

Hackers: The Musical! Script

Key:

[comment]

Zach

Rachel

tauntaun

Jasmine

Itaru

cuttable

The stage is dark. The faint hum reminiscent of a machine room is heard from the stage. STORY JACK steps out of the darkness, wearing all black and looking quite sketchy.

STORY JACK

(To the audience)

Hi Everybody!

OFFSTAGE VOICES

Hi Jack!

STORY JACK

Gather round! Gather round! It's all right, you can come closer than that! Don't be shy! The location which we now find ourselves is called a tomb. A tomb is a small bit of space left over from when a building was remodeled. [(could mimic the language in hardkore (can change later)] When you find a new tomb, it is customary to sign in. A sign in is a small character or image created to chronicle a hacker's journey from place to place. [A sign in is a small, discrete personal character which hackers use mark a place they are proud of finding...] When you go back to a place you've found, you can look at sign in and remember those times you had there. [This is probably too much early to the show] What we find ourselves in right now is called a tomb. A tomb is an unused space in a building that appears to have no use ... Behind me, you'll notice some writing on the wall. This is the Hacking Code of Ethics, a set of moral principles that all hackers practice, a set of guidelines to which we noble hackers adhere. *(Clears throat)*

~~~~~Song: Hacking Ethics~~~~~

THE SAFETY OF YOURSELF, OF OTHERS, AND OF PROPERTY  
SHOULD HAVE HIGHEST PRIORITY.  
SAFETY IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN PULLING OFF A HACK  
OR GETTING THROUGH A DOOR.

BE SUBTLE;  
LEAVE NO EVIDENCE  
YOU WERE THERE.

BRUTE FORCE IS  
THE LAST RESORT OF THE INCOMPETENT.

LEAVE THINGS AS YOU FOUND THEM OR BETTER.  
CAUSE NO PERMANENT DAMAGE DURING HACKS AND WHILE HACKING.  
IF YOU FIND SOMETHING BROKEN, CALL F-IXIT\*.  
*\*(pronounced Fix it)*

DO NOT STEAL ANYTHING;  
IF YOU MUST BORROW SOMETHING,  
LEAVE A NOTE SAYING WHEN IT WILL BE RETURNED  
AND REMEMBER TO RETURN IT.

DO NOT DROP THINGS WITHOUT A GROUND CREW  
TO MAKE SURE NO ONE IS UNDERNEATH.

SIGN-INS ARE NOT GRAFFITI  
AND SHOULD NOT BE SEEN BY THE GENERAL PUBLIC.  
SIGN-INS EXHIBIT ONE'S PRIDE  
IN HAVING FOUND AN INTERESTING LOCATION  
AND SHOULD ONLY BE SEEN BY OTHER HACKERS. REAL HACKERS ARE NOT  
PROUD OF DISCOVERING LOBBY 7, RANDOM BASEMENTS, OR RESTROOMS.  
KEEP SIGN-INS SMALL AND RESPECT OTHER HACKERS' SIGN-INS.

HUNTER

NEVER DRINK AND HACK.

ABRI and/or CHROME

NEVER HACK ALONE. HAVE SOMEONE WHO CAN GET HELP IN AN EMERGENCY.

KNOW YOUR LIMITATIONS AND DO NOT EXCEED THEM. IF YOU DO NOT KNOW HOW TO OPEN A DOOR, CLIMB A SHAFT, ETC., THEN LEARN FROM SOMEONE WHO KNOWS BEFORE TRYING.

LEARN HOW NOT TO GET CAUGHT, BUT IF YOU DO GET CAUGHT, ACCEPT GRACEFULLY AND COOPERATE FULLY.

SHARE YOUR KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE WITH OTHER HACKERS.

ALL

ABOVE ALL, EXERCISE COMMON SENSE.

STORY JACK

Now that you know the code of ethics, I'd like to tell you a story. This story takes place long, long ago; back in the day when things were more hardk0re. Our story unfolds, with a wee little frosh, ready and eager to begin his journey at the this Massochistic Institute of Technology. **Institvte (pronounced "In-sti-TIV-it")**. **Will people get this joke?** His mind was ready to be filled with knowledge, as many froshling's minds are.

**BILLY**

*(spoken to figures offstage)*

Bye mom! Bye dad!

**MOM (offstage)**

Do you have your sweater?

**BILLY**

Yeah, mom, it's somewhere in here. I'll see you winter break!

*PREMED enters, carrying a textbook, reading without looking up. PREMED bumps into FROSH*

**STATA**

Oh! Sorry, sorry about that. Oh, hello, I assume you must be my suite-mate.

**BILLY**

Yeah! Oh, hey, my name's BILLY!

**STATA**

BILLY? Hi, Maria/Ray Stata.

*Billy extends his hand for a handshake. STATA turns the page without looking up. BILLY shrugs and sings something to the effect of "my journey is just beginning"*

**BILLY**

You're studying already?

**STATA**

Yeah, I'm getting ready for the math placement diagnostic!

**BILLY**

Does that test count for anything? I thought no one even looks at that.

**STATA**

Well, it's not for a grade or anything, but I want my advisor to be impressed!

I have to impress him if I want to take 5.12 this semester....

I mean, I really can't wait, right? It really won't fit in the spring, right? I mean, with my current *plan*... I suppose you haven't really thought about your *plan*?

**BILLY**

Me? My academic plan? I've got better plans... bigger plans.

~~~~~**Song: I Want To Be Hardk0re**~~~~~

{FROSH sings some stuff to PREMED about wanting to be hardk0re }

THE WORLD IS COMPLICATED,
IT'S NOT WRITTEN IN A BOOK.
YOU HAVE TO GO DISCOVER IT.
LIKE ACTUALLY GO OUT AND LOOK.
I WANT TO FIND THINGS NO ONE ELSE HAS SEEN,
IT'S THE SPIRIT TO EXPLORE
DOWN IN THE DARK, IN THE TUNNELS AND THE STEAM
I WANT TO BE HARDK0RE.
I'M NOTHING IF I CAN'T BE HARDK0RE!

The buildings here were built all at different times, and they don't fit perfectly together. It leaves lots of hidden spaces, just waiting to be found. Think of the possibilities!

THERE ARE SHAFTS THAT SHOOT UP MANY STORIES,
AND TOMBS ABOUND IN EVERY CRAG
AND TO THE FINDER GOES THE GLORY
OF LEAVING THEIR OWN PERSONAL TAG!

STATA

That sounds pretty crazy... *(STATA goes back to reading)*

BILLY

I know. I want to be a little crazy though.

[VERSE A2]

WE ALL CHEER FOR THE MAGICIAN,
WATCH THE ARTIST PAINT A SCENE.
MAKING SOMETHING OUT OF NOTHING.
'CAUSE WE'RE NOT JUST MERE MACHINES.
I WANT TO FLEX MY CREATIVITY,
SHOW THE WORLD I'M SOMETHING MORE.
I DO NOT WANT ANY PUBLICITY
I JUST WANT TO BE HARDK0RE!

PLEASE GOD LET ME BE HARDK0RE!

BILLY

Doesn't that excite you? Don't you just feel... electric?

STATA

No, Covalent. Not charged at all. Sorry, I think I'm going to go study. I can't focus when you-

BILLY

I just get this excited feeling! I wish you could understand! I need to tell you. I need to tell everyone!

STATA

Dammit, you're gonna sing again, aren't you.

(BILLY leaves to sing to more freshmen, STATA rolls eyes and comes along)

[VERSE B2]

This verse will be about real hacks. Freshmen join in.

Example:

"I want to do something as cool as the firetruck they put up there"

"I heard about that! That was the coolest thing they talked about on the campus tour!"

"And did you hear about the squares on the media lab?"

etc

[VERSE A3]

This verse will be about how frosh sees the hackers kind of like superheros

HACKING IS WHAT MAKES MIT SPECIAL

HACKING IS WHAT MAKES MIT, MIT!

HACKING IS WHAT GIVES MIT ITS CULTURE!

HACKS ARE THE MOST IMPORTANT PART OF MIT

1.3 INTRO OF THE HACKERS

(The lights come up on UP and LEAD, who are standing in the courtyard)

LEAD

Hey, UP.

UP

LEAD! Did you see Officer Pachino driving around with the sign?

LEAD

I missed it! She was driving around with it?

UP

Yeah! It was kind of hilarious... I'm still not sure I want UP and LEAD connected to the dunkin' hack

LEAD

Wow... Oh, hey, UP, did you get that email I sent you?

