him, then grabs a small dumbbell and starts doing some curls.

Ty enters at a run.

TY
Seriously?

He runs past, and Seth, now embarrassed puts the dumbbell back and runs out of the room.

CUT TO

SCENE 35

INT. HALLWAY - DAY

The group stops at the closed door leading into Rex "Danger" Tillman's office. Ty and Seth catch up.

BRENDAN
Well, here we are. You think he's
still alive in there?

TY
Doubt it. Do the honors and check.

SETH
No -- I'll go first.

Seth slowly opens the door.

CAMERA CUTS TO A SLOW PAN ACROSS THE DIMLY LIT ROOM.

CAMERA CUTS TO A LOW ANGLE LOOKING UP AT THE GROUP LOOKING INTO THE ROOM.

Seth moves in and creeps around as the dramatic music builds to a crescendo.

SETH
(in a loud whisper)
Danger?

A BUMPING AND SHIVERING noise emits from underneath the desk.

Seth pulls out his phone and turns on the flashlight as he inches around the desk to reveal a leg in American flag sweatpants disappearing beneath the desk.

SETH
(now scared)
Danger?

Music builds to a climax as the flashlight raises to see Rex's face illuminated with a look of horror.

SETH
Ahhhh!

REX TILLMAN
Ahhhhh!

SETH
Danger, what are you doing under there?

REX TILLMAN
(weakly)
Sam?

SETH
Seth.

REX TILLMAN
Are you a -- a --

BRENDAN
Zombie.

SETH
No! Someone turn on the lights!

The office lights turn on as everyone breathes a sigh of relief.

SETH

Why are you just cowering under the desk? We have an apocalypse on our hands, and we need everyone to help save Amanda!

MELINDA NEWTON

Other people need saving too, Seth!

SETH

That too!

REX TILLMAN

(weakly)

But -- they're everywhere... they -- they ate my teacher's aid while he was benching an even two-hundo (starting to tear up)... and he -- he -- couldn't finish his set.

SETH

Danger, get up.

Rex crawls out from beneath the desk and hangs his head in shame as he sniffles. Seth gets close to Danger as he delivers his pep talk and the camera makes cuts between their exchange and the group behind them at the doorway all reacting to the pep talk as well (except Rhianna who continues to look at her phone).

SETH

What is your name?

REX TILLMAN

(looking up weakly, confused)

Rex Till --

SETH

(slapping him across the face)

No! *What is your name?*

REX TILLMAN

(weakly)

Danger?

SETH

That's right! Did Danger Tillman get an IMDb page by hiding under his desk?

REX TILLMAN

No.

SETH

That's right! Did Danger Tillman meet megahot Hollywood babes like J-Law by crying like a sissy?

REX TILLMAN

No.

SETH

That's right! He got *blowed the eff up*, didn't he!

REX TILLMAN

Yes.

SETH

Did our man Billy Boy Shakespeare get famous from cowering in terror?

REX TILLMAN

No.

SETH

That's right! He *owned* that stage. Now If Billy Boy Shakespeare was facing the Zombie apocalypse, what would he say?

REX TILLMAN

(head clearing, nodding)

Ah -- "Sound trumpets! Let our bloody colours wave! And either victory, or else a grave."

SETH

(on a roll)

Good, good -- what else?

REX TILLMAN

"Once more unto the breech, dear friends! Or close up the wall with our English dead!"

SETH

Yeah!

Seth moves in closer and puts one hand on Rex's shoulder and uses his other hand to gently pound a fist into Rex as he emphasizes the next lines.

SETH

*You, sir, are the spiritual
reincarnation of Billy Boy
Shakespeare. You are the vampire
hunting Abraham Lincoln, ready to take
down an army of the undead and
emancipate millions. You are the hero
that gets blowed up, survives it all,
and gets the mega hot babe with the
happy ending. Are you ready to face
your destiny?*

REX TILLMAN

(nodding)

I think so.

SETH

Now let me hear your WAR CRY!

REX TILLMAN

(weakly)

Ahhhh!

SETH

(stronger)

Ahhhh!

SETH

Ahhhhhhhhh!

REX TILLMAN

Ahhhhhhhhh!

