

"Mymovie"
A tale of "cyberitous"
Made possible by Myspace.com
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Characters:

Ben-
Girl-
friend1-
friend2-
therapist-
trench coat person-
mom-
dad-

opening scene: dramatic music is playing. Title & opening credits appear.

Unknown character voice over begins in a melodramatic, tearful, desperate voice:

Girl VO: I don't really know how it happened...Everything just sort of spiraled out of control..

After title/ opening credits text appears: "present day" The shot opens to a teenage boy (looking very messy, tired and brain dead) staring at a glowing computer screen. The room he is in is very dark, and his dark attire blends very well into the gloomy/ isolated/ unearthly atmosphere. The scene starts with shots going from the boy to a clock.

Girl VO: it's like he got trapped in this hole and he just keeps falling farther and farther...down...down...down....."

Next shot: boy remains, unmoved in front of the computer as people filter in and out of the room. (shot is in fast motion) Occasionally someone will tap the boy or attempt to talk to him, but the attempts are to no avail...as the film goes faster the music also speeds up creating intensity.

Unknown voice: "we've done everything we can...I don't even know...I'm so scared doctor. For him..."

Unknown character is shown in a comfortable, clean, bright office talking to a therapist.

Girl (end voice over): " everything started out harmlessly. Myspace was a feeling of inclusion (shows a still of a friend request) an unexpected ego boost (show pic comment) a form of artistic expression (classic myspace self taken pic) A new found hope for the human race! (bulletin post: PLEASE REPOST THIS OR EVERYONE NORTH OF THE EQUATOR WILL DIE!!!!!!#11#@\$\$)

Girl: But now. Everything has changed. Suddenly ben started choosing myspace over his friends. (shows ben turning down an invite to hang out. He didn't sleep at night anymore. (shows him looking very tired) his grades started slipping (show he started talking in shorthand (omg wtf lol etc...)) he had this weird idea that because he had so many friends on myspace that he was somehow really popular. You can imagine what people really think of him... (show) He didn't even go to prom!

Girl: "Do you think there is any hope?"

Therapist is looking at girl. she is exasperated and hopeless. Doctor writes something on a slip of paper and hands it to her. She sees the word written and looks up in dismay.

Girl: cyberitous!!!??

Doctor: yes I'm afraid so...I'm afraid so...

Girl: well is there a cure? Like a prescription or something?

Doctor: I'm afraid there is only one thing we can do for ben.

Girl waits in nervous anticipation... (Dramatic pause)

Doctor: an intervention...

Dramatic music increases and screen cuts to black.

Scene 3: bed room, ben is searching for computer. Runs out to living room.

Begin scene 4:

Boy: mom!!! Mom!! My computer!!!!!!!

He stops in his tracks when he sees the scene laid out before him in his living room. Situated rigidly on a couch are the girl, friend 1 & 2, the doctor, his mom and his dad. Most are crying

Doctor: hello Benjamin. Would you please
have a seat?

Boy: what the hell is going on here??? Who
are you? And most importantly where
is my computer???

Doctor: ah so you have seen that your computer
is not where it usually resides. This is the first
step my Son.

Ben looks shocked and confused he looks around at his friends and family who have been sitting quietly.

Boy: wa wa what??

Girl: ben i'm sorry! We didn't know what else
to do. This is for your own good ok? You
have to listen to the Dr. Trust me!

Boy: I don't understand...what are you
talking about???

Girl: don't you realize ben? It's a cyberitis addiction.
And it has got to stop.

Ben looks around the room. He is unable to comprehend what has just happened. He is frustrated and confused. He turns from one person to another, as does the camera and hopes for someone to tell him this was all just a big joke. But it is to no avail. The camera cuts to black.

Next Scene: Ben trudges off to bed with out speaking to anyone. A sad remorseful song is playing. He drifts off into sleep and starts dreaming...

The scene fades into Ben's dream... He is spinning in a dark room with no doors. He is panicked and scared. After about 20 seconds the room brightens and triumphant, heavenly music sounds. Ben stands still gazing up into the sky. Suddenly a man's voice (booming) is audible...

Tom: "Ben, this is Tom. I know you feel your
world caving in on you right now, but don't
worry. There are always other solutions..."

Ben: "Like what Tom? The whole basis of my life was just taken away from me by the people I thought who I thought loved me. I don't really see this as having too many other outcomes besides utter despair and depression."

Tom: "Has all the time you've spent of myspace taught you nothing Ben?? All you have to do is edit your profile... change your settings to private...not everyone has to know everything about you Ben... Some things are better kept secret..."