UP

An hour ago, of course!

[an attempt to not make it a hall hack, but still make frosh not invited]

(FROSH enters and his attention turns immediately to LEAD and UP.)

(BILLY is now standing in the outside and see TESS and COROT on one side of the stage)

TESS

Corot, I'm stoked! Of course I'm in. Tuesday night, right?

COROT

(excitedly, happy with TESS)

Yeah, Tess! Midnight. Hacker Standard Time. Same as always.

TESS

Awesome! Hey, Corot, who's going to be there? Any of the freshmen getting involved?

COROT

Yeah, a lot of them, actually. Some of them are really excited. Tess, I want to make

this hack special for them, you know? Like when we were freshmen...

BILLY

Excuse me, I couldn't help but overhear, are you pulling...

(pauses and checks to make sure no one's looking, then drops to a whisper)

a hack?

(COROT and TESS turn to face BILLY, and pause, then look at each other skeptically)

COROT

(to BILLY)

I don't think I've seen you before.

UP

(to LEAD)

I think i saw him at CPW on a

(using air quotes)

"campus tour". (Maybe Tours instead?)

BILLY

Yeah, I'm Billy. I'd like to help you. I mean, if that's okay. You have no idea how much it would mean if I could! Well?

COROT

I don't know.

(giving TESS a knowing look)

What do you think Tess?

TESS

(giving COROT a knowing look)

Let's test him.

COROT

A little "examination" never hurt anyone. Get used to it kid, welcome to MIT.

BILLY

Sure, what do you want me to do? I'll do anything!

(COROT suddenly becomes extremely presentational, over-enunciating and making exaggerated expressions.)

COROT

Question 1!

DUHN, DUHN, DUHN!!

Name a hack!

BILLY

Uh... There was that police car that someone put on the dome once.

COROT

Correct! You are learning well, my young one, very well. Question 2.

OOOOOO!

What was the first hack?

BILLY

I... I don't really -

TESS

(whispering to BILLY)

A Ford model T...

BILLY

A Ford model T! (to COROT excitedly)

COROT

And where was it?

BILLY

It was on... the... dome-(never finishes the word 'dome')

TESS

(whispering to BILLY)

East Campus rooftop.

BILLY

I mean East Campus roof! East Campus roof! It was a Ford model T on East campus roof!

COROT

Correct! Are now ready for the... final question?

TESS

Gasp!

COROT

Question 3. Why do you think you have what it takes?

BILLY

To be a

(pauses hesitantly)

hacker?

CORROT

Yes! To be a

(over-dramatizing the word)

hacker!!

[BILLY sings a verse sounding like “I want to be Hardk0re” and convinces]

(TESS enjoys BILLY’s singing and gets into it. COROT looks happy, but more stand-offish)

TESS

Yeah, sure, I don’t see why not, I mean, as long as you think so, Corot.

COROT

(dropping his showy act)

I’m convinced.

BILLY

Cool! When do we start? What can I help with?

COROT

(With a slight laugh and a smile) **Calm down, [Instead of calm down]** Chill, we haven’t had our first official meeting yet.

TESS

It’s Tuesday, midnight.

COROT

And don't be early!

(UP and LEAD exit)

BILLY

My first hack... yes! I'm in!

I'M GONNA BE HARDK0RE!

I'M REALLY GONNA BE HARDK0RE!

I'M GONNA BE HARDK0RE!!

(blackout)

FROSH's attention turns to LEAD and UP who are talking to each other

UP

I'm stoked! Tuesday, right?

LEAD

Yeah, midnight. Hacker Standard Time.

UP

Awesome! Hey, who else is gonna be there?

LEAD

I want this to be a hall hack. It's the freshmens' first. I want it to be special for them, you know? Like when we were freshmen...

FROSH

Excuse me, I couldn't help but overhear - do you know how to hack? I want to hack!

LEAD

1.4 -- Police

Lights fade up on STORY JACK.

STORY JACK

And so our little freshmen joined his first hack, and merrily returned to his dorm, his head filled with images of borrowed cannons, UFO's, upside down lounges, and dreams of being the most hardk0re hacker of all times! Meanwhile, there was another group of people on campus. But they didn't wear cargo pants or have multicolored hair. They all wore blue and had these funny octagonal hats...

The lights, fade down on STORY JACK and come up on a cluttered, brightly lit police station. Filing cabinets and desks are littered with important looking and unimportant looking paperwork. The trashcan is full of boxes of "Dunkin' Donuts." A coffee machine sits on a desk, half-full of old coffee. OFFICER BERRY CLAW sits at a desk reading a copy of The Tech and an empty box of "Dunkin' Donuts" sits nearby. SERGEANT BRUCE E. SPRINKLES sits in a swivel chair facing an upstage window.

*CLAW grunts and checks the empty doughnut box.
OFFICER DEEDEE KALF enters carrying a notepad.*

CLAW

Officer Kalf, could you get me another doughnut?
(hands KALF the empty box and indicates to throw it away)

KALF

Uh, sure, Officer Claw. Did you eat them already?
(KALF takes the box to the trashcan and goes into the backroom to get more. She soon reenters with a full box doughnut for CLAW)

OFFICER FREY PACHINO bursts into the room, fuming and carrying a giant sign bearing the "Dunkin' Donuts" logo.

KALF

Officer Pachino? ... What is it?

CLAW

A... a "Dunkin' Donuts" sign? But Frey... why do you have -

PACHINO

It was stuck to my patrol car this morning! I didn't notice it until I'd stepped out!

CLAW

Hasn't that always been there?

KALF

Stuck? Is it a magnet? Their signs are magnetic?

CLAW

But... but where did it... come from? Who... who would... put a sign on... on our car?

SPRINKLES

(still staring out the upstage window)

Those Goddamned Hackers -

(the chair swivels forward)

- that's who!

KALF

Hackers! Hackers!?

PACHINO

NOOOOOOOO!

KALF

Those no good rascals!

SPRINKLES

Well they've embarrassed us for the last time.

CLAW

They have?