CUT TO CLOSE UP OF REX AS HE LOWERS HIS SUNGLASSES (IF POSSIBLE, THIS COULD BE TOUGH WITH CAMERAS REFLECTED)

REX TILLMAN

(back in character)

Let's do this!

CUT TO

SCENE 36

INT. HALLWAY - DAY

The group storms out of the office and make their way through the hallway. Seth suddenly stops in front of Principal Romero's office.

SETH

Wait! We have to see if Principal Romero is surviving all of this!

He opens the door, slowly. A Zombie Principal Romero slowly turns in his desk chair and drops his coffee flask.

BRENDAN

Nope!

The group takes off running toward the middle stairs, but Rhianna stands in the same spot outside of the office door.

RHIANNA

(on her phone)

Oh, look, I finally have my Spotify premium working again!

CUT TO A SIDE ANGLE IN THE HALLWAY.

Zombie nosies then a RUNNING SOUND emit from the office as Principal Romero dives into the hallway and tackles Rhianna to the ground. We hear MUNCHING NOISES.

CAMERA CUTS TO RUNNING CAM OF THE GROUP TRYING TO MAKE IT UP THE MIDDLE STAIRS, BUT THEY ARE STOPPED BY A GROUP OF Z'S, SO THEY TURN AND RUN THROUGH SENIOR HALL TO THE BACK STAIR WELL.

CUT TO

SCENE 37

INT. HALLWAY - DAY

The group runs down the hall toward Ms. Darling's classroom.

When they open the door, they see a group of Zombies eating a student lying across the desks.

The Zombies turn and look at the group and the group prepares to run toward Sophomore Hall. Then a pack of Zombies emerges from the hall and the group prepares to flee in panic the other way.

Suddenly the COPY ROOM DOOR OPENS.

AMANDA DARLING
Guys, quick! Get in here!

The group scurries into the copy room and they close and lock the door as Zombies flood into the closed door and start bumping and groaning their discontent.

CUT TO

SCENE 38

INT. COPY ROOM - DAY

The group enters the copy room where Amanda and Nurse Bethany usher them in and slam the door behind them. The Zombies begin bumping against the window.

The group, all breathing heavily, try to recover their wits, and Seth is ecstatic.

SETH
Amanda! You're alive!

NURSE BETHANY
(sarcastically)
Nice to see you too, Seth.

AMANDA DARLING
Yeah, thank God I ran out of copies for my handout today! I was making copies and talking with Nurse Bethany when we heard all the commotion. The students in the Spanish room ran down the hallway and ate my English students like they were a bunch of burritos!

SETH

(gushing)

That's a beautiful simile, Amanda. You are so smart -- and pretty.

MELINDA NEWTON

Ugh! Seth, shut up already! We have to figure out a plan to get out of here.

SETH

Well, everything is going to plan so far. We saved Amanda --

NURSE BETHANY

Ah-HEM!

SETH

And Nurse Bethany -- so now we just need to run to mom's, make some tea, and wait for this whole thing to --

MELINDA NEWTON

Seth! Look at this!

She walks to the door and extends her hand toward the window as Zombies bump and press their hands and faces to the window.

MELINDA NEWTON

How do we escape this room to get to your mom's?

TY

Seth, when we escape are we going to take the bus to get to your mom's?

SETH

(sarcastically)

No, I'm sure we can all just fit into your *LANDROVER*, Ty!

TY

Well is your mom hot at least, because I'm in the market for a new girlfriend now that Rhianna is a flesh-eating zombie.

AMANDA DARLING
 Wait, Rhianna is one of those --
 things?

BRENDAN
 Zombie.

TY
 Zombie.

SETH
 She's a Principal Romero snack now.

AMANDA DARLING
 Oh, that poor thing.

MELINDA NEWTON
 I'm *still* waiting on a plan here!

REX TILLMAN
 Bruh!

Everyone turns and looks at Rex standing in the back of the room who stands with a look of inspired contemplation.

MELINDA NEWTON
 (mock patience)
 Yes, Mr. Tillman.

REX TILLMAN
 Science Lady, it's the apocalypse,
 call me "Danger!"

Melinda rolls her eyes dramatically.

REX TILLMAN
 Wait a tic!

Rex lunges at a desk that is against the wall, and he pulls it back, revealing a square-shaped hole in the wall.

