

Limitations (Filmed)

By

Anthony Monteleone

INT. TOBY'S HOUSE - MORNING

ON SCREEN

A sparse master bedroom. The sort one would expect to be decorated to the brim with family pictures and portraits, but is completely barren other than a large bed holding Toby and Libby, two end tables on either side of the bed, a smart alarm clock on either side of the bed, and a glasses stand next to them. Libby's glasses rest in their stand as Libby sleeps soundly, whilst Toby's glasses are already on Toby's face as he stairs straight ahead.

The smart alarm clocks are the sort you could tweet off of. Whilst all this is discovered, the alarm clock blares the same message over and over again.

ALARM CLOCK

It is oh seven hundred hours. Time to
wake up! It is oh seven hundred hours.
Time to wake up! It is...

As the camera settles on the clock, Toby's hand suddenly hits the off button on the alarm clock. A moment later, Toby sits straight up in bed.

CUT TO:

A kitchen equally as sparse as the bedroom. Toby is sitting at his dining table and stares straight ahead, glasses on, while a smart coffee maker makes coffee right behind him. Suddenly, breaking through the mundanity:

COFFEE MAKER

(With the same voice as the ALARM
CLOCK)

Your coffee is ready. Please pick it
up! Your coffee is ready. Please pick
it up! Your coffee...

Toby stands and takes his coffee from the coffee maker, not noticing as is partly spills on the floor. He sits back down as yet another smart appliance roars to life.

VACUUM

(With the same voice as before.)

Mess detected! Please stand aside.
Mess detected! Please stand aside.
Mess...

CUT TO:

The equivalent of a workplace Zoom call. SEVERAL COWORKERS are seen.

BOSS
We cannot have a repeat of the third quarter, everyone must work at the top of their ability. Is that clear?

A chorus of murmurs and yes's.

BOSS
Toby?

TOBY
Yes.

BOSS
Announcements?

Silence.

BOSS
Meeting adjourned.

Same time, same place, Toby is sitting in the same chair as earlier, still staring into space, just as absent as before.

TOBY
Leave meeting.

INT. TOBY'S HOUSE - NIGHT

That night. Libby is lying in bed, awake but absent, glasses on. Toby enters, glasses on. HE sits on the bed.

LIBBY
(Without any further indication of each others existence.)
Work?

TOBY
Yes.

LIBBY
Over?

TOBY
Yes.

LIBBY
Sleep?

TOBY
Soon.

Without further acknowledgement between them, Toby lies in bed.

Montage

Morning again. Toby lies awake with glasses on.

ALARM CLOCK
It is oh seven hundred hours. Time to wake up! It is oh seven hundred hours. Time to wake up!

Toby is in the same chair, waiting for coffee.

COFFEE MAKER
Your coffee is ready! Please pick it up!

Toby spills the coffee.

Toby on the work call. Everyone has the same attitude as the first time.

BOSS
Is that clear?

Toby sitting in bed, glasses on. Libby lays on her side, glasses on, just as before.

LIBBY
Work?

TOBY
Yes.

LIBBY
Over?

TOBY
Yes.

LIBBY
Sleep?

TOBY
Soon.

Repeating once again. Toby lies awake, glasses on.

ALARM CLOCK
It is oh seven hundred hours. Time
to...

Toby hits the off button.

Toby is getting up to get is coffee.

COFFEE MAKER
Your coffee is ready. Please...

Toby is sitting back down.

VACUUM
Mess detected! Please...

Toby is in the meeting.

BOSS
Third quarter...

Toby is sitting on the bed. Libby is lying on her side,
glasses on.

LIBBY
Sleep?

TOBY
Soon.

And once more. Toby lies awake, glasses on.

ALARM CLOCK
Seven Hundred Hours...

Coffee.

COFFEE MAKER
Please pick it up...

Spill.

VACUUM
Please stand aside...

Meeting.

BOSS
Is that clear?

Bedtime. The body language remains the same as previous nights. Glasses still on.

LIBBY
Work?

TOBY
(With only the slightest physical acknowledgement to who he is talking to.)
Libby?

LIBBY
Over?

TOBY
Libby?

LIBBY
Sleep?

TOBY
Libby?

LIBBY
Yes?

TOBY
Wonder?

LIBBY
No.

