

THE PHONE-A-THON

"September: Freshman Year"

Written by

Conor Hogan

In Association With

The Ohio University Foundation

Conor Hogan
27 Mound Street
Athens, OH 45701
614.403.9938
Conor.Patrick.Hogan@gmail.com

Jennifer Bowie
Director of Development
The Ohio University Foundation
210 McGuffey Hall
Athens, OH 45701
740.497.2987
Bowiej@ohio.edu

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THE PHONE-A-THON

"SEPTEMBER: FRESHMAN YEAR"

FADE IN:

INT. PHONE-A-THON - DAY

JAKE (college senior, small town bloke, boy-next-door charm) sits at a phone console with his headset. The others who work at the Phone-a-thon sit around him.

JAKE

Hi, this is Jake calling on behalf of Ohio University. Do you have a moment to talk about our incoming Freshman this year and how you can help make their first year here a better place?

CALLER 1 (O.S.)

Sure.

JAKE

Well, we have scholarships we offer to low-income but high quality students who need help making it through the first school year. Would you be interested in making a donation ...

FADE TO:

INT. PHONE-A-THON - INTERVIEW - DAY

JAKE

Uh, my name is Jake. I'm a senior at Ohio University this year and I've been working at the Phone-a-thon since I was a sophomore.

INT. PHONE-A-THON - DAY

Footage of Jake on the phone.

JAKE (V.O.)

I think a lot of people would say our job is easy, but I disagree. It's difficult to make people hear and understand how passionate you are about your eventual alma mater. But, we are. It's our job.

Footage of SUE (college senior, quintessential cheerleader-type, probably watches lots of Laguna Beach) having difficulty working the phones.

JAKE (V.O.) (CONT'D)

Sue is another member of our phone-a-thon crew. She's great at talking with alumni. Not the best at figuring out the phones, but, you know. I, uh, kind of, well ... nevermind.

Footage of DAN (college senior, definitely a jock, chiseled good looks) charming someone over the phone.

JAKE (V.O.) (CONT'D)

Then there is Dan. Not the biggest fan of him. I have a feeling it's mutual. He's currently dating Sue which--

INT. PHONE-A-THON - INTERVIEW - DAY

JAKE

Is great! Honestly. I'm sure they're a very happy couple. I, uh, wish them no turmoil. Or grief. No negative feelings their way. At all.

INT. PHONE-A-THON - BREAKROOM - DAY

LIZ (college senior, bookworm type, not quiet but not loud) walks in and sees Jake. He sits at the table eating a candy bar. Liz stands in the doorway and swoons over him.

LIZ (V.O.)

Me? Like Jake?

INT. PHONE-A-THON - INTERVIEW - DAY

LIZ

No. Haha. No, no, no-no-no. Hahaha.

INT. PHONE-A-THON - BREAKROOM - DAY

Liz continues to stare at Jake. Jake laughs as he sees the reflection of Liz staring at him through the vending machine.

JAKE

Hey there Liz.

Liz slips in the doorway and walks in embarrassed.

LIZ

Hey ... bucko.

INT. PHONE-A-THON - INTERVIEW - DAY

LIZ

Okay. Maybe I have a tiny crush. Just eentsy-weensty. But I know Jake has a thing for Sue so, it's all null and void anyways. It's easier to, you know, be a friend. A nice and supportive friend.

INT. PHONE-A-THON - BREAKROOM - DAY

Sue and Dan walk into the breakroom where Jake and Liz are already sitting. They pull up seats.

SUE

All this talk of Freshman year ... makes these memories rush back, y'know?

JAKE

Yeah, kinda.

DAN

Ha. No.

Jake and Dan share a look.

LIZ

I remember my first day of class--

CUT TO:EXT. WOODED AREA - NIGHT

LIZ

Hello? Anyone? I'm looking for Morton Hall? Room 202? *Hello?!*

Long pause. Liz looks from left to right.

LIZ (CONT'D)

I'm not even on campus anymore ...

INT. PHONE-A-THON - BREAKROOM - DAY

Everyone's staring at Liz.

LIZ

Well. I guess it wasn't that dramatic.

DAN

I did *NOT* enjoy my freshman year--

CUT TO:

INT. DORM ROOM - DAY

Dan looks shocked and frightened walking into a small, messy, disgusting room which blasts loud music. A flashy, metal-loving ROOMMATE greets Dan.

DAN'S ROOMMATE
(screaming)
Hey roomie. I can just tell we're going to be best buds.

DAN
WHAT?!

INT. PHONE-A-THON - BREAKROOM - DAY

DAN
And that's why I can't hear any frequency above 200 Htz.

SUE
(high-pitched)
You're so funny!

Dan clearly does not hear Sue say this.

SUE (CONT'D)
Well I had a great freshman year--

CUT TO:

INT. SORORITY - NIGHT

A bunch of girls are clad in pajamas giggling.

SORORITY GIRL 1
Let's watch Laguna Beach!!!

All the girls give a united giggle and run to turn the TV on. Sue gives a big smile.

FADE TO:

INT. PHONE-A-THON - BREAKROOM

The same big smile. The other three look at Sue queerly.

LIZ
What about you Jake?

DAN
Yeah, what was your Freshman year like.

JAKE
Pretty normal.

SUE
C'mon. Spill it.

JAKE
Well--

We begin to CUT TO: --- but then VIC (manager, arrogant, cocky, generally unlikable) breaks up the party.

VIC
Get back to work! All y'all!

JAKE (V.O.)
Oh. And that's Vic. Our manager.

INT. PHONE-A-THON - INTERVIEW

JAKE
About the only thing we all agree on:
we *don't* like him.

INT. PHONE-A-THON - DAY

All four kids sit down at their respective phones.

JAKE (V.O.)
So, this is where we work.

The four kids put on their headsets.

LIZ (V.O.)
The Phone-a-thon.

The four kids press a button on their phone.

DAN (V.O.)
Hope you enjoy getting to know us.

The four kids take a deep breath.

SUE (V.O.)
We'll make sure to keep you on the up-
and-up

EVERYONE
Hi, this is (INSERT NAME) calling on
behalf of Ohio University.

END OF SHOW