

Interfacing
(A Short Film)

Written by

Matt Williams

DOWNLOADED FROM MATTWILLIAMSONLINE.COM

FADE IN

1 INT. KATE'S LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

1

POV OF A VIDEO CAMERA. KATE MCCAULEY (26) has just turned on the camera in her living room studio setup - just one chair and a backdrop. She has a business hipster vibe, wearing glasses and a fair amount of makeup. She double checks her appearance in a mirror, adjusts her hair, then sits down and talks to the camera.

KATE

So, I have my first blind date tomorrow. I know, in over 10 years of dating I've never been on a blind date! I'm a little nervous, but I've learned that if you keep yourself open to new experiences you will often surprise yourself...

CUT TO

CLOSEUP on a computer screen. The video she's just recorded is being uploaded to YouTube.

QUICK CUTS:

- Her YouTube homepage. Her screen name is "**SIMPLYKAYE**".
- *Dozens* of consistently branded videos.
- A decent following. 50,000+. Hundreds of comments.
- A video playlist called "Dating" with titles like, "**It's Our Third Date - Do I Sleep With Him?**" and "**It's Over... Because Of His Mom.**"
- Other playlists: "Exercise," "Tutorials," "Travel..."

The video finishes uploading. Kate types a few more things. CLICK CLICK CLICK, and closes her laptop.

2 INT. DYLAN'S BEDROOM - MORNING

2

POV FROM A CLOSET. DYLAN (29) opens the closet door. He's very plain but pleasant looking.

As he reaches for a pair of jeans we see his full closet. Minimal is almost an understatement. He removes the jeans from a shelf containing three pairs of pants and a stack of five t-shirts. Hanging are four button-down shirts and a

jacket. On the floor is a pair of nice brown shoes and a pair of sneakers. That's his wardrobe.

O.S. Dylan's phone RINGS. As he goes to pick it up, we see the rest of his bedroom. Also extremely minimal. He picks up an old FLIP PHONE and answers it.

DYLAN

Hey Seamus, can I call you later? I'm walking out the door for my date... I'll be fine... Yeah, but I haven't forgotten how to have a conversation... Thanks buddy... Later.

He shuts the phone with a CLICK as we...

CUT TO

3 EXT. COFFEE SHOP - DAY

3

Kate and Dylan are on their date.

DYLAN

I actually prefer blind dates! No preconceived notions, no awkward pick up lines...

KATE

Oh, I've gotten some of the worst pickup lines from guys on apps.

DYLAN

Oh yeah, which is the big winner?

KATE

Umm... well, let's just say it was a small winner.

(off Dylan's confused look)

It was a picture.

DYLAN

Ohhhhhh.

KATE

Yeah.

KATE (CONT'D)

So you haven't done the online dating thing at all?

DYLAN

Nope. It's kind of a long story, but it's also difficult without a smart phone.

KATE
Oh no, what happened to your phone?

DYLAN
Nothing.

He reaches in his pocket...

KATE
You said you didn't have a--
...and holds up his old flip phone. Kate gawks.

DYLAN
Smart phone.

KATE
Oh my god, what is that?!

DYLAN
(chuckling)
I never use anything on the smart
phone, so I just use this.

KATE
You're blowing my freaking mind right
now man. So wait, can you text on that
thing, or--

DYLAN
Yes, I text, I'm not a monster... Ok,
I use T-9 Word. But I just prefer to
talk to people face-to-face.

KATE
How do you do that?!

DYLAN
I usually start with something like,
"How was your day?"

Kate gives him a "you're a smart ass" look as their server,
MANDY (mid-20s) enters to drop off their coffee. She holds
her gaze on Dylan for a moment and smirks.

DYLAN (CONT'D)
(smiling)
Thanks Mandy.

Mandy smiles back and exits.

KATE

Wow. Well you seem very normal for someone who has shunned the internet.

DYLAN

Oh no, actually I live in the woods. This date was very much a rouse to get you to buy me lunch, I haven't eaten in two days... Also, don't tell anyone I'm telling you this, but the end is near.

