FADE IN:

EXT. SUBURBAN STREET - NIGHT

Eric walks down the street by himself.

ERIC (V.O.)
You learn a few essential things
during high school. Yeah, there's
the study habits and classroom
stuff, but it's the social lessons
that stick.

SUBTITLES READ: LESSON #1 - NEVER GO ALONE

ERIC (V.O.)
I was going to a party, and Chris
offered me a ride...unfortunately,
it was with some of his junior
friends.

FANTASY SEQUENCE

EXT. ERIC'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Eric opens the door and Chris is standing outside with THREE
JUNIORS behind him.

CHRIS
You ready?

ERIC
Yeah, let's go.

CHRIS
Shotgun.

JUNIOR
Not if I get there first.

The juniors run to the car.

CHRIS
I called shotgun!

Chris runs after them. Eric follows them to the car, where
AARON (Episode 7), a junior, is all ready in the driver's
seat. A junior is sitting in the passenger's seat, Chris and
two other juniors are in the back.
ERIC
Where should I sit?

AARON
We could strap you to the roof.

Chris and then juniors laugh.

AARON
Or the trunk if you prefer.

CHRIS
Nah, come on Eric, just squeeze in.

Eric gets in to the back seat and closes the car door. He is pressed up against the window.

JUNIOR
Who smells good?

AARON
Me.

JUNIOR
No, you smell like shit.

They all laugh.

CHRIS
It's Eric.

JUNIOR
Eric?

ERIC
Yeah, I put cologne on.

AARON
You're going to get some poon tonight.

They all laugh.

JUNIOR
Could I like...rub up on you or something?

They all laugh. Eric tries to look away, uncomfortable.

END FANTASY SEQUENCE

Eric continues to walk the streets.
ERIC (V.O.)
I hate the juniors...I walked over instead, which may not have seemed like a big mistake...at least that's what I thought at the time.

Reaching the house, Eric turns towards the front door.

EXT. HOUSE - NIGHT

Eric knocks on the front door of the house. After a moment, RICK BROWN, a senior, opens the door.

    RICK
    Who're you?

Eric looks around.

    ERIC
    Umm...Eric, Eric Walker.

    RICK
    What do you want?

Eric stares at Rick awkwardly for a moment.

    ERIC
    Uh...I'm here...for the party. This is where Kaila Brown lives, right?

    RICK
    Maybe it is, maybe it isn't.

    ERIC
    Look man, could you just let me in?

Rick licks his lips.

    RICK
    You got 50 bucks?

    ERIC
    Excuse me?

    RICK
    50 bucks.

    ERIC
    Are you serious?
RICK
Maybe I am, maybe I'm not. I'll let you decide.

Eric stares at Rick for a moment, then KAILA BROWN (Episode 7) approaches the front door from behind Rick.

KAILA
Hey, Eric!

ERIC
Oh, Kaila, hey!

Kaila steps outside and hugs Eric.

ERIC (V.O.)
Thank God.

KAILA
What are you doing outside?

RICK
Your friend and I were talking.

Kaila turns angrily to Rick.

KAILA
What did I tell you about talking to my friends, Rick?

Rick chuckles.

RICK
Relax. Go enjoy your little froshy party. I'm going back up to my room.

Rick turns and leaves.

KAILA
Ugh, older brothers. Come on, let's go.

Kaila grabs Eric's hand and leads him inside.

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Eric walks into Kaila's living room, led by Kaila.

KAILA
Okay, so we're running low on drinks but there's still some (MORE)
KAILA (cont'd)
beers and stuff on the table.
And...yeah. People are everywhere.
I got to go take care of
something.

ERIC
Alright, thanks Kaila.

Kaila walks back out of the living room. Eric looks around and puts his hands in his pockets.

ERIC (V.O.)
(sarcastically)
Well this doesn't feel awkward.

Eric walks over to where a case of beers has nearly been emptied. He grabs one, looks around, and takes a second. He spots Boom.

ERIC
Boom!

Boom turns, sees Eric, and starts to walk towards him.

BOOM
Hey, Eric.

Eric tosses the second beer at Boom, who bobbles and then drops it.

ERIC
(sarcastically)
Nice catch.

BOOM
A warning would have been nice.

Boom picks the beer up.

ERIC
Nobody likes to drink alone.

Eric and Boom clank cans.

ERIC
Cheers.

They open the cans, take a sip but Eric chokes a little.

ERIC
I miss anything?
BOOM
Not really... it's pretty boring so far.

ERIC
That sucks.

Boom notices something.

BOOM
Yo, what are those?

Eric turns around and notices a tray of jello shots on a table.

