

ALONE

Written by

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Address
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INT. HIGH SCHOOL LUNCH TABLE - DAY

NICK(16) sits at a lunch table with his boys BEN(16), JACK(15), and SAM(16). Nick takes a bite of his sandwich.

BEN
Are you a moron?

JACK
Shut up man I'm sorry I don't know every goddamn obscure fact.

BEN
This isn't a random fact this is just common fucking knowledge.

NICK
Hey c'mon, don't be an ass about it. Look, does Ben know every random ass fact under the sun, yes. But knowing who the first president was.

Nick makes an uneasy face and shrugs his shoulders.

NICK (CONT'D)
That's probably-

JACK
Alright I get it.

Nick takes a bite of his sandwich.

NICK
Don't be to hard on yourself buddy.

INT. SCHOOL HALLWAY - DAY

Nick stands at his locker. There are a few posters on the locker for various events. Multiple of the posters are for the "Dragon Mascot Tryouts". PETE(17) walks up behind Nick.

PETE
What's up Nick.

Nick turns to Pete.

NICK
What up man.

Nick closes his locker, then they dap up and start to walk.

PETE

Look, coach has been sending me around to everybody on the team to make sure that you're not gonna skip winter practices.

NICK

Oh word, tell coach I didn't skip'em last year, so I don't plan on skip'em this year.

PETE

Alright thanks Nick.

NICK

Yeah man no problem.

EXT. SCHOOL PARKING LOT - DAY

Nick and Jack walk to there cars. A CIERRA(16) walks a bit in front of them.

JACK

Yeah if he was blind and had one arm.

NICK

You're nuts, Freeman smokes him every time.

JACK

Not this season, and definitely not last season. Mike Trout's got him no question.

NICK

I guess we'll just have to see when playoffs get going.

JACK

I guess so, I'll see you tomorrow man.

NICK

Alright see you big dog.

Nick and Jack dap up. Jack walks the other direction to his car. Cierra who is front of Nick pulls her phone out and her gum falls out of her pocket but she doesn't realize. Nick notices and grabs the gum off the ground. Nick jogs to catch up to the girl.

NICK (CONT'D)

Hey.

The girl turns around.

NICK (CONT'D)

I think you dropped this.

The girl smiles and puts her hair behind her ear.

CIERRA

Oh my gosh, thank you so much.

NICK

Yeah, of course.

Nick smiles and walks to his car.

INT. NICK'S CAR - CONTINUOUS

Nick gets in his car and he takes a moment to close the door. When he closes the door it is eerily silent. Nick becomes frantic, his eyes dart all over the place he can't sit still. He breaths very heavily and rapidly and he has a full blow panic attack. He grips the steering wheel intensely

In the midst of the panic attack his phone rings. He looks over at it and it's his mom, Mary. He picks up the phone. He is out of breath.

NICK

Hey mom.

Nick closes his eyes and listens to his mom on the phone.

MARY

Hi I was just wondering how long until you think you're going to be home?

NICK

Yeah I should be home soon.

Nick takes some deep breaths.

MARY

Nick, are you okay?

NICK

I'm alright, just a little in my head.

Nick takes some more deep breaths and starts his car.

MARY

Are you sure? You don't sound okay,
why don't you get home and we can
talk about.

NICK

Yeah I'm on the way home now can
you just stay on the phone?

INT. NICK'S HOUSE - DAY

MARY(48) stirs a big pot on the stove as Nick walks in the house. Mom stops stirring and walks over and hugs Nick as he walks in the house.

MARY

You alright sweetie?

NICK

Yeah, I don't know what it was.

MARY

Are you really or are you not
telling me something?

NICK

I already told you about it. I was
just spiraling again, I'm alright
now. Hopefully work will take my
mind off it.

Mom looks at Nick and exhales a little hesitantly then she goes back to stirring the pot.

MARY

Alright. But if you need to leave
or take your break early, don't be
afraid to tell them, okay?

NICK

Thanks mom, I won't. I love you.

Mom stops stirring the pot and Nick and Mom hug again. Mom holds Nick's head as they hug.

MARY

I love you too.

INT. RESTAURANT - NIGHT

Nick walks into the restaurant. RILEY(17) is behind the hostess stand.

NICK
How we looking tonight?

RILEY
Pretty busy, you just got two
tables at 13 and 18.

NICK
Alright, I'm on it.

BEGIN MONTAGE OF NICK WORKING

CAMERA IS THE EXACT SAME SHOT THE WHOLE TIME WITH GEORGE
WALKING UP TO CAMERA EACH TIME AS IF IT'S A DIFFERENT TABLE.

