

OFFLINE SYNDROME

Written by

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INT. ONLINE - ?

INSERT: Images of troll posts on X, Reddit, censored Facebook posts, and censored Instagram posts on selfies are shown with comments as CLICKS are heard.

INSERT: Images of Lexi's social media accounts (Lexileaks699) and is scrolled down to her past pictures.

LEXI (V.O.)

My name is Lexi and I scam people for money but mainly for fun. Fake onlyfans accounts, flirt with husbands and all that but threaten to message their wives. Was close to paying off my mortgage but now the government shut down the internet and we're furious.

INSERT: Then it goes to Tristan's social media accounts (MouthsofAsh_0666).

TRISTAN (V.O.)

I hate my job. I hate this system. I hate this repression. I hate everything about this idea. I hate this life. I hate being forced to participate without consent. I hate what this is making me do. I hate not commenting with what I want to comment. I hate being bored. I hate not having my freedom. I hate these people. I hate them. I hate them so much. I hate all of this. I hate not having my voice. I hate my life. I hate all of this.

INSERT: Callum's profile (humanerror1) is shown but he doesn't even have a profile picture.

CALLUM (V.O.)

The resistance continues. We need to keep spreading the word out. They say the Internet is coming back but I don't buy it. Even if it does, it's too late. We're all different. The governments attempt to change us but we won't let that happen. We need to keep the signal alive. We're the ones who remember how to make the noise. We're the ongoing revolution.

Then the three stare down at it.

CALLUM (V.O.)
ject. Unfortunately the guy he
hired took the money and bailed. If
we have earlier access to the web,
we can-

The blind man unwraps his gauze and they stare at him wondering what's going to happen.

His eyes are shut but then he opens them to show the blank grey ness in them.

Everything distorts behind him vertically.

Then the three of there faces distort while their surroundings stay the same but faces become so vertical, colorful from every pigmentation, and hundreds of voices sharing comments.

CALLUM (V.O.)
make it ours. As in we own it. Put
the messages that matter once it's
back live. It's our only chance for
the world to be how we want it to
be because we'll be the first to
explore. The first digital
pioneers.

INT. DINING ROOM - MORNING

CLOSE UPS: Lexi is laid on a desk as Tristan is laying downwards onto the floor from a chair and Callum face on the cushion of the couch but knees on the floor.

They look like robots that have been switched off and have a gauze covering their whole heads.

The only opening they have is their eye sockets and mouths but also a gauge cut around each of their craniums.

Lexi wakes up. Tristan and Callum wake up afterwards.

They are brain dead.

INT. KITCHEN - MORNING

Lexi goes to open the fridge.

She then begins to throw food on the floor and takes out an onion eating it like an apple.

Tristan and Callum join her and eat the food on the floor like apes.

Callum begins to eat the rotisserie chicken while Tristan assembles legos into it.

Lexi comes to the table with now cooked noodles and waffles underneath.

INT. LIVING ROOM/OUTSIDE - MORNING

The three begin to finger paint each others wrapped faces.

Lexi twirls in one of the curtains but gets lost in it as the two men discover the front door and open it.

The screen is then split horizontally, three ways.

Tristan walks into a clothing store and picks some clothes that don't match including heels. He then goes into the dressing room.

Callum stumbles upon a collection of old technology by the garbage and begins to caress it.

Lexi comes out of the curtain on the floor and proceeds upstairs.

Tristan comes out of the fitting room wearing women's clothing with the heels along with the undergarments on top of the outside wear and a wig.

Callum begins to break apart the pieces and eats pieces of all the old parts.

Lexi struggles up the stairs feeling each step, the walls, and the rail.

Tristan walks around a grassy field and comes across a mirror which he steps to check himself out and at one point caresses but there's a second lag in the mirror from his actual movements.

Callum leans back and holds the broken technology with a tear in his eye.

Each three continue what their doing until Lexi makes it up the stairs but sees a shadow figure waiting for her.

Movements begin to feel scattered along with a SIGNAL sound ringing.

A notification PING is heard.

The three collapse and they hold onto their heads in pain as none stop PINGS are heard with TYPING.

They begin to seizure.

Each of their backgrounds begin to turn from their current locations to; mountainous, bay areas, beaches, space, sky's, forests, tundra, oceans, city's, suburbs, etc but in different orders.

They all stop and lay there unresponsive followed by the DEAD LINE sound of a phone.

Tristan's background are mountains.

Callum's is the beach.

Lexi's is the forest.

SUPERIMPOSE: OFFLINE SYNDROME

EXT. OUTSIDE - DAY

The graffiti the three have made in the beginning goes from RESIST to RESIST THE INTERNET.

THE END.