They share a laugh.

4 INT. GYM - DAY

4

Kate is walking on a treadmill with her sister, CHARLOTTE (mid 30s).

CHARLOTTE

Wow. Is this Dylan guy like a monk or something?

KATE

No, he's a minimalist. He only purchases things that serve a practical purpose... he says.

CHARLOTTE

Sounds kind of refreshing in a way.

KATE

He was sweet, but I don't think I could date someone like that. It's sort of refreshing for like a week, maybe, but I love shopping, shopping is one of my favorite things.

CHARLOTTE

That's what I'm here for!

KATE

When I shop with you I max out my credit cards.

CHARLOTTE

Is this about those shoes? I'm sorry, I'll give them to you for Christmas.

KATE

I don't want your charity.

(off her look)
Fine, yes I do.
(beat)
He doesn't even have Facebook, even
mom has Facebook.

CHARLOTTE
Wait... Kate, that's perfect.

KATE
What?

CHARLOTTE
You said you've been looking for new
video content... You didn't tell him
you do that, right?

KATE
No. I mean, I told him about my day
job, but not the vlog. It didn't seem
appropriate to a man who still has
physical buttons on his phone.

CHARLOTTE
So he doesn't know SimplyKaye, he
knows Kate. Do a whole series of
videos about him! Date him for a
while, see what this lifestyle is
like. Could be a potential for
sponsorship. "This guy only has five
things, and this is why you should
have them too!"
(off Kate's look)
Or whatever... But the best part is,
he'll never know.

KATE
That's not a bad idea. While you're
handing out professional advice...

Charlotte's phone starts RINGING.

KATE (CONT'D)
...I have a meeting with my boss
tomorrow, and I want to ask for more
responsibility within the company--

CHARLOTTE
(answering on her earpiece)
This is Charlotte.

KATE

Ok nevermind.

CHARLOTTE

(into the phone)

Jesus Ken, if one more mommy blogger comes at us with a lifestyle brand pitch, I'm going to burn down Lululemon.

Kate looks down at her own shirt. It's from Lululemon.

5 EXT. PARK - DAY

5

Dylan is walking with his two friends, SEAMUS and JULES (both late 20s).

DYLAN

She's a project manager for a small business I didn't recognize. She's in marketing though which is, you know, not really my thing.

SEAMUS

Your thing needs to get touched once in a while, Dylan.

Jules hits him in the arm.

SEAMUS (CONT'D)

Ouch. I'm sorry. But it's been a year and half.

JULES

Seamus.

DYLAN

No it's ok. I mean, he's not wrong.

SEAMUS

And if you're not that into it, use her to get back in the game.

Jules hits him harder.

SEAMUS (CONT'D)

Ow! I don't mean use her, but if she's good enough for a second date don't just give up on it like you do on everything else that "isn't your thing."

JULES
 (to Seamus)
 Like that poor girl you slept with
 last weekend?

SEAMUS
 I-- just-- didn't really save her
 number-- shut up.

DYLAN
 I didn't give up, I reevaluated. But
 you're right, maybe Kate will expand
 my horizons a little... She said she'd
 call me. Isn't there a three day rule?
 Is that still a thing?

SEAMUS
 I give up on our friendship.

JULES
 I'm sure she'll call you.

SEAMUS
 As long as that's literally what she
 does. Do you think she knows how to
 send a carrier pigeon?

Jules cocks back like she's going to hit him again.

SEAMUS (CONT'D)
 Stop it!

DYLAN
 I text...

6 INT. KATE'S LIVING ROOM - EVENING

6

Kate takes off her glasses, sets them on her desk, and begins
 typing on her YouTube page. Under the playlist "Dating" she
 creates a new video and titles it "**Dating a Minimalist.**"

She clicks "play" on the uploaded video.

