

I Can't See

by
Dominic Sventor

105 Long Vista Ct.
803-567-9149

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

A soft lamp light glows. Crumpled papers scatter along an office desk in the corner. A 75" television posters the wall. Velvety couches spread across the floor.

THOMAS, 19, a clean-cut, formal, and snappy student, leans back in his chair. His eyes are glued to a laptop screen. He SIPs a steamy cup of coffee. He TAPS his desk.

INSERT THOMAS' LAPTOP SCREEN, which reads:

"Assignment #5 -- due in 2 hours and 30 minutes."

BACK TO SCENE

Thomas' smartphone BUZZES next to him. His fingers DRUM the desk as he HUMS a low-tone tune.

The doorbell RINGS.

Thomas peels back the curtain and glances through the window.

EXT. THOMAS' HOUSE - FRONT PORCH - NIGHT

TOBY, 19, an unkempt sports-enthusiast, rocks back and forth by the door. A basketball rests under his arm. His head turns to the window.

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Thomas stares at Toby with a smug smirk and a shake of his head. The curtain folds back.

EXT. THOMAS' HOUSE - FRONT PORCH - NIGHT

Toby stares at the window. He TSKS. He turns and walks across the street.

TOBY

Asshole.

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Thomas TYPES away on his laptop. The laptop lid SLAMS on his fingers.

THOMAS

What--

EDDY, 11, a hyper brat with an eerie appearance, smirks and squeezes the laptop lid down with firm hands.

Thomas shoves Eddy away and grips the laptop lid.

MARIAN, 48, a hag in bright-colored, cleavage-revealing clothes, presses the laptop lid down with her claw-like fingers.

MARIAN

Hey, my favorite nephew. I need you to watch my baby.

THOMAS

No. Now lemme work.

Thomas pushes Marian's hand away. He lift the laptop lid.

Eddy swipes the laptop with both hands.

THOMAS (CONT'D)

What are you--

Eddy swings the laptop above his head in one hand.

Thomas flings himself off the chair and dashes towards Eddy.

Marian steps in front of Eddy and pushes Thomas back.

Thomas freezes.

THOMAS (CONT'D)

(with resentment)

Fine. I'll watch your baby, again.

Marian lets go of Thomas.

Eddy lowers his arm. The laptop bounces in his hand.

Marian walks to Eddy and kisses him on the forehead. She walks to the front door and SLAMS it.

Eddy plops on the couch and CLICKS away on the laptop.

A HUM of a car echoes in the room.

Dubstep music BLARES. Eddy laughs.

Thomas snatches the laptop and sets it on the desk.

EDDY

I was watching that.

Eddy hops off the couch. He dashes towards Thomas' desk with grabby hands.

Thomas shoves Eddy's hands aside.

THOMAS

I don' give a damn.

Thomas sits down at his desk and leans back in his chair.

Eddy swipes the television remote, plops on the couch, and begins channel surfing.

Thomas flings up and grabs the remote out of Eddy's hand.

Eddy jolts up and swings at Thomas with his hands.

Thomas moves away. He plucks out the remote batteries, stuffs them in his pocket, and tosses the empty remote next to Eddy.

THOMAS (CONT'D)

Go to another room, and shut up.

Thomas sits down by the desk. He opens the laptop lid.

Eddy looks between the laptop and Thomas. He walks over. He shoves the laptop lid down.

Thomas whips Eddy's hand away. He opens the lid.

Eddy moves his hand towards the lid.

Thomas grasps Eddy's hand and flings it away. Thomas whips himself off the chair and holds the laptop in his arm. He storms upstairs.

INT. THOMAS' BEDROOM - NIGHT

Bookshelves line the wall like giant brick walls. A warm light illuminates a desk in the corner.

Thomas moves a computer mouse around and CLICKS. Ambient music ECHOES. He types on the keys with CLACKS.

The doorknob TREMBLES and CLICKS. The door opens.

Eddy sneaks in and clutches a knife in his hand.

Eddy prods the back of Thomas' neck with the tip of the knife. He whips the knife behind his back.

Thomas turns and looks to Eddy. Thomas stands up. Thomas snatches Eddy by the arm and guides him out.

THOMAS

I'm this close to driving your ass to the
middle of nowhere and leaving you there.

Thomas shoves Eddy into the hallway. Eddy SLAMS into the wall.

As Thomas grabs the door, Eddy pokes Thomas in the side with the knife.

Thomas shoots his hand to his side and turns to Eddy.

Eddy darts out of the room.

Thomas chases after Eddy like a rabid dog.

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Thomas runs in. He breathes heavy. He checks each corner, under the couches, and behind every wall.

Thomas rushes upstairs.

INT. THOMAS' BEDROOM - NIGHT

Thomas stomps through the doorway. He closes the door, locks it, and walks to the desk. He slides the chair out.

The laptop BOOPS.

Thomas looks up. He leans his face closer to the laptop. His eyes squint.

INSERT THOMAS' LAPTOP SCREEN, which says:

"LOW BATTERY. 5% remaining. Please plug in adapter."

BACK TO SCENE

Thomas looks along his desk. His hands rummage about. Papers SHUFFLE around.

Thomas whips himself to the right of the desk and bends down to the shelf. He pulls a drawer out. He SLAMS the drawer.

