## TONIC

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INT. BATHROOM - MORNING

FEET slap onto the cold tile floor and lock the door behind it.

The shower turns on.

A PERSON kneels under the sink and opens the cupboards.

HANDS fumble around in there searching for something.

They finally pull out a small box.

The person gets back up.

The hands gently open the box to pull out a waded up towel the size of a lemon.

They uncoil the bulge to reveal...

A MEDICINE BOTTLE reading: Adderall 40mg, Amanda Hays

The hands bump the bottle, making it raddle like a snake. A single pill jumps out.

The hands hold the pill like a child and then force it up to the persons mouth. Swallowing with no water, revealing...

PRESTON(16) dreamy blue eyes, still half asleep and not ready for the day stands in front of the mirror.

He hates this but it's necessary.

Time speeds up and he takes off his shirt.

INT. CLASSROOM - MORNING

Preston sits in his desk, staring at the floor. The class settles down.

MINUTES LATER

A test flops onto Preston's desk. He grabs his pen and starts flipping through the pages.

He shows no emotion.

The clock on the wall speeds up.

Preston fills in the bubbles.

A person next to him plays with a pencil. Tapping it on the desk.

The girl beside him picks at her nails.

Preston ignores these sounds and fills out the test faster and faster.

TEACHER (O.S.)

(very faintly)

Preston.

Preston keeps working on the test.

TEACHER (CONT'D)

(louder)

Preston.

The lead crushes, spreading across the paper.

TEACHER (CONT'D)

Preston!

He's finishing up the essay and his pencil SNAPS.

Preston gently looks up to the class as they all turn their heads towards him.

Staring.

SCARLET (V.O.)

What is wrong with you?

INT. PRESTON'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Preston throws a tennis ball at the wall. Sleepless.

PRESTON (V.O.)

What do you mean?

Preston looks through his fridge. Nothing interests him. He walks away.

SCARLET (V.O.)

You've been acting weird lately.

Preston is on a date at the movies, he ignores his girlfriend.

PRESTON

It's not you if that's what you're wondering.

Preston sleeps siting up on his bed. The sun shines through the window. He wakes up. The time is 8 AM. SCARLET (V.O.)

Then what is it?

He checks his phone it's a text message from Scarlet:
"Preston?"

EXT. PARK - MORNING

Preston swings on the swing as SCARLET(16), thick rim glasses with worn out sneakers approaches him.

Cut to them sitting on a bench.

PRESTON

It's just last week got to me with all the testing.

SCARLET

Well the break is finally here and you're still acting funny.

PRESTON

I'm sorry, what else do you want me say?

SCARLET

Tell me what's going on!

PRESTON

It's school.

Scarlet gets up, stares down at Preston like a dog.

SCARLET

You need to stop lying to me! I'm your girlfriend not your mother.

PRESTON

Scarlet I'm not lying.

She looks at him. Trying to find the lie under his eyes.

She's not buying it.

SCARLET

We're done.

She starts walking away.

Preston grabs her hand.

PRESTON

Scarlet.

HOURS LATER.

Preston hunches over a swing.

The sun blinds his eyes as wakes up.

It's as if his bones have mended together while sleeping.

He gets up to break the stiffness.

He looks around. Stretching. Lost at where he is.

He checks his pockets, not finding his phone.

He looks to the ground and finds it in the parks saw dust.

He walks to it and picks it up. Unlocking it, it reads 1 PM and there's a swarm of text messages and calls from his mother that happened hours ago.

Preston's heart drops

INT. PRESTON'S HOUSE - LATER

Preston BLASTS through the door. Freaking out.

He has no memory of the past hours.

His mom emerges from the side.

MOM (0.S.)

Where have you been Preston! I've been calling you like crazy.

Preston looks through his phone, trying to find a contact.

PRESTON

I was- I was with Scarlet.

Preston looks at his watch, it speeds up.

MOM (0.S.)

Are you still together? How is she?

Preston leans against the door. Dealing with the panic.

PRESTON

She's, She's fine mom.

He runs up the stairs.

INT. PRESTON'S BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

Preston slams the door after entering.