KATE
 (on the video)
*Ok, so, I'm starting something of an
 experiment. This new guy, we'll call
 him James...*

7 INT. DYLAN'S BEDROOM - SAME

7

Dylan lies in his bed writing in a journal. We see sentences like: **"It's time to move on"** and **"I find that I'm excited to see Kate again."**

8 INT. RESTAURANT - NIGHT

8

Kate and Dylan's second date. This one is less casual.

KATE

So... tell me more about this lifestyle you lead.

DYLAN

(smiling)

Is that why you called? You want to interview me?

KATE

Isn't that what dating is anyway?

DYLAN

Fair enough. Ok, well, as a matter of fact, I was a software developer until about a year and a half ago.

KATE

What?!

DYLAN

Oh yeah! My buddy Seamus and I got jobs at the same company after college. We had big dreams of climbing the corporate ladder and getting rich together. Long story short, I did start making really good money... I had a nice apartment, nice things, a girlfriend...

(beat, fumbling)

And all of it was causing me to be unhappy. I realized I was doing all of it to fill some gap that could never be filled. At the same time, the project we were working on was an app. A game for kids. And they had me design it in their words, "like heroine." Meaning they wanted kids addicted to the app.

KATE

Oh my.

DYLAN

It got bad when we started offering a payment package that included a rubber band and a syringe.

(off her look)

I'm kidding. Anyway, I was really miserable, so I quit.

KATE

Does Seamus still work there?

DYLAN

Nope. He got fired actually. He was in charge of cyber security, and he hacked into the app from an outside computer just to prove to them that someone could.

KATE

Oh my god.

DYLAN

Yeah, he's pretty good at what he does. They didn't care for that though. Go figure. So we both started over in a way. I overhauled my whole life. Turns out once you start getting rid of things you don't absolutely need, you end up with surprisingly little.

KATE

Wow. That's admirable that you were willing to make such a big change.

DYLAN

It's not for everyone. I don't evangelize it, but somehow it always comes out when I talk to people.

KATE

That's because when girls can't find you with any online presence they assume you're a serial killer.

Dylan chuckles.

KATE (CONT'D)

So would you judge me for having like 50 pairs of shoes?

DYLAN

Well I'm sure your closet would give me severe anxiety... But if those shoes make you happy, then by all means have 50 pairs of shoes.

KATE

Ok... You've earned another date.

They laugh.

DYLAN

How about an after dinner drink somewhere?

KATE

Aw that sounds great, but I'll have to take a raincheck. I've got plans with some friends this evening.

9 INT. KATE'S LIVING ROOM - EVENING 9

POV OF KATE'S VIDEO CAMERA. Kate checks her appearance, puts on glasses, and sits down to talk to the camera.

KATE

Ok, date two. James is super sweet...

10 INT. DYLAN'S BEDROOM - SAME 10

Dylan writes in his journal. We see, **"She's just so easy to talk to."**

CUT TO

A MONTAGE OF DATES. Dylan and Kate (sans glasses) mixed with shots of "SimplyKaye" (glasses on) talking to her computer camera.

- Laughing over coffee.
- Walking along the riverfront.
- A nice dinner.
- A kiss.

11 INT. KATE'S LIVING ROOM - EVENING 11
POV OF KATE'S VIDEO CAMERA.

KATE

I think tomorrow night might be the night. We've been getting super flirty, and he's a great kisser...

12 INT. DYLAN'S BEDROOM - SAME 12

He writes: **"I think tomorrow night might be the night. I'd be lying if I said I wasn't nervous. What should I tell her?"**

13 EXT. STREET - NIGHT 13

Kate and Dylan walk along, very close and flirtatious. They stop in front of Kate's apartment building.

KATE

Well. This is me.

DYLAN

I had a really good time tonight.

He grabs her hand and pulls her close for a tender kiss.

KATE

Do you want to... come up?

She looks up at him shyly. He looks hesitant, but smiles in agreement.

14 INT. KATE'S FOYER - NIGHT 14

Kate and Dylan enter.

