

State Of Nature

By

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EXT. AN OPEN ROAD- RAINING- MIDDAY

The scene opens up with an empty open road. It is raining. The sky is gray, thunder strikes. The camera now shows different shots of the forest.

COLLIN V/O

This may be my last video journal entry. If anyone finds this you will know the truth. If anyone finds this...I'm already dead. Tonight is the night. Tonight it ends.

CUT TO BLACK. SHOW TITLE.

INT. NYU CLASSROOM- EARLY MORNING

The TV is on and we hear the reporter talking while images are flashing.

TV REPORTER

This has been declared an epidemic. The government is encouraging everyone to evacuate to their safe zone. This is not just a United States epidemic, this has become worldwide.

We see COLLIN at his desk watching the TV. The teacher turns it off and begins to teach. COLLIN looks back and sees CHASE flirting with two very attractive girls.

TEACHER

Do you know why I don't freak out about these things? Because I was raised in the sixties, so my installed values tell me that the government is just looking for a quick buck. Now did anybody read last night's chapter of the Leviathan?

CHASE raises his hand.

TEACHER

(Sarcastically)  
Shocker. Only one person read it.

(CONTINUED)

CHASE

I thought last night's chapter was extremely intriguing. I would love to read all of the rebuttals to his view of the state of nature.

TEACHER

Since I know all of you are so excited, the state of nature is simply a world without government. In this chapter Hobbes discusses what this world will be like...Oh my, look at the time, where has it all gone? Oh well, class read chapters 8-11 tonight.

CHASE comes up and knocks COLLIN'S stuff over.

CHASE

If you tell a soul about last night I swear to God I will kill you.

CHASE switches up his demeanor and goes back to his cheery self before walking out of the room.

HUNTER

What an asshole!

COLLIN

He's right, though. We can't tell anybody about what happened last night. We have to go, time is running out.

COLLIN HAS A FLASHBACK

EXT. NYU MEDICAL FACILITIES- LATE NIGHT

HUNTER is leaning against the medical facility smoking a cigarette. He sees COLLIN. HUNTER flicks his cigarette and greets COLLIN.

HUNTER

You ready man?

COLLIN

Yeah, sorry that I'm late. Why are you out here?

HUNTER

Waiting on you, I don't really fit in with anyone in there.

(CONTINUED)

They walk in and see the others who are there. They are having a meeting about a new serum that will protect them from the epidemic. The people in the room are COLLIN, CHASE, HUNTER, BENJAMIN, JEREMEY, JUAN, ABIGAIL, and JOSEPH.

COLLIN takes the seat next to ABIGAIL, his girlfriend.

BENJAMIN gets up in front to present his new discovery.

BEN

Welcome! I asked each of you here because you are the only ones I trust.

COLLIN V/O

Taking the serum was a mistake, we never knew the side effects.

BEN

I have been creating this remedy on the side, I have enough for just us. This will protect us from the plague that is sweeping the world.

COLLIN V/O

Oh God, how I wish I never took the serum.

BEN

Now since this is my invention, I will be the first to inject myself. The only downside is the side effects are unknown.

Everyone starts looking uneasy.

BEN

But don't let that worry you, either way you'll succumb to death.

COLLIN V/O

Oh, how I would do anything to take that night back.

BEN injects himself and immediately collapses. He begins foaming at the mouth as everyone starts to panic. But then it passes. BEN stands up, looking better than ever.

BEN

Who's next?

COLLIN FLASHES BACK TO THE PRESENT.

EXT. THE CAMPUS OUTSIDE OF THE COLLEGE

COLLIN and ABIGAIL are eating lunch outside.

COLLIN  
Why are you acting differently?

ABIGAIL  
What do you mean?

COLLIN  
I mean, you are acting like I'm  
bothering you or something.

ABIGAIL  
Collin, drop it.

COLLIN  
No! Tell me what the hell I did.

ABIGAIL  
You did nothing, okay? Freaking  
drop it.

COLLIN  
God, stop being an ass.