REX TILLMAN
 How fortuitous! I knew it!

SETH
 Knew what?

REX TILLMAN
 Bruh, this is an entrance into the
 catacombs!

MELINDA NEWTON
 Cata-wha?

REX TILLMAN

Catacombs, dawg! This building was made so long ago that there's ventilation tunnels that circumnavigate the whole complex, and even leads into tunnels beneath the city!

He looks at them expectantly.

They all stare back dumbly waiting.

REX TILLMAN

Compadres, *this* is our escape route!

TY

Ok, I'm still lost. How do you know these lead *anywhere*?

REX TILLMAN

Bruh, rap with me for a moment. Sometimes even a wicked dude such as President Swolesevlet here (he flexes and points at himself) needs a break from the grind -- so sometimes I crawl into the catacombs and read some poetry to get my dark and brooding on, dig?

We will cut to a few scenes of Rex entering crawl spaces and dark catacombs with a candle and book of poetry in hand for cutaways during this dialogue.

NURSE BETHANY

You read *poetry* in the *catacombs*.

REX TILLMAN

Yeah. My boy Poe puts the Lit in Literature, dawg.

Amanda smiles and appears to be swooning at that comment. Seth sheepishly looks at her from the side, totally disappointed.

REX TILLMAN

Here's the plan -- I'll crawl into the wall, use the ventilation chamber to crawl over the hallway of ugly creatures --

TY
Zombies.

BRENDAN
Thank you.

REX TILLMAN
-- Then crawl into the Spanish room,
burst into the hallway in flames of
glory, and blow their minds with a
trick I learned in Hollywood. Then
Brendan will take the group --

SETH
Wait, why can't I take the group.

REX TILLMAN
Ok, Brendan -- with *Seth* as noble
sidekick -- will lead the group
downstairs to the basement entrance to
the catacombs. Got it?

Everyone looks nervously around the group.

CUT TO LOW ANGLE

REX TILLMAN
Hands in! Now gimme a BOOYAH on 3 --
1, 2, 3

CHORUS
BOOYAH!

CUT TO

SCENE 39

INT. HALLWAY - DAY

Michael Jackson's THRILLER plays in the background
(instrumental).

A crowd of zombies is mulling about the hallways bumping into
the copy room door.

CAMERA DOES A SLOW PULL OUT FROM THE CROWD OF ZOMBIES

CAMERA CUTS TO A LOW ANGLE WITH A SLOW PUSH IN TO THE SPANISH ROOM DOOR.

CAMERA CUTS BACK TO A MEDIUM ANGLE DOING A SLOW PUSH IN OF THE GROUP LOOKING OUT THE COPY ROOM DOOR WINDOW PAST THE CROWD OF ZOMBIES INTO THE HALLWAY FOR REX TO APPEAR

At a climactic moment in the music, the door bursts open with a cloud of smoke emitting into the hallway and a silohetted figure stands center frame in the door.

The Zombies all turn and look.

CUT TO CU OF REX'S HAND HOLDING HIS CELLPHONE, THEN CLICKING THE PLAY BUTTON ON "THRILLER," WHICH PLAYS THE 1ST VERSE WITH AS DIEGENIC MUSIC.

The group watches from the window and the zombies all turn and start moving toward Rex.

Rex starts performing the choreographed dance from Thriller.

The Zombies react in similar fashion.

Rex inches closer to the Zombies as the group slowly opens the door and slips out of the room, watching him in amazement, but inching down the hallway toward sophomore hall.

Rex drops his phone while doing a dance move and the music cuts.

Pause for a beat.

REX TILLMAN

Bruh.

The Zombies attack and eat him. The watches in horror for a moment.

SETH

Danger!

The Z's turn and look at the group then start moving in for the attack.

The group turns and runs down Sophomore Hall. As they do, the horde of zombies follow them.

As the horde passes the copy room door, NURSE BETHANY emerges slowly and looks both ways. She enters Sophomore Hall.

Cut to interior angle in garbage can with a hand opening the garbage door to see the zombies pass by. As Nurse Bethany walks past, the figure inside suddenly closes the door.

