

THE INSIGHT COMPANY
EPISODE 1:PILOT

Written by

Enan Heneghan

and

Scott Allen

Chicago, Il
312.636.1587
312.725.9272
Scott@the-regimen.com
Enanmail@gmail.com

FADE IN:

INT. CHURCH - MORNING

Laying asleep on the back pew is RO. He is sixteen, but has a haggard look about him. He uses the bible as a head-rest and has drooled a bit on it. Churchgoers are prompted to stand and greet one another. Ro is stirred by the incessant "peace be with you/and also with you" enough to lift an eyelid. The FELLOW beside him notices and gestures for Ro to shake his hand. Without sitting up, he offers his limp hand. The Fellow looks irritated, but waggles his palm, nonetheless. Ro slowly lifts himself in the pew, barely opening his eyes. Other churchgoers don't bother with him as he zones out, slouched. He stares through the hand-shaking and back-pats, to his father, EAMON, the pastor of the church, as he stands at his pulpit. Eamon locks eyes with him for a moment, purses his eyelids, before averting his gaze.

INT. CHURCH - MOMENTS LATER

People are receiving communion. Everyone is in line with their heads down, staring at the heels of the person in front of them, except Ro, who is looking around the church with a curious aggression. He approaches his father, who gives him the Eucharist. He pretends to put the wafer into his mouth, only to slip it into his front shirt pocket. He turns and walks back to the rear pew.

He sits and pulls out the wafer, along with a packet of hot sauce from his pocket. He drizzles the hot sauce on the wafer and the smell permeates the area. He is about to take a bite, when AUBRI and DANI, sixteen year old twins, turn around and glare at him. He snaps the wafer in two and gives one half to Aubri. She looks at it confused, sniffs it, dabbles her tongue on it, before eating it up. Dani appears jealous. Ro breaks the remaining half in two and feeds her a quarter of the Eucharist. He nibbles on the quarter left for himself.

The girls giggle, somehow impressed. The twins' father, CORIN, notices his daughters getting distracted by Ro. He snaps his fingers and motions for them to face forward. They oblige. Corin turns and lifts an eyebrow at Ro, who has hot sauce running down his chin. Corin points out the hot sauce, amused. Ro wipes it off with his shirt-sleeve.

EXT. CHURCH - CONTINUOUS

Ro sits outside the church on a bench. The twins exit and scurry over to Ro. He coyly looks up at them as Dani sits beside him on the bench. Aubri pulls out her phone.

AUBRI

So what was with the spicy body of Christ stuff?

RO

Always thought the savior could use a little more flavor.

DANI

He is not an appetizer.

AUBRI

(laughs)

Yeah, more like a snack. Can you imagine eating two-thousand year old flesh for real? The Big Guy would be pretty tough and dry at this point.

RO

Jesus jerky. That would sell.

AUBRI

The Christian cannibal market *is* under-serviced.

DANI

I'd try it.

Aubri and Ro start laughing. Dani notices and cuts them off-

DANI (CONT'D)

So, what's your name, boy?

RO

Uh, we go to the same school, *girl*. How do you not know my name?

DANI

Apparently, it wasn't worth knowing.

RO

Roland.

AUBRI

Pleased to meet ya, Ro Ro. Got a last name?

RO

Taquer.

AUBRI

Well, this is Dani and I am Aubri.

RO
Yeah, I know.

DANI
So, why don't you give us your
number then?

RO
I'm not allowed to have a phone.

AUBRI
That's so adorable. What-

Corin pulls up in his car.

CORIN
Girls!

AUBRI
Well, here, then just take mine.

Aubri hands Ro her cell phone. He is too stunned to react.

AUBRI (CONT'D)
We will call you from Dani's phone.
Bye, Ro.

RO
You're just going to give me your
phone?

AUBRI
I'll say I lost it. My dad will get
me another.

The twins get in the car and drive off. Father Eamon comes from out of the church and up to Ro. Ro slyly hides the phone in his pocket.

EAMON
Did you enjoy the service?

RO
Yeah, sure, Dad. You were a hoot.

Eamon notices the sauce on his sleeve.

EAMON
Did you cut yourself?

RO
I don't know. Possibly?

EAMON
Are you okay?

RO
Yeah no, it's not mine, maybe.

Eamon notices the hot sauce packets in Ro's front shirt pocket. He smacks the pocket hard, bursting the packages inside. The red hot sauce spurts out the top and oozes through the shirt.

RO (CONT'D)
It's a miracle! Praise be-

EAMON
You're disrespectful.

RO
And you're humorless.

EAMON
Keep it up...

EXT. DREAMVIEW CORPORATION - MORNING

The sun glints off the tall glass building. Some of the panes of glass display video. The building side is multi-colored and multi-textured.

INT. SARAH'S APARTMENT - DAY

SCOUT and SARAH are being intimate. Scout dives under the blankets. Sarah squeals for a moment, but then there is silence.

SARAH
Try two.

SCOUT
That is two.

SARAH
Then three.

Sarah starts to react pleurably, but trails off quick.

SCOUT
What's wrong?

SARAH
Nothing! Just do four.

She is still not reacting.

SCOUT
Are you kidding?

SARAH
What do you want me to say?!

SCOUT
Nothing. You should be convulsing
with joy by now.

