

**ALMOND**  
Dan Fox

**1. INT. HOUSE, LIVING ROOM - NIGHT**

Early 3D fighting game set in a forest is on the CRT screen. Player 1 Character is losing, and apathetic to it.

Health bar at critical.

MAX is looking out of the window instead. The nightlife. The world. He's not part of it.

GOLDEN SUPER:

What is the problem from your point of view?

**2. INT. HOUSE, BEDROOM - NIGHT**

MAX is on his mattress. Corner of the room. Music playing through headphones.

He closes his eyes to sleep.

RED SUPER:

Pathetic.

**3. EXT. RED FOREST - NIGHT**

MAX is in the red forest, white cable ties hold his arms to a chair. Wearing a disheveled suit and tie.

He wakes up.

**4. INT. BLUE LOBBY / AUDITORIUM - NIGHT**

MAX is wearing the suit neatly. The auditorium is empty, but the voices of an eager crowd shuffled through the room.

MAX (V.O.)

The tie lined his neck, as comfortable as  
folds of his own flesh.

What felt off was the parchment stuffed sharp  
in his breast pocket.

MAX reaches into his pocket curiously, pulling a sealed  
envelope.

MAX (V.O.)

Tonight, he was meeting the saviour.

MAX opens the envelope to reveal a theatre ticket.  
He looks around for the source of the voice.

## **5. INT. HOUSE, LIVING ROOM - NIGHT**

The living room, filled with blue television light.

MAX stands, hypnotised eyes fixed to the TV.

Light switches to red.

## **6. EXT. RED FOREST - NIGHT**

MAX struggles to break out of the cable ties.

RED SUPER:

You're drowning on a lonesome shore.  
Praying for the tide to repent.

MAX rocks until he topples to the floor.

And the sand was a desert.

MAX finds that the chair and bindings no longer exist.

He starts running.

**7. INT. BLUE LOBBY / AUDITORIUM - NIGHT**

SAVIOUR MAX stands on stage. MAX sits in the audience, gathering breath from running.

SAVIOUR MAX

Met a bus driver who told me he once went  
right off a cliff, and all the passengers went  
flying to the back, except one old guy who was  
positively determined to get to the front.  
And when he got there, you know what he said?  
You missed my stop.

Audience laughter and applause.

MAX looks around perplexed.

SAVIOUR MAX

Somehow, in our lowest moments, there's always  
a voice able to kick us down below the crust.

MAX

But, how do we stop them?!

SAVIOUR MAX

(Curious)

Maybe we shouldn't.

**8. EXT. RED FOREST - NIGHT**

MAX runs in slow motion.

RED SUPER:

Hit.

BLUE SUPER:

Move.

GOLDEN SUPER:

Do ~~o~~thing.

MAX stops running. He reflects. Why was he running?

RED SUPER:

Pathetic.

**9. INT. HOUSE, LIVING ROOM - MORNING**

We hear the midst of a conversation from the television.

TV

So, Jane, what is the problem from your  
point of view?

Morning sun wakes MAX up. He gets out of bed.

**The End.**