INT. RESTAURANT - NIGHT

Nick walks up to the table.

NICK
Hi how are you guys?

Nick walks up to the table.

NICK (CONT'D)
Hi welcome to Vesuvios, I'll be
your server tonight, can I get you
anything to drink?

Nick walks up to the table.

NICK (CONT'D)
Hi I'll be your server tonight, my
name is Nick and sir, may I just
say that is one cool shirt.

Nick goes up to table.

NICK (CONT'D)
Hello I'm Nick and I'll be your
server this evening.

Nick approaches the table.

NICK (CONT'D)
Well hello I wasn't aware that the
Miss America Pageant just got out,
how are you two ladies doing
tonight?

Nick walks up to the table.

NICK (CONT'D)

Hello my name is Nick and I'll be your server tonight, I love your glasses.

Nick goes up to the table.

NICK (CONT'D)

Hi my name is Nick I'll be your server for the evening, may I just say your baby is adorable, what's her name?

Nick approaches the table again.

NICK (CONT'D)

Hi my name is Nick and I'll be your server tonight. How are you guys?

END MONTAGE

INT. RESTAURANT - NIGHT

Riley see's Nick coming and fixes her hair. Nick starts to walk out of the restaurant past Riley at the hostess booth.

NICK

Have a goodnight Riley.

Riley smiles big and blushes.

RILEY

Thanks Nick, see you tomorrow.

Riley bites her lip as Nick leaves the restaurant.

INT. NICK'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Nick walks in the door still in his restaurant uniform. He puts his things down and then bends over to take his shoes off. He starts to blink rapidly and sway a little. He breaths heavy and starts to loose his balance a little. Nick looks around and then walks in the kitchen and pulls a chair from the counter. He knocks over the other chair. He puts his head down and breathes very heavily. Full blown panic attack.

Mom walks into the room in her pajamas and glasses, she looks like she was just woken up. She turns the lights on.

MARY

Nick?

Nick doesn't lift his head off the counter.

NICK

Hey mom.

MARY

What was that noise?

NICK

I a-a-accidentally knocked the chair over. I'm Sorry.

Mom picks the chair up and sits in it next to Nick.

MARY

It's okay. Is it the panic attacks again?

NICK

I guess.

MARY

Two in one day?

Nick lifts his head up.

NICK

I-I-I don't know what it is, I just spiral out of nowhere.

MARY

Do you think you know where it's coming from?

NICK

(frustrated)

I don't know. I'm good all day at school, and all night at work, no problem. But then as soon as I'm done with either, it,

Nick takes a deep breath.

NICK (CONT'D)

It feels like every single thought I have all comes down on me at once and I, I can't get rid of it.

MARY

So it's never happened in school, or at work?

NICK

No?

MARY

So it only happens when you're alone?

Nick takes a breath.

NICK

Yeah, I guess. I never put two and two together.

Mom smiles a little.

MARY

Sweetie, it's okay to be alone. It's not a bad thing.

NICK

But how do I tell myself that?

MARY

One day at a time sweetie. No one gets to where they are without going through something like this. God knows the two of us have had our fair share, but each day if you tell yourself hey I'm going to be a little better today, or that you're not going to suppress feelings and let them overwhelm you.

Nick lets his guard down, Mary leans in.

MARY (CONT'D)

Something I learned around your age was you can't search for validation from others, especially when those people don't matter. You really will only find what you're looking for from the ones you love and from your own mind. You're a great person and an even better son and I love you more than anything in this world. If you are able to wake up everyday and tell yourself that even if you can't believe it at first, keep doing it and eventually you will get there. And if you don't believe it, it doesn't matter because I always will, because I love you and I will always always always be here for you no matter what.

Nick sits and thinks for a moment about what his mother has just said to him.

NICK

Always?

Mom smiles.

MARY

You're my child when you need my help, I will do whatever I possibly can.

Mom and Nick hug.

NICK

One day at a time?

MARY

One day at a time.

INT. SCHOOL PARKING LOT - DAY

SUPERIMPOSE: ONE YEAR LATER

Nick and Ben walk to there cars. Nick and Ben dap up.

BEN

I'll see you dog.

NICK

See you man.

INT. NICK'S CAR - CONTINUOUS

Nick gets in his car. He closes the door and takes a deep breath and then smiles. Nick starts his car, turns on some music and drives off.

CUT TO BLACK: