

COMMUNITY

"Applied Time Management"

By

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COLD OPEN

FADE IN:

INT. STUDY ROOM - AFTERNOON

JEFF, BRITTA, TROY, ABED, and PIERCE hang out. SHIRLEY enters, concerned.

SHIRLEY  
Has anyone heard from Annie?

JEFF  
I don't think so.

Shirley takes her seat.

SHIRLEY  
We were supposed to meet for lunch,  
but she never showed up.

PIERCE  
Maybe she found another single  
mother to eat Sloppy Joes with.

ABED  
That's weird. She wasn't in our  
*Bible as US History* class, either.  
She was supposed to give a speech  
on how Lincoln parted the Red Sea  
to free the Pilgrims.

BRITTA  
(to Shirley)  
Did you call her?

SHIRLEY  
Yeah, but it just kept ringing.

BRITTA  
Hmm. Let me try.

Britta dials Annie.

JEFF  
Who knows? She probably decided to  
sleep in.

TROY  
But she never misses class. She's  
like the Brett Favre of showing up  
to stuff.

BRITTA  
 (hangs up)  
 Odd. It went straight to voicemail.

PIERCE  
 Pfft. Amateurs.

Pierce pulls out his phone and speaks into it.

PIERCE (CONT'D)  
 Breasts.

PHONE VOICE  
*Calling Annie.*

SHIRLEY  
 This just isn't like her.

BRITTA  
 For real. She actually texted me  
 once to say she was running late  
 for the bathroom.

JEFF  
 Guys, relax. I'm sure she's fine.

From Pierce's phone--

ANNIE'S PHONE (V.O.)  
*We're sorry, but the number you  
 have dialed cannot be reached.*

They share a look of concern. Shirley glances down at Annie's chair. And to her surprise-- there's a package on the seat.

SHIRLEY  
 Guys...

She picks it up. Written on the top of it-- "JEFF".

JEFF  
 Okay. Bizarre.

BRITTA  
 Open it.

Confused, Shirley hands the package to Jeff. He unwraps it. It's a small box. He lifts the top. And inside-- it's a smartphone.

TROY  
 Crap, I knew I forgot something!  
 Happy Birthday, Jeff!

JEFF  
Except it's not.

Suddenly, the phone rings. The group is perplexed.

ABED  
You should probably answer that.

Jeff reluctantly does. And on the other end-- a menacing,  
DISTORTED MALE VOICE.

DISTORTED VOICE (V.O.)  
Hello, Jeff.

JEFF  
Who is this?

DISTORTED VOICE (V.O.)  
Trust me. That's the least of your  
concerns right now.

JEFF  
The hell are you talking about?

DISTORTED VOICE (V.O.)  
Well, for starters, I've got Annie.

Jeff's eyes widen. He jolts out of his seat.

BRITTA  
Jeff, what's wrong?

JEFF  
(to the Voice)  
Who the hell are you?!

DISTORTED VOICE (V.O.)  
Easy, Winger. Let's not get  
emotional. I don't wanna humanize  
the situation.

JEFF  
Tell me who you are right now, or I  
swear I'll--

DISTORTED VOICE (V.O.)  
Sorry, Jeff. But I don't think  
you're in a position to make  
demands.

ANNIE (V.O.)  
Jeff!

It's Annie, in the background of the call.

JEFF

Annie?

The group looks on, baffled.

DISTORTED VOICE (V.O.)

You ready to play ball?

JEFF

What have you done?

DISTORTED VOICE (V.O.)

Let's make a deal. You get me what I need, and I'll return Annie safe and sound. If not...

(beat)

Something will happen.

JEFF

If you lay one finger on her...

DISTORTED VOICE (V.O.)

I'm shivering, Jeff. Shivering!

JEFF

Just tell me what you want!

DISTORTED VOICE (V.O.)

I want Project Starfire!

Jeff is confused.

JEFF

The hell is that?

DISTORTED VOICE (V.O.)

Greendale's most well-kept secret. Find it and deliver it to me. And don't bother calling the police.

JEFF

But how am I supposed to--

DISTORTED VOICE (V.O.)

You've got one hour.

(beat)

Which started ten minutes ago.

He hangs up.

SHIRLEY

Jeffrey? What's going on?

JEFF

(pause)

Annie's been... kidnapped.

The group is stunned. Off a dramatic THUD...

FADE OUT.