MOM (O.S.)

Are you alright honey?

He gathers his surroundings. Getting himself together and then calls GREG. He picks up.

GREG (O.S.)

(eating a bag of chips)

What's up?

PRESTON

I need to pick up.

EXT. BACK LOT - DAY

GREG(18 maybe 20) smiling with his yellow teeth and shades as he jumps out of the car.

**GREG** 

I've got all sorts of supplements today.

PRESTON

Greg.

GREG

New ones that I think you'd find a liking of trying.

Greg opens his trunk.

GREG (CONT'D)

Not that you've tried anything else besides those pill.

PRESTON

That's what I'm here to talk about.

GREG

Unless you have another dealer. Which would be rude.

PRESTON

Greg

GREG

It's not like you'd leave me.

Greg takes off his sunglasses and looks at him with a small smile.

PRESTON

GREG!

**GREG** 

What?!

PRESTON

I need help! The drug you gave me, it wasn't Adderall.

GREG

What are you saying? You saying I gave you the wrong drug?

PRESTON

I don't know but I've been having memory lose.

Greg looks at him, not knowing if he's playing or not.

PRESTON (CONT'D)

Hours gone without knowing what happened.

Beat.

**GREG** 

Are you on it right now?

PRESTON

I haven't taken it since yesterday.

**GREG** 

How many times have you taken it?

PRESTON

Only four.

REG

You must- You must be experiencing some sort of- Some sort of side effect.

PRESTON

You didn't tell me this was going to happen.

GREG

What did you expect sunshine. I gave you a whole bottle!

PRESTON

You could have told me something.

Greg shuts the trunk.

**GREG** 

I'm a drug dealer. You expect me to give you reasons not buy my product.

Greg starts leaving.

PRESTON

You can at least tell me what to do-

Preston sits alone in the back lot.

He wakes up and looks around.

Greg is gone.

PRESTON (CONT'D)

Damn it!

INT. PRESTON'S HOUSE - LATER

Preston runs through the front door.

INT. PRESTON'S BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

Preston closes the door. Thinking to himself.

He looks around the room.

The alarm clock reads 5 PM.

He comes up with an idea and pulls out his laptop.

He launches Photobooth and starts recording himself.

His breath calms down.

He looks at his hands which are a little beaten up.

He rolls over to his knuckles to see a spec of dry blood.

He finds that weird and whips it off.

He then looks at the camera.

LATER.

Preston sleeps on his chair, he wakes up slowly to find the camera still recording.

He looks at his alarm clock reading 1 AM.

He then looks at the computer and scrubs back to when he spaced out.

IN VIDEO:

Preston rubs the blood off his knuckles and looks at screen. His eyes become still as a windless day.

He gets up and walks out of the room.

LIVE.

Preston looks worried. Something is clicking together in his head.

INSERT CUT OF: Preston yanking Scarlets hand down and forcing her to sit down on the bench.

BACK TO ROOM: The memories start flooding in.

INSERT CUT OF: Preston punching Greg in the face multiple times.

BACK TO THE ROOM: He can't believe this is happening.

INSERT CUT OF: Preston yelling at his mother and breaking a vase.

BACK TO ROOM: Preston's eyes stuck on the video.

VIDEO: From the corner of the screen we can see him going down stairs with a knife.

BACK TO ROOM: Preston looks out the door and gets up.

He looks down the stairs to find the house a mess.

He walks into the kitchen. Everything thrown around.

He looks to the side and finds his mother dead in the pantry area.

Preston jumps, scared of himself. He runs to the phone and-CUT TO BLACK

FAD IN

Preston laying in a bathtub slicing his own wrists.

His eyes are solid. No pain shown in doing this.

He finishes and lets it bleed.

He then wakes up. Catching himself killing himself.

He tries to cover the blood and flops out of the tube.

He reaches for the door but can't.

He becomes weak as his skin. Turning pail.

He gives up and falls to the white bathroom floor.

Blood pours over the tile.

CUT TO BLACK

ROLL CREDITS with drug commercials audio of side effects in the back ground.

THE END.