

How to Break Up [Draft]

Written By

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Fade In:

INT. BEN'S HOUSE. DAY

BEN an emotional wreck of a teenage human being is rolling around on the floor in his underpants.

BEN (V.O)  
Every good break up starts with a  
good relationship.

EXT. PUBLIC PARK. DAY

Ben is sitting on the swings with EMMA, a smiley and talkative girl, who is also his girlfriend.

BEN (V.O)  
You find someone (beat) you like  
her

INT. RESTAURANT. NIGHT

Ben and Emma are sitting facing each other in a restaurant.

BEN (V.O)  
You like her a lot

INT. BEN'S HOUSE. NIGHT

Ben and Emma are dancing around the house together.

BEN (V.O)  
Be happy with her

INT. BEN'S HOUSE. DAY

Ben and Emma are facing each other with party hats and those wierd little birthday horn extender things.

INT. BEN'S LOUNGE. NIGHT

Ben and Emma are sitting watching a movie under blankets on the couch.

EXT. BEN'S HOUSE. NIGHT

Ben and Emma are sitting by a fire under blankets.

EXT. CITY LOOKOUT. SUNSET

Ben and Emma are sitting on a hillside looking over the city

BEN (V.O)  
Take her to your favourite places

EXT. BEACH. DAY

Ben and Emma are sittinng beside the water, looking out over it

EXT. BEN'S HOUSE. DAY

Ben and Emma are sitting in a hammock together

BEN (V.O)  
Be happy with life and how things  
are going

INT. BEN'S BATHROOM. DAY

Ben and Emma are sitting facing each other in an empty bath tub talking

BEN (V.O)  
Think you've found the one

EXT. TOWN. DAY

Ben and Emma are standing relatively far apart. Only Emma is talking.

BEN (V.O)  
Find out you're not the one  
Find out you're not the only one  
Break up

INT. BEN'S HOUSE. DAY

Ben is rolling around on the floor in his underpants, being an emotional wreck.

BEN (V.O)  
Be an emotional wreck

INT. BEN'S BATHROOM. DAY

Ben is sitting in a bubble bath, half submerged.

BEN (V.O)  
Feel sorry for yourself

INT. BUS. NIGHT

Ben is sitting alone on the bus, face pressed against the window

EXT. TOWN. DAY

Ben is standing in front of another couple who is making out.

BEN (V.O)  
Feel lonely

INT. BEN'S HOUSE. DAY

Ben is staring face to face with a 'Hang in There' cat poster.

BEN (V.O)  
Briefly get your shit together

Ben rips the poster off the wall.

EXT. TOWN. DAY

Ben is face to face with an anonymous friend (face unseen). They are talking and Ben acts fine.

BEN (V.O)  
Tell people you are okay

EXT. TOWN. NIGHT

Ben is ranting to an anonymous stranger (face unseen). He is very animated and obviously angry.

BEN (V.O)  
Be not okay

EXT. PUBLIC PARK. DAY

Ben is chasing birds through a park, screaming wildly.

BEN (V.O)  
Be an angry person

INT. BEN'S BATHROOM. NIGHT

Ben is crying in the shower

BEN (V.O)  
Be a sad person

EXT. TOWN. DAY

Ben is standing with his phone looking pissed off and animated

BEN (V.O)  
Freak out at your ex on the phone

Ben is sitting on the ground with his phone

BEN (V.O) (CONT'D)  
Apologise

INT. BEN'S BEDROOM. NIGHT

Ben is sitting in bed

BEN  
(wierdly anguished screaming cry  
of an emotional wreck)

INT. BEN'S KITCHEN. NIGHT

Ben is making toast. It pops up. Ben burns his hand and  
throws the toast on to the floor.

BEN (V.O)  
Be easily upset

BEN  
Goddamnit! (indistinct yelling  
noise)

INT. BEN'S LOUNGE. DAY

Ben is sitting in between his friends on the couch. His  
friends are playing video games.

BEN (V.O)  
Get in touch with your friends

INT. BEN'S LOUNGE. NIGHT

Ben is sitting in the same position on his couch in nothing  
but a blanket.