ERIC
The jello shots?

BOOM
Jello?

ERIC
Yup.

BOOM
That looks fun. I like jello.

Boom goes over to the table, followed by Eric. Boom grabs a shot, downs it, and starts to cough violently.

BOOM
(coughs)
Son of a shit! What was that?

ERIC
A jello shot.

BOOM
That wasn't just jello.

ERIC (V.O.)
Lesson #2--

ERIC
There's alcohol in jello shots.

SUBTITLES READ: LESSON #2 - THERE IS ALCOHOL IN JELLO SHOTS

ERIC (cont'd)
That's why it's a jello SHOT, dude.
7.

BOOM

Oh...

Liz approaches the guys from behind and taps Boom on his back.

LIZ

Hi!

ERIC

Hey, Liz.

Boom coughs violently.

LIZ

You okay?

BOOM

(weakly)

Yeah.

ERIC

He had a jello shot, but he didn't know there was vodka in it.

LIZ

How did you not know there's vodka in a jello SHOT.

BOOM

Well I know now.

INT. HALLWAY - NIGHT

Jonsey leads two girls into a bedroom. He turns around to close the door and catches Chris and Dom, across the room, staring in his direction. Jonsey sticks his tongue out and chuckles before closing the door. Chris shakes his head.

DOM

He's unbelievable.

CHRIS

Yeah...

DOM

Maybe you should...

CHRIS

Should what?
8.

DOM
You know...I mean, you do have a girlfriend. Go talk to Stacy. Take her into a room or something.

Chris thinks. He looks over to see Amy, Stacy, and Kaila are chatting. He looks back at Dom who laughs.

DOM
Or you could be a pussy.

CHRIS
(smiles)
Don't call me a pussy.

DOM
Give me a reason not to.

CHRIS
All right.

Chris sighs and walks over to the girls.

CHRIS
Hey, Stacy can I borrow you for a minute?

STACY
Sure. What's up?

Amy and Kaila stand behind Stacy, looking at Chris. Chris looks at both girls them pulls Stacy to the side, so they can talk privately.

CHRIS
I was just thinking--

--You were thinking?

Yeah--

--About what?

Well--

--Was it about me?
9.

CHRIS
You could let me speak.

STACY
Jeez, okay, go ahead, talk all you want, I'll be quiet, I won't even say a word. Shoot.

Pause.

CHRIS
I was just thinking...maybe you and I should...I don't know. Have some fun or something?

STACY
Some fun?

CHRIS
Yeah.

STACY
We could play a game.

CHRIS
I'm not sure where you're going with this.

STACY
We should play some drinking game or something! Oh, it'd be fun.
(to Amy, Kaila)
Amy! Kaila! I want to play a game!

Stacy returns to her girls and they chat giddily about playing a game. Dom approaches Chris.

DOM
A for effort.

CHRIS
Shut the hell up.

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Eric, Boom, Liz, Chris, Stacy, Amy, and Dom sit in a circle on the floor, each with a soda.

CHRIS
Soda?
AMY
Yeah, Kaila went on a beer run.

STACY
Who starts?

AMY
I will. Okay...never have I ever...gotten an F on a test.

Boom, Liz, and Chris each take a sip of their sodas. Stacy laughs.

ERIC
Amy! Don't mention school.

AMY
I'm sorry.

ERIC
No school. Not now.

STACY
Okay Eric, you come up with something better.

Eric nods and thinks.

ERIC
Okay...

ERIC (V.O.)
Okay, I need to make this count. How can I impress Stacy with this? What have I done that's really impressive?

FANTASY SEQUENCE

INT. ARCADE - DAY

Eric stands at a PacMan machine, breathing deeply. Dom stands on his right with a hand towel, giving Eric a quick back massage. Boom, who was kneeling, pops up.

BOOM
Okay man, that was our last quarters. You can't die anymore.

DOM
He's so close to the high score man, we've got this.
PacMan starts up. Eric begins playing madly.

    BOOM
    Eat the orange! Eat the orange!

    DOM
    That's a cherry dude! It's not even the color orange!

    ERIC
    Shut up guys! Dom, towel me!

Dom wipes sweat from Eric's forehead.

    BOOM
    Dude, just stay alive, you're in second place. Only 100 more--

PacMan dies.

    ERIC
    (with Boom and Dom)
    NO!!!

END FANTASY SEQUENCE

    ERIC (V.O.)
    If only I had another quarter!

    ERIC
    I've got nothing.

    CHRIS
    I've got one.

Chris stares at Stacy.

    CHRIS
    Never have I ever...never...kissed a girl.

