

INTERVENTION

Written by

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INT. KYLE'S APARTMENT - EVENING

Kyle (24) enters his apartment. The lights are completely off - it's eerily and uncharacteristically dim. Kyle has returned from work - dress is business casual, gait is slumped from a hard day's work. Kyle flicks the foyer lights on.

KYLE
(in jest)
Honeyyy, I'm home! Dale, you here?
Why are all the lights off?

Kyle walks into the pitch-black living room and turns the light on. He is STARTLED to find his roommate DALE, girlfriend SARAH, and friend JAMES seated mournfully in the living room.

KYLE (CONT'D)
Whoah! You guys scared the shit out
of me!

DALE
(utterly serene)
Kyle, why don't you have a seat.

KYLE
We're just going to skip over the
part where you guys were creepily
sitting in the dark?

JAMES
Just sit the fuck down, Kyle.

DALE
James, keep your cool. We need to
be coming from a safe place.

KYLE
Anybody want to tell me what's
happening?

Sarah rises and approaches Kyle delicately.

SARAH
Just listen to Dale, honey. Take a
seat.

Kyle sits down on a sofa with apprehension.

KYLE
I'm seriously freaking the fuck
out. Did someone die?

SARAH

Everyone's fine. There's just something we need to talk to you about.

DALE

Kyle, this is an intervention. You have a problem, and we want to help you.

Realization hits Kyle like a tidal wave.

KYLE

OK. OK. I see how it is. Real fucking cool guys, real fucking cool.

DALE

No need to get hostile. We just want to talk.

KYLE

Talk? You ambush me in a glow-in-the-dark pow-wow and you want to *talk*? All of you can go fuck yourselves.

Kyle gets up to leave.

JAMES

(think Gregor Clegane)
Sit your chicken dick down. Now.

Kyle sits back down, neutered.

DALE

We've been putting this off for too long. Last week was the final straw.

KYLE

You're crying to me about last week? I had a *blast*.

SARAH

A blast? We didn't see you for *three days*! You didn't answer my texts. You didn't answer my calls. You missed my sister's birthday party.

DALE

Did you even eat? Did you even use the bathroom?

KYLE

I took bathroom breaks...

JAMES

I saw the Gatorade bottles. That wasn't Gatorade.

KYLE

I just don't get why you're singling me out. Everyone else does it!

SARAH

It's because we love you, Kyle. And yes - everyone does it. We've all done it. But that doesn't mean it's right. Bingeing is destroying our generation.

KYLE

You judgemental fucks. You guys used to binge worse than anybody. You're the ones that turned me onto bingeing!

DALE

That was college. It was a different time.

KYLE

This is horseshit. I wanted you guys to join me! I always want you guys to join me. You think I like bingeing alone?

DALE

We have lives, Kyle. Friends. Responsibilities. We're too old to be sitting in our P.J.'s, eating Dunkaroos and watching Kevin Spacey for 12 hours straight.

KYLE

Hey - it took me a solid 15 hours! Had to take a nap.

JAMES

Just listen to yourself, you goddamn Neanderthal. You have absolutely no remorse.

KYLE

I don't think you guys understand.
The new season is sooooo crazy. You
would have done the same thing!

SARAH

But it's not just "House of Cards"!
You binge anything and *everything*.

DALE

I've been keeping track of your
bingeing, dude. Swallow these
numbers for a second: "Game of
Thrones" - four seasons in four
days.

JAMES

Disgusting.

KYLE

Badass.

DALE

"Futurama". Nine seasons in six
days. "Entourage". Eight seasons in
three days.

KYLE

Everyone should be *reveling* in my
stamina.

DALE

"Say Yes to the Dress." 10 Seasons
in 12 days.

KYLE

Gotta be ready for wedding season.

DALE

The 1980s soap spectacular
"Dynasty". 220 episodes in two
weeks.

KYLE

I can explain that...

DALE

And the grand finale. 46 seasons of
"60 Minutes" in two months.

James enters Hulk Mode.

JAMES

What kind of *sick fuck* binge watches "60 Minutes"??

KYLE

Alright *enough!* I don't need to explain myself anymore. I'm done here. I like bingeing. I'm going to keep bingeing. Y'all can deal with it or fuck off back to the '90s.

SARAH

Kyle, I'm sorry it's come to this. But if you don't stop bingeing. I'm going to .. I'm going to change my HBO GO password.

KYLE

(screams)

You *monster!* You wouldn't *dare!*

DALE

It doesn't have to be like this. You can still change.

KYLE

You know what? Go ahead. Change your goddamn password. I'll just torrent. I'll find streaming sites.

JAMES

You know my brother on the force? Got 'em on speed dial.

KYLE

You'd narc on me, bro? After everything? After San Juan?

JAMES

Fucking try me.

Kyle bull rushes James. Dale jumps up and holds Kyle back.

DALE

Stop this! Please! Just stop this.

Kyle struggles for a hot second, then relents. He slinks back to the couch, dejected. Dale approaches him with a warm embrace.

DALE (CONT'D)

Kyle, I promise that we are just trying to save you.

(MORE)

DALE (CONT'D)

I love you, man. Sarah loves you.
James loves you.

KYLE

(sobbing)
James doesn't love me...

DALE

James loves you.

JAMES

I love you.

DALE

Remember when we were kids, buddy?
Back in high school. You'd run to
my locker first thing every
Thursday morning. We were late to
class half the time, but fuck it,
we *had* to geek out about the latest
episode of "Lost". Then we'd sit
around the lunch table making up
our crazy theories. I almost choked
on a tater tot that time you said
the Smoke Monster was...

KYLE

(a smile cracks)
Was what Richard Alpert used for
his eyeliner. Yeah, I remember.

DALE

Don't you miss that? Watching TV
like we used to. Slowly.
Deliberately. Not letting it take
over our lives. Don't you want to
go back to those times? Every time
I turn on the TV, I mean I, I
actually close my eyes and pray
that we can go back.

KYLE

(sobbing)
There's no going back!

SARAH

Yes there is, honey. You can do it.
We're here for you. We're here for
you every step of the way.

Sarah and Dale give Kyle a group hug. James awkwardly pats
him on the back from a respectful distance.

KYLE

OK. I'll try. I promise I'll try.
But it's not going to be easy.

DALE

Nobody said it would be. Anytime
you get an urge, just reach out.
Knock on my door. I'm here for you.

KYLE

(takes a deep breath)
Thanks guys. Thanks for everything.
I'm sorry for lashing out earlier.
We good, bro?

JAMES

We good.

DALE

Guys, we did a great thing today. I
think this calls for a celebration.

Dale pulls out a baggie of cocaine.

DALE (CONT'D)

Who's in?

Everybody cheers. Dale begins to cut lines. Coke is snorted.
All is well.

END CREDITS