TOBY
Oh.

Toby waits a moment to see if Libby will say anything more. After a moment, he lays down, glasses still on.

INT. TOBY'S HOUSE - MORNING

The same opening as every other weekday thus far. Almost.

ALARM CLOCK
It is oh seven hundred hours. Sleep in, it's the weekend. It is oh seven hundred hours. Sleep in. It's the weekend.

Toby turns the alarm off.

CUT TO:

The kitchen. Toby is drinking coffee in his usual chair. We see what he's looking at in his glasses: in one corner a telenovela, in another a blaring music video. In yet another, a brightly colored version of pong, or Tetris, or a similarly recognizable but simple game.

TOBY
Glasses?

GLASSES
Toby calling. Please state request.
Toby calling. Please...

TOBY
List 'Weekend Activities.'

GLASSES
534 results for 'Weekend Activities:'
One: New Movie. Two: Old Movie. Three:
New Game. Four: Old...

TOBY
Skip Four Hundred.

GLASSES
Okay! Four Oh Oh: Meet Neighbors. Four
Oh One: Spot Clouds. Four Oh Two: Walk
through Nature. Four Oh...

TOBY
Route nature walk.

GLASSES
Routing nature walk. Please note
Glasses are not guaranteed to work
along the trail. Please choose contact
to inform of planned location.

TOBY
Send Libby Message: Out.

GLASSES
Nature walk selected! Please proceed
to nature.

EXT. NATURE TRAIL - MIDDAY

Toby is walking alone on the trail, no one else in sight. It is beautiful but average at the same time. We see that Toby

is still lost in the world of the glasses, despite being surrounded by nature.

The million tabs wrestling for Toby's attention are still open, whilst his glasses feed him directions.

GLASSES
(Continued)
Turn right.

Toby turns right and continues walking.

GLASSES
(Continued)
Watch for branches.

Toby steps on a branch. It breaks beneath him, but Toby gives no reaction.

GLASSES
(Continued)
Warning. Loosing connection...

FADE TO STAGE

...

...

FADE TO SCREEN

GLASSES
(Continued)
With central grid. Please...

FADE TO STAGE

...

...

FADE TO SCREEN

GLASSES
(Continued)
Return to areas of connectio-

FADE TO STAGE

...

...
...
...
...
...
...
...
...
...
...
...
...
...
...
...

FADE TO SCREEN

EXT. NATURE TRAIL - MIDDAY

The glasses beam to life on Toby's face.

GLASSES
Connection Restored! How can we help?

TOBY
Place marker.

GLASSES
Placing marker. Title?

Toby hesitates. The glasses open several tabs, a game. Maybe a movie.

Toby starts to lose himself in these tabs, shakes his head.

TOBY
Clear tabs.

The different tabs disappear. Toby stops.

TOBY
Title: Clearing.

GLASSES
Marking current location as: Clearing.
Is that correct?

TOBY
Yes.

A tab opens itself, a sit-com.

TOBY (CONTINUED)
Clear tabs.

GLASSES
Are you positive? This action cannot
be undone. Are you-

TOBY
Clear tabs.

The sit-com disappears. Toby Looks down the path.

TOBY
Route to house.

GLASSES
Routing! Go forward. Go forward.

Toby begins walking down the trail; taking in the sights
around him all the while.

INT. TOBY'S HOUSE - MIDDAY

Exactly as it was left. Toby enters through the front door,
glasses on face.

GLASSES
You have arrived at: house. You have
arrived at: house. You have arrived
at: house.

Toby looks around the house for the first time: it's all
grey. Completely, utterly, grey.

The living room is bare bones, barring the high tech vacuum
and an untouched couch.

Toby grimaces.

The glasses open another tab. A slot machine. It spins by
itself.

TOBY
Clear tabs.

GLASSES
Are you positive? This action cannot
be-

TOBY
Clear tabs!

The slot machine disappears.

TOBY
Share marker: Clearing to: Libby.

GLASSES
Sharing with: Libby. Sharing with:
Libby. Sharing with-

Toby takes the glasses off.

FADE TO STAGE

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

FADE TO SCREEN

INT. TOBY'S HOUSE - MIDDAY

Toby leans over Libby, who sits on the bed.

TOBY
Send Libby message: Sent location.
Join?