KATE

Make yourself at home. I need to use the restroom really quick.

She hurries to her bathroom as Dylan smiles and tries to make himself comfortable. He looks in the living room and sees her video camera.

15 INT. KATE'S BEDROOM - LATER 15

Kate and Dylan are making out. She unbuttons his shirt, takes off her own, pushes him back onto the bed, and climbs on top of him.

DYLAN

Hey listen. I should tell you, I haven't done anything like this in a long time.

KATE

Oh god, you're not a virgin, are you?

DYLAN

No, no. But I've only been with one person. And I just don't want to rush into anything.

KATE

Yeah, you're kind of killing the vibe in here man.

Kate climbs off him.

DYLAN

I'm sorry. I like you, and I'm very attracted to you, I just--

KATE

How long's it been?

DYLAN

(beat)

About a year and a half.

KATE

Ah.

She lays back next to him.

KATE (CONT'D)

So a year and a half ago, when you got rid of everything... did that include that one person too?

DYLAN

Yeah.

KATE

Are you still in love with her?

DYLAN

No, it's not that. We were high school sweethearts... Whatever, I don't want to bring the mood down farther.

KATE

Well for what it's worth, the mood has already made my lady parts cool off... So if you want, I'll listen.

He thinks about it; decides to open up.

DYLAN

She was diagnosed with antisocial personality disorder while we were together. She was becoming increasingly difficult to be with. We saw someone, they ran tests, the whole thing. I tried to help, to be there for her... What experts don't know about that condition is how it will manifest itself. For her, it was compulsive lying.

KATE

That's awful.

DYLAN

Well, it gets worse. Apparently she had been sleeping with various guys she was meeting on the internet using a different identity... She had a whole fake dating profile, social media, everything, all under a different name.

KATE

Wow. Did anyone else you know see it?

DYLAN

(beat)

Everyone. I didn't tell anyone, but someone we knew found her and shared it. I-- yeah. It was hard.

KATE

Is that why you don't go online or use social media or anything?

DYLAN

That's probably some of it. I just wanted to cleanse myself of everything. I had to after that. I wanted to disappear... and I guess I never fully came back.

FADE TO

16 INT. KATE'S LIVING ROOM - DAY

16

Kate checks her hair, puts on glasses, sits down. She takes a big breath and stares into the camera as though contemplating whether or not she should do what she's about to do.

Her phone DINGS. It's a text from Dylan: **"Thank you for being a good listener last night. I'm sorry I was such a downer."**

Kate looks up from the phone and towards her camera. A long, contemplative pause.

17 INT. JULES' LIVING ROOM - EVENING

17

Dylan sits with Seamus as Jules tools around putting out snacks and setting up for a party.

JULES

I can't believe you told her all that.

SEAMUS

I can't believe when you told her all that.

DYLAN

She was really sweet about it. I haven't talked to anyone about that in a really long time.

JULES

Is she coming tonight?

DYLAN

She may swing by later. She's got a dinner with friends.

JULES

How are her friends, you like them?

DYLAN

Umm... You know, I actually haven't met any of them.

JULES

Really? That's weird.

DYLAN

Is it?

SEAMUS
Yeah. A little.

JULES
Little bit.

DYLAN
I'm sure she's just waiting for the
right time.

SEAMUS
Like, say, a house party where her
boyfriend is?

DYLAN
We don't call each other that.

The doorbell RINGS. Jules goes to answer it.

JULES
Well you can tell her she and her
friends are welcome if you want.

18 INT. KATE'S LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

18

Kate is sitting at her computer watching the video she made.
It's ready for upload.

KATE
(in the video)
Ok guys, sorry for the delay on this
one. A lot of you have asked if James
and I have slept together yet... no.
Here's why...

Kate hits pause. One last silent debate, then... CLICK. The
video begins uploading. Kate stands and exits.

19 INT. JULES' LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

19

The party is in full swing. Dylan, Seamus, and SEAMUS'S DATE
are talking off to the side.

