

The Other Side
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START.

BLACK.

FADE IN:

EXT. BUILDING - AFTERNOON

The building shines in the sunshine.

INT. BUILDING - ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

CASEY (21), a Filipino with enough promise and poise to be a future leader, walks into his room.

CASEY

(into the hallway)

Yeah man, I'm down. Just get at me later,
and we'll show those zombies whose boss.

He walks in, letting the door shut behind him.

CASEY (CONT'D)

It's going to be a good day.

His phone RINGS.

It's his girlfriend, HEATHER (23), whose beauty is a cover for how lonely she really is.

He answers and places the call on speaker phone.

CASEY (CONT'D)

(into the phone)

Hey beautiful! How are you?

Heather's voice comes through the loudspeaker on the phone.

HEATHER

I'm good. Listen...Casey...I didn't
really call to chat. I have some news for
you.

CASEY

OK shoot.

HEATHER

I...I...God, why is this so hard to tell
you?

CASEY

Baby, it's okay if it's hard. I'll wait
forever just to hear you say hello.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

HEATHER

I know, baby. I know. It's just...Alright, I'm just going to say it. There's not really an easy way.

CASEY

Heather? I'm worried. What's wrong?

HEATHER

Casey, I'm pregnant.

CASEY

Oh baby! That's fantastic news! Did you go to the doctor yet, get it all finalized?

HEATHER

Yeah.

CASEY

Good! Good! Well, I thought that our last weekend we spent together was going to last forever. God, I love you!

HEATHER

Casey
(sighs)
I love you too.

CASEY

Baby is everything alright?

HEATHER

No Casey, it's not. It's not OK. There's more I have to tell you.

CASEY

Baby, after news like that, you can just keep telling me as much as you want.

HEATHER

Casey--

CASEY

It's going to be a good life for us. I can just feel it.

HEATHER

Casey--

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

CASEY

I mean, I know it's fast for us to have a kid. We're not even married, but that's OK. I'll get you a ring and--

HEATHER

I don't want a ring.

CASEY

What? Why not?

HEATHER

Because the baby isn't yours, Casey! It's not yours.

CASEY

What? But we had that great weekend together, all of that--

HEATHER

--Yeah. It's not yours. It belongs to Justin.

CASEY

Who is Justin?

HEATHER

He's my ex-boyfriend I had before you. He didn't leave. You did. The kid is his. It's not yours, and Casey?

CASEY

Yeah?

HEATHER

Neither am I.

She hangs up.

CASEY

What? Heather? Heather!

Casey notices she hung up and throws his phone into his pillow.

CASEY (CONT'D)

I can't believe her! GOD!

He takes a breath.

CASEY (CONT'D)

What am I going to do?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

MONTAGE: Time passes by as Casey slips deeper and deeper into depression. His ROOMMATE walks in and leaves.

CASEY (CONT'D)
What should I do? What should I do?

A darker thought enters his mind.

CASEY (CONT'D)
I'm...I'm quitting. But how? How am I
going to quit?

He walks around his room looking for ways to kill himself.

CASEY (CONT'D)
Towl rack? No. It won't support my
weight.

Hang myself by the bed? No. I'm too tall.

He sees hairspray and a lighter on his roommate's desk.

CASEY (CONT'D)
Hairspray and a lighter in my mouth?

He considers the idea.

CUT TO:

EXT. COURTYARD - DAY

FOUR FRIENDS and Casey are laughing in the courtyard.

FRIEND #1
Here, dude. Try this!

He takes a lighter and holds it under the hairspray. He presses the light on and activates the hairspray.

The flame shoots out at his friend's face.

The Friend's face is blackened by the flames as he laughs.

CUT TO:

INT. BUILDING - ROOM - AFTERNOON

He places the hairspray and lighter back down.

He walks over to his desk and looks through the drawers.

He finds a knife with a small blade.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

CASEY

Yeah. This could definitely get the job done.

Instantly, the OTHER CASEY appears. He looks exactly like Casey, just in a white t-shirt.

OTHER CASEY

You're going to really try this huh?

Casey looks over and notices the Other Casey.

CASEY

Don't try to talk me out of this.

OTHER CASEY

OK. I won't talk you out of a mistake.

CASEY

Mistake? Have you seen what my life has become? My life is TERRIBLE.

OTHER CASEY

Terrible? How so?

CASEY

My girlfriend of three years just dumped me because of my choice to be here. And how did she show that? She put another guys stuff in place of mine and stole my freaking dream away from me. She knew I was going to ask her to marry me. She KNEW I was going to get a ring and ask when I was done here. When I got to where I was going to be. But no! NO! She decided to cheat and then get pregnant by some guy named "Justin." JUSTIN! OH MY GOD! I know who that guy is.

OTHER CASEY

Who? Who is he?

CASEY

Justin was that guy at the Slush-O counter at that burger joint, Four Dudes! Oh wow! She freaking traded waiting for a safe and secure life by getting with the Slush-O dude!