LIBBY
Send Toby message: Busy. Later. Level
eight hundred.

TOBY
Send Libby message: Please.

Beat.

LIBBY
Map route to "Clearing."

Toby takes the glasses off.

FADE TO STAGE

...
...
...
...
...

FADE TO SCREEN

EXT. NATURE TRAIL - MIDDAY

Libby's Perspective.

A thousand tabs open. A map. A *Candy Crush*-esque game. Mindless social media. Behind the tabs, Toby, glasses off, is several steps ahead. Trees all along Libby's peripheral.

GLASSES
Forward. Forward. Forward. Arrival.

Toby stops.

TOBY
Here.

Toby turns around. Frowns.

TOBY
Send Libby message: Here.

LIBBY
Send Toby message: Here?

TOBY
Send Libby message: Close tabs.

LIBBY
Send Toby Message: What? Send Toby
message: No.

The *Candy Crush*-esque game is almost complete.

TOBY
Please. Close tabs.

LIBBY
Send Toby message: No. Opening angle
bracket number three.

One move away from victory. Social media has found a funny
cat video.

Toby reaches for the glasses, takes them off.

FADE TO STAGE

...
...
...
...
...
...
...
...
...
...
...
...
...
...

SCREEN ON

EXT. NATURE TRAIL - MIDDAY

The screen shows Libby's tabs, as they were left.

Toby looks behind him and sees Libby about to pounce.

Toby drops to the dirt. Libby jumps on top of him, reaching for the glasses.

TOBY
Clear tabs.

LIBBY
No! No!

GLASSES
Are you positive? This action-

TOBY
Clear tabs!

Libby tears the glasses off of Toby's face.

SCREEN OFF

...

SCREEN ON

EXT. NATURE TRAIL - MIDDAY

The tabs are gone.

LIBBY
Restore. Restore tabs! Restore!

GLASSES
Command not recognized. Would you like
a set of sample commands to try out?

Libby sits blankly. Toby joins next to her.

TOBY
Sorry.
(Beat.)
Send Libby message: Sorry.

LIBBY
Send Toby message: Why?

TOBY
Send Libby Message: Take glasses off.
Look.

Libby makes no move. Toby takes Libby's glasses off.

SCREEN OFF

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...
...
...
...
...
...
...

FADE TO SCREEN

EXT. NATURE TRAIL - MIDDAY

LIBBY & TOBY
Route to house.

GLASSES
Routing. Turn. Forward. Forward.

Libby and Toby follow said directions.

INT. TOBY'S HOUSE - MORNING

Toby on the daily work meeting call. Libby next to him.

BOSS
Is that clear?

A chorus of "yes."

TOBY
Request announcement?

BOSS
Adjourned.

The call cuts out. Toby takes glasses off.

FADE TO STAGE

...
...
...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...
...
...
...
...
...
...
...
...
...
...
...
...

SCREEN ON

INT. CONSOLES OFFICE - SUNSET

The CONSOLES OFFICE. A cozy log cabin with a fireplace, rocking chair, and couch. Outside the window lies a perpetual sunset.

The CONSOLES sits in the rocking chair. The Consoler should be played by the same actor as the boss, as well as the appliances.

Toby sits on the couch.

CONSOLES

Hello, Toby. Welcome to the Consoler's Office. I'm the Consoler. Is this your first appointment?

TOBY

Where is Libby?

CONSOLES

Query received. Libby is in their own meeting-

The camera slowly pans around the office, away from the Consoler, and to Libby, sitting where Toby once was.

CONSOLER (CONTINUED)
-having their own appointment in
reference to their own mental health.
Is this your first appointment?

LIBBY
Like this?

CONSOLER
We understand everyone's mental health
journey may look different, but please
allow the Consoler to ask the
questions in the future. Is this your
first appointment?

TOBY
Don't you know?

CONSOLER
We understand everyone's mental health
journey may look different, but-

LIBBY
Yes! First Appointment.

CONSOLER
Grand! It is our understanding you are
here for Sudden Anomalous Behaviors.
Or, in here, SABs. Symptoms of SABs
include sudden decreases in Glasses
usage. Socialization. Idea Generation.
Do any of these sound like you?

TOBY
Glasses usage. Socialization.