SARAH
Can you just?

SCOUT
I suppose.

Sarah howls.

SCOUT (CONT'D)
Somehow punching your vagina just
isn't sexy for me.

Scout abruptly gets out from under the blankets and walks to the dresser. He pulls out a large vibrator and flicks it on.

SARAH
There we go!

SCOUT
Shut up.

Scout lifts the blanket and dives under like a torpedo. Sarah squeals, delighted. Scout phone rings on the night-stand. His arm reaches out, grabs it and pulls it under the covers.

Amy PANG is calling and Scout answers it. A video feed ensues.

PANG
Do you like your job, Scout?

SCOUT
It's alright.

PANG
You were supposed to be here
fifteen minutes ago.

He continues to pleasure Sarah. She moans.

PANG (CONT'D)

What's going on there? Why is it so dark? Who are you with? Are you in the generator room?

SCOUT

Sorry, Pang, I am pleasuring my girlfriend. I lost track of time.

PANG

Don't bother coming in.

SCOUT

What?

Scout stops using the vibrator for a second.

SARAH

I was about to finish.

Scout awkwardly laughs and shushes Sarah.

PANG

Last chance then. I am uploading the last lead you might ever get. Sign him or find another job.

SCOUT

Yes, ma'am, Ms. Pang, ma'am.

Pang signs off. Scout pulls up the forwarded lead. He clicks on Eamon Taquer's hyper-link. It displays a history of pilgrimages, missions, awards, videos of sermons, and various quotes like "man is enslaved by machine".

SCOUT (CONT'D)

Ah, bullshit.

Scout jumps up and out of the bed, dildo in hand. He begins putting on his pants.

SARAH

Get over here.

SCOUT

You're not my boss.

Scout instinctively throws the vibrator at her.

SCOUT (CONT'D)

I gotta go.

INT. TAQUER RESIDENCE RO'S ROOM - EVENING

Ro is lying on his bed under the blanket. Ro's mom, DEBBIE, walks by the door and hesitates, listening in. She hears girls giggling and steps into the room. She looks confused at the glow and giggles coming from underneath the blanket.

RO

Do you guys have identical
everythings everywhere?

DEBBIE

Roland! Who are you talking to in
here?

Ro pulls the cover off, embarrassed. He tries to hide the phone under his pillow.

DEBBIE (CONT'D)

How do you have a phone? Who are
these girls you are talking to?

RO

I met them at church! Isn't that
where I am supposed to meet nice
young women?

Debbie reaches for the phone and looks at the video feed of the twins.

DEBBIE

They're little girls. Tell me where
you got this phone?

RO

One of the little girls gave it to
me.

DEBBIE

Well, you have to give it back.

DANI (O.S.)

(through phone speaker)
He can keep it!

DEBBIE

Hang that thing up! If your father
saw that, he would lose it. Say
good night, girls.

DANI (O.S.)

(through speaker)
Night!

AUBRI (O.S.)
 (through speaker)
 Night, Ro Ro!

DEBBIE
 Ro Ro?

RO
 Yeah...I'm hoping it doesn't stick.

DEBBIE
 This worries me. Do we need to go
 over-

RO
 Over what? Uh, no. Sex equals
 babies and itchy, scabby crotches,
 and eternal damnation. Got it.

DEBBIE
 That's not what he said.

RO
 More or less. You do know it's not
 as dangerous as it was when you
 were younger. There is all kinds of
 cures, creams, ointments and anti-
 bodies, which makes sure this body
 isn't without booty.

DEBBIE
 Roland, are you actually having
 sex? You have to tell me!

RO
 No! No! I am not having sex. Thanks
 for reminding me, though. Almost
 forgot.
 (pause)
 Can't I just keep the phone?

DEBBIE
 (pause)
 Just keep your door locked. If you
 get caught, I can't help you.

RO
 Are you suggesting that I hide
 inappropriate material from your
 husband?

DEBBIE
 Perhaps.

RO

Yes! Co-conspirator! Why is he so weird about using technology? I just want to talk to my friends like a normal teenager.

DEBBIE

Ro, I know it is hard. But your father believes that our reliance on computers is corrosive.

RO

How could the advances in science that let us live longer and happier be a bad thing?

DEBBIE

It is complicated, but your father and I agree, that our society is grossly misguided and-

RO

Fine, I don't care enough to talk about this anymore.

DEBBIE

Then what do you care about?

RO

(counts off on fingers)
Friends. The *means* to talk to my friends. Having access to information and knowledge worth knowing. Not being closed off from just about everyone. Oh, and at home remedies for future herpes outbreaks.

DEBBIE

You are never serious, Ro. Isn't it worth knowing how to save yourself? Remember, we don't have a soul, Ro. We are a soul and we have a body.

RO

Do you hear yourself? Maybe I am never serious because all you guys ever are is serious.

DEBBIE

We are trying-

RO

You are trying too hard.

DEBBIE

I only want to care for you. And
you used to reciprocate that love.

RO

Okay, you are reciprocated:
I love you, mother. Happy now?

Ro gives her a quick, patronizing hug. He gestures for her to
leave. Debbie exits.

INT. DUNLOWE ESTATE - AFTERNOON

Corin is sitting at his monitors editing a dream. Aubri and
Dani are hovering behind him, as he works diligently.