SPRINKLES

You bet they have! Yes... this time they've picked a fight they can't win. Not in a long shot! They've picked a fight with Sergeant Bruce E. Sprinkles, and no one messes with Sergeant Bruce E. Sprinkles! No one! In the name of William Barton Rogers, we need to destroy these hackers!

~~~~~ LET'S GET THOSE FUCKERS ~~~~~

SPRINKLES

THEY'RE A MENACE AND A PLAGUE AND THIS SCHOOL IS OVERRUN.  
'TIL NOW WE'VE BEEN OUTDONE.

WE'LL HUNT THOSE HACKERS DOWN AND GET THEM ALL EXPELLED.  
THE LAW MUST BE UPHELD.

LET'S GET THOSE FUCKERS,  
AND STAMP THEM OUT FOR GOOD.

I HAVE A FINE IDEA TO ACCOMPLISH ALL OUR GOALS,  
THE ONLY WAY TO DO THIS IS TO INCREASE OUR PATROLS.  
PATROLS? PATROLS!

WE'LL TRIPLE OUR PATROLS  
THE MORE THAT WE CAN SEE, THE LESS THEY'LL WANDER FREE,  
WITH ALL OF US WE'LL KEEP THEM IN CONTROL.

CLAW

BUT AS YOU KNOW THEY'RE CLEVER, THEY WILL BEAT THAT IN A SNAP  
THE ONLY WAY TO DO THIS IS TO LAY SOME BOOBY TRAPS.  
TRAPS? TRAPS!

QUICK! GET A CAMPUS MAP.  
THEY'LL GET TO EVERY DOOR, BUT THEY'LL FIND ALARMS IN STORE,  
WHILE ROOFTOP SENSORS FILL IN EVERY GAP.

ALL

THEY'RE A MENACE AND A PLAGUE AND THIS SCHOOL IS OVERRUN.  
'TIL NOW WE'VE BEEN OUTDONE.

WE'LL HUNT THOSE HACKERS DOWN AND GET THEM ALL EXPELLED.  
THE LAW MUST BE UPHELD.

LET'S GET THOSE FUCKERS,  
AND STAMP THEM OUT FOR GOOD.

KALF

WE'LL HAVE TO GO MUCH FARTHER, WE MUST THINK OUTSIDE THE  
DOME,  
THE ANSWER'S CLEAR WE'LL HAVE TO GET SOME HACKER SNIFFING  
DRONES.

DRONES? YES, DRONES!  
SOME HACKER HUNTING DRONES.  
WITH SENTIENT MACHINES, WE'LL HAVE THEM QUARANTINED.  
THE HACKERS' REIGN WILL SOON BE OVERTHROWN.

SPRINKLES  
NO MORE CARS ON THE DOME,  
OR COWS OR WORKING PHONES.  
WITH DOILIE IN CHARGE, THEY WILL MEET THEIR ULTIMATE END.

PACHINO  
THERE'S ONE LAST STEP TO GUARANTEE WE'LL END THAT HORDE OF  
IMPS,  
WE'LL BUILD A FLEET OF SELF-SUFFICIENT FIRE THROWING BLIMPS!  
BLIMPS? YES BLIMPS!  
HURL FIREBALLS FROM BLIMPS.  
WHEN FLAMES COME FROM THE SKY, THE HACKERS' PLANS WILL FRY!  
I THINK THOSE KIDS WILL FINALLY TAKE THE HINT.

ALL  
THEY'RE A MENACE AND A PLAGUE AND THIS SCHOOL IS OVERRUN.  
'TIL NOW WE'VE BEEN OUTDONE.  
WE'LL HUNT THOSE HACKERS DOWN AND GET THEM ALL EXPELLED.  
THE LAW MUST BE UPHELD.  
LET'S GET THOSE FUCKERS,  
AND STAMP THEM OUT FOR GOOD.

SPRINKLES  
LET'S GET THOSE FUCKERS,  
AND STAMP THEM OUT FOR GOOD.

## 1.5 -- Planning

*(TESS, and some of the HALL FRESHMEN and UPPERCLASSMEN ENSEMBLE are already present at the meeting Some UPPERCLASSMEN and HALL FRESHMEN are standing, some are sitting. Setting is a dorm lounge, not a classroom)*

BILLY

I'm here! So when do we start the hack?

*All the upperclassmen in the room laugh and look at TESS conveying the message of ``Why did you invite him?''*

CHROME

Who is this freshmen?

BILLY

Hi, my name's Billy!

*(BILLY extends a hand to HUNTER who stares at him intensely, as if he is a ghost)*

TESS

He said he wants to help.

BILLY

*I'm really good at engineering! I built a box with -* Yeah, I really think this will be fun. I want to learn how to be a hacker.

TESS

*(waves FROSH to sit)*

*(still skeptical about BILLY)* Sure, Sure... Why don't you take a seat?

*Will you sit down and shut up?!*

*Okay, sit down. Be quiet.*

BILLY

So, how do you get things on the dome?

*TESS obviously losing interest and not listening to BILLY*

Do you use a helicopter? Or maybe a crane? Actually, if you use weather balloons...

You're not listening to me, are you?

TESS



*Still ignoring BILLY (fast cut-off, doesn't even look up)*

I'm listening.

(pause)

HUNTER

*(Awkward silence)*

You're froshy as hell!

BILLY

I'm not "froshy!" Wait, What does "froshy" mean?

(COROT enters carrying a dramatically large scrolled up map)

COROT

(To TESS)

Hey, just printed the plans. Athena, took forever. Looks like we've got enough people here to start?

BILLY

Yup! Wait, what are we doing?

*(COROT and LEAD ignore BILLY entirely)*

TESS

Yeah, sure. I'll get the lights.

*(TESS walks over to the wall, turns out the lights. leaving only a spot light on the map. TESS then sits down)*

COROT

(snapping into "performance mode")

Welcome, everyone to the first hack of the semester. Now, some of us have met to work out the engineering details, but this is the first time all of us are in the same room.

*(Excited chatter buzzes through the room)*

Our target:

*(LEAD unfurls the map and pins it to the wall in the projector light. The map is a map of MIT campus, but in addition to the usual hallways and tunnels, "secret" (real or fake or both) paths are marked. Zig-zags and arrows cross the map at all angles in different colors making it look almost like a football play board)*

Here.

*(LEAD points to the dome and freshman murmur excitedly)*

Don't get too excited. Pulling a hack is more than putting something clever on a roof. We need to think these things through. A hack is premeditated, calculated, a hack is

safe and ingenious. We put up hacks because they are novel.

HUNTER

W00t! Sell it!

PISTON

Shut up, Hunter! He was in the middle of a cool speech!  
(Hunter rolls her eyes)

COROT

What makes them work is that we think before we act. And when we act, we act deliberately! Every movement, perfectly practiced, choreographed more spectacularly than any show you'd see on stage. It is an art. An art of tactics, an art of skill, an art of passion.

*(By the end of this line COROT is looking into the distance, has a moment of pause before moving on. Switches out of "performance mode")*

So before we start nit-picking about details let's get organized.

*(COROT pulls some papers out of his coat and passes them into the crowd)*

Okay, I've printed out the design plans we've come up with so far. Look them over.

*(Each person takes a paper and scrutinizes it. Ad libs: "Is this a resistor or a transistor?" "That's brilliant!" "So... the p-chord goes... where?" "I love when we use dexion. We should use it more often." "Is there a second page? ... Oh! I see!" etc)*

*(TESS high fives COROT, upon hearing the success of the plans)*

Okay, now TESS said she can head making the Dragon Wing.

*(TESS waves)*

and FARADAY has already volunteered to program the Arduino.

*(FARADAY waves)*

But we're still looking for someone to take charge of the Newton's Cradle. It would be nice if he or she has experience in rigging.

LORENTZ

I could do that. I've been training with Spider.

COROT

Cool. I'll put you down, Lorentz.

FARADAY

Could I have someone help me with the Arduino? It would save a lot of time if I could

have someone there to be my soldering bitch. Wanna learn how to solder, frosh?  
Now's your chance!

BILLY

I'll do it!

FARADAY

*(looking at LEAD in a complaining manor)*  
Could I have someone else?

COROT

Okay, someone else?  
(pause)

RYAN

Uh... I guess I'll do it...

FARADAY

Awesome. Cheap labor.

COROT

Now let's make this happen. Be aware that this hack will take many weeks to accomplish. It wouldn't just be a walk in Killian court. The hack is riding on each of us. Some nights, we may have to put our tooling aside. --

[Some of this language feels really stiff and formal, maybe something more colloquial? "So you guys realize, this hack is going to take weeks to accomplish, it won't just be a walk in Killian Court. The hack is riding on us. That means you may have to put your tooling aside some nights."][We want LEAD to be very presentational and showy, with this in mind, does the vernacular work?] [I agree, we want to LEAD to be showy so this language works]

ANNA

(cutting COROT off)  
What if we have psets? Do we have to come to the builds if we have psets the next day?

TESS

Psets or not, I'll be here.

ORION

Don't be a tool.

FARADAY

Come on, Pass no record!

CHROME

The most important equation you learn freshmen year...

ABRI & CROME

$A=B=C=P$

*(KEPLER enters in time to here COROT say 'cool')*

COROT

Cool, everything seems to be all set. How many people could make a build session tomorrow night?

*(TESS and BILLY raise their hands immediately. The UPPERCLASSMEN and HALL FROSH slowly join them, ABRI raises her hand, but not CHROME. ABRI then pokes CHROME and CHROME then raises her hand.)*

Good! See you tomorrow. I'll send out an email with the time. We have a long way to go...