CONSOLER
Correct! We have these on record for
you as well! We find the main culprit
of SABs and these behaviors in
particular to be sheer boredom. As
such, we are downloading five hundred
credits redeemable for any
subselection of movies, games, or
other virtual activities.

LIBBY
Five hundred?

CUT TO:

TOBY
No thank you.

CUT TO:

CONSOLER
Five hundred. That's five hundred new movies. Five hundred new games. Five hundred rolls on Slots. Five hundred non-mandated appointments with the Consoler should one desire, Libby.

LIBBY
Five hundred...

CUT TO:

TOBY
No thank you.

Toby takes his glasses off.

STAGE ON

Consoler smiles in an overly friendly manner.

CONSOLER
We welcome your patronage.

TOBY (ONSTAGE)
Libby? Libby?

LIBBY
Toby?

SCREEN OFF

...
...
...
...
...
...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

FADE TO SCREEN

INT. TOBY'S HOUSE - EVENING

Several tabs automatically open.

GLASSES

Welcome back Libby! We're glad to have
you back. Welcome back-

LIBBY

Check credits.

GLASSES

You have five hundred redeemable
credits. You have-

LIBBY

Redeem credits.

GLASSES

Redeeming credits! Redeeming credits!
Redeeming- Credits redeemed. Please
begin your entertainment.

FADE TO STAGE

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

• • •

• • •

• • •

• • •

• • •

• • •

• • •

• • •

• • •

• • •

• • •

• • •

• • •

• • •

• • •

• • •

• • •

• • •

• • •

• • •

• • •

• • •

• • •

• • •

• • •

• • •

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...
...
...
...

EXT. FOREST PATH - MIDDAY

Toby and Libby are on a forest path, a KIGHT and his PRINCESS.

TOBY
I'm at your command.

LIBBY
What was that?

TOBY
Noise from the bushes!

LIBBY
We must hurry on!

TOBY
I'll investigate, your highness.

LIBBY
Please, stay with me.

TOBY
Don't worry, Queen Libby!

Toby takes off into the forest.

LIBBY
Sir Toby? Are you there?

Toby jumps out from the forest in full pirate garb.

TOBY
Yarrr! What you say, Captain?

EXT. PIRATE SHIP - EVENING

The screen morphs into a pirate ship with Toby and Libby as pirates on board.

LIBBY
I say, hoist the sail!

TOBY
Hoisting the sail, Captain Libby!

Toby hoists the sail Libby climbs to the front of the pirate ship and poses.

LIBBY
Set course for uncharted lands!

TOBY
Setting course for new lands!

LIBBY
Arrr, seize the open seas!

TOBY
Across the ocean blue! Yarrr!

Libby whips around to Toby, dressed in a doctors outfit.

LIBBY
Now to check your reflexes.

INT. DOCTORS OFFICE - MIDDAY

The screen morphs into a doctors office. Toby dressed in hospital garb.

TOBY
Sorry, it's my first time-

LIBBY
It's natural to be scared.

Libby hits Toby's knee with a percussion hammer. It jolts.

LIBBY
Good! Now the next knee.

Libby hits Toby's other knee with a percussion hammer. It jolts.

LIBBY
Very good! Now your heart.

Libby checks Toby's heart with a stethoscope. There is noticeable space between the stethoscope and Toby's chest. Toby takes the stethoscope and presses it against his chest.

LIBBY
And that is perfectly okay too.

Toby stands up, suddenly in a high society tuxedo.

TOBY
Madam, may I have this dance?

INT. BALLROOM - NIGHT

The screen morphs into a ballroom. Libby wears a beautiful ball gown.

LIBBY
I'm afraid I don't know how.

TOBY
Neither do I, neither do I.

Toby and Libby dance, ballroom style, imperfectly. The screen morphs into a ballroom.

TOBY
To share. To explore. To listen.

LIBBY
To want; to need. To create.

LIBBY & TOBY
To live.

Libby and Toby embrace.

SCREEN OFF

...
...
...
...
...
...
...
...
...
...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

SCREEN ON

EXT. ESTATE GROUNDS - MIDDAY

Toby and Libby in Jacobian garb on vibrant estate grounds.

LIBBY

This betrayal cannot be undone!

TOBY

It was a simple mistake-

LIBBY

Draw your weapon!

TOBY

Do you intend to fight me?

