

FADE IN:

Tom and Mary sit at a table, working on a puzzle. The puzzle's box sits nearby. When completed, the puzzle will depict a doctor. Tom picks a piece.

MARY

I think it's the top.

Tom places the piece near the top of the puzzle.

TOM

I like the doctor.

MARY

He's an ear, nose, and throat doctor.

TOM

He's been in a lot of shows.

MARY

And he looks like that guy.

TOM

Then he was, I think he was, uh, one of the major war criminals at the Nuremberg trials.

MARY

His lover has a scar on her face -- really interested in this practice of scarring your lover's face as a branding.

TOM

Oh, they're not scars. They're facial features.

MARY

No, I thought that-

TOM

You're just like your mom.

MARY

She's a borg, right?

TOM

She's part borg.

Tom finds a particular piece of the puzzle and slides it across the table to Mary.

TOM (CONT'D)

That's, um, something I thought you might wanna take a quick look at.

MARY

I'll see if I can fit it in.

Mary tries to place the piece in a spot where it does not belong.

MARY (CONT'D)

Oops.

TOM

That's right! Yes! Good one, Mary!

MARY

I know, I looked at it, I just didn't have the chance to like really look at it.

Tom stands up suddenly, knocking his chair over backwards.

TOM

Oh god, how human life is full of pain and misery.

MARY

I wasn't prepared for this.

TOM

Scarcely one misfortune has ended when we are overcome by another.

MARY

This is bullshit.

TOM

If that's how it goes, then the wilderness is far more comforting.

MARY

Hi. Could we stop now--

TOM

Conclude my life in the meditation of divine things as the hermit had done. And so, forgo the company of all humans.

MARY

Kay, let's...let's wrap this up.

TOM

Yeah, but, um, you were- you started talking about scarring the face-

A moment. Mary laughs. They finish the puzzle, but one piece has gone missing.

MARY

We'll just leave that one open.

TOM

That's pretty much how I do it.

A moment and then Tom takes the puzzle apart.

TOM (CONT'D)

I dismantled it. It was so boring.

The two look at each other.

MARY

Let's watch TV.

TOM

I wanna see myself.

Tom moves to a mirror on the wall and begins molding his face into different expressions.

MARY

Keep going. Keep going. Keep going.  
Keep going. Keep going.

TOM

You wanna watch some more? Or do

you want to watch something else?

MARY

I don't wanna watch that. I want to watch something else.

TOM

Okay, well, you go do it.

Mary moves to sit on the couch. She lifts a remote and turns on the television. Tom's still stands in front of the mirror and his body blocks Mary's view of the television.

FADE OUT.