END OF COLD OPEN

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

COUNTDOWN TIMER: 50 Minutes

INT. STUDY ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Everything is suddenly "visceral" and "shaky". Jeff takes charge.

SHIRLEY  
Kidnapped?!

JEFF  
We've got under an hour.

BRITTA  
Well, what do they want?

JEFF  
Something called Project Starfire.  
Said it was Greendale's biggest  
secret.

PIERCE  
Sounds like a gay bar.

ABED  
I can try searching the archives.  
They keep a record of every school  
paper and public document.

JEFF  
Alright, good. Get down there. And  
take Troy with you.

TROY  
(super serious)  
I'll bring my flash drive.

JEFF  
Now has anyone actually seen Annie  
today?

PIERCE  
I thought I did, but it was just a  
bright light hitting a mannequin.

JEFF  
Pierce! This is no time for levity!

BRITTA

Wait, doesn't the courtyard have a security camera? We could check the footage.

JEFF

Alright, do it. And Shirley, I want you to dig around. Talk to some of her friends. See if they've heard anything.

BRITTA

What about you?

JEFF

I'm gonna talk to the Dean. If there's a Greendale secret, you can bet that goblin knows about it. The clock's ticking, people. So let's save Annie.

Everyone but Pierce starts to leave.

PIERCE

Well? And what am I gonna do?

JEFF

I don't know! Age!

PIERCE

But I could be useful! Have I told you the story about my time in Vietnam?

THE GROUP

NO!

COUNTDOWN TIMER: 45 MINUTES

INT. DEAN'S OFFICE - AFTERNOON

At his desk, DEAN PELTON is busy dunking an Oreo in milk. Suddenly, Jeff barges in.

JEFF

We need to talk!

DEAN PELTON

Well, if this isn't a fantasy come to life.



JEFF  
What the hell is Project Starfire?

The Dean freezes.

DEAN PELTON  
That... doesn't ring a bell.

JEFF  
You paused. Hiding something.

DEAN PELTON  
I mean, it sounds familiar, but--

Jeff grabs the Dean by the collar.

JEFF  
Tell me what you know!

DEAN PELTON  
Oh, dear heavens...

JEFF  
Annie Edison has been kidnapped,  
and we're running out of time!

DEAN PELTON  
Wait, what? Kidnapped?

JEFF  
Yes! And they want Project  
Starfire! So for the third time,  
what is it?!

DEAN PELTON  
Jeffrey, if I knew, I would tell  
you. But I don't. So I won't.

Frustrated, Jeff shoves him back into his chair.

JEFF  
Fine! Then discreetly round up  
Greendale security and start  
searching for Annie.

DEAN PELTON  
And if by Greendale security you  
mean Leonard and a few custodians,  
then no. I can't do that.

JEFF  
Why not?!

DEAN PELTON

Contrary to popular belief, our budget doesn't cover kidnappings. In fact, we're pretty much limited to petty larceny and hate crimes.

JEFF

Then what the hell are my scholarships paying for?!

DEAN PELTON

I think we just need to calm down.

JEFF

Annie's in danger! My level of calm is right where it needs to be!

DEAN PELTON

I'm sorry, Jeff. But I don't know anything about Project Starscream.

JEFF

Starfire!

DEAN PELTON

But if you need help, I've got some literature on handling kidnappings in the back of my trunk.

(realizes)

Oh wow, that explains a lot.

INT. ARCHIVE, LIBRARY - AFTERNOON

Troy and Abed rifle through dozens of file cabinets.

ABED

Find anything?

Troy's reading an old newspaper.

TROY

No. But apparently Greendale wasn't desegregated until *Do The Right Thing* came out.

ABED

This isn't working. We need to move faster.

TROY

Well, isn't all this stuff online?

ABED  
Yeah, but it's password protected.  
We would need someone who could  
break the encryption.

Then suddenly, it hits them.

ABED (CONT'D)  
You thinking what I'm thinking?

TROY  
All the time.

INT. SECURITY ROOM - AFTERNOON

Britta is with a portly old security guard named JOE. The video equipment couldn't be any more ancient.

JOE  
It's really nice you're doing this  
for your friend.

BRITTA  
She's missing...

On the monitor, black and white footage of Greendale's courtyard.

JOE  
This was all taken today. Just tell  
me when to stop, so I'll know when  
to stop.

He fast forwards. And then--

BRITTA  
Wait. Go back.