BEN (V.O)  
Get in touch with yourself

INT. BEN'S HOUSE. NIGHT

Ben is wandering the house like a zombie in a blanket,  
making anguished moaning noises.

BEN (V.O)  
Feel sorry for yourself

INT. BEN'S BEDROOM. NIGHT

Ben is sitting on his bed watching cartoons on his laptop

BEN (V.O)  
Binge watch various seasons of  
various children's cartoons

INT. BEN'S BEDROOM. DAY

Ben is sitting in various different places around his room.

BEN (V.O)  
Spend to much time in your room

INT. BEN'S HOUSE. NIGHT

There is a cheesecake sitting on the table. Ben eats all of it.

BEN (V.O)  
Eat an entire cheesecake on your  
own

INT. BEN'S BATHROOM. NIGHT

Ben is sitting on the toilet eating a bag of chips.

BEN (V.O)  
Wonder what it's like to have some  
self respect

Ben finishes the bag of chips and looks into it

BEN (V.O) (CONT'D)  
Wonder what you are doing with  
your life

INT. BEN'S TOILET

There is POO BEN, a small poo sized version of Ben, inside the toilet itself

BEN (V.O)  
Feel like a piece of shit (beat)

POO BEN  
Hey (nonchalant)

BEN (V.O)  
Try not to think about it

Ben closes the toilet seat on tiny poo Ben

EXT. PUBLIC PARK. DAY

Ben is putting flowers in his now ex-girlfriend Emma's hair

BEN (V.O)  
Try not to think about her (beat)

Ben is sitting cross legged in front of Emma with a goofy smile

BEN (V.O) (CONT'D)  
How happy you were

INT. BEN'S HOUSE. DAY

Ben is sitting on the floor cross legged reading through letters

BEN (V.O)  
Read through the letters she'd  
written to you  
  
Get upset

Ben rips up the letters and pictures

BEN (V.O) (CONT'D)  
Feel like a piece of shit

Ben is cross legged putting the letters and pictures back together

INT. BEN'S HOUSE. NIGHT

Ben pulls his head into frame and stares at the camera before screaming.

BEN (V.O)  
Feel like you are slowly going  
insane

Ignore it

INT. BEN'S BATHROOM. DAY

Ben is standing in the mirror with shaving foam on his face, staring at himself.

BEN (V.O)  
Decide it's time to get your shit  
together

INT. BEN'S BEDROOM. DAY

Ben is shifting furniture around in his room

BEN (V.O)  
Rearrange your room because maybe  
the Ben who has his desk in this  
corner will feel less shit than  
the Ben who has his desk in that  
corner

EXT. TOWN. DAY

Ben is standing in town and sees his ex-girlfriend. They  
make small talk.

BEN (V.O)  
See your ex in town and pretend  
that everything is great  
  
Overuse the word great  
  
Here about how her and lover boy  
are doing great

EXT. BEN'S HOUSE. DAY

Ben is punching a punching bag whilst crying manically. Ben  
ends up hugging the punching bag.

INT. HAIR SALON. DAY

Ben is sitting in a barber's chair getting a haircut.

BEN (V.O)  
Decide to do something productive

INT. SWIMMING POOL. DAY

Ben is floating face down in the pool, just floating.

BEN (V.O)  
Exercise more

INT. BOOK STORE. DAY

Ben is looking over the self help book section

BEN (V.O)  
Buy a book on breakups

Ben is sitting reading



BEN (V.O) (CONT'D)  
Read about how there's plenty more  
fish in the sea

EXT. A BOAT. DAY

Ben is sitting on the boat with a fishing rod in the water  
looking bored.