AUBRI

Whose dream are you chopping up,
Dad?

CORIN

I'm just going through some
prospective dreamers' footage.

AUBRI

Give it a rest. You're off the
clock.

Corin turns away from the screen.

CORIN

When is your friend coming over?

DANI

He should be here in a minute.
Don't be mean to him.

AUBRI

Yeah, don't embarrass us!

CORIN

Why would I ever be mean to a boy
who wants nothing more than to
spend time with my two, young,
beautiful, impressionable twin
daughters?

DANI

Dork.

The doorbell rings and Ro shows up on the front gate security
monitor.

DANI (CONT'D)
Let him in.

Corin hesitates, then hits a button. He speaks into the microphone.

CORIN
ENTER!

AUBRI
Dad! Seriously?!

CORIN
(laughs)
IF YOU DARE!

Ro is seen shuffling through the gate.

CORIN (CONT'D)
Alright, let's go meet this kid.

Corin and the twins step out, heading toward the front door.

CORIN (CONT'D)
Which one of you two like him
anyway?

The girls point at each other.

CORIN (CONT'D)
Good old sibling rivalry.

They give him a funny look.

Corin and the twins open the front door and greet Ro. He stands awkwardly admiring the mansion.

CORIN (CONT'D)
(intimidatingly)
WELCOME!

Ro is taken aback.

CORIN (CONT'D)
(pause)
Get in here.

RO
Thank you.

CORIN
So, Ro-Ro, is it?

RO
Roland. Or just Ro, if you want.

CORIN
If I want or if you want?

RO
I guess, I want you to call me Ro,
Sir.

AUBRI
Is Roland your *in trouble* name?

Aubri smiles, crinkles her cheeks, to an extreme, and gives him a double wink. Corin walks back into the office. Roland looks to the twins for guidance. They shrug and gesture for him to follow Corin back into his office.

Ro slowly walks in. Corin is behind the door and shuts it as he enters, surprising Ro.

CORIN
Have a seat.

RO
Yes, sir.

Ro sits and admires all the media paraphernalia on the walls.

CORIN
So, Ro, which one of my daughters
are you interested in?

RO
(laughs)
What is all this you have here?

CORIN
Diversion. Smart move.
(pause)
This is my dream editing suite.

RO
Oh, okay. I've never seen a dream.
Strict parents. It's like a new
kind of movie though, right?

CORIN
(laughs)
Yeah, it's kind of like a film, but
a little more complex. A little
more suited for this day in age.

(MORE)

CORIN (CONT'D)

Do you know much about dream to movie technology?

RO

Not really, my dad is pretty strict about my extra-curricular activities.

CORIN

These are the hopes and fears of real people. Their emotions manifested and encoded to a digital visual format. You are not watching people acting, you are seeing people from the inside out.

RO

Not literally, I hope.

CORIN

Haven't you ever wanted to be someone else for just a bit?

RO

I've never considered it.

CORIN

So, you truly know nothing about The Insight Company and what we do?

RO

Not really. I've heard of DreamView. Do you make the same kind of dreams as them?

CORIN

Kind of. They churn 'em out though. We spend a little more time developing character, plot and such.

(pause)

If you like, and you can keep it a secret, we can record a quick piece of one of your dreams, right now, if you want.

RO

I am not really tired-

CORIN

You don't need to be tired.

RO

Yeah?

Corin reaches into his desk drawer and pulls out a small tranquilizer device. He presses it into Ro's leg.

CORIN

You tired yet?

Ro has trouble keeping his eyes open.

RO

(mumbles)

Hooooooooo-

CORIN

Unfortunately, there is no recommended child dose, so, you got the big boy batch. You may have a headache when I wake you up.

Ro closes his eyes. Corin fastens sensors to Ro's temples. He turns back to the computer and starts to adjust the settings. Ro starts to move his eyes as he enters R.E.M. After a few moments, a video pops up on the computer screen.

CORIN (CONT'D)

Wow, kid. Your imagination... I've never seen contrast with this much latitude.

Aubri and Dani walk in.

AUBRI

Can we finally play with Ro now?

DANI

Hey, why is he dreaming, old man? He isn't eighteen.

CORIN

It's only illegal to make them public. He was curious about it, so I told him I'd show him what it was all about.

AUBRI

How can he be dreaming already? He's been in here for five minutes?

CORIN

Once you know where to look, it's a piece of cake.

They all watch flashes from Ro's dream being processed on the screen.

AUBRI

Wow, that is pretty. It is still kind of creepy digging into the brain of the first boy we ever bring home.

CORIN

Yes, but what better way to know what kind of character we are dealing with. This is exceptio-

AUBRI

Hey, pause it! Was that me?

Corin quickly turns off the monitor.

CORIN

Okay, let's let him finish. Everybody out.

DANI

I think it was me.

INT. DUNLOWE ESTATE FOYER - LATER

Dani, Aubri, and Ro walk out of the office. Ro is squinting and holding his temple. Corin follows them and shuts the door to the office.

RO

I can't really see.

CORIN

Sorry about that. Good news is I burned a copy of your dream for you to check out when you get a chance.

Corin hands him the memory stick.

CORIN (CONT'D)

The pain will go away after an hour or so.

RO

Promise?