(COROT removes the map from the wall, curls it up, and carries it off. COROT acknowledges KEPLER in a hurried manner, not waiting to see if KEPLER responds. Everyone except for BILLY, TESS, and KEPLER begin to filter out, ad libbing appropriate or lewd banter.)

BILLY

Tess, what should I bring? Do I need tools?

TESS

That would be great if you have them. So, Billy, what did you think of your first hack meeting?

BILLY

It was really cool! It was so epic!

*HUNTER (offstage)*

Froooooosssssshhhhhhhhyyyy!!!

TESS

(laughing gently) See you tomorrow.

BILLY

All right!

*(Looks at his packet of plans confusedly. Notices KEPLER in the corner, staring at his computer screen.)*

BILLY

Hey, I've noticed that you came in late. Do you need anyone to fill you in?

KEPLER

No.

BILLY

Aren't you helping with the hack too... um... what's your name?

KEPLER

Kepler, and no. I'm not helping. *(Trying to get away from BILLY)*

BILLY

Why not?

KEPLER

I'm too busy. I have such interesting things to do, like writing a compiler to not give a shit, or deriving the formula for no one cares. **We'll good for you. I've got more important things to do. I have to write a program to stare at this grass for me.**

*(KEPLER walks away)*

BILLY

Remind me never to take that class.

**LEAD**

**We'll need lots of help with all of these, so even if you're not explicitly on a team, you should come and help as much as you can. This thing won't happen on its own.**

**FROSH**

**(whispered to UP)**

Wow...[needs more]

UP

Quiet. [It feels out of place] or not long enough

LEAD

Now, for most of you, this is your first hack. Do contain your enthusiasm and exercise a little word that you froshlings don't seem to quite have a grasp on.

"Do contain" sounds weird. Maybe "Don't be overly enthusiastic"

ALL UPPERCLASSMEN and LEAD

Discretion.

LEAD

Say it with me class:

ALL

Discretion.

LEAD

Good. Now, this is the most important word that you'll hear for your 4 years under this looming dome and don't you forget it. Discretion means not blabbing to your friends about that cool thing you just did. It means your careful whom you tell about what you do. Mostly, it just means don't be a fuck-up. Got it?

*LEAD specifically looking at FROSH*

*All Froshlings nod their heads*

(something that describes the hack more)

TETAFROSH

*(raises hand)*

So... (a super froshy what-if situation)

LEAD

Don't reinvent the wheel, kid - trust me, we've thought of that.

*(Billy exits)*

*(BILLY immediately walks on again after exiting. People are starting to enter as individuals/ small groups carrying on building supplies.)*

## **1.6 -- Building**

### **== Song Start 1 ==**

Start the build of the hack,  
talk about how excited everyone is  
Maybe drop references to what materials are being used

### **== Song Break 1 ==**

COROT

Looks like things are going really well.

PISTON

Hey guys, sorry to be lame, but I just realized I have an essay due at midnight. I've got to go do that. I'll be back tomorrow.

COROT

Yeah, okay. See you tomorrow.

(PISTON leaves)

I'm going to go check in on the Arduino.

(COROT leaves)

[more dialog from more ppl leaving]

### **== Song Start 2 ==**

Everyone else starts to leave (slowly)

TESS jokes to Billy that soon they will be the only ones left?

By end of verse, TESS and BILLY are alone

Corot is helping manage something else?

[probably be the longest verse]

### **== Song Break 2 ==**

BILLY

Where did everyone go? Didn't people say they'd be back?

TESS

It happens to people, they get hosed. I just like to keep working.

BILLY

But they all seemed so enthusiastic, don't they care?

TESS

They care. They'll be back... for deploy.

**== Song Start 3 ==**

start crushing <3 <3 <3

hint at passing of time

*(Kepler enters lurking, overseeing, carrying his laptop. He sits down on the couch and opens his laptop and stares directly at BILLY)*

**== Song Break 3 ==**

BILLY

Hey Tess?

TESS

Yeah?

BILLY

That's Kepler, right?

TESS

Yeah, why?

BILLY

*(Pausing from drilling)*

Does Kepler hack?

TESS

He used to, but not so much anymore. Keep holding that 2x4.

BILLY

*Pausing*

Sorry. Never mind, I guess. I'm just kind of creeped out by him.

*(KEPLER does an even more creepy thing, example: takes a cold burrito out of his pocket and eats it while staring at BILLY)*

**== Song Start 4 ==**

*(Kepler leaves)*

romance deepens

hint at passing of time

finish what ever they are working on

**== Song Break 4==**





## 1.7 -- Hunter's Warning

TESS

Thanks for being here so much. **Usually it's just me but** You've been really helpful lately.

BILLY

Thanks, it's a lot of fun. We should hang out more often, I mean, aside from this.

TESS

Yeah, that could be fun.

BILLY

Yeah?

(TESS laughing, gives him a **loving** smile)

**BILLY**

**I just said "yeah." [not sure what this means...]**

TESS

Hmmm...

BILLY

Hmmm?

TESS

Nothing.

HUNTER (*offstage*)

Cookies!

(*HUNTER enters with a tray of cookies*)

Woah, stop crushing on each other! Hey, want some cookies? But seriously, cut that shit out and have some cookies!

(*Other students run on stage. Ad libs: "Aw, yes!", "Mmmmm! Were these from scratch?", "These taste vegan. I think they're vegan. Whatever..."*)

TESS

Hunter, we're just building the-

HUNTER

Listen.

*(puts down the tray of cookies)*

You're totally crushing on each other and you don't need to hide it from me. You should stop though. Seriously.

*(grabbing some cookies and handing them to TESS and BILLY)*

Stop while you're ahead. Don't even think about *breaking the November Rule*.

*(Upon hearing the words "November Rule" everyone except BILLY and TESS gasp and ad lib in frantic whispers: "The November Rule??", "Are the mad?", "Insanity!", "They won't possibly survive!", "Chthulhu have mercy!")*

BILLY

The "November Rule?"

(Again, upon hearing the words "November Rule" everyone except BILLY and TESS ad lib in frantic whispers: "No... No!!!", "It can't be so!", "Not the November Rule", "I'm going to get more cookies.")

What's the -

*(pauses before continuing)*

What is... you know...

HUNTER

You mean... the "November Rule!?"

(More frightened ad libs)

Well, let me tell you...

==Song==

BILLY

Oh come on, It's not like a [giant monster with fangs and wings] nightmare horror maw creature will come and shank you...

[everyone stares at BILLY]

.. is it?

==SONG ENDS==

HUNTER

So don't even fucking think about it!

*(Hunter runs offstage loudly, then runs back on stage, grabs some cookies, shoves them into their mouths, picks up the tray and runs offstage)*

BILLY

*(Takes a bite of the cookie)*

That was a lot to digest...

*(COROT enters carrying a notebook)*

COROT

Hey Tess, how's the progress? Sorry for leaving you guys on this project. The Arduino was fucked.

TESS

We're nearly done with the Dragon Wing, but we need to measure the base supports for the attachment to building 10.

COROT

*(Shuffling through his notes)*

Yes! You're totally right, let's get a few people and check it out. Call up Abri and Chrome to scout and I'll grab some others.

*(KEPLER enters carrying his laptop)*

Oh! And Talia. Oh, hey Kepler.

*(COROT clearly doesn't invite Kepler, but he does not invite absent mindly)*

*(KEPLER sits down and opens up his laptop to look busy and do nothing.)*

COROT

*(To TESS)* Meet me downstairs in a few minutes.

*(COROT walks off quickly)*

TESS

I'm gonna grab my jacket. Billy?

BILLY

Yeah?

TESS

Nevermind.

*(Tess walks offstage, then turns around and walks back on stage)*

Oh, hey, do you need a sweater or anything?

BILLY

Sure. I didn't bring one... I may have lied to my mom...

TESS

*(laughing)* We've all at some point.

*(TESS walks offstage)*

KEPLER

Where are you off to then? *[I don't think Kepler would this]*

BILLY

The roof of building 10, are you coming?

KEPLER

I wasn't invited.

BILLY

Do you want to come?

KEPLER

Shut up, freshmen. *They* didn't invite me.

BILLY

Never mind.

TESS (offstage)

Hey!

*(TESS reenters wearing a sweater and carrying another one)*

Hey, sorry I couldn't find a better sweater. Here.

*(TESS hands BILLY the sweater and their hands touch. BILLY and TESS make eye contact and the sound of bat wings are heard faintly in the distance, they pause, look up in fear, and then immediately recoil and the sound stops)*