SEAMUS
Tell her, you know my playlists are
awesome.

DYLAN
I've never argued with your song
selection Seamus... Except that, for
whatever reason, "Wake Me Up Before
You Go Go" always makes the cut.

SEAMUS'S DATE
And New Kids On The Block.

DYLAN
That one's for me.

SEAMUS
That's for him.

They all laugh. Mandy from the coffee shop is there, and beckons Seamus's date over to them. She's sitting with a couple OTHER GIRLS.

SEAMUS'S DATE
Excuse me. I'll be back.

DYLAN
What's the theme of this party again?

SEAMUS
I think Jules is just calling it a stock the bar party.

DYLAN
Has that ever worked in the history--

SEAMUS
No.
(pause)
So you and Kate don't use the term boyfriend or girlfriend, huh? Does that mean you could hook up with someone tonight?

DYLAN
I don't want to. But technically, we've never talked about being exclusive.

SEAMUS
Well I happen to know Mandy over there is interested.

ANGLE ON Mandy. The girls are huddled around her phone watching something.

DYLAN
I think that would be ill-advised given Kate and my recent breakthrough in vulnerability.
(off Seamus's look)
I'll talk to her, but I like Kate, I don't want to mess it up!

20 INT. KATE'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

20

Kate lays in bed alone, scrolling through her phone. She stops, thinks, then makes a call to Charlotte. After a few RINGS, we hear Charlotte's voicemail. Kate hangs up.

She turns to her laptop and refreshes a page full of analytics. Her video is doing really well. Better than average, and quickly.

21 INT. JULES' LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

21

Dylan is standing in a corner talking to Mandy. He's being very polite, but not particularly interested. He's showing her his phone.

MANDY

Oh my god you have a flip phone! Are you a minimalist or something?

DYLAN

Uh well yeah actually. That's weird, not too many people know that's a thing right away, they usually just assume I'm a luddite.

MANDY

No that's cool, I was literally just watching a video about someone like you.

DYLAN

Really?

MANDY

Yeah, he had a really sad story. He found out his girl was cheating on him with guys she met online, and he had to quit his job--

DYLAN

Wait, what?

MANDY

Oh yeah, his ex was a sociopath--

DYLAN

(frantically)

I'm sorry. Where did you see this video?

MANDY

Oh it's a vlogger I follow,
SimplyKaye...

She pulls out her phone.

MANDY (CONT'D)

It's kind of a guilty pleasure of
mine. She's funny, and she talks about
dating and all this stuff.

She shows her phone to Dylan. There's Kate as "SimplyKaye"
staring back at him. He's horrified. He scrolls through some
of the titles: **"My First Blind Date... He's A Minimalist!"**
"Shopping For A Minimalist"; "I Think Tonight's The Night."

And the current video: **"We Were Going to Have Sex, But
Then..."**

Dylan, wide eyed, hurt, on the verge of tears, plays the
video from its current position.

KATE

(on the video)

*...I can't imagine the baggage of
someone who got cheated on by a
sociopath like that. Given that, I
don't judge him for only having sex
with one person his whole life, but
that does put some pressure on me, you
know?*

Dylan looks horrified. Mandy takes notice.

MANDY

Are you ok?

KATE

(on the video)

*I don't know, I feel so bad for him.
But the way he handled it was to sell
everything and disappear, that can't
be good, right?*

Dylan has had enough. He practically throws Mandy's phone
back to her and storms away.

MANDY

Wha-- hey!

She looks at her phone, and then at Dylan, who is already

pushing past Seamus and Jules.

SEAMUS

Hey buddy, where you-- what's wrong?

DYLAN

I need to leave.

Dylan storms out the front door.

22 EXT. JULES' HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

22

Dylan takes a few steps, gasps a couple times, and nearly bursts into tears.

Seamus comes running out of the door after him.

23 INT. JULES' LIVING ROOM - SAME

23

Mandy has a concerned look in Dylan's direction. She goes over to her group of girls. We can't hear what they say, but Mandy points. She indicates to her phone, then out towards Dylan. She brings up the phone for her friends to see again. More people gather... including Jules.

