

JUSTIN

Don't you know that's never going to happen, Marc?

MARC

Ha! I'm gonna steal your crown one of these days, Justin.

JUSTIN

Keep dreaming, bud.

INT. JUSTIN'S KITCHEN - LATER

Justin, wearing a robe and towel drying his hair after showering steps back into his kitchen.

A 3-D PRINTER is printing what appears to be vegetables over scrambled eggs on a plate.

INT. JUSTIN'S LIVING ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Justin takes a healthy bite of his omelet while seated on his white faux leather sofa.

An overly exuberant NEWS ANCHOR appears.

NEWS ANCHOR

Hello and good day. In continuing coverage of the latest virus to ravage the country, baffled health experts are warning citizens to stay vigilant and stay home if possible.

Justin's face grows serious and he pauses from his breakfast... when he notices a smudge on his glass coffee table. He starts furiously wiping it off.

NEWS ANCHOR (CONT'D)

And now for some late breaking news. It appears that illegal protests turned violent last night when rioters overwhelmed a police unit, killing several officers and making off with sensitive equipment. Authorities suspect criminal gangs are involved and are warning the public that the perpetrators are still at large and considered extremely dangerous.

PING! SOPHIE appears in the corner of the screen.

SOPHIE

Justin, are you watching the news?

Justin nods absently. He is more focussed on the cleanliness of his table.

SOPHIE (CONT'D)

Isn't it so terrible about that attack on the police? I just don't understand why people are so violent.

NEWS ANCHOR

Officials are suggesting the public can make desperately needed donations to aid those officers' families affected by the attack. Simply allocate crypto to 555-0001.

PING! A message from Marc. He appears on the screen next to Sophie.

SOPHIE

Hi, Marc.

MARC

Heyyy. Justin, did you hear about the latest sitch with that medical center?

JUSTIN

(dryly)

How much did you give, Marc?

MARC

Ten thousand.

SOPHIE

Wow, Marc. That's so generous. You know, you are making such a difference. You really should feel so good about that.

MARC

Thanks! You know what the best part is? My social went up by two hundred points.

Justin removes a pair of otherwise ordinary eye glasses from a case and puts them on. These are AR SPECS.

JUSTIN

Lexi, bring up my account.

The rim of his glasses lights up and Justin's SOCIAL SCORE and CRYPTO ACCOUNT materialize holographically in front of him. Justin selects his account which shows a balance of TEN MILLION, FOUR HUNDRED THOUSAND UNITS.

He deftly transfers TWENTY THOUSAND to the number on screen. His account is debited immediately.

MARC

Whoa, buddy! Always got to show me up don't you?

SOPHIE

(excitedly)
Oh, babe!

Justin struggles to suppress a smile.

JUSTIN

You do the best you can, Marc. I'm just fortunate to be able to give a little more.

SOPHIE

You're the best, babe. Aww, I love you. Oh! I've got to go. I'll see you later.

Sophie disappears off the screen. Marc looks at Justin intently.

MARC

What'd that do for your social?

Justin notices his social score increase by three hundred points.

JUSTIN

What?! Only three hundred!

MARC

Ha ha! You're such a jerk.

Justin smirks as Marc laughs. Then, Marc shifts to a more professional posture.

MARC (CONT'D)

You ready for your show today?

JUSTIN

Yep.