BILLY

*(still dazed at the thought of the Novembat coming and killing him)*

Let's go.

(TESS and BILLY walk downstairs, standing awkwardly far apart)

(COROT runs on)

KEPLER

[Some snarky comment]

COROT

Hey, Kepler, is anyone still up here?

KEPLER

They left.

COROT

Without me?

KEPLER

Of course not. They wouldn't leave you behind.

COROT

Oh, good, see you later!

(COROT runs downstairs)

(KEPLER closes his computer, and picks up his cell phone)

===SONG START: THE CALL IN===

short

must represent Kepler as a villain

we are intentionally leaving the char development of Kepler to the 2nd act

KEPLER

(As he dials, speaking to himself)

I hope you have a good time on the roof without me.

(speaking into the phone)

Officer, I'm working in my lab and I couldn't help but notice some strange figures on a rooftop nearby. Mmmhm... mhmhm... building 10.

===SONG END: THE CALL IN===

## 1.10 Distraction Tango

*(THE FRESHMAN and THE UPPERCLASSMAN are stationed on the roof, taking measurements. SCOUT1 and SCOUT2 enter from offstage, on the ground level.)*

SCOUT 1

*... and all I wanted to know was whether he'd committed to the repository yet!*

It wasn't even a double integral.

SCOUT 2

Geez, what a drama queen.

*(rolls eyes)*

*SCOUT 1 and SCOUT 2 exchange knowing looks, then both burst into peels of laughter. The sound of a police radio is heard from offstage. Underscore starts. SCOUT1 and SCOUT 2 continue laughing, but their focus is now entirely on the offstage presence. SCOUT 1 gives SCOUT 2 a knowing look.*

SCOUT 2

Definitely.

*SCOUT 2 flashes 7 fingers at SCOUT 1. SCOUT 1 nods.*

*SCOUT 2 and SCOUT 1 snap into their show mode.*

PACHINO (Offstage)

Is that what the phone call said? It could be a hoax.

CLAW (Offstage)

Keep your eyes peeled, Officer Pachino.

*OFFICERS CLAW and PACHINO, each carrying a radio in one hand and a doughnut in the other. ABRI and CHROME keep their eyes focused on each other.*

They could be anywhere.

**==Song Start 1==**

[scout verse 1] (Scout 1)

FLUX TO MUSE, ALERT, WE HAVE SEEN SOME CP'S OUTSIDE OF BUILDING THREE.

THEY'RE HEADING YOUR WAY, THERE'S NO NEED TO RUSH.

WE WILL HOLD UP THE LAW.

[CP verse 1]

CLAW: WAIT A MINUTE FREY, I THOUGHT I HEARD A NOISE

FREY: COULD BE SOME-A THEM HACKERS

CLAW: YEAH!

FREY: ONE OF THEIR DEPLOYS

CLAW: MAKING FOOLS OF THE FUZZ

FREY: THEY'LL REGRET IT BECAUSE

BOTH: WE WILL UPHOLD THE LAW

[scout verse 2] (Scout 2)

ALRIGHT I'VE GOT IT I KNOW WHAT WE NEED

PLAY ALONG AND FOLLOW MY LEAD.

'CAUSE IF WE DON'T STOP THEM OUR PLANS WILL BE CRUSHED.

LET'S GO HOLD UP THE LAW

[CP verse 2]

FRAY: WELL, WHAT HAVE WE HERE? TWO STUDENTS, COULD BE SCOUTS

CLAW: WHY'RE THEY IN THE INFINITE? ...THEY'RE MAKING OUT

FREY: YES THEY'RE MOCKING US COPS

CLAW: BUT WE WILL NOT STOP

FREY: UPHOLDING THE LAW

### **==Song Break 1==**

CLAW

Um... Excuse me?

SCOUT 1

*(Still on top of SCOUT2)*

What? Officer Claw, Officer Pachino, I'm sorry, did you want something?

CLAW

Well, I didn't mean to intrude, but...

SCOUT 2



*(Opening eyes sensually)*

You're not intruding, we were just sharing an intimate moment.

CLAW

*(whispered to PACHINO)*

I don't know, they just seem to be sharing an intimate -

PACHINO

*(whispered to CLAW)*

Don't be so dense! It's a trick! I'm telling you, *something's* going on... something very strange

SCOUT 2

*(to SCOUT 1)*

Your tongue is so soft...

SCOUT 1

*(Adlib response)*

*(SCOUT 1 continues to make out with SCOUT 2)*

*(A loud noise is heard from above)*

PACHINO

You hear that?

*(SCOUT 1 reacts immediately and smacks her hand against the wall in an attempt to repeat the sound.)*

CLAW

Are you sure it's not the intimate moment that -

PACHINO

Don't be ridiculous! And stop calling them intimate! I'm calling for back-up!

*(PACHINO takes out her radio)*

*(SCOUT 1 and SCOUT 2 instantly stop making out, and make eye contact. SCOUT 2 holds up three fingers. SCOUT 1 nods. They get up and SCOUT 2 starts coughing loudly.)*

**SCOUT 2**

Oh! My throat is so sore! All of that kissing.

SCOUT 1

You look terrible! Maybe your getting sick! Maybe it wasn't the kissing at all!

SCOUT 2

We might both have a terrible deadly disease!

SCOUT 1

I hear the... viral opsonositis ... is going around!

### **== Song Start 2==**

Could this start with PACHINO calling for backup on radio?

*(Another loud noise is heard from the rooftop)*

*(SCOUT 1 and SCOUT 2 look at each other desperately. SCOUT 1 flashes two fingers at SCOUT 2. SCOUT 2 flashes 1 finger at SCOUT 1. SCOUT 1 flashes two fingers at SCOUT 2. SCOUT 1 and SCOUT 2 continue to argue silently)*

### **== Song Break ==**

*(SPRINKLES and KALF enter, each with a radio in one hand, and a doughnut in the other)*

SPRINKLES

What the hell's the matter... Goddammit? I was in the middle drafting the plans for the blimp! You'd better have a good lead.

PACHINO

*(Whispered to SPRINKLES)*

They're on the roof! We know it!

KALF

Who?

SPRINKLES

*(Crushing his doughnut in his fist on flourish in music)*

I know exactly who's up there... Pachino, where are they?

PACHINO

They're right up -

SCOUT 1

(cuts off PACHINO with inarticulate screaming that eventually forms coherent words)

What an exciting night! There sure are a lot of you! This is perfect, I was looking for a ride home...to Baker House.

CLAW

Oh, you should have said so earlier. That's across the street

PACHINO

All right, fine, Claw, take her home.

SCOUT 1

And I need four people to drive me.

(pause, flourish in music)

I have a phobia.

(different flourish in music)

SCOUT 2

It's terrible. Sometimes I can't stand to be around her. I need a ride home too -

PACHINO

Claw, pay attention!

CLAW

I am, I just want to make sure these kids are healthy, that's all!

(in a whisper)

You know, I'm beginning to think they're not actually sick at all! Maybe they're just...hiding something from us.

PACHINO

(in a whisper)

Of course they are!

(A loud noise is heard from the rooftop and all the CP's look up)

CLAW

I definitely heard something just now!

SPRINKLES

That's it! I'm going up there!

*(SCOUT 2 flash a 5 at SCOUT 1 and runs over to CLAW and PACHINO. SCOUT 1 rushes to a corner and whips out her radio.)*

**== Song Start 3==**

Lyrics, "Flux to Muse, PUNT PUNT PUNT!!", etc. (actually, not sure if this should go in the next break)

*(Scouts dance with cops)*

*SPRINKLES breaks through SCOUTS 1 & 2.*

**== Song Break 3==**

*(The rest of the stage goes dark and all we see is SPRINKLES spotlighting the hackers. Hackers look fucked.)*

*(back to telling FROSH stories on tours setting)*

STORY

Hold on, we're experiencing some minor difficulties at the moment -

*STORY strips tours shirt and sketch clothes, putting on polo*

OFFSTAGE CP

Hey! Who's that over there?

STORY

I have to go... oh... and if anyone happens to find you, remember you are...

## STORY and OFFSTAGE VOICES

...on your way to Baker house!

### STORY

We will be reappearing again shortly to continue the tour.

(*STORY JACK runs offstage or into the audience*)

### SCOUT 1

(*to SCOUT 2, but loud enough that OFFICERS SPOON and FORK can hear*)

Don't tease me like that! Don't try and tell me it was his fault. You were all over him!

[This is way too much like rape, we need them to be acting out a different scene.

Maybe a fight over jealousy?] [I like the idea of suddenly going into scene number 7 or whatever]

### SCOUT 2

A tease? Me? I'm insulted. It was... It wasn't what it looked like. We started out just talking and then... look, it didn't mean anything, okay?

### SCOUT 1

You know what I'm talking about!

*SCOUT 2 rolls her eyes.*

You know I hate it when you do that.

### SCOUT 2

You're just jealous.

(*laughing*)

Oh come on. I know it makes you hot. You're just hot for me and you're afraid to say it anywhere but here.

*SCOUT 1 gasps.*

Don't play, I know you like it.

*SCOUT 2 tickles SCOUT 1. SCOUT 2 recoils feigning indignance.*

See, you're blushing!

*SCOUT 2 laughs as SCOUT 1 glares back.*

### OFFICER SPOON

(*to OFFICER FORK*)

Keep your eyes on the roof.

OFFICER FORK

Hey, what's that over there? Do you-

*SCOUT 1 shrieks angrily.*

SCOUT 1

You stupid bitch! Leave me alone!

*SCOUT 2 runs in front of OFFICER SPOON and OFFICER FORK*