Nurse Bethany approaches the garbage can and opens the lid. In the first garbage can, she sees Friedrich with clipboard and pen in hand. She opens the other lid to see Dr. Wilhelm Block in the same fashion.

NURSE BETHANY
Well hello, Wilhelm. How's the
experiment going?

Dr. Wilhelm Block and Friedrich both shift their eyes nervously and exchange a look.

NURSE BETHANY
Whatever you're doing, I want in.

SCENE 40

INT. HALLWAY - DAY

The group turns from the stairs and enters Junior Hall, but there is another pack of Z's coming their way from that direction.

AMANDA DARLING
What do we do?

Brendan sees a large Zamboni-style floor cleaner parked next to the teacher's lounge with a large broom leaning against it.

Pause for a beat.

Brendan dramatically removes an American Flag bandana from his pocket and ties it around his forehead.

VERTIGO ZOOM ON BRENDAN AS HE TIES THE BANDANA

BRENDAN
Let's kick some Zombie ass.

Dramatic music plays in the background as Brendan fires up the floor cleaner and begins driving it.

BRENDAN
Everyone follow me!

Brendan plows through crowds of zombies and the group crouches and moves behind the floor machine, finishing off zombies with their bats and hardsticks as they move.

CUT TO SIDE ANGLE OF BRENDAN RIDING THE FLOOR MACHINE IN A "WASHINGTON CROSSING THE DELAWARE" POSE.

CUT TO behind the Zamboni where the group are fending off Zombies, when suddenly a Zombie grabs Melina and bites her arm.

MELINDA NEWTON
(shrieking)
Ahhh! Get off me!

Ty rips the Zombie away from her and body slams the Z to the ground.

Suddenly another Zombie grabs Ty from behind and pulls him to the floor. Seth sees this and dives onto the floor and grabs his hand.

TY
Ahhh!

SETH
Ty, no!

TY
Seth, I'm sorry I made fun of you so much!

SETH
(perplexed and trying to maintain his hold on Ty's hand)
What?

TY
I actually really liked your class!
But you were wrong about something...

CUT TO A SIDE ANGLE ON THE FLOOR AS TY PULLS SETH CLOSE TO HIM.

TY

You are the reincarnated spirit of the
vampire-hunting Abe Lincoln, not Rex.

Quick cut to Ty being pulled away screaming as he is eaten.

CUT TO LOW ANGLE AND PULL THE CAMERA WAY FROM SETH WHO IS ON
THE FLOOR WITH HIS HAND EXTENDED TOWARD TY AS HE DISAPPEARS.

SETH

Tyyyyyyyy!

Brendan stops the machine in front of the entrance to the
catacombs.

BRENDAN

End of the line -- we gotta hoof it
from here!

The group enters the door and shuts it behind them as Zombies
collide with it.

CUT TO

SCENE 41

INT. CATACOMBS ENTRANCE - DARK

BRENDAN

This must be what Danger was talking
about. I can't see where it goes!

SETH

Got it.

Seth pulls a two headlamps out of his pocket, hands one to
Brendan and puts his on.

AMANDA DARLING

You carry headlamps in your pocket?

SETH

You don't?

SETH

Let's move!

AMANDA DARLING - O.S.

Wait, Seth!

Seth turns and sees Amanda holding Melinda on the ground.

SETH

Melinda, what happened?

MELINDA NEWTON

(crying)

What do you think, ya dingus?

Something bit me!

She pulls up her sleeve to reveal a gnarly bite mark.

AMANDA DARLING

(beginning to cry)

Melinda is --

SETH

(clearly upset)

No! She's *not* a zombie! We are going to survive this, Melinda!

MELINDA NEWTON

Seth, it's ok. I'm proud of you for playing our knight in shining armor, but you still have another damsel in distress to save, and it won't be me.

SETH

But, Melinda --

MELINDA NEWTON

(fading slowly)

Go.

Amanda tearfully rocks her for another moment. She then lowers Melinda to the ground, kisses her hand and presses her hand to Melinda's forehead.

The group enters the catacombs.

SCENE 42

INT. CATACOMBS - DARK

The group moves through the catacombs and get stuck at a crossroads. They hear zombie noises.

AMANDA DARLING
Which way do we go?

BRENDAN
Those Zombies are getting closer, we
gotta hurry.