He rewinds.

BRITTA (CONT'D)  
Right there.

He hits play. We see footage of Britta walking, with horrible posture.

BRITTA (CONT'D)  
Wow, is that really how I walk?

He stares at her. She immediately catches herself.

BRITTA (CONT'D)  
Continue.

He fast forwards. And then--

BRITTA (CONT'D)  
Stop. There.

He hits play. We see Annie walking through the courtyard.

BRITTA (CONT'D)  
There she is.

JOE  
Wow, she's a looker. I really hope  
she doesn't die.

BRITTA  
When was this taken?

JOE  
About three hours ago. Give or take  
an hour.

Suddenly, we see Annie approached by a man.

BRITTA  
Who is that?

His back is turned. It's hard to make out.

BRITTA (CONT'D)  
Can you zoom in?

JOE  
How?

Annoyed, Britta steps in front of him and takes the controls.

INT. COMPUTER LAB - AFTERNOON

Students are busy studying. Abed and Troy are stationed in front of a computer with GARRETT, the AV nerd. He's typing like a madman. And then...

GARRETT  
Got it! I'm in! Yeah!

ABED  
Nice. Thanks, Garrett.

TROY  
Cool. You can leave now.

Dejected, Garrett walks off.

ABED  
 Alright, let's see.

Troy and Abed search the database for "Project Starfire". And almost instantly, they find something.

TROY  
 Wait, is this...

Abed stares at it. His eyes widen.

INT. DEAN PELTON'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

Jeff's about to leave. His phone rings. He answers it.

JEFF  
 Tell me something encouraging.

INTERCUT Computer Lab and Office

Abed is wearing a headset. He's in total support mode.

ABED  
 Good news, Alpha One--

JEFF  
 Abed. Jeff. Go.

ABED  
 We located a document. Project Starfire...  
 (beat)  
 It's a set of blueprints.

JEFF  
 Blueprints?

The Dean suddenly gulps.

JEFF (CONT'D)  
 (to Abed)  
 Blueprints to what?

ABED  
 No clue. We found a memo sent out to a contractor to design Starfire. It was ordered by a committee made up of Greendale faculty. Dated this year. I apologize if that was a lot of information, but it was needed.

JEFF  
 Who was on the committee?

ABED

Hard to tell. There's a list of names, but it's blurry. Like someone spilt milk all over it.

JEFF

Well, unblur it!

ABED

Give me a sec.

Abed zooms in on the screen. He makes out one of the names. He's stunned.

ABED (CONT'D)

Alpha One...

(beat)

Dean Pelton was on the committee.

Jeff glares down at the Dean. A terrifying glare.

JEFF

(to Abed)

Is that so?

The Dean looks about ready to melt.

ABED

I'll see what else I can find.

JEFF

I'll be in touch.

They hang up. Jeff is alone with the Dean. He's in kill mode.

JEFF (CONT'D)

Wanna try this again?

DEAN PELTON

Oh! Blueprints! Memory jogged!

JEFF

Start talking!

DEAN PELTON

Okay! I was asked to be a part of a committee that claimed they were gonna "change Greendale forever". But to be honest, they came across as really preachy.

JEFF

What was the project?

DEAN PELTON

I don't know. I never attended the meetings. They just gave me some papers to sign and I signed them.

JEFF

So you gave this committee the go ahead to order blueprints for something you weren't aware of?!

DEAN PELTON

Well, when you put it that way...

Jeff slams his fist on the desk, startling the Dean.

JEFF

You better pray we find Annie. Because if not, I am coming back to personally destroy your face.

Jeff storms out. The Dean exhales.

DEAN PELTON

Worth it...?

COUNTDOWN TIMER: 35 MINUTES

SPLITSCREEN: EXT. CAMPUS / INT. COMPUTER LAB

Jeff's on the phone with Abed.

JEFF

Abed. Talk to me.

ABED

I'm compiling a list of the committee members.

JEFF

How many?

ABED

Four so far. Two in Administration. Two in Science.

JEFF

Split the list. Send Troy to the Science building.

They hang up. As Jeff starts to move, the smartphone rings. He answers it.

JEFF (CONT'D)

What do you want?

DISTORTED VOICE (V.O.)

Just checking in. We haven't talked in a while. How's life?

JEFF

We know what you're after. So what are they for? A bomb? No, wait. An invisible jetpack.

