



An Educational Resource Exploring Decision Making and Marijuana Use among Young People

CYCLES

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1 INT. OLIN'S BEDROOM - DAY

Small plastic sandwich bag with three joints is sitting on a top shelf of a bookcase.

A hand reaches up and scoops the bag off the shelf. OLIN tucks the bag into his backpack's side pocket.

O in heads out the door.

2 EXT. OLIN'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Olin exits the front door of a modest looking bungalow. He grabs his mountain bike and rides down the street.

OLIN (V.Q.) My name is Q in. I'm just a typical seventeen year old. I do okay at school but I got other stuff going on...

INT. DOUG'S HOUSE REC ROOM - NIGHT

The sound coming from a TV is LOUD. Of in and his friends DOUG and ANDY are sitting together and playing video games.

OLIN (V.O.) I've been smoking pot for about two years. Mostly with my buddies Andy and Doug.

Olin lights it up, takes a puff and passes it to Doug who slowly takes a puff himself.

OLIN (V.O.) It's not something I do all the time but it is the best part of hanging out. Doug's parents are away a lot - so we usually get the whole house to ourselves.

Doug passes the joint to Andy who is just about to take it when, suddenly, they hear the front door OPEN and STEPS upstairs.

DOUG S MOM (O.S.) (muffled) We're home!

DOUG Shit, my parents are here! Take it!

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In a panic they try to air the room Doug tries to get rid of the roaches.

ANDY

Save it!

OLIN (V.O.) But when all else fails -- there's always Doug's car.

INT. DOUG'S TOYOTA - NIGHT

The three sneak out from the house and get in Doug's beaten up Toyota, parked in the back of his house, with it's engine hood propped open.

> CLIN Huh, that was so close!

QLIN (V. Q.)

We know all about the risks that's all they ever talk about.

NARRATOR

Marijuana is harmful to your health. Research shows that short term use can cause loss of motor coordination, sleepiness, difficulties with memory and learning, trouble with thinking and problem solving, increased anxiety and heart rate. Long term use can cause psychotic symptoms, damage to the lungs and heart, and reduce the body's ability to fight lung infections and illness. OLI N

Watching it and thinking: I should be baked right now!

Doug laughs.

ANDY Oh my god, it is so true...

CLI N

It makes me happy, why shouldn't I do it?

ANDY

I read online that people have died more from allergic reactions from peanuts than they have from smoking weed.

OLI N

I hate when they just say "don't do it" and don't have any real argument.

ANDY

It's propaganda.

DOUG

This is ten times better than drinking or cigarettes. Like, hands down.

ANDY

You know what I think it is? I think it's just a social thing.

OLIN Yeah... Like they're times to not smoke weed. But we know when not to do it...

ANDY

Yeah!

OLIN That's a thing... Like before heavy stuff and shit.

DOUG Yeah dude. It's judgement, I guess. (a beat) And not trying to hook younger kids. 6 CONTINUED: (2)

Q in slowly nods.

OLIN Well, it's scary some kids are starting really early.

Andy and Doug agree.

ANDY

Yeah...

7 INT. OLIN'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Qin, with his headphones on, is rolling a joint underneath his desk. He looks up, surprised to see his thirteen year old brother in the reflection behind him Qin spins around and yanks off his headphones.

> OLIN Did you even knock?!

JAIME (scared) I did! You just didn't hear me.

Jaime stares at the joint in Qin's hand.

JAIME (CONT'D)

What's that?

ali n

Nothing!

JAIME Can I try it?

OLIN If mom and dad found out I gave you weed - they'd kill me.

JAIME Just wanna see what it's like.

OLI N

Beatit.

Jaime leaves and Clin takes a deep breath.

EXT. BIKE TRAIL – DAY

8

LOUD music. Clin, Doug and Andy getting ready to ride the bikes.

OLIN (V.O.) The only other thing I'm really into - besides weed - is mountain biking.

OLI N

They bump their fists.

St oked!

OLIN (CONT'D) All for one and one for all!

ANDY

Let's go!

They ride their bikes down the trail.

ANDY (CONT'D)

Hey!

O in edges out Andy and Doug.

ANDY (CONT'D) Doug, Clin, wait up!

Q in and Doug chase each other while leaving Andy behind. Q in makes a few cool moves clearly wowing Doug. Meanwhile Andy is pushing his bike along the trail, alone.

ANDY (CONT'D)

Guys?

EXT. THE RESERVOIR - LATER

Bikes are on the ground and the three friends are siting on the edge of a huge concrete field -- tired but happy. They are sharing a joint.

> ANDY How was the trail, by the way?

Qin laughs.