Ro turns around to see that Corin has already gone. The door creaks shut.

INT. TAQUER RESIDENCE - AFTERNOON

Scout knocks at the front door. Eamon answers the door.

EAMON

What can I do for you?

SCOUT

Mr. Taquer?

EAMON

(surly)

Once again, what can I do for you?

SCOUT

Sir, I have an opportunity for you
I would like to discuss.

EAMON

I don't want any.

SCOUT

I am not selling. My name is Scout.
I represent DreamView corporation
and we are very interested in
taking you on as a dream client.

EAMON

(laughs)

You want me to be a *dreamer*?

SCOUT

I am well aware of the irony of my
visit considering your...beliefs,
but I think we can build a mutually
beneficial relationship.

EAMON

(laughs)

You got balls Skeet, I'll give you
that.

SCOUT

That name is Scout, actually.

EAMON

Scout?! Your name is Scout and your
a scout? I guess that would make me
preach.

SCOUT

Well...Preach, can I come in and
have a moment of your time?

EAMON

Don't be cute. Call me Father Taquer.

SCOUT

I'm sorry. Just trying to lighten the mood a bit.

EAMON

Sorry, skeet, I do have time, but I don't want to waste it on this.

Eamon begins to shut the door, but Scout blocks it with his foot.

SCOUT

Father Taquer, my job is on the line. You have to hear me out. I think I will impress you.

EAMON

I've already had a few and I'm feeling generous, but if you think I'd actually work for the technocrats... that is, if you don't mind wasting ten minutes of our lives, so be it. How do you take your scotch?

SCOUT

In liquid form and preferably in a glass.

Eamon gestures for Scout to enter.

Scout unloads his briefcase on the table. Eamon steps into the room with two glasses of scotch and hands Scout one. Scout takes a pretty big swig.

EAMON

You know, the thing about scotch is, you can drink it slow to savor it, or you can just swallow it down and chase it with a ginger ale like a pre-teen.

SCOUT

Oh, I am sorry, I am nervous. I need a relaxer before I go into this, which let's just go ahead and do.

(pause)

(MORE)

SCOUT (CONT'D)

We are looking to broaden our audience and appeal to less likely factions, including your very devout followers.

Scout pulls out his digital tablet and shows Eamon graphs and figures.

EAMON

I don't know what any of this means.

SCOUT

Let me show you. This graph depicts your current market value. Essentially, how many people follow you at this moment. This second bit shows the maximum number of people you can influence continuing on as you are now. And, here, you can see the anticipated market penetration of your brand, your ideas, were you to sign on with DreamView.

EAMON

Penetration? Brand? I am sure you spent a fair amount of time on your little presentation here, but, frankly, it boils down to my not trusting your face.

SCOUT

It's hard not to take that personally. We do little more than distribute stories. You must be confident in the persuasive power of your own subconscious. In doing my research, it was obvious that your following is dwindling, but can you fathom the amount of people you can affect through our mass medium, if you just opened your mind to us?

EAMON

(pause)

Wouldn't that make me a hypocrite? I'd be using the exact instruments of technology I inspire people to purge from their lives. Would you follow a hypocrite?

SCOUT

People can abuse the instrument,
but perhaps you can model a
balanced approach.

EAMON

Are you done?

SCOUT

I am trying to help us both out. I
keep my job and your vision for a
better world is distributed to far
more people.

EAMON

The end rarely justifies the means.
This is getting to be a little
redundant-

SCOUT

With all due respect, Jesus was a
carpenter. He used tools and shit.
Seriously. This is your greatest
chance of impacting the most
people.

Ro saunters into the room.

EAMON

Where are your manners?

RO

Oh, yeah, greetings, stranger, you
will call me Ro.

SCOUT

Hey, Ro, you can call me Scout.

RO

I can do a lot of things. What
brings you here, stranger.

SCOUT

(smiles)

I am offering your father a pretty
amazing deal right now.

EAMON

(laughs)

A deal with the devil always
appears good, especially a few
tumblers deep.

SCOUT

Really, the devil? I consider myself more the messenger than anything.

EAMON

The company you keep. I appreciate your offer, but I must decline.

RO

What was the offer?

SCOUT

I work for DreamView. Your father's dreams could have been the most lucrative recordings any editing house has seen, but instead, it looks like I'm out a job.

EAMON

I'm always in need of volunteers.

SCOUT

I don't doubt it.

EAMON

Then, I think it is time for you to go.

Scouts packs up his things, shakes Eamon's hand, and exits the front door.

EAMON (CONT'D)

Your name is Roland. Why are you going by Ro now?

RO

Less syllables. More efficient.

Ro darts into the kitchen.

EXT. TAQUER RESIDENCE - CONTINUOUS

Ro comes running around from the rear of the house. He catches up to Scout.

RO

Hey, buddy, you really work for DreamView?

SCOUT

For about a day more.

RO
And you can really make my dad a
dreamer?

SCOUT
If he was willing.

RO
What about me?

SCOUT
What about you?

RO
I could dream for you.

SCOUT
You are too young. Plus, you think
your dad would be okay with that?

RO
He doesn't have to know. Take this.

Ro hands him the memory stick.

RO (CONT'D)
My friends' dad has a dream
recorder. He got this out of me. He
said it was good, so if you agree,
let me know.