ABIGAIL  
Stop being rude, I'm leaving.

COLLIN  
The table, or me?

ABIGAIL  
Both.

ABIGAIL gets up and leaves COLLIN.

COLLIN sits there, lost in melancholy. He gets up and walks aimlessly. COLLIN walks the campus and sees a sign that reads: THE END IS COMING.

CUT TO BLACK.

EXT. THE WOODS - DAY - 2 YEARS LATER

It is raining heavily in the woods as all the people injected with the serum that fateful night are camped out in separate tents. They all eventually come out and start eating. Everyone is quiet.

(CONTINUED)

All you can hear is the clicking of the spoons against the plates. Everybody is looking rough. The men have shaggy hair and heavy beards while the women have nappy, unkept hair.

COLLIN

I'm going into town to find more food, who wants to come with?

JUAN

I'll go.

CHASE

Make sure you bring back enough this time, I'm tired of starving.

COLLIN

Will do, captain.

CHASE goes back to his tent and BEN follows.

INT. CHASE'S TENT - MOMENTS LATER

CHASE

We have to go back and get more serum.

BEN

Listen man, I think you have had enough. They are going to start noticing.

CHASE

Listen to me. It is survival of the fittest out here, I am the fittest. I'm going to continue being the fittest.

BEN

This just isn't ethical man.

CHASE

How many people are alive? Just us. Fuck your ethics, now let's go back to the lab so I can have more serum.

BEN

Aren't you worried about what's happening to you, you aren't mentally stable. You're showing signs of over aggression.

(CONTINUED)

CHASE

Just take me to get some serum, you  
forget I am stronger and faster  
than you.

BEN

Fine, let's go.

EXT. AN EMPTY TOWN - MOMENTS LATER

COLLIN and JUAN walk the empty streets with nothing but an  
assault rifle.

The rain falls heavily on them as they enter a grocery  
store.

INT. GROCERY STORE - MOMENTS LATER

COLLIN and JUAN go and inspect the canned foods section. The  
grocery store is torn up with carts everywhere. They step  
over a dead body, male, middle aged.

JUAN starts tearing up.

COLLIN

What's wrong?

JUAN

Give me the rifle.

COLLIN

Why?

JUAN

Just please.

COLLIN hands the rifle to JUAN.

JUAN

Goodbye, old friend.

COLLIN realizes what JUAN is doing and turns his back. JUAN  
walks to the back of the grocery store and all we hear is  
one shot. As the shot rings COLLIN starts crying.

COLLIN FLASHES BACK

EXT. CONEY ISLAND BEACH - 2 YEARS BEFORE

COLLIN and JUAN are sitting on the beach, both with short hair and clean faces.

JUAN  
This is life man.

COLLIN  
I know dude. Nothing but girls, the sun and the beach. Life is fantastic.

ABIGAIL comes and sits with them.

COLLIN  
Hey babe!

ABIGAIL  
Hey there.

COLLIN  
Did you have a nice swim?

ABIGAIL  
Yeah, would've been better if you could have joined.

COLLIN  
I come here mostly to get a tan. Not to swim and get burned.

JUAN  
What a pussy!

COLLIN  
I haven't seen you swim yet, I have seen you only tanning.

JUAN  
I'm mexican, I don't need to swim or tan. I'm just here for the girls.

ABIGAIL  
So is Collin.

COLLIN  
No, babe, I'm here for girl. Meaning you.

ABIGAIL laughs and her and COLLIN kiss.

(CONTINUED)

JUAN  
Get a room!

FLASHBACK TO THE PRESENT

EXT. AN EMPTY TOWN - MOMENTS LATER

Collin walks alone in the rain. Nothing but a rifle in his hand and a backpack full of canned food.

INT. BEN'S MEDICAL FACILITY

BEN has just gotten done injecting CHASE with the serum.

CHASE  
I will make sure you get rewarded for this.

BEN  
As long as I can hold my leader position and get a bigger portion of the food, I'm good.

CHASE  
Ben?

BEN  
Yeah?