24 EXT. JULES' HOUSE - SAME

24

Dylan could either blow a gasket or ball his eyes out. Seamus is there for him, but he's not sure what to do either.

SEAMUS

Are you kidding me? Everything?

DYLAN

It seems like it. It's like a diary.

He sits. Begins to break down.

DYLAN (CONT'D)

How could I let something like this happen again? I'm such an idiot.

SEAMUS

Dylan, this isn't your fault man.

DYLAN

What do I do? Huh? We're all so connected, and obsessed-- I just wanted to live my life! I was happy!

Jules walks out.

SEAMUS

Well that's not true.

DYLAN

What are you talking about?

SEAMUS

You weren't happy. I know what you went through was terrible, but you completely changed after that. You got rid of everything you didn't need, but you also gave up things you used to enjoy. You didn't even talk to me and Jules for a couple months, I thought we were gonna lose you. When you said you would start dating again I was so happy, but then you didn't want to give anyone a chance... until Kate. And yeah it seems like she burned you, big time, but you were open enough to let that happen, and that's progress!

DYLAN

Yeah, look where it got me.

SEAMUS

It got you out of fucking hiding!

Dylan looks up and sees Jules.

JULES

I'm sorry, Dylan...

(sitting beside him)

Seamus is right you know. You're the most sensitive person we know, and we love you for it.

SEAMUS

You're way better at expressing yourself than we are.

JULES

Well, you're way better than Seamus.

They laugh.

JULES (CONT'D)

For what its worth, Mandy feels really bad too.

DYLAN

Oh what do I care?

JULES

It's not her fault.

DYLAN

I just want to go home.

JULES

I know. Just go say goodbye to her first. Turns out, she likes sensitive guys too.

25 INT. JULES' LIVING ROOM - LATER

25

Seamus's Date is taking an Instagram story live on her phone.

POV OF THE PHONE: We see a group of people drinking and chatting; a couple making out; someone notices the phone and gives it a "cheers"; and then Dylan and Mandy sitting in the corner. From the angle it looks like they're getting flirty.

ANGLE ON Dylan and Mandy. Dylan is distraught and Mandy has her hand on his arm comforting him. Otherwise, it's innocent and casual.

MANDY

Jules has my number. If you need anything, you can text me, ok? Wait do you text?

A minimal chuckle from Dylan.

DYLAN

Yes, I do. And thank you. It was nice talking to you.

26 INT. KATE'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

26

Kate is scrolling through Instagram stories. A dog playing; some selfie video in an exotic location; then... Seamus's Date, and the video she just took. And there's Dylan in the back, "flirting" with Mandy.

27 INT. DYLAN'S BEDROOM - MORNING

27

Dylan is lying awake as the sun comes up. After some consideration, he leans over and grabs his phone.

He texts Kate: **"I think we should talk."**

He throws the covers off and prepares to get up. DING.
Looking at his phone, Dylan sees Kate's response: **"Yeah. Ok. Want to come to me?"**

Dylan types his response and gets up.

28 EXT. KATE'S APARTMENT - DAY 28

Dylan is taking deep breaths as he knocks on the door.

Kate opens it slowly. She's wearing her glasses this time.
For a moment no one speaks.

29 INT. KATE'S LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS 29

Kate lets Dylan in and turns slowly away.

KATE

Look, I'm pretty sure I already know what you're going to say. And just so you know, a lot of my job involves social media, so--

DYLAN

Is that an excuse for infringing on my privacy?

KATE

You think that's infringing on your privacy? You may not understand this, but social media is everywhere. You can't hide from it.

DYLAN

That doesn't mean everything needs to go on it! Are you really taking the high road right now?

KATE

Are you?! Are you mad that someone put your life online, or are you just mad at the content?

DYLAN

I truly don't believe you. You're in some different reality right now if you think that was appropriate.