SCOUT
Whose dad has a dream recorder? No
one has one of those. Their
unaffordable.

RO
Mr. Dunlowe.

SCOUT
Corin Dunlowe? From Insight?

RO
Yes.

SCOUT
Dunlowe liked *your* dreams?
(pause)
Even so, there is nothing I can do
with this.

RO
Just keep it. Let me write my cell
phone number on it for you.

Scout hands him a pen.

SCOUT
Your dad let's you have a cell?

RO
You gotta give up the questions.

SCOUT
Alright, whatever, maybe I'll take a look, if you are lucky. If there is something worthwhile, maybe we can talk when you turn eighteen.

Scout gets into his vehicle and drives off.

INT. PANG'S OFFICE WAITING AREA - AFTERNOON

Scout is sitting waiting to speak with Pang. He looks defeated. He pulls out his computer and pops in Ro's dream. He watches it in complete amazement before the receptionist, APRIL MAE, alerts him to enter the office.

Pang is sitting behind her extravagant desk. She is typing on the surface. It has several electronic files cluttering it. She doesn't look up when Scout enters.

PANG
Hope you have that contract signed and sealed with one very belligerent religious leader.

SCOUT
(looking at memory stick)
Uh, I wasn't really able to...

PANG
(patronizing)
Awww. Well, you're good at packing boxes, right? Because you're done here.

SCOUT
What if I stayed, but maybe with a different job title?

PANG
You want to be a janitor?

SCOUT
I want to be a dreamer.

PANG
Just like that?

SCOUT
Let it speak for itself.

Scout hands her the memory stick with Ro's dream on it.

INT. SCOUT'S CAR - CONTINUOUS

Scout dials Ro.

SCOUT
Hey, kid.

RO (O.S.)
Who is this?

SCOUT
Scout.
(pause)
The DreamView guy. Remember you
gave me-

RO (O.S.)
Oh yeah. Did you watch it? Did you
like it?

SCOUT
Your dream saved my life.

RO (O.S.)
So I can dream for you guys then?

SCOUT
No, like I said before, legally,
you are too young. But we can do
this: I will be your ghost dreamer.

RO (O.S.)
What does that mean?

SCOUT
We say your dreams are mine. I give
you half the earnings.

RO (O.S.)
But, I kind of want credit for my
dreams.

SCOUT
In a couple years, yours are yours
again.

(MORE)

SCOUT (CONT'D)

But until then, it's the only way we can do this. You need me as your filter. With the money we can make in the next couple years, you'd have the tiger by the tale. You could become a dreamer yourself or just go ahead and retire early.

RO (O.S.)

That sounds relaxing.

SCOUT

Can you use Corin's machine again?

RO (O.S.)

I think I could. I can just ask Corin to do it for me-

SCOUT

No, no. Corin can't know about this.

RO (O.S.)

Can't I just use the machines at your company then?

SCOUT

No, they monitor the usage, but I can have my guy teach you how to use the equipment alone, so you won't need Corin.

RO (O.S.)

Okay.

SCOUT

Listen, how about I bring you to the DreamView editing bay tomorrow morning. One of the guys, one of the editors, will be able to fill you in on the basics.

RO (O.S.)

I got school.

SCOUT

You can miss a couple hours. Just tell your teachers it's a bring your kid to work day.

RO (O.S.)

So, don't tell them it's a bring your illegal underage dreamer to work day?

SCOUT
Ah yes, wit. I'll see you tomorrow.

Scout hangs up the phone.

SCOUT (CONT'D)
Ghost dreaming on.

INT. TAQUER RESIDENCE - CONTINUOUS

Ro hangs up on Scout. He dials the twins.

AUBRI (O.S.)
Hey, Ro!

RO
Hi. You and your sister want to hang out tomorrow after school?

AUBRI (O.S.)
Sure. What do you want to do?

RO
(hesitates)
Oh, I dunno, I'll head over to your place, maybe play some racquet ball, just go with the flow.

AUBRI (O.S.)
Sure, I'll tell Dani.

There are loud footsteps outside his room.

RO
Cool, hey, I got to let you go, I hear my dad.

Ro hangs up. Eamon storms into Ro's room and rips the phone from his hand.

EAMON
(chanting)
IN MY HOUSE! IN MY HOUSE! IN MY HOUSE!
HOUSE! IN MY HOUSE!

He cups it into the palm of his hand. He smashes it into Ro's forehead, repeatedly. Ro falls to the ground. The phone disassembles. Eamon finishes the job, tearing the phone apart, and throws the pieces at the wall.

EAMON (CONT'D)
How dare you bring this garbage into my house.

Ro's head is bleeding and his father leaves his room. Ro drags himself up and gathers the phone parts. He places them on his desk and begins tinkering, attempting to fix the phone.

INT. TAQUER RESIDENCE RO'S ROOM - MORNING

The phone sits on the desk mangled, but somehow pieced together. Ro is asleep in his bed. The phone rings and Ro stirs to answer it. He has trouble using it at first.

RO

Hello.

SCOUT

You ready for this kid? This is the fourth time I have tried to call. What's wrong with your phone?

RO

Yeah, I get pretty poor service here.

SCOUT

Meet me five houses down, Ill drive up slow-

RO

My dad's already gone. Just pick me up here.

