

RED ROOM

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INT. CONNER'S ROOM - DAY

We see ED(20s) enter a room lit up in red. On the walls are heavy metal posters, knives, and generally just a lot of sketchy shit.

ED (V.O.)
I consider it my civic duty to
search my roommates Conner's room
from time to time. As you can
probably tell-

Ed pulls off a gas mask and then a twisted dagger off of Conner's wall.

ED (V.O.)
He's not a regular guy. He's a
little too proud of his heritage.

Shot of German WW2 gas mask and memorabilia around the room.

ED (V.O.)
A bit obsessed with guns and
knives...

Ed looks through Conner's many weapons.

and generally just puts out a lot
of bad vibes...like a lot.

We see Ed look around some more before taking a seat at Conner's desk.

ED (V.O.)
And I live with the guy, so I kinda
want to know if he's ever going
to...

Quick cuts of all the weapons.

ED (V.O.)
act out any of his special
interests if you know what I mean.

Ed enters the password to Conner's computer.

ED (V.O.)
His password is his favorite movie.

We see Ed look at the American Psycho poster.

ED (V.O.)
And the numbers 12, 13, 14, no idea
the meaning behind those, but he
uses them for everything:
usernames, gamer tags, passcodes.
His over use of them, made guessing
his password a lot easier that's
for sure.

Ed opens Conner's Tor browser.

ED (V.O.)
Conner, won't ever shut the fuck up
about this.

We see Ed scroll through the Tor browser with a smug look on
his face.

ED (V.O.)
He calls it the Deep web or The
dark web.
(scary voice)
Or whatever. It doesn't look so
scary.

BEGIN MONTAGE

We see Ed's eyes widen as he scrolls through the tor browser,
revealing a myriad of content, from illegal substances for
cheap on the Silk Road.

ED (V.O.)
In fact, now I know where to get
some cheap ass drugs from.

He sees a black market weapons site and sex for hire site.

ED (V.O.)
or guns, or sex-

He sees a hitman site called 1HITWONDERS. Ed can't help but
smile at the absurdity of the website.

ED (V.O.)
or a hitman! This can't be real.

From tutorials on hacking to bomb-making guides, each click
takes Ed deeper into the digital underworld. Then he finds a
site called KiddyVidz. We don't need to see what Ed is
looking at to know what he is looking at.

ED
(horrified)
Oh god, this can't be real.

SMASH CUT TO:

INT. ED'S ROOM - DAY

We see Ed on the FBI cybercrimes site filing a report on KiddyVidz.

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

Ed stares at Conner's computer through the open door.

ED (V.O.)
I needed to take a break from the
dark web.

Ed opts to watch TV. As he flips through channels, a message notification on Conner's computer catches his attention. Ed tries to fight it, but curiosity gets the better of him.

INT. CONNER'S ROOM - DAY

Ed enters and turns on Conner's computer.

ON COMPUTER
SCREEN:

Ed glances at the screen, noticing a message from a dark web messenger app called XY&Z. The sender is named Z with another named X in the group chat.

Z (text on screen):

"Hey, Conner. What brings you online this early? Aren't you usually at work?"

Ed hesitates.

X (text on screen):

"We know you're online. If you wanted to lurk, you should have got your ghost going there Danny Phantom." followed by a ghost emoji.

ED
Shit...shit!

Ed, in a panic, types a response.

ED (typing):

"Feeling sick. Took the day off."

Z (text on screen):

"That's good. Finally, you'll catch the Sunday matinee. They got a special show lined up. Check this out."

A link to a dark web site called the Red Room appears in the chat. Ed's curiosity gets the better of him, and he clicks the link.

ON COMPUTER
SCREEN:

Ed's face is washed over by a red glow.

ON COMPUTER
SCREEN:

We see the website called the Red Room. The site's design is reminiscent of an old movie theater. There's a stream getting ready to start up. The chat is full of popcorn and eye ball emojis. Z types, "It's starting!!!!"

The screen suddenly goes dark like a movie theater before a show. In fact, it plays one of those going to the movies intros that you see at the old picture shows.

INT. RED ROOM - NIGHT

The charming intro suddenly cuts and a Stream starts with a POOR GIRL(20s) tied up and gagged. There's a man standing next to her with a SMILEY FACE mask on(???). The stream start spamming smiley face emojis.

A piece of text displays saying place your bids. Ed looks and sees his screen display a massive amount of saved up points. We then see a virtual auction begin.

"100 points to take out one of her eyes."

"200 for you shove the knife up her cunt."

"I'll pay 400 points for that."

"500"

A moment later.

"600... For the cunt too."

INT. CONNOR'S ROOM - DAY

Ed can't believe what he is seeing.

X types in the private chat, "These fags always want the same vaginal torture bs cause Stacy never wanted to touch their little toad dicks. I'm putting a stop to this."

"1000 for you to cut off one of her pretty toes and feed it to her."

The chat then floods with tongue out and hungry emojis.

Z types in the private chat, "You got em hungry now."

We see Smiley face take a knife out.

"It seems we have a winner!"

We don't see the stream, but we hear it and see Ed's terrified reaction. The Poor girl screams are agonizing. Ed gets up from the chair and almost pukes. He can't let this happen.