Stacy looks around and awkwardly takes a sip of her soda. Then her eyes dart to Eric, who is drinking as well.

    STACY
    Eric?

    ERIC (V.O.)
    Uh-oh.

    LIZ
    Eric, you've never kissed a girl?
ERIC (V.O.)
Lesson #3, know the rules before playing a drinking game.

SUBTITLES READ: LESSON #3 - KNOW THE RULES OF "NEVER HAVE I EVER...AND THEN BREAK THEM"

ERIC
Wait--wait, no, I mean yes--I mean I--I don't know the rules. Am I supposed to drink when you did it? Or...what?

BOOM
Eric...

ERIC
I'm thirsty. Is it really dry in here or is it just me? I want a drink.

Eric sips his soda again. When he puts it down, everyone is still staring at him, silently.

FANTASY SEQUENCE
Eric watches a pin fall in front of him. It hits the floor and echoes loudly throughout the room.

END FANTASY SEQUENCE

ERIC
Stop looking at me!

AMY
Eric...tell the truth...have you kissed a girl?

ERIC (V.O.)
Could you define truth for me?

ERIC
Yes.

CHRIS
He's lying.

ERIC
I'm not!

CHRIS
He's blushing.
ERIC
I'm not fucking blushing!

AMY
Eric.

ERIC
What?!!

Amy leans over and kisses Eric. She slowly moves away. Eric doesn't move, shocked, and Dom stares jealously.

ERIC (V.O.)
Lesson #4--and this is not so much for a party situation as it is the self-pity afterwards--but don't, just don't get your first kiss during a drinking game.

SUBTITLES READ: LESSON #4 - DON'T GET YOUR FIRST KISS DURING A DRINKING GAME

BOOM
Stacy hasn't kissed a girl, do her next.

Stacy, Liz, and Amy all hit Boom, then all goes silent. Amy looks up coyly at Eric and smirks, Eric smiles back nervously. Dom looks from one to the other.

ERIC (V.O.)
I hate awkward silences.

ERIC
So...

Kaila enters the living room.

KAILA
Everybody, we're restocked. Beers are in the kitchen.

BOOM
Thank lord!

Boom, Chris, Stacy, Dom, and Amy all get up and head towards Kaila. Liz approaches Eric slowly.

LIZ
You alright?
ERIC
What? It's a kiss. It's not like it's a big deal or something.

Liz doesn't respond, just smiles at Eric.

LIZ
I'm going to get another beer. You want one?

ERIC
No, I'm just going to...sit.

LIZ
Suit yourself.

Liz leaves Eric, who adjusts himself to lean against a wall.

INT. KITCHEN - NIGHT
Chris takes a sip of his beer and watches Stacy take a sip of her's. She notices him staring.

STACY
Lovey. What is it?

Chris pauses, then approaches Stacy and starts kissing her. They kiss for a moment and then he backs her up against a wall, where they begin to kiss more heavily. Then, Stacy pulls back.

STACY
Wait, wait, Chris. What are you doing?

CHRIS
You look really beautiful tonight.

STACY
(sighs)
Shutup.

CHRIS
No, it's true. You're pretty. You're so fucking pretty...When I said I wanted to play a game earlier, I didn't mean Never Have I Ever or some stupid drinking game. I meant--

STACY
--I know what you meant Chris.
Pause.

CHRIS
(looks around)
So what do you say we find some place more private, lovey?

STACY
I don't want to.

CHRIS
Come on Stacy, we've been going out for how long? Almost a year! I love making out and all but don't you think it's time we did something more?

STACY
Why do we have to?

CHRIS
We don't have to...but it seems like everyone else in our position does, so why not, right?

STACY
Chris, I'm honestly uneasy about it, okay? I'd like to just keep things the way they are. It's comfortable. It's--

CHRIS
--safe.

STACY
Don't say that.

CHRIS
But it is. It's just safe. Take a chance, Stacy. Try and just have some fun with me.

STACY
I don't want to talk about this.

Stacy walks away. Chris groans and lightly punches the wall.

On the other side of the kitchen, Boom, Liz, and Dom stand watching Chris and Stacy's fight.

LIZ
Ugh, here we go again.
Dom takes a look around.

    DOM
    You guys see Amy anywhere?
    BOOM
    Nope.
    DOM
    Huh...I'm going to go look for her.

Dom leaves. Liz stares at Boom.

    LIZ
    Hey.
    BOOM
    Yeah?

Liz kisses Boom.

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Eric rests on the floor, against a wall.

    ERIC (V.O.)
    Wow...I feel stupid.

Eric bangs the back of his head against the wall twice and groans out of anger and frustration. Amy approaches with a beer and sits down next to Eric.