INT. SCOUT'S CAR - MOMENTS LATER

It is raining. Ro runs out of his house and into the car.

Scout notices the gash on Ro's face.

SCOUT

You look like shit.

RO

Yeah, what do people usually say? Uh, I fell?

SCOUT

(awkward laughter)

How many times? It's lucky you met me, huh? I get the sense there isn't a lot of hope in the Taquer residence.

RO
You know what you should be worried
about?

Ro belches in Scout's face.

SCOUT
Next time you burp in my face, give
it some character. Ya know, shape
the sound like a meow or something.

Ro belches a meow.

SCOUT (CONT'D)
There ya go. Super cute, but you
could use a breath mint. What is
that? Cabbage?

RO
Egg rolls.

SCOUT
That should have killed my
appetite, but disturbingly, I want
egg rolls now.

INT. DREAMVIEW CORPORATION EDITING BAY - AFTERNOON

Scout walks in with Ro. SALMON is working behind two large
monitors.

SCOUT
Hey, Salmon, this is my...

RO
Nephew!

SCOUT
Yes, this is my nephew.
(pause)
And I did not do this to his face.

RO
No means no.

SCOUT
Really?

SALMON
Whatever.

SCOUT

Anyway, he has a day off school, he wants to be a dream engineer like you, so I was hoping you could show him how all the dream recording devices work.

SALMON

Yeah, because I have so much free time in my daily schedule to be able to set aside hours to teach this kid, that may or may not be your nephew, whose face you may or may not have bashed in, how to use millions of dollars worth of intricately dynamic machinery-

Scout pulls a wad of cash out of his pocket and hands it to Salmon.

SALMON (CONT'D)

There. Now, then, this brutalized youngster is gonna get a well paid education in dreamerology.

SCOUT

That he is. I'm leaving him with you. I'll be back in a couple hours. I gotta deal with Pang.

SALMON

I have such a thing for her.

Scout scoffs and exits.

SALMON (CONT'D)

So, be straight with me, do I need to call child services?

RO

No, really, I'm fine, it was the stairs and the falling down them.

SALMON

I too struggle with gravity.

RO

Wow, now we have something in common. Let's get on with it man! Show me how this works.

SALMON

Alright, the first thing you need to know is the hertz at which your mind dreams at. Each mind has slight variance in frequency, which isn't much, but for solid visual feedback, we need to lock in on the specifics. So, first, push that button.

Ro opens his backpack, pulls out his notebook and begins scribbling.

INT. TAQUER RESIDENCE - EVENING

Ro walks in and places his backpack next to the door. Eamon walks out of the kitchen.

EAMON

Come with me.

Ro follows Eamon to the garage.

EXT. LARGE PARK - CONTINUOUS

Eamon and Ro are sitting on a bench. A vast open area surrounded by trees with a small pond in the center of it. Ducks are swimming in the pond.

EAMON

Do you hear that?

Ro looks at Eamon, slightly confused.

EAMON (CONT'D)

If you listen carefully you can hear God, His sound of nature, His sound of creation.

RO

I hear ducks.

EAMON

What about the wind blowing through the leaves? The sound of the acorns falling from the trees?

RO

Faintly?

EAMON

I'm sorry about hitting you. I was so angry that you-

RO

Used a phone?

EAMON

Were deceptive-

RO

You do know that car you drive wasn't just left here for you by God?

EAMON

A car is necessary. We have to draw lines.

RO

If God gave us free will and we use that free will to create all of the things that are designed to make our lives easier and more enjoyable, then why would you fight that? Wouldn't that mean you are fighting *God* and his reason for giving us free will?

EAMON

He has given me the clarity to steer those who have lost their will to be free. Between overpopulation, intolerance, overindulgence, it is not going to end well.

RO

Technology is a gift that we earned by always asking why and always asking if there's more. We evolved from animals to creators and whatever bad comes our way from our advances, we'll be able to overcome.

EAMON

Your idealism is an illness. I don't want to lose you to this. I love you, but your mind and soul is going down a dark path. I want to help you.

RO
There's nothing to help, dad. I'm fine.

EAMON
Let's just sit here and listen for a few more moments.

Ro sits back and rolls his eyes. A duck loudly QUACKS.

INT. DUNLOWE ESTATE CORIN'S OFFICE - EVENING

Ro, Aubri, and Dani are messing around with the equipment. Ro pulls out his notebook and begins reviewing it. He affixes the temple sensors.

RO
Okay, now turn it on.

AUBRI
Turn what on?

RO
The big thing. That part right there.

Aubri complies. There is a low hum heard.

RO (CONT'D)
Good, now somebody grab that sleep gun thing.

Dani grabs the tranquilizer gun and looks at it apprehensively.

DANI
I don't think I can do this. Aubri, you do it.

Dani hands it to Aubri. Aubri points it at Ro's arm. She tries to squeeze.

AUBRI
I can't do it!

RO
Sure you can. I'll be okay.

AUBRI
It's not that, I really can't do it. I am not strong enough to pull the trigger.

Dani laughs.

AUBRI (CONT'D)
Shut up, bitch! Help me.

Dani reaches over and they squeeze the tranquilizer together. They still can't get it to go off. They are struggling and their aim is affected.

RO
Oh, come on. Just let me do it then.