Thomas rushes to the bookshelves. His hand whips the books around side-to-side.

Eddy GIGGLES.

Thomas twists his head.

Eddy stands by the door. He swings an adapter wire around like a snake.

Thomas dashes towards Eddy.

Eddy SLAMS the door.

Thomas grips the doorknob. The door swings open fast. It BASHES into Thomas' nose.

Eddy's loud FOOTTHUMPS die down within seconds.

Thomas grasps his face. Blood oozes through his fingers. He swings the door open.

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Eddy flies down the set of stairs and lands on two feet. The adapter wire dangles like jungle vines in his arms. He dashes across to another doorway near the television.

Thomas swings around the stair railing.

INT. KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

A bright glow reflects off of shiny, pale tiles. A sleek, marble-top island stands in the middle. Clean plates stack on top of it.

Eddy maneuvers around the island.

Thomas grabs for the wire.

Eddy dodges, snatches a plate, and flings it at Thomas. The plate falls. It SHATTERS.

Thomas trips. He grabs a stool, propels off of it, and charges after Eddy.

EXT. THOMAS' HOUSE - BACKYARD - CONTINUOUS

Beyond a wide area of grassy terrain, bushes scatter around the house. Dark trees sway. Leaves SWISH.

Thomas SLAMS the back door open. He walks out to the middle of the grass. He glances around. He checks along the bushes. He stomps around each one.

Eddy darts to the back door.

Thomas steps out of the bushes and snatches Eddy by the arm. Thomas shakes the adapter wire out of Eddy's arms,

Eddy grabs at the wire and throws weak punches at Thomas.

Thomas pushes Eddy into the bushes and rushes inside.

INT. THOMAS' BEDROOM - NIGHT

Thomas SHUTS the door and locks it. He runs to the desk.

INSERT THOMAS' LAPTOP SCREEN, which reads:

"BATTERY AT 1%. PLEASE USE ADAPTER."

BACK TO SCENE

Thomas plugs the adapter wire into the wall and connects the other end to his laptop.

The laptop BOOPS.

Thomas sits down in the chair and EXHALES. He looks at the laptop screen.

INSERT THOMAS' LAPTOP SCREEN, which reads:

"Assignment #5 -- due in 2 hours."

BACK TO SCENE

Thomas hovers his hands above the keyboard. They tremble, then TAP away.

Eddy leans forward and SPLASHES Thomas' cup of coffee on Thomas' laptop.

Thomas wrings his body around to Eddy.

Eddy flings the coffee cup at the floor.

Thomas' hands swing around in a rapid fashion. He grabs the laptop and flips it upside down. He unplugs the adapter wire.

THOMAS

The hell is wrong with you? You're crazy.

Eddy watches Thomas with a straight face.

Thomas runs out of the room.

Thomas runs in with a rag. He hovers over the desk and wipes the laptop down quick with the rag.

Eddy glances at a bundle of keys on the desk. He sneaks them into his pocket. He then grips the adapter and cuts at it with the knife.

Thomas looks to Eddy, then to the adapter wire. Thomas drops the rag and grabs the knife from Eddy. Thomas shoves Eddy onto the bed.

THOMAS (CONT'D)

I'm done. I'm locking you outta my house.

Eddy snatches the adapter wire and runs off.

Thomas chases after Eddy.

INT. KITCHEN - NIGHT

Eddy runs in. A drawer CLASHES out. His hand RUMMAGES around a bundle of sharp knives.

Thomas runs in. He grabs Eddy in a bear hug.

Eddy squirms with Thomas.

Thomas squirms with Eddy to the back door and throws Eddy out. Thomas SLAMS the door and pushes his foot against it. He locks the door.

The door BANGS. Eddy SCREAMS.

Thomas runs out to the living room.

EXT. THOMAS' HOUSE - BACKYARD - NIGHT

Eddy BANGS on the door. He stops. He pulls out of his pocket the bundle of keys. They JINGLE.

INT. THOMAS' BEDROOM - NIGHT

Thomas sits down at the desk.

The laptop glows with a greenish-brown hue.

Thomas INHALES. He TYPES away at the keyboard.

The door SLAMS. Thomas jolts, but TYPES away on his laptop.

THOMAS

How the hell did you--

Eddy walks towards Thomas and splashes an open bottle of ammonia in Thomas' face.

Thomas clutches his eyes with his hands. He stumbles out of the chair and YELLS.

Eddy drops the bottle of ammonia on the floor with a THWUMP.

Thomas stumbles. He trips over the chair. The chair KNOCKS over. He trips. He grabs the desk, but he slips.

The desk BREAKS. The laptop falls and CRACKS in pieces.

Thomas falls to the floor on top of the laptop. He writhes and struggles to stand up. His fingers squeeze at his eyes.

Eddy steps over Thomas. A grin stretches across Eddy's face. Eddy snatches a phone out of his pocket and dials three KEYTONES. Eddy musters up a WHINE.

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Red and blue lights dance through the curtains.

Marian storms in through the front doorway. She shakes her head and squeezes Eddy to her side. They watch with a grimace towards the kitchen.

Two cops grab Thomas by the arms and escort him to the front door. Handcuffs CRACKLE on his hands. Tears drizzle out of his reddish, dark eyes.