    AMY
    Hey there, wallflower.
    ERIC
    Hi.
    AMY
    You want a sip?
    ERIC
    No thanks.

Pause.

    AMY
    You want to kiss me?
    ERIC
    What?
AMY
Just asking.

ERIC
It's a weird thing to ask.

Pause.

AMY
Hold on.

Amy puts down her beer and starts to kiss Eric's neck. Eric fidgets a little, and then brushes Amy away.

AMY
What?

ERIC
You're making me like...uncomfortable.

AMY
What's uncomfortable about getting your neck kissed?

FANTASY SEQUENCE
Amy is kissing Eric's neck. He smiles.

ERIC
Ohh...that's nice.

Amy stops for a moment, then opens her mouth wide to reveal large fangs. She bites into Eric's neck like a vampire and Eric screams.

END FANTASY SEQUENCE

ERIC
This is just weird to me.

AMY
Eric...you are such a pussy sometimes.

Amy walks away in a huff.

ERIC (V.O.)
Lesson #5--if they want to, let pretty girls kiss your neck.

SUBTITLES READ: LESSON #5 - IF THEY WANT TO, LET PRETTY GIRLS KISS YOUR NECK
Eric bangs his head against the wall once more, then rubs his head with his hand in pain.

ERIC
(to himself)
Ow...

Eric gets up and leaves.

INT. LIVING ROOM - NEXT

Amy, walking away from Eric, bumps into Dom.

AMY
Watch out.

DOM
Hey, you okay?

AMY
I'm fine.

DOM
You kissed Eric.

AMY
I know.

DOM
No, I mean again. I just saw you.

AMY
Jesus Dom, do I need to fucking consult you on everything I do? Back off and leave me alone!

Amy storms off.

DOM
Amy! Amy wait!

Dom follows Amy.

INT. KITCHEN - NIGHT

Boom stares at Liz silently after she has kissed him.

BOOM
What...what...was that for?
LIZ
I don't know. I just thought we should like...hook up. What, do you have a problem with that or something?

BOOM
No, no, not at all. It's just...I didn't really expect that. Didn't we decide we're not a good couple?

LIZ
We did.

BOOM
So...what are we doing then?

LIZ
I like kissing. I don't think it should be reserved for people in a relationship. So just because we're not in a relationship doesn't mean we can't have some fun, you know?

Boom is taken aback by Liz's statement.

BOOM
You don't sound like you.

Liz laughs and kisses Boom again.

ERIC (V.O.)
Feeling like you have someone is always comforting.

INT. BATHROOM - NIGHT
Eric enters the bathroom.

ERIC (V.O.)
At least the feeling of being with someone beats being alone.

Eric switches on the lights to find a GUY and GIRL making out. They stop to look at Eric.

ERIC
I need to...piss.
GUY
Oh, no worries man, go right ahead.

The couple start making out, once again.

ERIC
Can you leave?

They stop to stare at Eric again.

GIRL
Ugh, that's so rude. Come on sweetie, let's go.

The couple exit the bathroom and Eric closes the door. When it is shut, he lets out a long sigh.

ERIC (V.O.)
Bathrooms are always lonely places. And not the best places to be during a party. In fact, lesson #6 is avoid going to the bathroom by yourself during a party.

SUBITLES READ: LESSON #6 - AVOID GOING TO THE BATHROOM BY YOURSELF DURING A PARTY

Eric approaches the sink and washes his hands. He looks in the mirror and notices his hair is messed up, and wets it to put it back into place, which does not work. After some persistance and a lot of water, Eric fixes his hair. He groans at his now wet shirt.

ERIC (V.O.)
Stupid son of a bitch. Atta way to fuck things up once again. It's like your fucking routine, isn't it you dumb shit. Motherfucker, motherfucker, motherfucker. Fuck! Get the fuck out of the bathroom and listen to your own goddamn lessons.

Eric turns off the sink and leaves the bathroom.

INT. ENTRANCEWAY - NIGHT

Chris finds Kaila near the front door of her house.

CHRISS
Kaila!
KAILA
Hey, Chris.

CHRIS
I think I'm going to head out.

KAILA
Aww, why?

CHRIS
Eh, just don't really feel like staying. Don't take it personally, this is a lot of fun and all, but I'm just not in the mood right now.

KAILA
Okay...where's Stacy?

STACY (O.S.)
Here.

Chris turns to see Stacy. She approaches him and Kaila.

STACY
Kaila, can I get a second with Chris?

KAILA
Sure, no problem.

Kaila leaves Chris and Stacy alone.

CHRIS
What do you want?