Ro takes the gun, struggles, then slyly uses three fingers to pull the trigger and tranquilize himself.

INT. DUNLOWE ESTATE CORIN'S OFFICE - LATER

Ro stirs from his sleep and focuses in on the twins.

RO
Did you get it? Did it work?

The girls don't respond.

RO (CONT'D)
What the hell? Did you get it or not?

AUBRI
I don't know.

DANI
It started doing stuff, but then nothing ever popped up. No video.

AUBRI
Or sound.

RO
Did you follow the steps I gave you? Did you do everything?

AUBRI
Yes! We are not stupid!

DANI
We did everything you asked us to. Nothing happened.

RO
How long was I out?

DANI
I don't know...an hour or so.

AUBRI
Yeah, and you know, you snore.
Loud!

RO
I do not, liar.

AUBRI
Well, then, you certainly struggle
to breath while sleeping.

RO
Alright, whatever, how about I just
try it on one of you? Put one of
you guys under and see what went
wrong.

AUBRI
I'll do it, but let me fall asleep
on my own. That looked really pain-

Ro shoots her with the tranquilizer mid-sentence.

AUBRI (CONT'D)
(woozily)
Fully ... Ouch! You cock.

DANI
Ow.

Aubri falls to the ground. Ro tries to pull her up on to the chair, but she is too heavy. He looks to Dani for help.

DANI (CONT'D)
Why couldn't you have just waited
til she was sitting on the chair?

RO
I was excited! I wasn't thinking.

INT. SARAH'S APARTMENT ELEVATOR - DAY

Scout steps on and hits the button to the fourth floor. A TENANT steps on behind him. The Tenant reaches over and presses the button to the top floor. Scout looks pained. The door begins to shut, when another RENTER steps on. He reaches over and presses the button to the third floor. Scout looks relieved and nods confidently as the door shuts.

INT. SARAH'S APARTMENT - MOMENTS LATER

Scout walks through the front door. His girlfriend SARAH is sitting on the couch reading.

SARAH

There you are.

SCOUT

Hi. I got some great news. I was promoted today. Officially ascending.

SARAH

That's a surprise. Good for us, huh?

SCOUT

It is actually quite stupendous, but I have come to realize a couple things since my upgrade. One, I can get a lot of women as a dreamer. And, two, I am about to have a lot of money. I mean a lot. So, with that in mind...I am just going to grab my toothbrush and go.

SARAH

What?

SCOUT

Eh, you're right, I don't really need my old toothbrush, I'm gonna buy a fancy one. I just wanted to tell you the big news in person and snag Titus. Also, tell that asshole dad of yours, he should just go ahead and suck on my balls.

Sarah looks at him horrified.

SCOUT (CONT'D)

There's the look I came for.

(pause)

Now who is meeting their potential!

Scout walks over to the fish tank. Titus, a tiny gold fish, is swimming around. He tries to lift it, but it is too heavy. He tips out most of the water, drenching the carpet.

SARAH

What the hell!?! Asshole.

Scout picks up the partially-filled tank and leaves.

SCOUT
Ciao, forever, stinky-twat.

INT. DUNLOWE ESTATE CORIN'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

Aubri, Dani and Ro are playing back Aubri's dream. Aubri is beginning to wake up, rubbing her head. Ro and Dani are watching her footage intently.

DANI
Wow. Aubri, you dream about a lot of sex. Is that supposed to be Ro? Are you doing Ro in your dreams?

AUBRI
(groggy)
What? No!

RO
Yeah you are! You are so doing me and I'm good!

Dani and Ro laugh.

AUBRI
That's not funny. I didn't dream that! I didn't *do* that! That's not me.

DANI
Oh, it is so you and you are such a slut. I'm not sure I can leave you two alone, like ever.

Ro is trying to manage his erection, positioning so it is less noticeable. Aubri notices him and smiles. He looks at her awkwardly, before going in for a kiss. She is embarrassed, gets up and steps out of the room. Dani didn't notice their awkward moment, but suddenly sees Ro's erection. She sidles next to him and grips him. Ro loses his breath for a second, startled.

There is a stern knock on the window. Eamon stands watching the precarious position. They look at him like a deer in headlights.

DANI (CONT'D)
(whispers)
Shit, I left the gate open.

He looks back angrily, stunned, shrugging, without words. He forces out a questioning grunt.

Ro grunts back with a pathetic, apologetic grunt. Eamon begins banging on the window.

EAMON
GET OUT HERE, NOW!

He cracks the glass. The girls scream. Eamon walks around the house to the front door. Ro sits, still holding Dani's left breast, blankly staring out the window where Eamon was.

RO
Uh... I gotta go...

DANI
He won't tell our dad, will he?

RO
Uh...

INT. INSIGHT COMPANY FOYER - MORNING

There are posters of dream-movies evenly spaced across the walls. A poster with the name Belle sticks out. It is morbid and haunting. Another poster is highly sexual. The name Marceline is on the bottom of it. She is draped in silk. Eamon storms in the door walking through the waiting room. CHERYL is sitting behind the reception desk. She looks at Eamon as he seems to ignore her.

CHERYL
Excuse me, sweet heart?

Eamon continues his journey down to Corin's office. Cheryl follows him down the hall.