KATE

I know we never said anything about being exclusive, but I didn't think

you were the type of guy who played the field.

DYLAN

Wait, what are you talking about? You just wanted content for your goddamn channel!

Kate reacts, catching up.

DYLAN (CONT'D)

You interviewed me, and put every last detail of our time together online! I don't know if you even liked me at all, but--

KATE

Wait! That's not what I was talking about.

DYLAN

What?

A long, awkward beat.

KATE

How did you find out?

DYLAN

Social media is everywhere, you can't hide from it.

Kate grabs her phone and pulls up the video of Dylan and Mandy. She shows it to him.

KATE

This is what I was talking about.

Dylan watches, getting even more angry.

DYLAN

Jesus christ.

(he chuckles)

And I thought it couldn't get any worse.

KATE

Yeah, well. I feel like we have two things to talk about now.

DYLAN

No we don't. That-- That was nothing. That was right after she showed me your videos about me!

KATE

What can I say? That's what I do. I'm building a brand, I talk about dating and relationships--

DYLAN

Bullshit, you're just a voyeur!

He pulls out his phone...

DYLAN (CONT'D)

Without this you'd have no semblance of self worth...

...snaps it in half, and throws it in the garbage.

DYLAN (CONT'D)

...You just want to be famous even though you have no discernible talent or reason to be recognized!

KATE

That's not true, and I did like you, I do like you, I just--

DYLAN

Just save it. I'm done. Don't worry, this will be great content for you.

He walks out. Kate is left standing there with tears in her eyes. The door SLAMS, and after a moment, she breaks down.

30 INT. PHONE STORE - DAY

30

Several days have past. Dylan has realized he needs a phone, so he's searching for a new one. In front of him is a huge wall of smartphones, each as high-tech as the next.

A SALES ASSOCIATE walks up beside him with an older iPhone.

SALES ASSOCIATE

This is the oldest one we have. We stopped selling those other ones ages ago, unless you want a pre-paid one.

Dylan takes the iPhone and looks at it. He plays around for a

couple seconds. Sighs.

A RING of the door, and Jules enters.

JULES
Got your email. Sorry I'm late.

DYLAN
This is impossible.

SALES ASSOCIATE
So if you'd like my advice--

JULES
Give us a second.

SALES ASSOCIATE
Sure. If you need anything, I'll be
right over here.

He exits. Jules puts her hand on Dylan's back.

JULES
How you doing?

DYLAN
They don't even sell my phone anymore.

JULES
You know, I've been trying to get
ahold of you. Kate posted a long
apology.

DYLAN
I don't care, Jules.

JULES
I'm not saying you need to forgive
her, but for what it's worth... all
her fans sympathize with you.
(off his look)
Maybe that's not worth anything. But I
did find this.

She shows him her phone.

JULES (CONT'D)
It's a Reddit feed. Someone compiled
all the nice things she said about you
in all her videos. It's pretty long.
Some of them are really touching.

He pulls up the same video he saw at the party, but at a different time stamp.

KATE

(on the video)

I... I don't think I should be posting this. Honestly, I've gone back and forth for hours. I suppose my only reason is to show people how social media affects us all. Here he is, the sweetest guy I've ever met, and he was almost ruined by it. I'm not monetizing this video, I'm not boosting it. I just wanted to show, in an admittedly super ironic way, that this medium has the power to hurt just as much as it can help.

(a long beat)

This will be the last post about James. I want to see where this relationship goes without the burden of documenting it. I want to tell him that this is what I do and make him see that it's not all bad. But I-- really I just want him.

JULES

She never used your name. She never showed a picture of you. She just wanted to be transparent about modern relationships. And you won her over just by being you.

Dylan stares at the phone for a long time, then looks up at Jules. She smiles at him.

31 INT. DYLAN'S BEDROOM - LATER

31

Dylan is playing with his new iPhone, trying to set it up, and actually having fun figuring different things out.