SCOUT 2

*(shouting)*

I didn't do anything! You just love me! You know it! Say it, say it!

Song: Distraction Tango Part 1

SCOUT 2

I'm sorry, SCOUT 1. I was too forward.

SCOUT 1

It's all right... I ... forgive you... but...

SCOUT 2

What. What is it?

SCOUT 1

Oh, nothing.

SCOUT 2

Come on, you can't just stop there.

SCOUT 1

I ... I..

OFFICER FORK

Excuse me, I'm sorry if we've interrupted but we really need to -

Song: Distraction Tango Part2

[scout verse 1] (Scout 1)

## Scene 2.1 Interrogation

STORY JACK

Sorry for our brief interruption, we'll try not to let it happen again. Now, where we last left off, the hackers had just been captured by the Campus Police. Would the hackers live to hack another day? Well, let's just say that Sergeant Sprinkles was not in the mood to share his doughnuts.

*(Lights come up on the police station. Papers have been shifted and there are more boxes of doughnuts than before. On the wall are clearly depicted blueprints for fire-throwing blimps. Hackers trudge into the police station, followed by SPRINKLES and PACHINO.)*

*People caught: Tess, Billy, Corot, a scared frosh, more*

### START INTERROGATION

SPRINKLES

All right, you punks, line up againts the wall. Go on! Go on! Now, I'm going to ask you some simple questions and you are going to cooperate.

PACHINO

Yeah!

SPRINKLES

Quiet, Pachino! Go make yourself useful and get me some coffee.

PACHINO

Yes sir...

SPRINKLES

Now you'd better know damn well why you're here, dammit. And I don't want any guff.

Verse 1: CP starts by asking Name and year, living group(?)

Clicking clock sound, drive

Have the hackers together

Have solo lines

song break

*(CLAW and KALF enter)*

CLAW

Sorry we're so late, just finished driving that intimate couple home.

KALF

I sure feel sorry for them, having that phobia of being in a car with fewer than four adults. It must have been terrifying to them to not have the full four-

SPRINKLES

Claw! I asked you to bring those two back here! They were clearly involved with the others!

KALF

They looked so innocent...

SPRINKLES

Nevermind.

CLAW

Do we have any doughnuts left?

SPRINKLES

Forget about the doughnuts, won't you! Kalf, you take them Claw, you take them.

*(PACHINO pokes her head in)*

PACHINO

Give me one of those fuckers!

SPRINKLES

Fine, you take that one. I want this one for myself.

*(pointing at Corot)*

*(they divide. PACHINO with a scared freshmen, CLAW with two freshman, KALF with three upperclassmen, and SPRINKLES with COROT)*

**START SONG AGAIN**



Each group is interrogated by the respective police officer, cutting between them  
song break

*(lights go out on everyone except for SPRINKLES and COROT)*

COROT

Almost done officer? I know you have your nightly activities to get back to as well, and I hate to have ruined your evening.

SPRINKLES

Almost. I just have one last question for you. And this one's off the record. What are you going to do now? What are you doing?

COROT

What do you mean, officer.

SPRINKLES

You're going nowhere in life, kid. This isn't the first time you've come in with a story like this. You graduate after this year. You don't think this will affect your future?

COROT

I'm afraid I still don't understand.

SPRINKLES

I know you're a smart kid. You know you're a smart kid. So why are you wasting everyone's time with this shit?

COROT

Sir, this is what's important to me. This what's important to my friends. This is important to MIT.

SPRINKLES

You think that, kid? Maybe it's important to you, but it's not important to everyone here. What makes you think this is important to your freinds?

COROT

What do you mean?

Song start

COROT sings introspectively and SPRINKLES sings in about how Corot's future will probably suck  
song is pretty intense now  
others sing interrogation chorus  
song end

SPRINKLES

*(shouting)*

Get the hell out of here!! Goddammit!

*(blackout)*

*(The phone rings and KALF picks it up)*

KALF

Uh huh... uh huh... Sergeant, it's for you.

SPRINKLES

I'm busy! I'm out!

KALF

It's your mother.

SPRINKLES

I'll take it in the other room.

KALF

*(into phone)*

Hold please.

*(SPRINKLES exits the room)*

## 2.2 Wank, wank, wank

All the hackers who were not caught are waiting around the hall for their friends to return.

ABRI

How long has it been?

FARADAY

Three hours I think?

CHROME

How could it take this long?

(The captured hackers return, amidst a flurry of angry muttering)

PISTON

Frickin' cops! Dammit! They took forever!

SCared FROSH

I'm just glad they let us go home.

BILLY

Do they normally let you go?

PISTON

This wouldn't have happened if we hadn't been so fucking careless!

COROT

We weren't being careless, Piston.

PISTON

Shut up, Corot! We were being fucking careless! We had two scouts below and there's no fucking reason we should have needed more.

ABRI

Yeah, but we're pretty good scouts.

(ABRI high fives CHROME)

PISTON

Are you now? [Then why didn't you say anything?] [Then why did we get caught! You know how bad this is going to look for me?

ABRI

We were in contact with Talia, I mean, these things happen.

TALIA

Woah, don't look at me.

BILLY

I think it was just a small miscommunication. We were trying really hard to be discrete but -

PISTON

Or maybe it was a stupid little freshman who's been distracting a certain upperclassman who should have been more fucking careful.

(A scream is heard in the distance)

BILLY

No, but I -

PISTON

Look, just shut up! We need to sort this out, and we're doing it now.

Start song.

People throw blame around

Blame Abri and Chrome for being careless

Blame Talia for not being more responsive

Kepler sings to himself about how he isn't actually fulfilled how its his fault

Blame Billy for distracting Tess

Blame Tess for letting Billy distract her

Kepler another siloquy

Blame Corot for not putting more thought into the situation and being a shitty leader

Kepler sings about how he needs to say he's sorry, but doesn't say it at all.

Corot takes responsibility?

SONG ENDS

COROT

BILLY

Tess, look I'm sorry if I did anything to-

TESS

Shut up. Go the fuck away. Piston was right. This wouldn't have happened if I hadn't been so distracted. Just go away.

BILLY

What?

TESS

You heard me frosh. leave.

*(BILLY looks hurt and then leaves)*

TESS

*(through teary eyes)*

What now?

COROT

I'm not sure.

KEPLER sing s Wankwankwank reprise about how he wants to tell them he's sorry that he did it.

*(KEPLER enters the room)*

KEPLER

Fuck you. I did it.

walks out, colapps es down completely distressed

What did I just do?

TESS

Corot, What happened?

(KEPLER waits on the floor crying for approximately 1 minute as the lights fade. Slowly, out of the shadows, STORY JACK enters. STORY JACK is now a freshman, wearing less sketchy garb than before)

STORY

Are you okay?

KEPLER

Fine. Just go.

STORY

You were just crying. Something's obviously wrong.

KEPLER

How perceptive of you.

STORY

Look I'm trying to help you. Maybe you should try talking instead of bottling up your feelings.

KEPLER

You're probably no good at listening.

STORY

Fine, but I don't think anyone else will listen to you.

KEPLER

You're wrong.

STORY

Maybe the hall cat.

KEPLER

You just won't go away will you.

STORY

Look, I'm not trying to be a pain.

KEPLER

It's hard to explain. Look... okay, fine. It's a long story.

STORY

I love long stories.

KEPLER

You better not go blabbing to all of campus. This goes way back. Back to my freshman year. It's... I've never really talked about this with anyone before. See... back when I was a freshman, Corot and I used to hang out all the time. Corot, Tess, and I actually, but mostly Corot. We used to go out hacking nearly every night. Pass no record is a gift. Then one day...

### Scene 2.3: Flashback

Flashback to a dorm room, COROT and KEPLER are now sitting on a bed, drinking soda.

TESS

Hey! Want go hacking with me!

COROT looks at KEPLER for approval, KEPLER doesn't disagree so COROT takes this as a yes)

COROT

Sure! Let's go.

STORY

(now serving as narrator once more)

And that night they had a glorious night of hacking! They found new tombs and shafts that would have stunned the minds of any freshmen! Soon they were an unstoppable trio and were never seen apart.