CHASE  
I feel like a revolt or some kind of mutiny is about to take place.

BEN  
You suffer from extreme paranoia because you take so much damn serum, I told you that would be a side effect didn't I?

CHASE  
I know, but I can't help it. I feel like they will turn on me eventually.

BEN  
Why would they?

CHASE  
Is anybody truly happy?

(CONTINUED)

BEN

I guess not, I mean we aren't  
living in the best conditions.

CHASE

Don't tell anybody, but I think  
Collin is going to lead the revolt.  
I always knew he would be the one  
to turn on me.

BEN

What makes you think that?

CHASE

I don't know, I can just see it on  
his face.

EXT. THE CAMPGROUND - HOURS LATER - NIGHT

COLLIN comes back to town alone and everybody starts to get  
suspicious.

CHASE

Where is Juan?

COLLIN

He killed himself.

CHASE

Did he now?

COLLIN

Yeah, he did. Here's your food, I'm  
going to bed.

COLLIN walks back into his tent.

CHASE watches him, paranoid. Planning something inside of  
his head.

INT. COLLIN'S TENT - LATE NIGHT

COLLIN is sleeping but gets woken up by HUNTER.

HUNTER

Wake up!

COLLIN

What? What do you want!

(CONTINUED)

HUNTER  
Shh!, you must remain quiet.

COLLIN  
It's too late for this shit.

HUNTER  
Leave now or you're going to be  
killed.

COLLIN  
What?

HUNTER  
Chase is planning an assassination  
on you, leave now.

COLLIN  
But why?

HUNTER  
Because he thinks that you killed  
Juan.

COLLIN  
That's crazy, I didn't kill him. He  
killed himself.

HUNTER  
Please leave I can't bear to see  
you die man, leave now.

COLLIN  
Where will I go?

HUNTER  
Far away from here, leave now!

COLLIN gets his things really quickly and runs outside of  
the tent and away from the campground.

EXT. COLLIN'S TENT - HOURS LATER - LATE NIGHT

JEREMEY is walking up to COLLIN'S tent with a knife in his  
hand. He walks in slowly. All we hear is JEREMEY screaming.

JEREMEY comes out of the tent.

JEREMEY  
Where is he! Where the hell is he!

ABIGAIL comes outside of her tent.

(CONTINUED)

JEREMEY

You little bitch, where is Collin!

ABIGAIL

What are you talking about?

JEREMEY

He is a murderer and the only way to deal with someone who has gone crazy is to kill him, now tell me where he is you fucking slut!

CHASE comes out of his tent with BEN, then JOSEPH comes out of his tent as well.

CHASE

What's going on here?

JEREMEY

He wasn't in his tent. This little bitch knows where he is!

CHASE

Who are you talking about?

JEREMEY

Collin! You sent me to kill him.

CHASE

I did no such thing!

JOSEPH

What's going on here?

JEREMEY

Chase sent me to kill Collin. Collin isn't in his tent. So what the hell do we do!

JOSEPH

Is that true Chase?

CHASE

No. That is false. Ben?

BEN

Yeah?

CHASE

Kill them.

JEREMEY lunges at CHASE but Ben shoots him in the leg.

JOSEPH goes for BEN and knocks him to the ground.

(CONTINUED)

BEN punches JOSEPH in the face and quickly scrambles to get his gun.

BEN  
Say goodnight mother fucker.

BEN shoots JOSEPH in the neck and he lies there bleeding to death.

JOSEPH struggles to breathe. Then he dies.

CHASE kneels next to JEREMEY.

CHASE  
(whispering)  
I sent you to do a job, and you failed.

JEREMEY screams at the top of his lungs.

CHASE  
Death is now your only option.

CHASE takes the knife and cuts JEREMEY'S throat, killing him.

ABIGAIL cries. CHASE walks over and hugs her.

CHASE  
I'm sorry you had to see that, come back to my tent so we can talk.

INT. HUNTER'S TENT - NIGHT

HUNTER is in his tent, coughing furiously. HUNTER'S blankets are blood stained from his coughing.

