

SCRIPT TITLE

Written by

Name of First Writer

Based on, If Any

Address
Phone Number

13 WAYS TO SCREW UP YOUR COLLEGE INTERVIEW

BEN, 17, Male

INTERVIEWER 1, 20's, NA

Interviewer 1 is interviewing BEN. They are in mid laugh.

BEN

And the entire audience is
COMPLETELY drenched!

INTERVIEWER 1

Oh man! Wow!

BEN

Needless to say that was the LAST
time I ever went to Sea World.

The laughter peters out.

INTERVIEWER 1

Well I've gotta tell you Ben,
everything looks great. Solid
SAT's, GPA high above our school's
average, and your essay was... well
to be honest, quit moving.

BEN

Well, this is such a great
university, I'd be honored to
attend.

They stand up and shake hands.

INTERVIEWER 1

Hey, we'd be lucky to have you.
Are you applying to any other
schools?

BEN

Nope. Just here.

INTERVIEWER 1

Oh, okay, great. Great.

Beat.

BEN

So...

INTERVIEWER 1

Uh...yes?

BEN

I'm in then?

INTERVIEWER 1

Well, no. I mean not yet. I have to pass this along to my supervisors and...

Ben releases his hand and sits down. Has a cold, calculating look on his face.

INTERVIEWER 1 (CONT'D)

It's a process, you know, I can't officially -

BEN

(dead pan and intense)
Sit down.

INTERVIEWER 1

What?

BEN

Sit down, won't you?

Interviewer 1 sits down.

INTERVIEWER 1

Is there a problem?

BEN

That depends on you. You see, for reasons I can't entirely explain to you at this moment, it is vital that I attend this University. I've been meticulously planning for this day, years of SAT prep, AP classes, all in the hopes of being accepted. I was intending to hear an answer today.

INTERVIEWER 1

Well, I'm sorry, I...don't have the authority to just let you in right now.

BEN

There are forces at play here friend, forces that you cannot possibly comprehend.

(MORE)

BEN (CONT'D)

But trust me, it is very vital, and not just for me, but for the entire student body and faculty that I am enrolled for the fall semester. Many lives hang in the balance. You don't want to be held responsible for the loss of life, do you?

INTERVIEWER 1

Of course not...but...how is me letting you in today going to save lives?

BEN

The world is a series of connections and plans, every human being affects another, every decision has a consequence, and this decision...this decision will be the most important one you'll ever make.

INTERVIEWER 1

Ben, you're being incredibly vague and...besides, it's not as simple as "me letting you in."

BEN

An oral agreement is legally binding in this state. So, in fact, it is that simple.

INTERVIEWER 1

Look, what I can tell you is that it's practically a done deal, I'm going to give you a great recommendation, and with your stats

-

BEN

THAT'S NOT....what I'm asking for.

Tense beat.

INTERVIEWER 1

Ben, let's not ruin what was a great interview by -

BEN

I'm not leaving until I get my answer.

INTERVIEWER 1

Well you're going to have to
because I have another prospective
coming in at one.

BEN

No you don't. You're four o'clock
cancelled this morning. You don't
have another appointment until
Rebecca Smith at 4:45.

Beat. Interviewer 1 is no kinda freaked out.

INTERVIEWER 1

How did you...did you break into my
e-mail or something?

Ben looks straight ahead.

INTERVIEWER 1 (CONT'D)

Okay, you know what, I'm not sure
what happened here, but I'm going
to have to call security.

Interviewer 1 picks up the phone. He clicks the receiver a
couple of times.

INTERVIEWER 1 (CONT'D)

Hello I...hello, hello?

BEN

Phone troubles?

Interviewer 1 slowly puts the phone down. He gets up and
backs away.

BEN (CONT'D)

Doors locked. And we're ten
stories up so the windows wouldn't
be a very... safe option either.

INTERVIEWER 1

Alright, who are you?

BEN

A name is but a label, and I have
many labels but that's not
important right now. What's
important is that you, tell me,
right now... exactly what I was
hoping to hear.

INTERVIEWER 1

Ben if I could I would, it's just -

The lights go out. Ben immediately turns a flashlight, under-lighting his face. When Interviewer 1 talks, he points the light on him.

BEN

It's only an outage friend.
Circuits break all the time.

INTERVIEWER 1

Please, I don't have any real
authority. An acceptance from me
would be meaningless -

BEN

Then there's no reason not to say
it.

INTERVIEWER 1

Why are you doing this?

BEN

I'm not doing this, you're doing
this. And it can all go away with
three little words -

INTERVIEWER 1

But it won't -

BEN

NO! THOSE AREN'T THE RIGHT WORDS!
SAY IT! JUST SAY IT!

INTERVIEWER 1

Okay! I... you've been accepted.
You've been accepted. You'll be
enrolled in the fall semester upon
hearing of your acceptance.

The lights come back on. Ben turns the lights off. A tense
moment, then...

BEN

(switching back)

Oh man! That's great! I can't
even tell you how... I gotta call
my mom. It was so nice to meet
you.

Ben cheerily leaves the room. Interviewer 1 collapses into
his seat.

End of scene.