

RECRUITMENT DRIVE

by

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INT HASAN'S BEDROOM - DAY

We see HASAN taking pictures with their camera from their bedroom window. In the corner of the room on their bedside table, their phone buzzes. A notification appears on the screen. It's a message from LEXI reading "Hey, can I chat with you? I've got something important to show you!"

HASAN hears the buzz, sets down their camera, walks over to their phone and picks it up.

CUT TO:

INT LEXI'S BEDROOM - DAY

We see LEXI playing a game on their laptop. Their phone, which is sitting next to them, also buzzes with a message from HASAN. It's the exact same message that HASAN received from LEXI, but they are none the wiser.

LEXI presses the ESC key on their keyboard, implied to pause the game, and looks at their phone.

Side by side shot, like with a telephone conversation, of the two looking at their phones with a look of confusion and intrigue on their faces. They both move out of shot at the same time.

CUT TO:

INT ONLINE MEETING

HASAN's view appears first, followed by LEXI's. They're both using webcams, sitting in front of their PCs, in their bedrooms. They are both confused and it's evident in their voices.

HASAN

Um, hi?

LEXI

Hey! So, what was so important that you wanted to show me? You know I was in the middle of a game, right?

HASAN

Um, I... don't have anything. I thought you wanted to show me something.

LEXI

Huh? But I thought... Hang on, I got a message from you saying to join a call because you had something to show me?

HASAN

No, I got a message from you saying to join me.

(Emphasis on "you" and "me")

LEXI
(taken aback)
But... But, I don't remember
sending you that!

HASAN
Neither do I.

LEXI
Wait, so if neither of us sent
those messages then...
(beat)
Who did??

A few short, silent seconds of dramatic tension. The two have looks of confusion and worry on their faces. Suddenly, a third view appears on the screen. Instead of a webcam view, we get black and red static.

LEXI
Huh? That's not supposed to happen.

HASAN
Hey, you're in the wrong call!
Also, you might wanna sort out your
camera.

A voice speaks. It speaks in a very low pitch and its voice is garbled, to prevent it from being identified.

THE ENTITY
Greetings, both of you. It's nice
to... finally meet you.
(emphasis on "finally")

HASAN
(slightly scared)
Wh- who are you and why do you
sound like that?

THE ENTITY
Irrelevant questions. If you must
know, I am THE ENTITY, but it will
be meaningless in due course.

While the below exchange is happening, HASAN gets up and tries to open their door. They can't; it's locked.

LEXI
(aggressive)
Listen, I don't know what kind of
sick game you're playing-

THE ENTITY
Correct. This is the game, and you
are now part of it.

LEXI
(sarcastic)
Ha ha, very funny. Now I'm gonna
have to boot you out.

LEXI taps keys on their keyboard. The camera slowly zooms
into THE ENTITY's view.

THE ENTITY
Futile attempts. You cannot exit,
no matter what you do.

HASAN sits back down.

LEXI
What?! I can't kick them!

HASAN
(worried)
And my bedroom door's locked, from
the inside!!

LEXI
(desperate)
What do you want from us?

THE ENTITY
We just want you to play. We have
watched you. We know all about you.
You can only survive... if you
play.

CUT TO BLACK

THE ENTITY
You will hear from us, very soon...

A chat interface window zooms in from the black. The credits
appear as speech bubbles containing text, alternating sides.
The last message contains a video attachment. A mouse cursor
clicks on it and the window is filled with the black and red
static. On the bottom, a seek bar shows the video progress.

THE ENTITY
Oh man, that was wicked! Did you
see the looks on their faces?! I'm
totally gonna get my all-star cast
in no time!
(echoing maniacal laugh)

CUT TO BLACK

THE END?