Suddenly Ben wakes up. He quickly sits up in his bed, breathing very heavily...He starts muttering to himself...

Ben: " Some things are better kept secret..."

Next Scene: Text appears (typing letters): "No Myspace. Day one."

Ben's alarm clock rings. He hits it angrily to make the obnoxious sound stop. Once he hits it the scene cuts and a new music starts up.

Montage: Ben is shown going about his morning routine...it is obvious that his attitude when he is alone is rather angry and upset, however when he sees his parents the voice of Tom echos through his head... "some things are better kept secret..." with that sentiment in mind he smiles at his parents and grabs a banana as he heads out the door for school. He hugs them both and wave as he leaves through the front door. His parents exchange hopeful looks. On his way to first period Benn meets up with some of his friends. They are all very nervous and are unsure how Ben will react to them. They wave and greet him waiting nervously to see his response. (dramatic pause) Ben greets them with warmth and smiles brightly. The friends are relieved and happy to see this change in their friend. All leave for class. Ben walks down the hall over to the computer lab. He sits down looking around suspiciously. It seems that no one is present. He cautiously types in www.myspace.com into the browser... the scene cuts to the girl. She is now walking down a long hallway...the same hallway Ben walked down not too long ago. The scene cuts again back to Ben and we see him enjoying myspace...laughing, smiling, petting the computer... *Slow motion* Cut to girl walking down the hall, nearing the lab. Cut to Ben in the lab. Cut to girl reaching for the doorknob of the computer lab. Cut to Ben. Cut to the girl turning the knob. Cut to Ben whirling around terrified by the noise of a door opening behind him. Cut to the girl placing one foot inside the lab. Cut to Ben frantically trying to close all the myspace windows on

the computer screen in front of him. Cut to girl's expression of shock disappointment and defeat. Cut to Ben's expression of shame, pleading, and shock.*end slow motion*

Ben: "I I I can explain!"

Girl: looks down and holds/shakes her head.

Ben: "It's for a project! For school! Uhhh it's not Like I want to be doing this! Trust me!!"

Girl: looking up now with tears streaked across her face. "Just save it Ben. I can't do this anymore. The lies, the secrecy.."

Ben: "Come on...it's for scho.."

Girl: cutting Ben off "There look! There you go again! There you go lying right to my face! I can't take this any More Ben!"

Ben: "(girl's name) wait. Please!"

Girl: "No Ben. I'm not going to wait around any longer. I'm not just going to watch you throw your life away. I can't compete with your computer romance. We're finished." She slams the lab door and puts her back to the door and closes her eyes.

Scene cuts to black.

Flashes to Ben on his walk home from school. It is getting dark and the weather is very gloomy. His head is down turned and he appears very apathetic. He stops in his tracks after a few moments and turns his head skyward. Ben throws down his binder onto the ground.

Ben: "So this is it Tom? This is where you've gotten me?! I have to admit, I was planning on standing by you on this one. I was sure Myspace had all the answers. But now I don't know what to believe, because right now this sure doesn't seem like "a place for friends"! And you know what? she's right, this has got to stop. So this is the end Tom, my account is already as good as deleted.

Ben: I have to get out of here..

We follow Ben out of his bedroom and out of his house. The scene cuts and Ben appears near the entrance of a dark alleyway. It is night time and a cold breeze whips by him. He follows his feet down the alley as if he is in a trance. Eventually he takes an abrupt turn into a run down internet café. He sits down at the bar shivering and stares into space. The Camera pans out and we see that there is a mysterious, cloaked teenager sitting next to him with a lap top open. The boy looks at Ben curiously and turn

back to his computer. A few moments pass and the cloaked boy turns to talk to Ben.

Cloaked Boy: speaking to the waitress—"two shots of Espresso please" now direction his voice towards Ben—"you don't look too good." Hands him the shot of espresso.

Ben: downs the shot of espresso. "how can you tell?"

Cloaked Boy: "Is that a joke? C'mon man you're not fooling anyone. I might be able to help..."

Ben: "ha I doubt that."

Cloaked: "No really, I'm good with problems." Gestures towards book Ben has near him at the Bar. (Titled "Coping with addiction specific To Myspace")

Ben: Oh this? It's not mine...I just picked it up for a friend.

Cloaked: "if you say so... but I think I may know just the thing..."

Ben: "Oh I have to hear this...what a new clinical study? Electro-shock therapy?"

Cloaked: He turns the lap top to Ben so that the bright screen is clearly illuminated.

Ben: with a look of amazement and shock on his face stares at the computer in front of him. His jaw drops.

The viewer sees the computer screen. It is the homepage for facebook.com.

The scene cuts and the credits roll with a song.