9

CLIN Ch, fuck... It was fun!

CLIN (CONT'D) I'm sorry you missed it!

ANDY (with sarcasm) Yeah, I'm sorry too! OLIN Welike going fast.

ANDY Well, all for one, one for all - my ass!

Doug and O in laugh.

OLIN Well, there were only two musketeers to begin with.

ANDY The book clearly states that--

DOUG What book, dude?

OLIN It's a book.

ANDY Pay attention to Lit class!

OLIN It's a book: Three Musketeers. The Three Musketeers is the name of the book.

ANDY Yeah! And then the fourth one is the main character of that book.

DOUG It's not cool if there's four.

ANDY What do you--

CLI N

Why isn't cool?

DOUG

I dunno know. Three is such a sweet number.

ANDY You just proved my point though.

OLIN What? What's your point? DCUG That you're stoned as shit?

ANDY That two's not fun! That's the point.

DOUG How 'bout we race and the last one gets kicked out?

ANDY Ch, come on! That was on purpose!

Everybody laughs.

 $\begin{array}{c} \text{OLIN}(V.\ O.\)\\ \text{Good weed and good friends.} \ \text{What}\\ \text{more can I ask for}? \end{array}$

10 INT. SCHOOL HALLWAY - DAY

LISA, an athletic 16 year old is trying to break the lock on a locker. O in slowly approaches her.

OLIN 'Scuse me? What are you doing? OLIN The number on that locker... Is it 1275?

Lisa looks at the plate on the locker.

LI SA

Yeah.

OLIN That's <u>my</u> locker.

Lisa quickly takes a piece of paper out of her pocket, checks the number and looks embarrassed.

LISA (smiling irresistibly) Ocops!

OLIN (V.O.) Turns out, Lisa had just moved form out of town. Her new locker was right next to mine.

Lisa and Clin's lockers sit side by side.

11 EXT. SCHOOL YARD – DAY

Lisa and Q in are sitting on a wall during recess and eating their lunches.

LISA We moved from the Island because of my dad's new job, but, ever since we got here my parents are constantly fighting. Right now, things are pretty tense. (a beat) <u>Pretty</u> tense!

Q in slowly nods, full of understanding.

LISA (CONT'D) Feels good talking to someone who knows how to listen.

Lisa gently smiles at Clin. He smiles back and then glances at Doug and Andy in the distance. Lisa notices that.

> LISA (CONT'D) Are your buddies okay with us hanging out?

CLI N (unconvincing) Ch, yeah.

O in looks over as Doug and Andy make funny faces.

LI SA So, are you coming on Saturday?

CLIN What's on Saturday?

INT. SWIMMING POOL - DAY

Swimming competition is underway. Lisa stands on her starting block focusing on a race ahead, getting her limbs lose. Qin looks from the bleachers.

ANNOUNCER

In lane one, we have Hanna Happeney. In Iane two, Lisa Morris. In Iane three Matilda Sjoberg-Fox

14 CONTINUED:

CLIN Come on, it should be fun.

O in takes a lighter and is about the light the joint but Lisa puts her hand on it.

> LISA I've tried before... I just don't like it.

OLIN Yeah right. Come on! Just one puff?

LISA I know better ways to get high.

OLIN Yeah, like swimming?

LI SA Yeah, swimming and... you.

Lisa moves closer and gives Olin an unexpected, passionate kiss.

FADE OUT.

15 INT. SCHOOL CLASSROOM - DAY

Olin, dreamy-eyed, is looking at Lisa's back as she sits a few desks in front of him

He throws a folded piece of paper at her. Lisa opens it and sees: a smiley face drawn alongside.

Lisa puts her hand in her pocket, turns the phone on, and looks at it under her desk. Messages from O in start popping up:

Clin:

Clin:

Clin:

Li sa:

16 INT. SWIMMING POOL - DAY

Lisa's body floats in the swimming pool. Then Clin appears diving underneath her. He surfaces and tries pulling Lisa down. They jokingly play in the water. Later, exhausted, they are slowly floating, holding hands like there is no one else in the world.

17 EXT. STREET – DAY

Olin and Lisa are walking home together.

OLIN (V.O.) Me and Lisa, we were doing great. And then, one day everything changed.

Lisa suddenly stops and buries her head in $\mbox{Oin}\xspace$ s crying.

LISA (teary) My dad left. No goodbye, nothing... He just left.

O in hugs her awkwardly not sure what to do.

OLIN (V.O.)

OLIN (CONT'D) Hey! It's my turn!

Lisa runs and sits next to O in and takes another puff.

CUT TO.