DISTORTED VOICE (V.O.)

Oh, Jeff. Always the clever one.

JEFF

I try.

DISTORTED VOICE (V.O.)

That's touching. You should know, though. Annie's looking quite nervous over here.

ANNIE (V.O.)

Jeff! Please!

Annie's voice tears Jeff apart.

JEFF

Come on! Why are you doing this? Why me? Why Annie?

DISTORTED VOICE (V.O.)

Why any of us, Jeff? That's life. So instead of worrying about the why, you should worry about the how. As in, how are you gonna get my damn blueprints?

JEFF

I'll get your blueprints! Just don't hurt Annie.

DISTORTED VOICE (V.O.)

Well, what do you know? Jeff Winger has a heart. Who knew?

(beat)

And by the way, Jeff. I love the jacket. It's a good look for you.

The voice hangs up. Confused, Jeff spins around, trying to find the guy. But he sees nothing but passersby. He shakes it off and races to the Administration Building.



INT. SECURITY ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Joe is fast asleep. Britta is studying the footage of Annie and the mystery guy. We watch as Annie walks off with him.

BRITTA

Hold on a sec.

Britta rewinds the tape. She stops on a frame. The guy's head turns for a split second. She stares at his face.

BRITTA (CONT'D)

Oh my god.

SPLITSCREEN: INT. ADMINISTRATION / INT. SCIENCE / INT. COMPUTER LAB

Jeff's on the move.

JEFF

They weren't there. Troy?

Troy's on the move.

TROY

It's like they disappeared.

Abed's on his headset.

ABED

Suddenly, I feel congested.

JEFF

God, this is so confusing.

TROY

Seriously. My brain feels like a million whales punching each other.

ABED

Well, I've got good news. I'm scanning the final name on the list. Should be any second.

Suddenly, Jeff gets another call.

JEFF

Abed, patch her through.

INT. SECURITY ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Britta's on the other end, making it...

A FOUR-WAY SPLIT SCREEN: Jeff, Britta, Troy, and Abed

ABED  
Alpha Two, go ahead.

BRITTA  
Annie was on campus. She left with  
someone.

JEFF  
Britta, who did she leave with?!

BRITTA  
(pause)  
Professor Duncan.

Abed stares at his screen, in disbelief.

ABED  
The scan is complete...  
(beat)  
Alpha One, Duncan's the final  
member of the committee.

They're stunned. Off a dramatic THUD...

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN.

COUNTDOWN TIMER: 30 MINUTES

INT. CAFETERIA - AFTERNOON

Shirley approaches a group of PUNK FRESHMEN sharing a table.

SHIRLEY

A little birdie told me you might  
know where my friend Annie is.

PUNK FRESHMAN

And who are you? The mother hen?

They laugh. Suddenly, Shirley picks him up by a pressure  
point. He writhes in pain.

PUNK FRESHMAN (CONT'D)

Oww, oww, oww!

SHIRLEY

I've raised two black children  
without the help of a strong male  
role model. So trust me. I will not  
hesitate to whoop your ass.

PUNK FRESHMAN

Okay, I'll talk!!

She lets go.

PUNK FRESHMAN (CONT'D)

There's a guy, alright? Says he  
knows who took Annie.

SHIRLEY

What's his name?

PUNK FRESHMAN

I don't know. He goes by a code  
name. Shallow Throat. He hangs  
around the dumpster near the gym.

Shirley starts to leave.

PUNK FRESHMAN (CONT'D)

You better watch your back. The  
Throat can't be trusted.

SHIRLEY

(pause)

I'll keep that in mind.

INT. JANITOR'S CLOSET - AFTERNOON

It's a makeshift interrogation room. PROFESSOR DUNCAN sits at a table, freaking out. He's hounded by Jeff.

JEFF

Where's Annie?!

PROF. DUNCAN

You just abducted me out of my own class! I could have you suspended!

JEFF

Shut up and start talking!

PROF. DUNCAN

Wait, you want me to shut up and start talking? No thanks. I'll just sit and stand.

JEFF

We have footage of you and Annie in the courtyard. And we know you were on the committee that ordered Project Starfire. Coincidence?

PROF. DUNCAN

Yes!

JEFF

Then where is she?!

PROF. DUNCAN

Look, Annie asked me if I could go over last week's test. I said yes, which was a problem because I threw out the answers three days ago. So we went to my office, reviewed it, and she left. That's it.