HUNTER  
Fuck.

A tear rolls down his face as he realizes he will most likely die in the coming days.

HUNTER gets on his knees and prays.

HUNTER  
God, please watch over Collin, and please watch over me as I'm sure I will be visting you soon enough.

HUNTER spits up blood again and lies down to sleep.

EXT. THE CAMPGROUND - MORNING - 1 YEAR LATER

It's been four months and the rest of the campers look ill. The color has left all of their faces and they are all thin as can be.

HUNTER is barely hanging on to life as his mobility has been limited to a wheelchair.

BEN has started to lose all of his teeth and hair. He now wears glasses due to his eyesight going bad.

ABIGAIL looks unhealthy as her hair has gotten greasy and her body alarmingly thin.

CHASE is the only one who looks healthy, due to the serum. He is now clean shaven with shorter hair and the only showered one.

They are all eating. Nobody has heard a word from COLLIN.

CHASE

We have officially been out here for 3 years. I think that deserves a toast, don't you guys? Hunter, wheel ya ass over here and we can celebrate.

HUNTER

I'm...not...in the...mood.

HUNTER can barely keep his eyes open or talk.

CHASE

Alrighty then, Ben, how about you.

BEN

I guess so.

CHASE

Come over here, Abigail.

ABIGAIL comes over.

CHASE

Come back to my tent with me, I have something I'd like to discuss with you.

They go back to CHASE'S tent.

INT. CHASE'S TENT - MOMENTS LATER

CHASE  
Listen, we have been ignoring our feelings for too long. I think now we should....express ourselves.

ABIGAIL  
What do you mean?

CHASE  
Let's make love.

ABIGAIL  
No. I will not.

CHASE  
Come on.

ABIGAIL  
No, leave me alone.

ABIGAIL tries to leave but CHASE grabs her.

CHASE  
Where do you think you're going?

ABIGAIL  
Leave me alone!

CHASE starts choking her. ABIGAIL tries to scream but she can't make any words out. CHASE keeps choking her until eventually she passes out and dies.

CHASE  
You little bitch.

CHASE stands up and sits on his bed. He looks over and sees a note beside his bed.

The note reads: "Tonight it ends, old friend. Sincerely, Collin"

CHASE crumbles the note up in his hands.

CHASE  
He's still alive, but how?

BEN comes into the tent.

BEN  
I don't think Hunter is going to make it through the night, tuberculosis is severe.

(CONTINUED)

CHASE  
Collin is alive.

BEN  
How? How has he managed to still  
live?

CHASE  
I don't know, he could have killed  
me last night.

BEN  
What the hell happened to Abby?

CHASE  
She just passed out and died, I  
think from starvation.

BEN  
Are you not going to move her?

CHASE  
We have bigger things to worry  
about, he is coming back tonight.

BEN  
Are you worried?

CHASE  
With the way we did him, yes. He is  
coming back for the revenge he  
deserves.

BEN  
We have three of us, there's no way  
he can get to you.

CHASE  
Hunter is near death, and they are  
best friends. We must be on the  
lookout tonight. Watch Hunter, he  
can't be trusted.

BEN  
What are we going to do once he and  
Hunter die?

CHASE  
Keep living off of the ground.  
We'll find a way to live. We've  
been doing it for 3 years.

(CONTINUED)

BEN

Chase, maybe there are others that are alive.

CHASE

No, only us. Only we survived.

BEN

But we don't know that.

CHASE

Yes we do! Nobody is alive! Nobody else took that serum, just us. And after tonight it will be just me and you alive.

BEN

But what about after we die?

CHASE

Your serum has slowed my aging process and sped up my immune system, I could live for centuries off of it.

BEN

You'll eventually go mad, I can't keep giving it to you. And what are you supposed to do whenever I die? How will you get serum then?

CHASE

Leave me, leave this tent. I don't want you here anymore. Kill Hunter in his sleep tonight and stay on watch for Collin. For tonight, he comes.