19 INT. SCHOOL HALLWAY - DAY

The bell RINGS. Clin is waiting by the lockers when Lisa approaches. She looks a bit frazzled – but happy to see him

OLIN How are you doing?

LISA (grabbing her books) Good. Had a great sleep last night.

OLI N

Awesome.

LISA (whispers) Actually, it really helped. 20 INT. OLIN'S BEDROOM - DAY

O in searches high and low for his secret stash of weed. He can't find it anywhere. He opens his door and yells.

OLIN Jaime! (a beat) Jaime! Get over here now!

Jaime slowly shows up.

OLIN (CONT'D) (trying to keep his voice down) Where is it? Did you take it?

Jaime looks guilty. Jaime slowly pulls out the plastic bag of weed from his pocket.

JAIME Just tried it once.

Qin is visibly upset. He snatches the bag from Jaime's hand.

ali n

Shit!

JAIME (CONT'D) I'm sorry okay? It won't do it again. I promise!

OLIN You bet you won't!

Olin glares at Jaime with a mixture of anger and worry.

OLIN (V.O.) It wasn't just Jaime taking my stash that bugged me.

21 INT. SCHOOL HALLWAY - DAY

O in seems distracted when he closes his locker to reveal Lisa rummaging through hers.

OLI N

Hey!

Lisa looks tired, almost not noticing Qin.

CLIN (CONT'D)

What's up?

21 CONTINUED:

LISA Nothing. Just tired.

QLIN Wanna hang out after school? I'm going over to Doug's.

Lisa closes her locker and Clin leans forward to give her a kiss.

LISA I think I'll pass. Kinda just wanna be alone.

22 EXT. STREET NEAR BIKE SHOP - DAY

Olin and Andy are walking down the street.

OLIN She smelled of pot. At 10 am

Andy avoids to comment. Of in stops and looks at Andy.

OLIN (CONT'D) Who gets high alone?

They are in front of a bicycle shop. A sign advertises a parttime job for a biking instructor. Andy points to it, trying to change the subject.

> ANDY Hey, check that out. They may as well put a picture of you up there.

O in looks at the sign.

23 INT. BIKE SHOP - MOMENTS LATER

O in talks with LARRY, the owner, who is arranging the stock on the shelf.

> LARRY It's not just about being good on a bike. You gotta be good with the kids too, you know... Teach them something.

OLIN (half-joking) I've taught my younger brother everything he knows.

LARRY We'll see. Larry seems to like *Q*in's confidence.

24 INT. OLIN'S HOUSE - EVENING

OLIN (PHONE)

What?

LI SA

OLI N

Everybody knows how to pedal? You've done a little bit of biking, right? You're not gonna, like, fall off and... sue me? Right, okay good.

Kids are standing and listening to Olin while Larry, the bike shop owner, stops for a moment to watch Olin from a distance. He likes what he sees.

> OLIN (CONT'D) OK. All right. So if you squeeze the right trigger, anybody tell me what break that is? Yeah.

> > KI D

Rear.

OLI N

Good one. And the other one is obviously, the front. Everybody knows what front shocks are? Hands up if you do. Good. They are basically, they take strain, like, when you hit a bump. They'll take a little bit of a strain. Or if you do a wheelie and come back down and it bounces. You wanna try bouncing up and down? (a beat) Jenna your helmet is pretty loose. I gotta ask you to tighten it.

29 EXT. BIKE SHOP - DAY

O in leaves the shop, walks his bike and starts texting.

Clin:

LISA I got kicked out.

OLI N

What?

Lisa jumps to her feet and starts walking down the street. Olin tries to keep up with her.

> LISA Coach's a dick. Kicked me off the team because I was 10 minutes late.

Qin's not sure if he believes that.

LISA (CONT'D) I don't even give a shit about swimming. I'm done with endless Iaps.

OLIN But you're so good at it!

LISA (in a mood to argue) So what? (a beat) Have you got your stash? Let's just blaze!

ali n

Yeah.

Lisa steps around the corner, near the garbage containers. They start smoking in silence. They both look deflated, like neither one is having fun.

> OLIN (V.O.) I had no idea what was going on with Lisa... I don't even know if she wanted me there anymore.

31 EXT. BIKE SCHOOL - DAY

O in is teaching again. He looks sullen and disheveled, wearing last night's clothes.

32 EXT. BIKE SCHOOL - LATER

Larry watches Q in say goodbye to the last of the kids in the class. He waves Q in over.

LARRY

Clin!

32 CONTINUED:

Olin walks up to him

LARRY (CONT'D) I can tell you've been smoking pot. Your clothes - they reek for miles.