STACY
A little touchy.

CHRIS
Sorry, just not in a good mood right now. And sorry about earlier. Whatever happens happens, don't worry about it.

STACY
Chris. I was thinking. My parents aren't home tonight. So maybe--

Chris' eyes widen, Stacy raises her finger.

STACY (cont'd)
--let me finish.
Chris frowns.

STACY (cont'd)
I was thinking...we could go to my house, lay down on the couch together and watch an old movie. You can tell me how pretty I am, and then when I'm comfortable, we could make out a little.

CHRIS
Just make out?

STACY
Jesus, be happy I'm forgiving you.

CHRIS
You're right, I'm sorry.

STACY
So does that sound like a plan?

CHRIS
(nods)
Yeah.

Boom and Liz walk by on their way out.

CHRIS
Hey, you guys leaving?

BOOM
Yeah, I'm just going to walk Liz home. What about you guys?

CHRIS
We're going to head over to Stacy's.

STACY
Oh, we live in the same direction, let's go together.

BOOM
Alright, let's go.

Chris, Stacy, Boom, and Liz all exit Kaila's house together. As they exit, Amy approaches the front door in a hurry before Dom stops her by grabbing her arm.

DOM
Amy wait!
AMY
What Dom? What do you want?

DOM
I want to know what's wrong. I want to try and help you.

AMY
You can't fix this.

DOM
I can try.

Amy pauses, stares at Dom, and then laughs.

AMY
(laughs)
You're so stupid.

DOM
I'll take that as a compliment.

Amy takes a deep breathe.

AMY
Dom, I'd like to be alone right now, alright? I'm going to walk home, try and relax, and then I'll call you tonight, okay?

DOM
Okay.

AMY
So are you going to let me go?

Dom notices he is still holding Amy's arm.

DOM
Oh-oh yeah. Sorry.

Amy smiles and hugs Dom.

AMY
I'll talk to you later.

Amy leaves Kaila's.

DOM
Yeah, definitely, talk to you later...I'll be waiting.
Dom sighs and then follows her outside. When Dom has left, Eric exits the bathroom near the entrance way, where he now stands by himself.

ERIC

Hello?

Eric looks into the kitchen and then living room.

ERIC

Hello? Stacy? Boom? Liz?

Eric looks down a hallway.

ERIC

Hello?

KAILA (O.S.)

Eric.

ERIC

Hey Kaila.

Kaila approaches Eric.

KAILA

What's up?

ERIC

Do you know where everyone went?

KAILA

There are a bunch of people in the living room.

ERIC

No I mean like...Stacy, Boom, Dom...

KAILA

Oh, they all left. Not long ago, but they're gone.

ERIC

Oh...man.

ERIC (V.O.)

Which brings me back to lesson one.

KAILA

You sticking around?
ERIC
No, if they all left I think I'm going to head out myself.

ERIC (V.O.)
Whenever you go to a party, go with someone else.

KAILA
Aw!

Kaila hugs Eric.

KAILA (cont'd)
I hope you had fun, at least.

ERIC
No, yeah, I did. It was great, but I'm going to go.

KAILA
See you.

ERIC (V.O.)
Because if you go alone, you leave alone.

ERIC
Bye.

Eric exits and Kaila goes back into her living room.

EXT. LIZ'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Boom and Liz walk to Liz's front door.

ERIC (V.O.)
And no matter what happens--whether it's just someone to share a hookup with.

They get to the front door.

BOOM
Good evening.

Liz kisses Boom.

LIZ
Good night.

Liz enters her house and Boom smiles.
INTERCUT:

INT. AMY'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

INT. DOM'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Amy, on the phone with Dom, cries loudly.

ERIC (V.O.)
Someone to cry to over the phone.

AMY
(on phone)
I don't know, Dom. It's just really confusing, and I'm not sure what I want...it's just like...I can't figure anything out about me, you know?

DOM
(on phone)
Yeah, yeah I know.

INT. STACY'S LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Stacy and Chris, cuddled on her couch, make out a bit while watching a movie.

ERIC (V.O.)
Or finally getting to second base with your long-time girlfriend.

Stacy and Chris slump down and he rolls over her.

INT. ERIC'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Eric sits down at his desk, by his computer. He puts his face into his hands, groans and sighs.

ERIC (V.O.)
Going home with somebody is always better than going home alone. Because going home is always a chance to get lost in self-pity, and a chance to make yourself even more miserable.

Eric goes onto his computer.
ERIC
(to himself)
And on the seventh day, God created the internet.

Eric double clicks.

ERIC
(to himself)
Huh...she is hot.

Eric tilts his head to the side.

The End