As his messages connect, several come through from the past couple days. One is from Jules - a link to Kate's blog site. Dylan considers this a moment. Hesitates. Then clicks.

The site is down.

FADE TO

32 EXT. COFFEE SHOP - DAY

32

Dylan is sitting with Seamus.

SEAMUS

So you guys talked?

DYLAN

Yeah. Once neither of us were super emotional I think we understood each other better.

SEAMUS

And you're good?

DYLAN

Yeah, we're fine. I don't know what comes next for us, or even if anything can, but we're friends. We'll see.

SEAMUS

I meant you. Are you good?

DYLAN

Yeah. I'm good.

Kate enters.

KATE

You were able to share your location with me?

Dylan holds up his new phone.

KATE (CONT'D)

Whoa! Look at you!

SEAMUS

He actually sent me a Bitmoji yesterday, I thought I was going insane.

They all laugh.

KATE

(to Seamus)

Thank you for agreeing to help me.

He pulls out his laptop.

SEAMUS

No problem. It's what I do. Plus Dylan kind of begged me a little.

Dylan and Kate share a look. Seamus begins typing away.

KATE

(to Dylan)

Just so you know, I deleted all the videos. But I need my website up so I can send it to potential new clients.

DYLAN

Oh?

KATE

Yeah I'm starting my own thing. A brand strategy company.

DYLAN

Good for you.

SEAMUS

Done!

KATE

Wait... the site's back up?

SEAMUS

Yep.

KATE

You didn't need my passwords or anything?

SEAMUS

Nope. It was-- It was easy to diagnose.

Seamus stands. Dylan has a knowing look on his face. He looks up at Seamus, who shrugs. Dylan shakes his head.

KATE

Wow, thank you so much! Oh my god, I owe you!

SEAMUS

Oh. No you don't.

KATE

Can I at least buy you a cup of

coffee?

SEAMUS

No, no. No worries. We're... square.

Seamus winks at Dylan, who shakes his head more.

KATE

Well you're the best, thank you again.

She gives him a hug.

SEAMUS

You two have fun!

He exits. A beat.

DYLAN

So... how was your day?

She smiles.

KATE

I came up with a concept for the new business.

She turns her computer to face him. On the screen we see a logo, and a quote: "**Simplicity is the ultimate sophistication.**" - Leonardo da Vinci."

Dylan just smiles.

KATE (CONT'D)

Thank you.

(a beat)

Well I thought this would take Seamus a little longer than it did, but I should use this time to prepare for my first new client meeting.

DYLAN

Oh yeah, who's it with?

KATE

My sister actually. She's starting some new non-profit and wants my help.

DYLAN

That's great! You don't want to stay for a cup of coffee first?

She hesitates. There's still a little friction between them.

KATE

I should get ready for this. Rain check?

DYLAN

Ok.

They both stand.

KATE

Thanks for meeting me. And thanks for talking with me the other day.

DYLAN

No problem. I'm glad we got to.

They hug.

KATE

Ok. See you around. FaceTime me!

DYLAN

You still get carrier pigeons.

She laughs and exits. Dylan sits as Mandy enters.

MANDY

Hey. Was that...?

DYLAN

Yes it was.

MANDY

Oh, I wasn't sure. I didn't want to come over and make things weird.

DYLAN

You're totally fine.

MANDY

Ok, well, I'm about to clock out. But can I get you anything before I do?

DYLAN

No thank you, I'm all set.

MANDY

Ok.

She turns to leave...

DYLAN

Mandy.... Do you want to grab something to eat once you're all done here?

MANDY

Sure! That sounds nice.

DYLAN

Great. I'll just wait right here?

MANDY

(beaming)

Ok!

She exits. Dylan looks around for a moment. Then pulls his phone out of his pocket. Checks it. Looks up. Then back down. He puts the phone on Do Not Disturb, and back in his pocket.

As we ZOOM OUT, Dylan takes a sip of coffee, leans back, and watches people walk by.

Everyone is on their phones.

FADE TO BLACK