O in looks down, feeling terrible. It seems like Larry had this kind of conversation before.

LARRY (CONT'D) I don't care what you do the rest of your day, but when you're here -you're a role model. You know what that means?

ali n

Yes.

LARRY It means showing up rested and clean. (a beat) When's your next shift?

ali n

Tomor row.

LARRY Right. You don't have a lot of time to decide between smoking pot and working here.

din nods.

33 EXT. NEAR BIKE SCHOOL - DAY

With his head down, Olin is walking down the street.

Doug's beat-up Toyota pulls alongside.

DOUG Yo! Come on, get in.

O in's surprised to see the car running.

OLIN Wow, you've finally fixed it?

DOUG

Yeah man, get in.

ANDY Yo, bro, I gotta new pipe, let's have some fun.

33 CONTI NUED:

Andy secretly reveals a pipe that's all ready to go.

CLIN I can't. ANDY Why not? CLIN Gotta stay clean. DOUG (serious) Why?

O in looks at him about to say something and then changes his mind and continues walking.

DOUG (CONT'D) (to Andy) Forget it.

Doug floors it and they drive off.

ANDY (shouts) Dumbass!

O in watches as they leave.

INT. SCHOOL CLASSROOM - DAY

A teacher is walking down the aisle dropping the results of student's math exams onto their desks.

TEACHER

Good work.

She drops one examin front of Qin. Qin looks at it and makes a grimace.

OLIN (V.O.) My grades were always on the edge. But Lisa's were starting to fall off of the cliff. The problem was she was not even there to notice it.

Lisa's seat is empty and her math exam marked "C-" sits on her desk.

O in texts her under the desk.

Clin:

34

35 EXT. VARIOUS STREETS - DAY

O in is riding his bike fast, determined and worried.

36 EXT. THE RESERVOIR - DAY

Olin rides in, scanning the surroundings, looking for Lisa. Finally he spots her sitting on a concrete wall further down. Smoking pot.

Q in slowly approaches. Lisa looks at Q in but does not bother saying anything.

CLIN Hey, I've called you a few times.

LISA My mom took my cellphone.

O in sits next to Lisa.

ali n

Burmer.

LISA (shrugs) Everyone's got problems.

din nods.

OLIN Listen, I know you're going through some rough times.... But it would be a waste to screw up your marks and stuff...

Lisa does not seem to register any of it.

LISA You wanna hit?

O in is tempted but he shakes his head.

OLI N

I gotta work in a couple of hours.

LI SA

What's that got to do with it?

Lisa waits for him to change his mind.

LISA (CONT'D) Do you wanna smoke or not?

36 CONTINUED:

ali n

I can't.

LISA Fine. Wow. It's just a joint.

Lisa takes a major puff from the joint.

LISA (CONT'D) I don't get what happened to you.

CLIN L haven't changed.

O in places his hand on hers but she quickly pulls it away. He's hurt. Uncomfortable silence seeps in.

> OLIN (CONT'D) I don't like that you're smoking by yourself. But... it's a real bitch that it doesn't seem to matter to you if l'm here or not.

Lisa just stares blankly at him, not reacting at all. But it looks like his words penetrate with a delay.

OLIN (CONT'D) (after a beat - looking at the joint) Where did you get that anyway?

Lisa slowly turns to Qin.

LISA What do you care? You're not the only guy who deals.

OLIN You think I'm your dealer! Is that what this is?

Q in's clearly shocked and offended. Lisa looks like she knows she went too far and she quickly jumps to her feet, avoiding further conversation.

> LISA I'm sorry, I gotta go.

Lisa walks off. Olin, looking intense, nods a few times as if to say to himself "okay, that's over". He sniffles and gets up.

WENDY

At least someone has his head on straight.

Jaime leaves the house.

41 EXT. BIKE SCHOOL - DAY

O in is explaining the gears on the bike to a new group of kids. Larry is watching him from the store.

QLIN (V.Q.) But then, some things make me feel good...

OLIN Very nice to meet you! I'll be your teacher today. High five!

OLIN (CONT'D) I'll be teaching you for next couple of weeks, alright? And we're gonna have a blast together. We're gonna learn, like, breaking, gears, all that... So what do you guys know about bikes?

Few kids raise their arms. O in points to one.

OLIN (CONT'D)

Yes?

42 EXT. BIKE TRAIL - DAY

O in rides down the trail, with his friends behind, clearly enjoying it.

DCUG Come on Andy!

OLI N

You got it!

They rush through the forest and suddenly come to a clearing overlooking the valley.

Q in stops, looks around in awe and takes a deep breath. The hills and the city in the distance are at his feet.

THE END