JEFF

And no one's seen her since. Don't you think that's a bit odd?

PROF. DUNCAN

No. What's odd is thinking I could kidnap Annie, hold her for ransom, and still find the time to teach a lecture on Brazilian sex tribes.

JEFF  
Then where's Project Starfire?

PROF. DUNCAN  
I don't know.

JEFF  
You don't know, or you won't tell us?

PROF. DUNCAN  
Well, it's probably one of the two.

Suddenly, in a fit of rage, Jeff tosses the table to the side and pins Duncan up against the wall.

JEFF  
Where are the blueprints?!

PROF. DUNCAN  
Look, I swore an oath! There was a bible involved! It was serious!

JEFF  
Annie's life is on the line, and you're gonna stick to some stupid oath?!

PROF. DUNCAN  
I put loyalty over all the other virtues I don't follow!

Jeff drops him and turns away, disgusted.

PROF. DUNCAN (CONT'D)  
I'm sorry, Jeff. But Project Starfire has to stay hidden.

JEFF  
Why? What's so important that it's worth risking someone's life?

PROF. DUNCAN  
Wait.  
(beat)  
You don't know what it is?

Off Jeff's dramatic stare...

COUNTDOWN TIMER: 25 MINUTES

SPLITSCREEN: EXT. CAMPUS / INT. COMPUTER LAB

Shirley's on the phone with Abed.

ABED

Bravo One, what's your status?

SHIRLEY

I've got a source. Shallow Throat.

ABED

Cryptic.

SHIRLEY

I'm on my way to meet him. He might know where Annie is.

ABED

You need backup?

SHIRLEY

I brought mace. And a rock.

ABED

Keep me posted.

Shirley hangs up. We're with Abed. Suddenly, Britta enters.

ABED (CONT'D)

Alpha Two. What's the update?

BRITTA

No clue. Jeff's still interrogating Duncan.

ABED

This isn't good. We've got less than thirty minutes.

BRITTA

Yeah, and where's Troy?

ABED

Don't know. I tried calling him, but all I got was a ringback tone of "Smooth Criminal".

BRITTA

And Shirley?

ABED

She found a source. He may have a lead on Annie.

BRITTA  
Wait, where at? Where is she?

ABED  
Didn't say.

Suddenly, a MATH STUDENT nearby gets irritated.

MATH STUDENT  
Guys, seriously, I'm trying to study here.

BRITTA  
(snaps)  
My bad! I'll help you! X equals kill yourself!

He cowers back to his homework.

BRITTA (CONT'D)  
Abed, she may need our help. What if it's a trap?

ABED  
That's always likely. I'll locate her.

On his screen, Abed pulls up a sophisticated GPS map of Greendale.

BRITTA  
Wait, where'd you find this?

ABED  
It was on the Desktop. Right next to Paint.

Abed locates Shirley's phone.

ABED (CONT'D)  
There. Looks like she's heading for the music department.

BRITTA  
Got it. Thanks.

Britta leaves.

INT. JANITOR'S CLOSET - LATER

Jeff stares at Duncan.

JEFF

Duncan, what is it?

PROF. DUNCAN

I shouldn't have said that. In fact, I didn't. Wait, where are we? Who are you? I don't want any!

JEFF

Fine! You wanna play this game? Then you're gonna make me do something I'm really gonna regret.

PROF. DUNCAN

Jeff, wait! Please don't do anything to my testicles. I'm sorry!

EXT. ALLEY - AFTERNOON

Shirley cautiously enters, looking around. And then, rising from the dumpster-- it's CHANG. He's wearing a trench coat and dark sunglasses.

CHANG

(Batman Voice)

I am the mysterious Shallow Throat, keeper of knowledge. I am not a current student or former teacher.

SHIRLEY

Chang?!

CHANG

Dammit!

He hops out of the dumpster.

SHIRLEY

What are you doing here?!

CHANG

Word around the water fountain is you're looking for Annie. I may or may not know where she is.

SHIRLEY

Wait, how would you even know?

CHANG

I was following her.



SHIRLEY  
Following her?!

CHANG  
I observe a different girl every week. I'm writing a young adult novel. It's *Twilight* with vampires.

SHIRLEY  
Why should I trust you? For all I know, you could be the kidnapper!

CHANG  
Me?! Do you know what happens to Asian men who kidnap white girls? Because I'm curious to know.