BEN (V.O)  
Decide you've never really liked  
fishing or been very good at it

Ben holds up a small rock fish, looking bored and tired

BEN (V.O) (CONT'D)  
Decide that no self help book  
starts with the author reading a  
self help book

Ben throws the book into the water

INT. MOVIE THEATRE. DAY

Ben is sitting in the dark with a large box of popcorn,  
crying

BEN (V.O)  
Cry through a Disney film

INT. BEN'S HOUSE. DAY

Ben is standing in front of the mirror putting on a  
ridiculous shirt

Get yourself a "fun" shirt

INT. HOUSE PARTY. NIGHT

Ben is at a house party dancing terribly with everyone  
avoiding him

BEN (V.O)  
Go out more

Meet new people

INT. HOUSE PARTY BATHROOM. NIGHT

Ben is sitting on the floor or in the empty bath with KATE,  
the friend of a friend who is talkative and happy

BEN (V.O)  
Have a meaningful conversation in  
someone elses bathroom with a  
friend of a friend

INT. HOUSE PARTY. NIGHT

Ben is rolling round on the floor and singing loudly

BEN (V.O)  
Debate becoming an alcoholic

INT. HOUSE PARTY BATHROOM. NIGHT

Ben is kneeling over a toilet, with his head in it

BEN (V.O)  
Decide not to

EXT. TOWN ALLEYWAY. NIGHT

Ben is standing in shadows talking to a stranger

BEN (V.O)  
Debate becoming a drug addict

EXT. PUBLIC PARK. DAY

Ben wakes up in the middle of a public park with a  
person/police officer looking over him.

BEN (V.O)  
Decide it's impractical

INT. BEN'S BEDROOM. NIGHT

Ben is sitting with his back to the camera, crying

BEN (V.O)  
Be a mess

INT. BEN'S BATHROOM. DAY

Ben is looking in the mirror shaving his hairless chest

BEN (V.O)  
Decide it's time to make something  
of yourself

INT. SHOP. DAY

Ben is standing behind a store counter with a shitty uniform  
looking shitty.

BEN (V.O)  
Get a part time dead end job  
instead

Have an existential crisis

Ignore it

INT. HOUSE PARTY BATHROOM. NIGHT

Ben is thinking about the houseparty and sitting in the  
empty bath talking to Kate

BEN (V.O)  
Find yourself thinking about Kate,  
the friend of a friend that you  
met the other night

INT. HOUSE PARTY. NIGHT

Ben is talking to Kate who is laughing and smiling

INT. RESTAURANT. NIGHT

Ben and Kate are sitting in a restaurant facing each other

BEN (V.O)  
Take her out

EXT. BEACH. DAY

Ben and Kate are sitting by the water eating ice creams

BEN (V.O)  
Take her out again

EXT. PUBLIC PARK. DAY

Ben and Kate are playing on the swings at a park

BEN (V.O)  
And again

EXT. BEN'S HOUSE. NIGHT

Ben and Kate are sitting by a fire under a blanket

INT. BEN'S HOUSE. NIGHT

Ben and Kate are dancing round the house together

INT. BEN'S HOUSE. NIGHT

Ben and Kate are watching a movie together on the couch

EXT. BEN'S HOUSE. DAY

Ben and Kate are sitting in a hammock together

EXT. BEN'S HOUSE. DAY

Ben and Kate are outside eating together

EXT. CITY LOOKOUT. SUNSET

Ben and Kate are sitting on a hillside looking over the city

BEN (V.O)

Talk about the future

(CONT'D)

Wonder what you'll studying

Where you'll be studying

(CONT'D)

Whether you'll be studying at all

Where you'll be living

Who you'll be living with

Wonder what you'll end up doing

Wonder if all those people are as  
lost as you or if they know what  
they are doing

Decide that they probably don't

Decide that that's okay

Talk about it being okay

Talk about how she knows where she  
is going

About how it's what she's always  
wanted

Talk about how it's a new start  
for both of you

Talk about how it will be okay

Be not okay

INT. BEN'S HOUSE. DAY

Ben is rolling round on the floor in his undies

BEN

Agggggggggggggghggghhhhhhhhhhhhhhg

BEN (V.O)

Be an emotional wreck

BEN

Agggggggggggggggggggghhhhhhhhhhhhhh

FADE OUT

(CONT'D)

(CONT'D)