CHERYL (CONT'D)
Sir, if you have an appointment
please follow me and I'll check you
in.

Eamon attempts to open the door. It's locked.

EAMON
Please let me in. I need to talk to
Mr. Dunlowe.

CHERYL
He's busy, hence the locked door
and the personal assistant. If you
would come back to the waiting
room...

The door opens and Corin stands in the door way.

CHERYL (CONT'D)
Sorry, Mr. Dunlowe

CORIN
It's okay. What can I do for you
father?

Cheryl walks back to her desk. Corin gestures for Eamon to enter and sit. Eamon does and Corin sits at his seat.

EAMON
I don't like that my son goes
unsupervised at your home.

CORIN
I understand. I try to be there as
often as I can, but work keeps me
very occupied.

EAMON
That is another issue: I'm not okay
with what you or this company does.

CORIN
Once again, I understand. They
should not have been in my office.
I don't even let my own daughters
use my equipment. But, I do know,
that Ro and the girls have become
really good friends.

EAMON
They are spending too much time
together. What I saw was...too
much.

CORIN
Are you sure preventing them from
seeing each other is the smart play
here?

EAMON
Yes. I'm sure.

CORIN
Okay. What would you like us to do
about it?

EAMON
I think it would be best if you and
your family worshiped at another
parish.

CORIN

(pause)

Seems a bit much. They are kids,
they are going to experiment.

EAMON

I know it's difficult for you to
sufficiently care for these girls
as a single father running a
business, but I need to think about
my son's future.

CORIN

My wife and I were married at your
church, Father. My family belongs
at your church. You can't really
expect us to... it seems strangely
selfish on your part.

EAMON

This is not about me. It is about
Ro.

CORIN

Your son is amazingly smart. I
trust him with my daughters.

EAMON

I don't trust him.

CORIN

I am sorry you feel that way. I
appreciate you coming here and
expressing your concerns. I am
sorry, but I am not sure we are
going to see eye to eye on this.
Please, I have an appointment I am
already late for. If you don't
mind, I hope you will forgive me
when we see you at church on
Sunday.

Corin stands. Eamon stands and gives him a stern glare. He
turns and walks out.

INT. DUNLOWE ESTATE, CORIN'S OFFICE - NIGHT

Corin is watching a backed-up copy of Ro's dream-test. His
daughters are on the playback screen kissing. Dani begins to
caress Aubri over her panties. Corin is watching the screen
perversely. He reaches for his belt.

EXT. CHURCH - MORNING

Ro and Eamon stand outside the church greeting people as they enter. Eamon has one hand gripping the back of Ro's neck. They both have false smiles. Aubri, Dani and Corin approach. The girls freeze noticing Eamon at the door. Corin looks at his girls confused.

CORIN

It'll be okay.

The girls look at one another, wide-eyed, before proceeding to the door. Eamon maliciously locks eyes with the girls. They avoid eye contact. Eamon moves his attention to Corin.

EAMON

Mr. Dunlowe.

CORIN

Father.

Corin and the girls walk briskly into the church. Eamon pushes at Ro.

EAMON

Get in the front pew.

Eamon guides him through the door, into the church.

INT. CHURCH - CONTINUOUS

Ro is escorted down the aisle by his father. He passes Aubri and Dani. They slowly open their hands to reveal hot sauce packets. They smile and Ro cheers up.

Ro sits down in the first pew as his father continues up to the altar to begin mass. Eamon starts talking and glares over at Ro. Ro looks at him intently, smiles, and closes his eyes to take a nap. Eamon is enraged, but has no opportunity to reprimand Ro.

INT. CHURCH - CONTINUOUS

Ro opens his eyes. The person next to him, JEFF, is gesturing for him to join the line for Eucharist. Ro gets up and takes the wafer from his dad. He stares at his father as he puts the wafer in his front pocket and walks back to his seat. Eamon seems to look right through his son.

Ro takes a breath as he breaks off a piece in his mouth and starts to chew. He makes a grimace as he tries to swallow.

He gives up and spits it out on to the ground. People around him gasp. Eamon stops passing out the wafers and looks at Ro, who is scraping his tongue and spitting out savior flakes.

Eamon calmly places the sacrament on the altar ledge. He briskly walks over to Ro and grabs him by the collar, pulling him to his feet. He starts to escort Ro out.

Ro breaks away.

RO
(laughs)
I didn't want to be here in the
first place.

EAMON
You are dishonoring the church,
this congregation, our God,
yourself and your father.

RO
(scoffs)
You are raping common sense. You
and your religion are unforgivable.
You all sit here praying to a
fictional character, written by
greedy, controlling people
thousands of years ago. It is just
a bunch of stories.

EAMON
Get out of this church.

RO
You all are fools, clinging to
false hope. Once you're dead,
that's it, nothing. Deal.

Ro grabs a bible from the back of an adjacent pew.

RO (CONT'D)
This ridiculous horse shit-

He holds it up.

RO (CONT'D)
Suckered you out of your hard
earned money. You've all wasted
your lives on make-believe.

Ro throws the bible at his father.

RO (CONT'D)

You drunk, abusive, ignorant, piece
of shit. Stick that bible up your
ass with the rest of your faith.

Eamon slowly walks up to Ro. He stands in his face for a
moment, before suddenly grabbing his throat.

FADE OUT.