SHIRLEY  
Just tell me where she is!

Chang pulls out a golden envelope.

CHANG  
Sorry, Foxy Locks. But if you want the Throat's knowledge, you gotta pay up. I accept all major credit cards and sexual positions.

Suddenly, Shirley pulls out her mace and sprays Chang. He drops the envelope, collapsing to the ground.

CHANG (CONT'D)  
(in pain)  
It's just like I remember!!

Shirley grabs the envelope and opens it.

INT. JANITOR'S CLOSET - LATER

Duncan waits at the table. The door opens. And in walks... Pierce. He's creepy as hell.

PROF. DUNCAN  
(relieved)  
Oh, thank god it's you. I thought he was bringing in the Arab.

PIERCE  
No. That would be torture.

PROF. DUNCAN  
I know, right? So can you get me out of here?

Pierce sits down in front of Duncan.

PIERCE  
 Sure. But first...  
 (beat)  
 You wanna hear a story about my  
 time in Vietnam?

EXT. ALLEY - CONTINUOUS

Shirley pulls out a series of photos from the envelope. She glances over them. Her eyes widen.

SHIRLEY  
 Oh no...

She looks up. Someone is standing right in front of her.

SHIRLEY (CONT'D)  
 It's you...

COUNTDOWN TIMER: 15 MINUTES

INT. COMPUTER LAB - CONTINUOUS

Troy finally enters, carrying a Blackberry.

ABED  
 Charlie One! Where have you been?

TROY  
 I had to go charge my phone. Did  
 you know running actually kills  
 battery life?

ABED  
 Do you still have it?

TROY  
 I left it in the music hall. I'm  
 borrowing some chick's Blackberry.

ABED  
 Wait. You were in the music hall?

Suddenly, Abed gets a call.

SPLITSCREEN: INT. COMPUTER LAB / EXT. ALLEY

Britta's in the alley. Shirley is knocked out. The photos are missing.

ABED (CONT'D)  
Alpha Two, what's the problem?

BRITTA  
Abed! I found Shirley! She's  
unconscious!

Troy and Abed can't believe it.

INT. JANITOR'S CLOSET - LATER

Duncan is horrified beyond imagination. Pierce smiles. Jeff approaches.

JEFF  
Feel like talking now?

PROF. DUNCAN  
Okay!! It's in a vault!!

JEFF  
Where?

Duncan tries to hold back.

JEFF (CONT'D)  
Duncan! We're running out of time!

PIERCE  
Come on, Professor. I'm sure the  
goat wouldn't--

PROF. DUNCAN  
Alright!! I'll tell you!!  
(beat)  
They put it somewhere they thought  
no one would ever think... or want  
to look.

INT. OFFICE OF ENROLLMENT - AFTERNOON

Jeff and Duncan enter. It's a nightmare come true--  
Enrollment Applications. Intent to Graduate forms. Copy  
machines. Old people. They walk past a line of prospective  
students applying for Greendale. They're from all walks of  
life. Jeff stares into their cold, dead eyes.

JEFF  
I'm so sorry.

INT. ENROLLMENT ADVISOR'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

Jeff and Duncan enter. There's a painting of the River Styx on the wall.

PROF. DUNCAN  
Here she is.

Jeff lifts the painting. There's a vault. With a keypad lock.

JEFF  
Combination?

Duncan gives Jeff a look. Jeff reads into it, and shakes his head. He punches in the code-- 6. 6. 6. The vault opens. Jeff reaches inside and pulls out the rolled blueprints. He holds it with awe.

JEFF (CONT'D)  
This is it. This is Project Starfire.

PROF. DUNCAN  
Good. Now go. Save Annie.

JEFF  
No. Not without seeing what it is.

PROF. DUNCAN  
Jeff, I would strongly advise against that.

JEFF  
This guy was willing to kidnap an innocent girl. I have to know why.

PROF. DUNCAN  
Jeff, I'm warning you. Don't...

Jeff tears off the binding and unravels the blueprint.

JEFF  
Oh, you've gotta be kidding me...

And off a dramatic THUD...

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

FADE IN.

COUNTDOWN TIMER: 5 MINUTES

INT. ENROLLMENT ADVISOR'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

Jeff is in complete disbelief.

JEFF

This can't be real.

PROF. DUNCAN

I told you, Jeff. Once you go down the rabbit hole, all you're gonna find are rabbits and dirt.