Seth does a quick eeny meeny miny moe gesture and ends on the left.

SETH
Left!

They move.

CUT TO

SCENE 43

INT. CATACOMBS EXIT TUNNEL - DARK

SETH
I see a door! That must be the exit!

They run toward the door as zombie noises grow louder behind them. Brendan turns to look and falls behind from the rest of the group.

SCENE 44

INT. BOILER ROOM - DAY

The door to the catacombs bursts open. Seth pops out with a

bowstaff in hand and swings it around dramatically, swatting away non-existent Zombies.

SETH

All clear -- Amanda, head for the door over there! Come on, Brendan!

Seth looks around, noticing that Brendan is not with them.

SETH

Brendan?

CUT TO

SCENE 45

INT. CATACOMBS EXIT TUNNEL - DARK

Brendan is running in slow motion from a horde of zombies with outstretched hands and mouths gaping and snapping.

CUT TO BRENDAN'S ANGLE TO SEE SETH SHOUTING THROUGH THE DOOR IN SLOW MOTION TO HURRY.

CUT TO BRENDAN JUMPING TOWARD THE DOOR, BUT FALLING SHORT.

Brendan grabs the door, but is quickly pulled back

BRENDAN

I regret nothing!

The door slams shut.

CUT TO

SCENE 46

INT. BOILER ROOM - DAY

Seth falls to the floor and starts weeping.

SETH
No! Brendan!

Pause for a moment as the camera does a soft push toward Seth.

AMANDA DARLING
Seth, I can't get the door open! I
need our help!

CU OF SETH IN A MOMENT OF REALIZATION THAT SNAPS HIM OUT OF HIS SADNESS.

Amanda's last line "I need your help" echoes in his ears as he nods with renewed determination.

He jumps up.

SETH
Here's another door, let's try it!

Seth opens the door that leads up the stairs into the courtyard. In the stairwell a horde of zombies is slowly heading down the stairs.

SETH
Nope!

He slams it shut.

SETH
C'mon, let's try this room!

They turn to the left into a darkly-lit room.

A group of zombie arms are popping out of the hole in the wall and reaching for them.

SETH
Nope!

They run back to the exit door and Seth struggles to open it.

CUT TO LOW ANGLE AS AMANDA DROPS TO THE FLOOR CRYING AND SETH STRUGGLES WITH THE DOOR BEHIND HER.

AMANDA DARLING
(sobbing)
It's hopeless -- we're doomed!

Seth stops struggling with the door behind him and he slowly walks over to Amanda and extends his hand.

She takes his hand and he lifts her up to him intimately inching toward her.

SETH

It'll be ok. If we're doomed, at least we can be doomed together.

He draws her in for a hug and he pushes her face to his shoulder.

The camera sees her eyes looking around in panic as Zombies surround them from all sides and move in with arms extended.

CUT TO BLACK AS A SERIES OF MUNCHING SOUNDS ARE HEARD AND THE MUSIC FADES.

SCENE 46

INT. SCHOOL - DAY

Screen fades in to a similar montage from the beginning, this time with everyone clearly being zombies at school.

SETH (now a zombie) slowly lectures with groans. Students groan and take notes.

Other classroom scenes of zombie students and teachers interacting.

Some swole teens in the weight room exchange a slow high five, but their arm falls off as they do this. The zombies pause and look at the arm on the floor.

REX "ZOMBIE" TILLMAN sits in the band storage room reading Poe with the GOTH SQUAD (all of whom are still alive).

DR WILHELM BLOCK (not a zombie) stands in the lab and nervously looks around at his zombie students. Friedrich stands with a bat near the student lab tables. As one tries to bite at him he swiftly hits the zombie and it goes back to lab work.

Another Zombie lights his arm on fire on a bunson burner and Friedrich promptly fires a burst of fire extinguisher to put out the flame.

Cut back to DR WILHELM BLOCK sitting at his lab table. NURSE BETHANY enters into frame and places a cup of tea on his table, then moves around him and starts giving him a back massage.

DR WILHELM BLOCK gives a nervous smile of satisfaction.

End film with SETH and AMANDA walking slowly down the hallway hand in hand.

Cue "I JUST DIED IN YOUR ARMS TONIGHT" as credits roll.