(COROT, TESS and KEPLER are hacking in the background)

KEPLER

Some day man, some day.

COROT

Rappel off that? (Points at the dome)

KEPLER

Counter balance style, of course. No anchor like your friend.

COROT

Unless your friend is Officer Sprinkles.

STORY

[But their friendship was not for long] [But their friendship was put into jeopardy]... Over winter break, our hacker was a bit careless and sprained his ankle broke is leg. And as all good hackers know, you must never hack if you are injured.

KEPLER

Go on without me.



STORY

he would tell his friends, seeing no reason they could not enjoy the night's festivities without him. Sometimes they would even come back to recall the adventures of the night-

TESS

It was so much fun! We found this awesome tomb! It was beautiful, it was filled with this green light and -

(spoken under STORY)

at first we thought it was a machine room, but then we found out someone had set up a lava lamp in there! Someone had been there before! It was kind of eerie, but nice. There wasn't a name on the wall that we could see, so we named it -

STORY

and our injured hacker liked hear the tales of his friends explorations. It made him feel like he was part of the adventure. But as his friends became more busy, they stopped by less often.

KEPLER

How's it going? I haven't seen you in a while.

TESS

Not bad. Busy with my problem sets and stuff.

(pause)

KEPLER

Found any cool shafts?

TESS

Oh, yeah! Corot and I found one Tuesday. Oh, and last Thursday-

KEPLER

Busy with tooling, I see. I get it.

TESS

We weren't really out that long. It was sort of spur of the moment.

STORY

Soon he began to feel as if he was just not wanted.

KEPLER

You're ignoring me! I know you don't want to hang out with me any more! hate me.

STORY

he yelled.

COROT

Dude, chill. Your leg's still healing.

KEPLER

That's just an excuse!

COROT

If you want, we could just wait until your leg is healed.

KEPLER

Look, just go away, okay! I don't want to talk about tihs.

COROT

You're overreacting.

KEPLER leaves

STORY

And so they continued on without the injured hacker. They continued hacking and found new tombs and shafts that would have stunned the minds of any freshmen, but things weren't quite the same.

(fading back into reality)

KEPLER

But that's their story, not mine. I don't know what they did after they left me, more hacking, I suppose, more projects. It's just been really hard for me to be around them ever since. You're just a freshman. You're probably even still happy and think that life is good or some shit. You'll probably never understand.

STORY

Wow, I never would have guessed that --

KEPLER

Look, just don't tell anyone, okay? Or, if you do, no names attached.

STORY

I promise.

(STORY starts to leave)

Hey, did that help at all?

KEPLER

I have to go to lab.

[Itaru should look at it to make sure that it's consistent with AD's personality. Also I'm not sure if this is what you guys had in mind for that scene]

*After Wank, Wank, Wank! AD is left alone in the room right after his outburst. Story wanders back in to grab his/her backpack, and sees AD.*

STORY

Hey, what's up with you?

AD

Nothing.

STORY

Apparently a pretty upsetting nothing. You want to talk about it?

AD

*(sighs and runs hand through hair like he's thinking about whether it's worth talking about it)*

STORY

*(as a narrator, to audience; spotlight on Story, AD freezes)* [may want to change some of the phrasing here since his narrator character is a STORY JACK and wouldn't put him/herself into the story (right?)] [Also, kind of want to switch STORY and AD for narrating the first half (have AD start out and STORY take over) ] [Yeah, that's what I thought we'd planned originally, but then it said otherwise on the wiki so I thought we'd changed it...]

Unsurprisingly, he was reluctant to talk at first, but then it just sort of burst out. He told me about his freshman year, how he used to be friends with UP and LEAD. They all lived together, tooled together, and of course, went hacking together. The summer after freshman year, AD went off to California for an internship, and UP and LEAD stayed around for the summer, hacking and bonding. So when AD had come back in the fall --

*(light returns to normal, shows AD and Story talking as they had been before)*

AD

-- it was like they'd forgotten about me already. They'd go off hacking together and only last minute even think to invite me -- if they even remembered. They already had all their own inside jokes and adventures, and they weren't going to put out the effort to include me as part of that. I'd go along with them and they'd spend the entire time talking about that awesome place they'd explored in June or that hack they pulled in July, and eventually I gave up. I'd lost my best friends, and they were being insensitive jerks anyway. So if they even remembered to invite me to come along I'd just say--

*(now the lights on AD and Story go dim and spotlight UP and LEAD after they've left the meeting room)*

LEAD

*(bitterly)*

"I'm too busy". That's what AD would have said anyway if we asked him if he wanted to help. What an asshole! I can't believe he called the CP's on us!

UP

He wasn't like that freshman year at all. You remember that time we [blablabla nostalgic memory -- is there some inside joke that was referenced earlier or can I make up a story?]

LEAD

Haha, yeah, that was hilarious.

UP

He used to be so funny. I wonder what happened?

LEAD

I don't know... it was all great, and then he came back from California and suddenly he didn't want to go hacking with us anymore. He kept saying he was too hosed to.

UP

Yeah, he did, I guess. But I feel like there was something else, right? Because it started that way and then next thing you know he wouldn't talk to me. Would he talk to you?

LEAD

No, not really. I guess I just sort of figured he was busy or found a new group of friends... I didn't really think too much about it. I was busy with other things, I figured he was too.

UP

I can't help thinking we really missed something, LEAD. It's one thing to be busy, but he must be pissed at us at be that much of an asshole.

LEAD

You know, I think I really don't give a shit. There's no excuse for doing what he did.

UP

(shrug)

Yeah, I guess so...

[not sure how we want to end this scene... should it go back to STORY or just end here?]

## 2.4: There's More To Life Than Tooling

*Billy is sitting at a desk tooling, looking sad. The setting is EC, a cluster? Sophocles has been talking to Scout 1, another random senior Billy is making frustrated noises at he pset.*

SOPHOCLES and Scout 1 are laughing

Scout 1

Oh man, as great as it is to catch up with you, I need go tool. I have a [insert course here] pset to finish. That class is a bitch. Anyways, It's been really good to see you again.

*(Hugs Sophocles)*

Do you know when you will be in the area again?

SOPHOCLES

No, but hopefully it will be before this year's freshmen graduate. I never know with these things. I was lucky get a chance to come for a visit this time.

Speaking of freshmen, who is the guy tooling in the corner?

Scout 1

His name is Billy. He doesn't live here. He just showed up when the hack started. He's been hanging around [with Tess, helping with the build].

SOPHOCLES

He doesn't look happy enough for a freshmen on pass no record.

Scout 1

Yeah, I think the hack has gotten the best of him.

SOPHOCLES

Politics?

Scout 1

I didn't stay to hear the end of the wanking... All I know is that it got pretty bad. Clearly if the excited freshmen isn't excited anymore, it must have gotten pretty bad.

SOPHOCLES

I understand. (pause, possibly hand shake) Good luck with everything.

*(Scout 1 exits)*

BILLY

(frustrated) Arrgh, dammit! I'll never get this. Never, never!

*(Sophocles turns to face Billy but doesn't get closer. Billy crumples up the piece of paper and throws it off stage, looks back at his pset frustrated, puts his head on the desk.)*

SOPHOCLES

What are you tooling?

BILLY

*(Still with head on desk)*

Fuck 8.012. Why do you think it's any of your business?

AESOP

What's your name?

BILLY

Billy, now leave me alone.

AESOP

My name is Aesop.

BILLY

Wait *you're*, Aesop? Aesop, the hardk0re?!

