

ROBERT
 (Interrupting)
 She won't become a problem for us. I
promise

MR GROMER
 (taken aback by Robert's
 assertiveness)
 Well...

I'm relieved to hear it

Mr Gromer walks away, jotting something down in his notebook leaving Robert to his training.

Robert returns his gaze to the dummy- staring with an ice cold rage behind his eyes. He pulls back his fist- **THWACK!**

SCENE 21: INT. HEATHERS BEDROOM- LATE EVENING

Heather and Josh sit upright on the bed, facing forward with as much space between them as the small double bed allows.

HEATHER
 So, what now?

JOSH
 (Overwhelmed)
 -Just... just let me think

There is a lengthy pause

HEATHER
 I hate when you start shouting

JOSH
 I know, I-

HEATHER
 (Fast-spoken)
 It literally makes the whole
 conversation feel so fucking pointless
 when I'm just trying to-

JOSH
 I said I was sorry!

HEATHER
 No, you didn't!

JOSH
 (Angrily shouting)
 Then **sorry!**

A second lengthy silence

It's just- it's like you try and make me out to be, like, *sexist* or something

HEATHER
 When did I say that? *Literally* when?

JOSH
 It's what it sounded like!

HEATHER
 All I said is I want you to stop trying to beat the shit out of people for me- it's so dumb-

JOSH
 It's the way you said it! Like it makes me just as bad as them ... I'm just trying to protect you

HEATHER
 (Laughs)
 That is such bullshit!

JOSH
 No, it's not- and don't laugh!

HEATHER
 It's just some... fucked up ...chivalrous protector thing

You want to show off what a *big man* you are for defending your *property* or... whatever

JOSH
 You know I don't see you that way...
 (Pause)
 Look, I'm ... trying. My other girlfriends used to like it when I got protective. It's just weird

HEATHER
 So what, *I'm weird?*

JOSH

No! What, what I'm trying to say is...

It probably is a ...chivalry
protectionist thing...

Heather turns to look at Josh for the first time

It's just- changing all that- it's
like changing the wiring in my head,
you know like from when I was a kid...

But, I really want to

Heather moves across the bed and wraps her arms around Josh.

HEATHER

I don't like arguing...

JOSH

Yeah, me neither

They hold each other for a while, content. Heather sighs.

HEATHER

All that personal growth bullshit
aside- that kid deserves a slap

JOSH

(Laughing)

Well, you say the word-

Heather loosens her grip on Josh and resumes her argument
position on the bed.

JOSH

What? You just said-

HEATHER

You don't get it-

JOSH

No, no- I totally get it

HEATHER

Right... but you don't. You don't get
how pointless it is- because you beat
up one creep - and, sure it feels
good- but then, there's always, always
more.

Josh looks into his lap, no idea how to respond. The lighting around Heather slowly becomes a darker, deep shade of red

They're everywhere. And you go every day just scared enough to keep you safe- and it's *exhausting*...

-And-and you want to kill them. Every single day, you want to **fucking** kill them- but you can't... *obviously*...

...but... every time some weird guy stares up your skirt at the bus stop or- or follows you home you just want to grab ***their ugly dirty fucking faces*** and - and...

The lighting switches back to normal

-and, you don't because...because the violence doesn't *fix* anything-

It just ...feels good.

Pause.

JOSH
(slightly absent)
Yeah, sweetie. I get you...

Josh rests his head on Heather's shoulder- she stares forward with a blank stare, barely noticing him.

INT. ROBERT'S BEDROOM- LATE AT NIGHT

Robert has been watching Heather and Josh from his computer. He breathes heavily, transfixed- then smiles cunningly.

SCENE 22: EXT. SCHOOL ASTRO TURF- NIGHT

Gromer blows his whistle

MR GROMER
Well done, gentlemen. This concludes our training for tonight

The nerds all groggily stop training and begin wiping themselves off with towels and drinking water bottles.