JEFF

(re: the blueprints)

But this?

(beat)

Who in their right mind would wanna stop this from happening?

On cue, the smartphone rings. Jeff answers it.

DISTORTED VOICE (V.O.)

Time's up, Jeff. Do you have my blueprints?

JEFF

I can't let you do this.

DISTORTED VOICE (V.O.)

I'm sorry, but either my reception is poor, or I just heard you nix our deal.

JEFF

One of the two.

DISTORTED VOICE (V.O.)

I'm not sure how Annie's gonna take this. Let's find out.

ANNIE (V.O.)

AHHHHH!

JEFF

No! Stop! Leave her alone!

DISTORTED VOICE (V.O.)  
The blueprints, Jeffrey! Now!

JEFF  
Fine! You can have them! Just leave  
Annie out of this!

DISTORTED VOICE (V.O.)  
Five minutes. We'll meet where it  
all began. No games. No tricks.

The voice hangs up.

PROF. DUNCAN  
(pause)  
Wow. I am genuinely tense. This is  
fantastic.

Jeff's phone rings.

SPLITSCREEN: INT. ENROLLMENT ADVISOR'S OFFICE / INT. COMPUTER  
LAB

It's Abed and Troy.

ABED  
Jeff! What's the situation?

JEFF  
I got the blueprints, Abed. I'm  
gonna make the deal.

Troy grabs the headset.

TROY  
Jeff, we've got another problem.  
Shirley's unconscious and Britta  
took her to the campus clinic.  
Then she took her to a real doctor.

JEFF  
Jesus. What happened?

TROY  
(breaking down)  
I don't know. But this is really  
freaky, man. I just wanna go home.  
Remember when life was just a  
simple game of paintball? Or that  
time we got stuck in the chicken  
shuttle? Why can't we go back to  
that, Jeff? Why can't we go back to  
that?!

Troy's in tears. Abed takes the headset.

JEFF  
Is he gonna be okay?

ABED  
I'll send him home. But Jeff...  
(beat)  
There's something you have to know.

INT. STUDY ROOM - AFTERNOON

It's empty. Jeff enters, carrying the blueprints. The smartphone rings. He answers it.

JEFF  
Alright. Now what?

DISTORTED VOICE (V.O.)  
Set them down on the table.

Jeff does as he's told.

JEFF  
Okay. Done.

DISTORTED VOICE (V.O.)  
Now back away slowly.

JEFF  
Oh, come on. Don't be a coward. At least show your face.

DISTORTED VOICE (V.O.)  
Preying on the villain's ego. I like it, Jeff. Too bad I don't have one.

JEFF  
What? A brain or an ego?

DISTORTED VOICE (V.O.)  
I said back away!

JEFF  
How would you know I haven't?

DISTORTED VOICE (V.O.)  
I just know!

JEFF  
Do you? Or is it because you're actually behind the couch?

And suddenly, emerging from behind the couch-- a MASKED FIGURE. Not very tall. With the same distorted voice.

MASKED FIGURE

Very observant, Jeff. What gave it away?

JEFF

I could hear myself.

MASKED FIGURE

Dammit!

JEFF

You got what you wanted. Now give me Annie.

MASKED FIGURE

Fair enough. A deal is a deal.

He takes off his mask. And to Jeff's surprise-- it's ANNIE.

JEFF

Oh my god...

ANNIE

Hello, Jeff.

JEFF

Annie, what have you done?

ANNIE

I had no choice. It was the only way to stop Starfire.

JEFF

So you faked your own kidnapping? Are you insane?! Do you know how worried we've all been?!

ANNIE

And I'm sorry, Jeff. I didn't wanna do this. But I had to ensure you'd go through with it.

JEFF

So you played on my emotions. I can't believe you would do this.

ANNIE

I'm so sorry...



JEFF

No. I literally mean, I can't believe you would do this.

ANNIE

(confused)

What are you talking about?

JEFF

Come on, Annie. Did you really think I would buy that? You're a smart girl. But planning a kidnapping? And convincing me and the rest of the group to go along with it? It's way out of your scope of crazy.

ANNIE

What's that supposed to mean?!

BRITTA (O.C.)

It means you had help.

Jeff turns. It's Britta.

BRITTA (CONT'D)

Well, what do you know? Jeff Winger isn't incompetent after all.

