

In the Event of a Zombie Outbreak

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This is an original screenplay I wrote for a short 5 minute submission film (for "On the Lot"). Ted the Zombie has been a character a friend and I just fell in love with. This won't be the only cameo of my beloved Ted.

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1. Scene 1, Act 1

"In the Event of a Zombie Outbreak"

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The scene opens to a meeting of the ZAS, the Zombie Awareness Society, in which the characters are discussing what to do in the event of a zombie outbreak. The few MEMBERS are sitting awkwardly on a couch while their LEADER lectures them on the undead. Banners and posters hang around the room: ZAS, No Zombies, Always Be Prepared, No Place is Safe, Only Safer, etc, etc, etc... During the LEADER's lecturing, there are short clips of TED THE ZOMBIE making cookies. (NOTE: The MEMBERS have no distinction at the present time, but after filming, I will make them all have separate names. As of now, use your imagination.)

LEADER
Close-up.

I'd like to welcome you all to our first meeting of the Zombie Awareness Society.

Cut to a view of the couch where the MEMBERS are sitting. One begins a quiet applause; the others just sit there, almost seeming a bit unlikely to be attending a sort of "Zombie Awareness Rally". The LEADER continues his welcoming speech.

LEADER
Zombies pose a dangerous and constant threat to the living and thus we must be prepared in the event of a zombie outbreak.

TED's first appearance. He's beginning to add various ingredients to a bowl; flour, chocolate chips, stuff...

LEADER
The undead lurk everywhere--

MEMBER
Everywhere?

LEADER

Everywhere... Anyone can be infected--

MEMBER

Anyone?

LEADER

He talks quickly, counting on his fingers.

Anyone; your mom, your dad, your sister, your brother, your neighbor

MEMBER

My cat?

LEADER

A bit surprised at this comment.

Uh... no... no zombie animals.

MEMBER

Well, then--uh-- how can we tell if someone s a zombie or not?

LEADER

That"s a good question. Well, first, the zombie looks kinda dead and scabby and stuff... They show no emotion, no fear, nothing.

TED is continuing to mix in ingredients until he notices something on the box or recipe. He looks into the pantry then to the counter. There"s a nearly empty sugar container.

TED THE ZOMBIE

He does a little zombie-moan.

Sssuuuggggggaaaarrrrrrr...

Cough, cough.

LEADER

And that"s why we are here; if they aren"t scared of us, then why should we be scared of them? As long as we are prepared, we can survive even the most brutal attacks of the undead. So then, what do we do when there is a report of a zombie outbreak?

MEMBER

We... run?

LEADER

That"s only going to get you so far...

MEMBER

We... take refuge in a mall "cause it works in the movies.

MEMBER

And there are an infinite number of supplies to last us a long time!

LEADER

Yes! Perfect! Good, very good.

TED walks out of his house and onto the sidewalk. He passes his mailbox which reads "TED". He walks down the sidewalk&

LEADER

Weapons... We need to talk about weapons. Now there is a wide variety of weapons we can choose from when battling the living dead... like guns. Automatics, semi-automatics& no good. They're a waste of valuable ammunition. Keep it simple with a sniper rifle and shotgun. All you need is one good shot to the head. No wasted amo. You're gonna need every bit of it in an outbreak. What are some others?

As the MEMBERS list, they hold up their corresponding weapon of choice. (There will be more and possibly changes to this list, depending on what available resources we have...)

MEMBER

Hatchet.

MEMBER

Shovel.

MEMBER

Machete.

MEMBER

Samurai sword.

MEMBER

Lightsaber.

LEADER

Frowns at this answer and reprimands the MEMBER.

...Um... no... They're not Wookies, they re zombies and need to be taken seriously.

Enter TED. He is holding a measuring cup.

TED

Uh, howdy neighbor. Your door was open so, uh, yeah-- Could I borrow a cup of sugar?

There is a long pause. The group is in shock of the newcomer. TED seems just as confused. The camera goes from the group, to TED, repeating this for a while. Then the group starts screaming hysterically. TED screams, too, scared of their surprising reaction. Camera once again goes from group to TED and back and forth for a while until TED faints. The group stands and stares for yet another while.

MEMBER

So, uh... anyone wanna get a coffee?

They exit frame. The camera fades. Roll credits.