AESOP

*(Pauses and smiles)*

Want to take a break? You're obviously not getting anywhere. Let's go wander.

*BILLY shakes his head "yes" and silently gets up, following AESOP. Start underscore.*

*AESOP walks in a convoluted path as the desk and chair are removed and the entrance to the hacking location appears.*

*We need to decide what the entrance is. Does it just look like a wall?*

BILLY

I have no idea where we are going.

SOPH

Want to take a guess?

BILLY

Well, I know we are in building 102... but I have never been here before...

A

I've been told about a tomb in this building that no one goes to any more. It's impossible to get in, the name of it was....Wait is this [name of hacking location?]. The [name of hacking location?].

BILLY

Are we going in?

SOPH

I would like to.

BILLY

How are we getting in?

SOPH

What do you see?

BILLY

I see a [adlib things around the set]. But I still don't understand how we are going to get in.

[needs more writing]

**AESOP**

THERE IS MORE TO MIT

THAN EARNING YOUR DEGREE.

YOU COULD SIT IN AN ATHENA CLUSTER,

ACCOMPANIED BY CANS OF JOLT, [slight melody change here to make the words fit, I could demonstrate]

BUT AS I HIGHLY RECOMMEND,

WHILE WORKING WITH A FRIEND,

YOU'LL FIND THAT

IN THE END, YOU GET A STRONG RESULT.



THERE'S MORE TO LIFE THAN TOOLING, DON'T YOU KNOW...

THERE IS MORE TO 8.01  
THAN GETTING PSETS DONE,  
YOU MAY COMPLETE THE WORK WITHOUT A HEADACHE,  
THOUGH IT WOULDN'T HELP YOU GROW.  
BUT IF YOU REALLY BANG YOUR HEAD,  
WITH A GROUP, JUST AS I SAID:  
THERE'S MORE TO LIFE THAN TOOLING...  
(pause)

THERE'S MORE TO LIFE THAN TOOLING, DON'T YOU KNOW.

### **BILLY**

More to life than tooling? I'm sorry, but I think you're talking to the wrong person. I already know that. I mean, I'm not a big tool or anything and I normally work with other people. I know you probably got a weird first impression of me, but I'm not like that.

### **AESOP**

I don't think you're listening. Keep listening. It's not just about tooling, keep listening.  
THERE IS MORE TO WRITING CODE,  
THAN WHAT'S IN YOUR PITIFUL(or SHOWER-LESS?) ABODE.  
YOU MAY SPEND HOURS ON A FUNCTION,  
BUT THE CODE JUST WON'T COMPILE.  
THOUGH THE SECOND YOU RECALL,  
THAT HELPFUL FRIEND WHO KNOWS IT ALL,  
I GUARANTEE THAT HELP CAN GO A MILE.  
THERE'S MORE TO LIFE THAN TOOLING PUNTING...

THERE IS MORE TO BAKING CAKE,  
THAN EATING EVERY LITTLE FLAKE.  
IT MAY TASTE GOOD, BUT IT GETS LONELY  
ALL HOLED UP INSIDE YOUR ROOM.  
BUT IF YOU SPAM OUT TO YOUR DORM,  
I CAN JUST BET THEY'LL BE A STORM  
OF FRIENDS JUST WAITING TO RELEASE YOU FROM YOUR GLOOM.

THERE'S MORE TO LIFE THAN TOOLING PUNTING...

THERE'S MORE TO LIFE THAN TOOLING, DON'T YOU KNOW.

**BILLY**

I'm starting to think you're not talking about tooling at all, actually. Does this make him sound to dumb?

**AESOP**

(smiling)

I think you might be on to something.

THERE IS MORE TO PULLING HACKS,  
THAN WHAT YOU MAY HEAR FROM THE JACKS,  
SURE, IT MAY BE ALL "GRAND AND EPIC,"  
THOUGH IF THAT'S ALL, you've missed the point!  
FOR THERE'S NO INTRINSIC GOOD,  
IF THAT LITTLE PIECE OF WOOD,  
YOU'VE SLAVED FOR HOURS ON HAS MADE YOUR TEAM **DISJOINT!**

(bridge)

THOUGH THE CROWDS MAY OOO AND AW,  
AT THAT BIG TRUCK UPON THE DOME,  
THE JOY THAT YOU DERIVE,  
SHOULD COME FROM KNOWING THAT **YOUR HEART'S YOUR HOME.**

**BILLY**

My heart... I never really thought about hackers having hearts. I mean, no one really talks about that...

**AESOP**

That's because that's what makes it so special. It's really hard to convey every last detail of an adventure you've had with someone and do it justice. It's like trying to recall an inside joke to a group of people at a party. "You had to be there," right?

**BILLY**

I think I see what you're saying...

THERE IS MORE TO MIT

**AESOP**

That's right!

**BILLY**

THAN BEING WILD AND FREE! [I really dislike this line]

**AESOP**

Yes!

IF YOU TRY TO BE UNCONTROLLABLE,  
YOU CANNOT CONTROL YOU.

**BILLY**

AND IT'S NOT ABOUT JUST ME,  
Yeah! NOW I THINK I REALLY SEE;  
IT'S NOT ABOUT THE "IT" AT ALL, BUT IT'S HOW I DO THE "DO."

(music gets all cool and shit, rockier, more upbeat)

**BILLY and AESOP**

THERE IS MORE TO MIT,  
THAN WHAT THE PUBLIC GETS TO SEE.  
THERE ARE SOCIAL WEBS AND FRIENDSHIPS  
THAT GO DEEPER THAN THE WINTER SNOW!  
AND WHAT GLIMMERS IN THE LIGHT,  
THOUGH GLORIOUSLY BRIGHT,  
IS JUST THE SURFACE OF A MASTERPIECE;  
THERE'S MORE TO LIFE THAN TOOLING DON'T YOU KNOW! [I think this line should  
go somewhere in every other chorus, but in the last one, it should say very explicitly  
what we are getting at. This is the one liner line. The something like "It's not about  
being hardcore, it's about doing it with

**BILLY**

It makes so much sense now! Thank you so much! This means a lot to me.

**AESOP**

Hey, don't even worry about it.

**BILLY**

No, please. It means so much. I hate when people say not to worry about it. I really  
want you to understand how appreciative I am.

**AESOP**

(smiling)

I'm touched. Come on, let's get out of this tomb. It's sentimental, but it's also very dusty.

(BILLY and AESOP get out of the tomb)

**BILLY**

I don't even know how to thank you really... sorry I can't do anything for you. [He's thanking him too much...]

**AESOP**

What you do for yourself is good enough for me. And if I recall, somebody has a certain hack to finish.

**BILLY**

You're right! Thank you again!

(BILLY starts to run offstage, then stops.)

Hey, I hope you come back sometime soon. That was a lot of fun, we should do it again some time.

**AESOP**

Sure, and hey, don't drink too much jolt, kid. It's not as good for you as you think.

(Billy runs off stage)

[this is where I'd see Billy rallying freshmen, so long as there was still an underscore in the previous scene]

*(FROSH is tooling alone after hack, really upset and disconsolate)*

FROSH

*(muttering to himself)*

Only three more problems... At least there's no drama with psets. Maybe I should just give up hacking. It was so much fun before, but this? I can't stand this. I can't believe she...

*(bursts out to no one in particular)*

Shit, does hacking really need to be like this?

*(a secret door/hatch opens and SuperGod Hacker appears! --Or maybe he rappels down from nowhere?)*

*[can he come through a wall? I really like the hatch ]*

SGH

No, it doesn't!

FROSH

WTF? Who the hell are you!

SGH

Well, back in the day, I used to be a pretty big hacker myself! I think SGH needs to be a hell of a lot more modest than he is here. The character is ruined if he calls himself a big hacker

FROSH

*(breaking out of his gloom, he gets excited)*

Really!?

SGH

Yes indeed! Now, would you like to explain to me why it's midnight, a Saturday, and you're shut in your room doing a pest?

FROSH

*(loses excitement suddenly)*

Because I'm through with hacking. I want Frosh and SGH to make a connection before

the song starts. This is way to blunt.

SGH

Oh? There's more to life than tooling, you know.

[start of song. The beginning should have some line like, "There's more to life than tooling, blabla, now let me show you something!" and then they go off hacking together]

Counterbalance rappel [probably our climax]

After the song, AD and LEAD just do their separate ways, maybe just look at each other and leave or shake hands and leave

(CP's burst through the roof door just as the rope slips out of site)

CLAW

All right! Come out!

KALF

We know you're hiding. You can't hide for long.

CLAW

Come on...

(explores the roof top, but finds no one)

We need to add more dialog where the power chord gets cut and they remove the hack

PACHINO

They... they're gone...

SPRINKLES

No. NOOOO! Those hackers! Once again, they have slipped through my fingers.

*(raising a fist to the sky)*

But one day... one day, they shall be mine! Mine!!! Is this the exact orange tours speech? If not, can we use the exact speech?

KALF

Come on, there's no use staying up here. Let's get down.

*(CLAW, and PACHINO start to head inside. SPRINKLES remains paralyzed and is now whimpering like a puppy)*

Come on.

*(KALF hoists SPRINKLES up to his feet and walks him inside)*

CLAW

Is Dunkin' still open?



*(They kiss)*

FROSH and UPPERCLASSMAN

I have an idea for a hack!