JEFF

Britta.

BRITTA

Didn't see that one coming, did you?

JEFF

I'm not exactly sure what flavor of psycho juice you've been drinking, but this is officially a low point in our friendship.

BRITTA

Tropical Punch. And you know what? I'm offended. You should be proud of me.

JEFF

For giving me a panic attack?!

BRITTA

For proving you actually care.

Jeff doesn't know what to say.

BRITTA (CONT'D)  
 You should've seen yourself, Jeff.  
 Running around. Using horrible  
 clichés.

JEFF  
 I'll see you in hell.

ANNIE  
 All because you wanted to save  
 Annie.

JEFF  
 Of course! She's my friend!

BRITTA  
 Really? 'Cause in my world, friends  
 don't abduct professors for  
 friends.

ANNIE  
 Britta, what are you doing? This  
 wasn't a part of the plan.

BRITTA  
 I know. I'm riffing.

JEFF  
 What are you trying to say?

BRITTA  
 I'm trying to say, you care more  
 about Annie than you realize.

Jeff and Annie share an awkward look. Britta makes her way  
 over to the table and picks up the blueprint.

BRITTA (CONT'D)  
 Though, I am curious, Jeff. How did  
 you know it was me?

JEFF  
 (pause)  
 You found Shirley.

Britta is baffled.

JEFF (CONT'D)  
 When Abed gave you her GPS  
 location, he accidentally gave you  
 Troy's instead. Yet somehow, you  
 still managed to show up at the  
 right destination.

EXT. ALLEY - AFTERNOON - FLASHBACK

Shirley stares at the photos from the envelope. It's Annie and Britta, getting into Britta's car. Shirley looks up. Britta is standing in front of her.

SHIRLEY

It's you...

Britta knocks her out with a chloroform rag.

INT. STUDY ROOM - CONTINUOUS

JEFF

You were just too good.

BRITTA

Oh, well. Even *The Guardian* is wrong sometimes.

JEFF

Ugh.

BRITTA

But it doesn't matter. Starfire is mine. And I'll make sure this monstrosity never sees the light of day.

ANNIE

Britta, let's just burn it and go.

BRITTA

Come on, Annie. Don't you wanna savor the moment?

Britta unrolls the blueprint. She stares at it. Her eyes widen. She looks at Jeff.

BRITTA (CONT'D)

You son of a bitch.

She turns it over, revealing...

BRITTA (CONT'D)

It's just a picture of Kirk Cameron!

ANNIE

What?!

JEFF

Come on. Did you actually think I was gonna give you the real thing?

ANNIE

Wait. So you were willing to sacrifice me to protect Starfire?

JEFF

Sacrifice is kind of a strong word. It implies I care.

BRITTA

Do you know what this means, Jeff?  
(pause)  
It means you won.

Jeff is puzzled. And out of nowhere, the doors open. And in walks... EVERYONE. The rest of the study group, Dean Pelton, Duncan, Chang, classmates. Everyone. Confetti flies everywhere.

JEFF

What the hell is going on?

Dean Pelton is carrying a medal. He hands it to Annie.

ANNIE

Jeff, your Greendale's Student of the Year!

She places the medal around his neck.

DEAN PELTON

It's the Luis Guzmán Medal of School Pride. We give it every year to the student who shows the most courage and tenacity in preserving the integrity of Greendale.

BRITTA

You risked Annie's life to protect Starfire. No one else could've done that.

ANNIE

And I'm not sure how I feel about it, but it was for a good cause.

Jeff is speechless.

ABED

You were amazing, Jeff. Fearless.

TROY

Yeah, like a young Matt Damon.

PIERCE

I'm proud of you, Jeffrey. You grew some balls. You would've been a heck of a soldier in Vietnam.

JEFF

This was all a setup?

DEAN PELTON

We had to account for a few variables, but everybody played their parts down to the tee.

SHIRLEY

It was so much fun! Like being in a little movie!

CHANG

Wait, why did I have to get maced?

ANNIE

So, Jeff. What do you have to say?

JEFF

(long pause)

I think I'm gonna go kill myself.

Jeff leaves.

PIERCE

I'm sure he'll be fine.

ANNIE

So wait, what was Starfire?

Abed pulls out the real blueprint. He unrolls it, showing the group. Their eyes light up with amazement.

TROY

...Is that a parking garage?

FADE OUT.

END OF SHOW