

"SAVED BY THE TERM"

By

Nikita Sogoloff

FADE IN:

SCENE 1

Camera opens, following Roommate A, who saunters up the stairs to his dorm. CAMERA PAN: the campus is deserted and it is evident that some catastrophe had occurred. CUT: RMA attempts to open his door which is jammed, but manages to push through. Inside, he sees his roommate comfortably sitting amongst the destruction.

ROOMMATE A

(Shocked) What...how...what in the world happened here!?!

ROOMMATE B

RMB nonchalantly closes his computer, moves to sit on a pile of clothing, and invites RMA to sit next to him, which he does.

Fall break took a toll on some of us more than others. It was just that...all we had to do was...lets just say that there was a general underestimation of how easy it will be to eat. The DUC was closed, so was Woodruff and Zayas. I never realized how necessary Dooley Dollars, were to us until this weekend. No one did. Everyone thought the food would never stop, but it did.

RMA

I know, everyone knew Emory wouldn't be serving food over the break. You should have just stockpiled on DUC sandwiches when it was open. But that doesn't explain why this room is destroyed and why you're looking like...that.

RMB

The savageness came out of nowhere. It arose out of the shadows and was not subdued. If only we knew then what we do now, maybe everything could have been prevented. But we didn't know, we couldn't have known...

FADE OUT:

FADE IN:

SCENE 2

3-4 Students are sitting in a study lounge. Around them custodial staff are cleaning and putting away equipment, chairs etc. while students with packed duffle bags are leaving the building.

RMB

In Voice-Over:

Everyone was so confident. So naïve. No one paid attention to the warnings, to the questions.

STUDENT 1

Man look at all of those kids. Lucky they get to go home, eat real food. I would kill for a good home cooked meal.

STUDENT 2

Yeah, what are we going to do now that the DUC is closed? I mean, we can't even go to Zayas or Woodruff.

STUDENT 3

If I have to eat nothing but Domino's this weekend I'll die. Pizza overload.

STUDENT 1

Don't worry about it! There's plenty of food in Emory village, plus the vending machines, restaurants in Atlanta, even the dorm fridges. We'll be fine! I'd rather focus on what we're going to do this weekend. I mean, we have the run of campus, we could do whatever we want!

FADE OUT:

FADE IN:

SCENE 3

Black out. Only RMB voice heard.

RMB

And whatever they want they did. After a hazy night of debauchery, regrets, and a lifetime of anecdotes, it was realized that the abundant funds which were allotted for food had been spent on unknown expenses for unknown reasons.

FADE OUT:

FADE IN:

SCENE 4

Student, dressed in a meditating robe, is sitting cross-legged on his bed. Incense is smoking on the nightstand as meditation noises are emitted from a speaker.

RMB

STUDENT 1 decided to complete some hours for his MESAS major and combat the hunger at the same time by meditating through the pain. I hear he reached nirvana but no one has been able to make any sense of what he has said since.

FADE OUT:

FADE IN:

SCENE 5

A student sits at his desk, surrounded by wrappers, empty boxes, and open bottles. He has clearly gained a massive amount of weight recently as the clothes he are dressed in are barely able to contain the mass.

RMB

STUDENT 2 gave into the hunger. He was lucky enough to have a roommate who is a habitual midnight snacker. STUDENT 2 at through the entire mound. Last time anyone saw him he was on his way to buy maternity clothing.

FADE OUT:

FADE IN:

SCENE 6

Two groups of students (2 x 2) walk into Lullwater. CUT TO: foraging for grass/leaves/pinecones in the park. CUT TO: foraging behind some dumpsters in Emory Village. CUT TO: Students celebrating as they bring food out of an unattended fridge.

RMB

Soon everyone realized that the only way to survive was to form groups. At first all went well. Lullwater had an abundant source of greens for the vegetarians and health nuts while Meatless Monday was put to rest behind the dumpsters of CVS.

FADE OUT:

FADE IN:

SCENE 7

Show student fighting over boxes of food, wrapped meats, drinks. CUT TO: the two groups approach one another clad in distinct uniforms. The two charge, CUT TO BLACK.

RMB

Unfortunately, as food supplies dwindled, tensions grew. Soon, small scuffles were breaking out as each group rushed to increase their stockpiles of food. Soon, the competition forced the two into open conflict.

CUT TO: Map of Emory campus, with sectors divided.

RMB

Now this is what Emory looks like today. You don't want to go crossing any of these lines, unless you want to fight for your life.

CUT TO: Shot of an empty Emory campus, from the inside of the room.

FADE OUT:

FADE IN:

SCENE 8

Back in the room. A horrified RMA sits on the floor, looking deflated. RMB sits uncomfortably on the bed, waiting for some cause to break the silence.

RMA

But...what about...how can Emory just let this happen? I mean, the break is over, the teacher, janitors, and cops are back now! Why aren't they doing anything?

RMB

They tried. Oh believe me they tried. However, by the time anyone of any responsibility took charge the students had reverted to a too savage of a state. They were helpless and were able to scare off any attempts to remedy the situation. With no safe place to go and no progress being made on peace and reunification, the staff and faculty abandoned ship, gone off to begin anew somewhere else.

RMA

Oh my God. I can't believe they just left us. I mean, what do we do know? How do we survive?

A look of disgusted realization comes over RMA's face.

RMA

Wait a minute. You said everyone who stayed went through this horrible transformation and is now a wild animal, but you seem to be fine. I'm almost too scared to ask what you had to do to survive?

RMB

I had what the worst weekend out of all of them. When everyone was absorbed in revelry, I was cooped up here studying for my four midterms next week. As a result,

my money stayed safely in my pocket.

He motions to the closet, which, when
opened, reveals boxes of take-out food.

They were one call away.

FADE OUT:

THE END