OTHER CASEY

What can I say, dude? She was a harlot. "Heather the Harlot."

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

CASEY

(pointing the knife)

SHUT UP! She is not a harlot!

OTHER CASEY

Casey, listen to me. Listen to yourself. She was with another guy, got pregnant, and then broke up with you. She was a stupid harlot. Only a high school dropout like her would choose the slush-o guy than a guy in your position.

CASEY

Exactly! And without that stress on me, it's not like I didn't have stress to begin with.

OTHER CASEY

What kind of stress do you have that would possibly lead you to break like this?

CASEY

I've got tests. I've got school. I've got instructors bearing down on me like white on rice being eaten by a polar bear in a snow storm. You know, I think it's just because I'm Asian. I'm Asian, and I'm going to end it.

Casey takes off his shirt and goes into the restroom. He closes the door.

OTHER CASEY

Ending it isn't the answer.

CASEY

Yes it is. It's the answer to all of my problems.

OTHER CASEY

Well, "Mr. Man With All The Answers," how are you going to do it?

CASEY

I'm going to take this knife, and I am going to just slit it across my neck right here. Just take it and slit it across the jugular.

OTHER CASEY

Then why are you in here?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

CASEY

I don't want my family to have to pay for the mess. I'll start the cold water and the blood will just flow right down the drain, and won't even make a mess.

OTHER CASEY

Oh look. It's the suicidal person with a heart.

CASEY

Shut up.

OTHER CASEY

If you care about your family's cost after your death, then what about the funeral costs? What about the emotional toll that your death will cause your family and friends? Did you ever think about them?

CASEY

They don't need me or my mess, and they can throw my body in the river for all I care. I just want to end it all, right here, right now.

He turns on the water.

OTHER CASEY

I'm not going to let you do this.

CASEY

You don't have a choice. I'm doing this whether you like it or not.

OTHER CASEY

Listen to me, Casey. Listen to me. Your life is worth living. Our life is worth living. There are more things to do that are worth more promise and that are more fulfilling than anything that you could possibly do right now.

CASEY

You don't know anything about that. You don't know anything about ME!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

OTHER CASEY

I know more than you think. I know that you're looking for the easy way out because you don't know how to really handle the pain of your first girlfriend ever leaving you for the Slush-O guy. I know that your intelligence is being blocked by your emotions. You know that doing this is going to be a mistake, and you hate making mistakes. You are a perfectionist. You hate life right now, but deep inside, you know that your life WILL get better. You are not trapped, Casey. I am your way out.

CASEY

How could you possibly know that? How can you possibly know that there is a way out? You're me!

OTHER CASEY

I am the other side of you, Casey. I see things in the way that you can't. I see the way out, and it starts with putting down that knife.

CASEY

You're the other side of me, huh? You're my good side right now? Then your other side must be loving the fact that you're wrong.

OTHER CASEY

I'm wrong?

CASEY

Yeah. You could have never guessed that I am going to do this.

Casey places the knife to his throat, and then slams back into the wall.

The Other Casey grabs Casey's wrists and tries to pull it down.

It's internal strength versus internal strength in an epic struggle.

OTHER CASEY

Casey no!

CASEY

You can't stop me now.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (5)

OTHER CASEY
Yes...I...can!

The Other Casey slowly pulls down Casey's wrist.

OTHER CASEY (CONT'D)
It's not worth it, Casey. Your life is
worth saving!

Casey's wrist falls into his lap, and the knife falls onto
the floor.

OTHER CASEY (CONT'D)
Good. Good.

CASEY
I'm...I'm sorry.

OTHER CASEY
You made the right decision. You are the
hero here.

CASEY
I'm a hero?

OTHER CASEY
Yes. Anytime a person prevents themselves
or others from suicide, they are a hero.
You are a hero, Casey. You're my hero.

CASEY
Thank you. I--I don't know what--

The door knocks.

WILLIAM (22) a young nerdy kid in glasses is at the door.

WILLIAM (O.S.)
Hey, Casey! Let's go man! I thought we
were going to go kill some zombies!

Casey looks to where The Other Casey was.

The Other Casey has disappeared.

CASEY
Yeah, I'm coming. I'm coming.

Casey gets up, turns off the water, and walks out.

CUT TO:

INT. BUILDING - HALLWAY - MOMENTS LATER

Casey walks out of the room and into the hallway, joining his friend.

WILLIAM
Hey man, you alright?

CASEY
My girl dumped me for the slush-o guy.

WILLIAM
Oh man! I'm so sorry. Can I do anything?
Are you OK?

CASEY
Yeah man, just help me kill some zombies?

William smiles.

WILLIAM
Yeah man. Let's go.

William and Casey walk off as we

FADE TO BLACK.

FADE IN:

INT. ROOM - DAY

Casey speaks directly into the camera.

CASEY
If you or a friend are considering
suicide, then be the hero. Talk to
someone. Call 1-800-Suicide for help. Be
a hero, and help prevent suicide.

FADE TO BLACK.

END.