TIC TOC

BY

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(SOUND OF A CLOCK TICKING AT A DISTANCE PLAYS THROUGHOUT)

1 INT. BEDROOM - DAWN

FADE IN:

ADAM, 30's, an almost nondescript man is sleeping on his back, his arms neatly tucked in the duvet. The alarm beside him turns 7:00 AM and starts ringing but ADAM does not show any sign of movement. A young, feminine hand hovers over his head and presses down, sticking a LUMINESCENT GREEN POST-IT note right over one eye. ADAM opens his eyes. He sees the POST-IT note, which has clear block letters written on it.

POST-IT:

RISE AND SHINE SLEEPY HEAD

ADAM sits upright, turns towards the offending alarm and turns it off. He neatly walks off the bed, replacing the duvet in its original position. He looks down and puts on his slippers. ADAM walks to the cupboard and opens it. Neatly lined stacks of identical shirts and trousers greet him. A coarser, muscular arm reaches in and sticks a POST-IT note on the pile of shirts. ADAM calmly peels the POST-IT note identical to the one he had previously seen.

POST-IT:

YOU DO HAVE TO BRUSH YOUR TEETH FIRST

ADAM closes the cupboard, flattens his pajamas and walks through the door, throwing the crumpled POST-IT in the bin.

2 INT. BATHROOM

ADAM is facing the mirror with the brush in his mouth. He is very thorough in his cleaning. After placing the brush, back in the cabinet, ADAM splashes water onto his face. ADAM looks into the mirror blankly. A soft, child's hand playfully darts in and out of the mirror. It places a POST-IT note on the wet mirror, with a droplet dripping down the paper as it leaves. ADAM pulls the note off the mirror.

POST-IT:

DRAW A NICE BATH AND RELAX

ADAM smiles just for a flash. He flushes the POST-IT in the toilet and walks into the bathtub, drawing the shower curtains. He turns on the shower and steam fills the room. A shadow of a hand crawls along the shower curtain and leaves behind a POST-IT note.

3 INT. KITCHEN - DAY

ADAM is making a sandwich. He smears peanut butter in broad circular strokes. The kitchen table is spotless. Even unused. Tiny breadcrumbs slip from the package as ADAM takes slices of bread out. ADAM dusts them onto his hands and drops them in the bin. ADAM leans against the table, right beside the refrigerator, takes slow contemplative bites of the sandwich, chewing for quite some time. A scarred, tanned hand strides across the fridge, stops for a measured second, forcefully sticks the POST-IT message onto the fridge's door, and moves a fridge magnet to cover it. ADAM takes a few more seconds to finish the sandwich and turns towards the fridge. After moving the magnet, ADAM peels off the note and reads it.

POST-IT: TRIP ON YOUR WAY DOWN

ADAM's face grows a weird wonky smile. He crumples the note and holds it in his hand. He takes careful steps towards the door and shuts it behind him. (O.S.) ADAM misses his footing and falls down a flight of stairs.

4 EXT. APARTMENT BUILDING

ADAM steps out of the building with ruffled hair, clutching the side of his neck. He quickly smoothens his untidy mane and tugs at the collar of his dress shirt. He sets off for his office in his red car.

5 INT. OFFICE CUBICLE

ADAM is typing away furiously on the keyboard trying to finish a program. He wipes off an invisible drop of sweat from his brow and turns around in his chair to take a sip of water. A blue sleeve brushes past him and taps lightly on a pile of books ADAM set aside on his table, leaving behind a POST-IT note. ADAM continues his work, not taking notice. As, ADAM attempts to leave his cubicle to report to his boss, he notices the POST-IT note. He goes back to his computer and

moves the pointer towards the close button, but controls himself from closing it down. He minimizes it a couple of times, getting more frustrated. Finally, he lifts his hands and bangs the desk.

FOCUS CAMERA ON THE POST-IT

POST-IT:

MESS UP YOUR WORK

6 EXT. MANAGER'S ROOM - THROUGH THE GLASS

ADAM stands with his head bent down as his MANAGER berates him and flings papers in his face. CLOSE UP. ADAM glances up, with a smile that turns increasingly robotic. His fists held tight in anger, the POST-IT is visible in his right hand.

7 INT. OFFICE CANTEEN - EVENING

ADAM sits in a corner, sipping coffee from a paper cup. His co-workers all around him, talking and chatting. ADAM takes two short sips punctuated by a long pause. He stares off at a distance, he notices, a pair of rough, slender hands deposit a tray of donuts on the canteen table. ADAM gets up and moves towards the tray. He lays the cup to the side, picking up a non-glazed donut. ADAM finds a rolled up POST-IT tucked inside the donut when he tears it open. Taking the coffee cup into his hand, ADAM unravels the paper.

POST-IT:

DROP IT

ADAM immediately lets go of the cup, spilling the coffee all over his and a co-worker's shoes. The room goes silent. People turn towards ADAM as if spotting him for the first time. ADAM picks up the donut, stuffs one-half in his mouth and walks out.

8 INT. OFFICE CUBICLE - NIGHT

ADAM works on hard, as people around him start leaving for their homes. As number of people left grows low, ADAM finally closes the application on which he had been working and turns around to leave. A pair dense, strong hands drop a bunch of paperwork on to his desk, smacks the top of the pile and leaves. There is a POST-IT note stuck to the top paper.

POST-IT:

OVERTIME

ADAM smiles widely with pain apparent in his eyes, turns back, and starts working on the pile. As more people start leaving, ADAM tears the POST-IT with apparent anger, but still goes back to work. After a while, the last person leaves and the whole office is empty.

9 EXT. ENTRANCE TO THE WORKPLACE - MIDNIGHT

ADAM walks out of the building and towards the parking lot. The parking lot is empty. He looks over his shoulder at the opposite side of the street where a lonely red car is parked, painting a lonely scene under the streetlight. ADAM walks to his car and notices a ticket tucked under the windscreen wiper. He bites down his teeth in frustration and snatches it. He finds a stuck to it.

POST-IT:

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ADAM crushes the POST-IT under his feet and reaches for his keys. He tries to unlock the car remotely but it doesn't work. He fumbles with the keys and manages to stick the right key in. Even as he turns the key multiple times, the door shows no signs of budging. ADAM throws his hands up in the air and walks back to the building.

10 EXT. ROOF OF THE BUILDING - AFTER MIDNIGHT

ADAM looks at the desolate roof and sighs. After looking at his left and right, he decisively walks forward to the edge of the roof. He looks down to the bottom. A blur of a hand flings something in air and this catches ADAM's attention. A LUMINESCENT GREEN POST-IT steadily floats down to the street below. ADAM turns back decidedly, but all of a sudden runs and leaps off the building in an effort to catch the POST-IT. ADAM falls much faster than the POST-IT and falls splat on the ground.

(BACKGROUND MUSIC STOPS)

CUT TO BLACK

FADE IN

11 EXT. SIDE OF THE STREET - DAWN

ADAM's cold body lays on the street. A slowly falling LUMINESCENT GREEN POST-IT gently falls over ADAM's closed eye.

CLOSE UP ON ADAM'S EYE.

ADAM blows opens his lifeless eye.

(BACKGROUND MUSIC STARTS)

CUT TO BLACK

(THE END)