INT. APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

We see Ed head to his laptop and open his phone to call 911 and the FBI cybercrimes page, to file a report.

INT. CONNOR'S ROOM - DAY

Ed heads back to the room so he can copy down the info and report the site. He mutes the stream and that's when he gets a private message notification from Z saying, "I wouldn't do that." Followed by a smiley face emoji.

Ed hesitates.

Z texts, "Unless you want your roommate finding out about your snooping."

Ed texts back, "I don't know what you're talking about Z?"

"Do you not like the stream? Why did you mute it?"

Ed seems bewildered that Z knows he's muted the computer. The computer then suddenly unmutes itself.

The poor girl's awful screams return with added sounds of gagging and puking. Ed mutes it again.

"I'll tell X you didn't like his suggestion."

"Go ahead. Tell X. I don't care."

"You're not Conner and I'm not Z. I'm X. The display names change depending on the chat. No more than 3 per chat, but it keeps things confidential and secure. At least it did until now..."

"You're all monsters." Ed replies.

"Your name is Edward Hanes, your address is 719 South 4th Street, Apartment 9, your parent's address is ... your sister's address is ... and your social security number is ... and Conner's number is ... all I have to do is text him what you're doing."

"All I have to do is tell the cops."

Z replies, "The site will be gone before they can find it. You'll just sound like a paranoid schizo..." another text, "Until you're the star of the next show!" Followed by a star and camera emojis. Ed pauses for a long time.

Another text, "Unmute the stream. I can see you through the webcam, so don't try anything funny."

Ed considers his options before finally obeying. The audio is awful. She's exhausted, but someone in the chat paid for her to be hit with adrenaline so, "she won't pass out."

Ed gets a message from Z, "Place a bid. Conner has more points saved up than his little dick imagination knows that to do with."

Ed looks at the stream and decides to bet all his points to let the Poor girl go. Before he can place the bid, Z sends him another message saying, "No, you don't get to leave this with your conscious intact. If you place a bid that asks for anything less than cutting her, I will let the admins know about you, mom, dad, sister..." the message keeps going as Z/X lists names, but Ed almost dissociates as he stares at the blurry computer screen. He's awoken by the Poor Girl's screams.

INT. RED ROOM - NIGHT

We see the poor girl is cowering before a massive knife that viewers are bidding to cut her with in various spots.

INT. CONNOR'S ROOM - DAY

Ed takes a deep breath and puts in a bid, it's to cut her hair. It's for a lot of points. The chat spam question marks and confused emojis.

INT. RED ROOM - NIGHT

Smiley Face looks intrigued and puts down the knife for an electric razor.

He begins cutting her hair. The poor girl sobs uncontrollably. The chat are strangely coming around to this, seeing it as some sort of avant-garde choice that is legitimately brilliant. They all spam the applause emojis.

Z texts, "Well done. I can one up you though."

Smiley steps back to show the destroyed, both emotionally and physically, poor girl. Then, a bid comes in to kill her now. It's a very large amount. Smiley nods and grabs a clever before bring it down on the Poor girl's head. We cut away before impact.

INT. CONNOR'S ROOM - DAY

We see Ed sobbing after seeing the poor girl die. He gets another message from Z/X. "You're not out of the chicken coop just yet. I have one more task for you and don't you worry Ed, it's a fun one! ;)"

Ed looks at the computer screen and then gets another message we don't see. Ed turns around to look at the gas mask and knife on the wall.

INT. APARTMENT - NIGHT

Ed is watching tv when CONNER(20s) surprisingly plain looking, enters. He has headphones in which are audibly blaring death metal. Ed stares at Conner for a moment while he takes his shoes off. Conner then takes his headphones out and looks Ed over. There's a tense pause.

ED

Sup.

CONNER

(sighs)

Hey.

Conner heads to his room.

ED
Another long day?

CONNER
Every day is a long day.

ED
I made some mac and cheese if you
want-

Conner slams the door behind him. Ed gets up and slinks away
offscreen.

INT. CONNER'S ROOM - NIGHT

Conner lets out a long sigh and sinks into his chair. He puts
his headphones back in and blasts more heavy metal.

We see his POV, music blaring loud, he opens his tor browser
and enters the dark web.

We go back out of his POV to see his door slowly opening.
Conner has no idea.

We return to his POV, music still blaring, and see he has
just gotten an private XYZ chat message. It's Z. It reads,
"Hey there working man, you ready for the show!" followed by
a link.

We leave Conner's POV to see Ed (we don't see his face) is in
his room now and is taking the big scary knife off the wall
behind Conner.

Conner's POV: He types back, "always." He clicks the link and
loads into the Red Room. It's the same as it was for Ed with
the chat going wild with anticipation. Then the stream
starts...

It's of Conner at his desk. He is confused at first before it
clicks. He gets a new PM from Z, "Good, cause you're the
star!"

We see Conner pulls his headphones off and get up. As he
does, he reveals Ed standing behind him wearing the gas mask
and holding the big scary knife. Before Conner can react,
bids appears on the screen telling Ed to, "Make him a star."
Ed lunges and Conner yells as we see blood splatter across
the computer screen...

SMASH CUT TO:

TITLE CARD: RED ROOM

THE END.