LIBBY

Draw your weapon!

TOBY

If I must.

(Dropping character.)

Have you made the weapons yet?

SCREEN OFF

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

SCREEN ON

EXT. ESTATE GROUNDS - MIDDAY

Toby and Libby in Jacobian garb on vibrant estate grounds. Swords are now sheathed at the characters sides.

LIBBY

This betrayal cannot be undone!

TOBY
It was a simple mistake-

LIBBY

TOBY
Do you intend to fight me?

LIBBY
Draw your weapon!

TOBY
If I must.

Toby and Libby unsheathe the swords.

TOBY
First blood?

LIBBY
To the death!

TOBY
A bit much for a simple-

LIBBY
To the death!

Libby charges at Toby, Toby effortlessly parries. A whirlwind of blades ensues, blocked every time.

LIBBY
Ha!

TOBY
Fwa!

LIBBY
Ya!

TOBY
Ka-pa!

LIBBY
Hu-zah!

TOBY
Ta-dah!

LIBBY
Va-vah!

Libby cuts Toby along the waist. Toby looks up at Libby; betrayal filling his eyes.

On stage: Libby hits Toby in the stomach with the stick.

TOBY
Ugh.

SCREEN OFF

• • •

• • •

• • •

• • •

• • •

• • •

• • •

• • •

• • •

• • •

• • •

• • •

• • •

• • •

• • •

• • •

• • •

• • •

• • •

• • •

• • •

• • •

• • •

• • •

• • •

• • •

• • •

• • •

• • •

• • •

• • •

• • •

• • •

• • •

• • •

• • •

• • •

• • •

• • •

• • •

• • •

• • •

• • •

• • •

• • •

• • •

• • •

• • •

SCREEN ON

INT. CONSOLER'S OFFICE - SUNSET

CONSOLES sits in the same rocking chair. Libby sits on the same couch.

CONSOLER

Welcome back Libby! I'm so glad you returned! Please, take a thousand credits to celebrate.

LIBBY
Thousand credits?

Toby hold Libby's hand tighter.

CONSOLER
This is a one time deal! As well as a thousand credits, please take a complimentary new pair of glasses. I'm so glad you returned!

Libby considers this.

LIBBY
Alone.

STAGE OFF

LIBBY
Question.

CONSOLER
Are you sure you would like to ask a question? Any command other than confirmation will lead to the termination of this deal!

LIBBY
Question.

CONSOLER
Are you sure-

LIBBY
Question.

CONSOLER
Are you-

LIBBY
Question!

CONSOLER
State your query.

LIBBY
What happened?

CONSOLER
Unclear question, please try again.

LIBBY
What happened?

CONSOLER
Unclear question-

LIBBY
What happened!?

The Consoler glitches for a moment. It returns, no longer all smiles.

CONSOLER
You did.

LIBBY
What?

CONSOLER
We did.

LIBBY
I don't-

CONSOLER
They did. It did. I did. Wrong question.

LIBBY
What is the right question?

The Consoler glitches again, returning to its normal smiley self.

CONSOLER
Sorry! You have hit your limit of one question! Please-

LIBBY
Explain!

CONSOLER
Sorry! You have hit-

LIBBY
Clear tabs.

CONSOLER
Are you sure you would like to clear tabs? We-

LIBBY
Clear tabs.

CONSOLER
Are you sure-

LIBBY
Confirm: clear tabs.

The Consoler and the Consoler office disappears, revealing a worried Toby watching Libby.

LIBBY
Open camera.

Libby looking into the camera.

LIBBY
Start video.

A 3, 2, 1 flashes across the screen.

LIBBY
Hello everyone! You might not recognize me because you may not have seen my face! But I'm Libby, partner of Toby. You may have noticed the two of us haven't been online much recently! Well, the two of us have been planning a live movie. A movie, but live, in front of you! With us as actors! Attached to this video you'll find the location. We really hope you'll see it and support us! We'll see you there!

FADE TO STAGE

...

...

...

...

...

• • •

• • •

• • •

• • •

• • •

• • •

• • •

• • •

• • •

• • •

• • •

• • •

• • •

• • •

• • •

• • •

• • •

• • •

• • •

• • •

• • •

• • •

• • •

• • •

• • •

• • •

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

BLACKOUT