INT. HUNTER'S TENT - NIGHT

HUNTER is sleeping soundly when he is suddenly woken up.

HUNTER tries to see who it is but he can't make out the dark figure. He closes his eyes and the dark figure puts a gun in his hand. The dark figure is COLLIN.

COLLIN

Tonight this will come of use.

COLLIN leaves the tent.

HUNTER wakes up and realizes it was Collin. He looks at the gun COLLIN handed him.

EXT. THE CAMPGROUND - NIGHT

BEN is walking towards HUNTER'S tent. COLLIN hides in the bushes, watching.

INT. HUNTER'S TENT - NIGHT

BEN enters HUNTER'S tent with a shotgun.

HUNTER  
I...guess...that you...are here  
to...kill me.

BEN  
I'm sorry, friend. Bosses orders.

BEN loads up the shotgun but HUNTER pulls out the pistol given to him by COLLIN and shoots BEN twice in the chest.

BEN falls to the ground trying his hardest to breathe.

BEN  
You fucker!

HUNTER shoots one more shot into BEN'S head, killing him.

HUNTER puts his hand on the bible and gets up, he opens his drawer, revealing that he too had been taking the serum. He pulls out a walkie talkie.

HUNTER  
Collin, he's down, all that's left  
is Chase.

EXT. THE CAMPGROUND - NIGHT

CHASE sees COLLIN and starts running after him. They run through the woods and eventually CHASE tackles COLLIN.

COLLIN punches him in the face but CHASE pulls out a knife and slashes COLLIN'S face. CHASE gets on top of COLLIN and they fight.

Both men are bloodied and bruised but CHASE ends up getting off one big punch, sending COLLIN to the ground.

CHASE stands over him with his knife.

CHASE  
It's all over now!

(CONTINUED)

COLLIN  
Is it, Chase?

CHASE  
Oh yeah, you've been a little prick  
in my side for years. Now it's time  
to finally end you!

CHASE runs towards COLLIN and goes to stab him but then we  
hear a a gunshot.

COLLIN'S eyes widen.

CHASE had been shot in the head as he falls to his knees and  
dies.

HUNTER is standing behind him holding a gun.

HUNTER  
Are you ready to go?

COLLIN  
Think you could've gotten here  
sooner?

HUNTER  
I prefer the dramatic effect.

COLLIN  
Let's go.

HUNTER and COLLIN walk away from CHASE'S body and leave the  
campground.

EXT. AN OPEN ROAD- RAINING- MIDDAY

COLLIN and HUNTER walk down the open road.

COLLIN  
Say, why did you never tell Ben or  
Chase that you had the cure all  
along.

HUNTER  
Well they were all major jerk offs  
to me.

COLLIN  
Ha ha ha ha. Well I'm glad you  
decided to share with me.

HUNTER and COLLIN walk up to a huge gate.

(CONTINUED)

COLLIN

We're here, let us in!

HUNTER

What is this place again?

COLLIN

It's a survival colony I found  
whenever I left.

HUNTER

And why couldn't you tell me about  
this?

COLLIN

Well, I was kinda enjoying my time  
here and a year kinda just slipped  
away from me.

HUNTER

Douche, I had to put on a whole big  
act for nothing.

COLLIN

Well, they were gonna be destroyed  
anyway for tampering with that kind  
of serum. That's frowned upon here.  
We can't survive in a world without  
government. Everybody wants power  
and everybody will fight for the  
power.

HUNTER

Well, it's good to finally be out  
of there.

HUNTER and COLLIN walk inside of the colony as the camera  
moves up to show the sun coming from behind the clouds,  
revealing that a new day is upon the world.

COLLIN V/O

We can't survive in a world without  
government. The state of nature is  
something we worked hard to  
prevent. I lost many friends along  
the way, but there is a fresh  
beginning for everyone. So this is  
my last tape I'm making. If anybody  
is out there, we are here.  
Hope...is here.

CUT TO BLACK

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

20.

COLLIN V/O  
Be the light in the darkness.

END CREDITS