

Two Steps

By

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EXT.NEIGHBORHOOD STREET - DAY

We see Josh McDermott, 19, longer brown hair, and a skinny physique. He walks down a very family oriented street. When Josh walks, it is painfully slow, because he takes two steps forward, stops, then one step back, two steps forward, then one step back.

CUT TO:

INT.FAMILY LIVING ROOM - DAY

Josh is sitting on a couch with pictures of himself behind him. There are baby pictures, all the way up to present. He is set up like a public service announcement, and talks directly to the camera.

JOSH

Hi. My Name is Josh McDermott. I'm a person, just like you, but I suffer from a condition where I take two steps forward, and one step back. I eat like you, I dress like you, and hell, I'd probably have sex like you if I ever get that far. The problem isn't that I'm not smooth with the ladies, because I am, ask my mom, but it's because of all these politicians putting my disease down like I'm some kind of terrible thing.

CUT TO:

INT.T.V. IMAGES - UNKNOWN

We see an image of Barack Obama saying, "It's as if they were taking two steps forward, and one step back."

The we see and image of Dick Cheney, he says "Two steps forward, one step back".

Another image of Hugo Chavez speaking Spanish with a translation along the bottom that reads, "two steps forward and one step back"

Another images is shown but it is Simon Cowell and he says, "That was just God awful, pathetic. These past two weeks you haven't shown us anything. Your taking two steps forward, and one step back. Pack your bags honey, I don't think your going to be here long,"

CUT TO:

INT.FAMILY LIVING ROOM - DAY

JOSH

I mean sure, high school was tough.
It doesn't help when the least
athletic sport you can join is
track.

CUT TO:

EXT.HIGH SCHOOL TRACK - DAY

We see Josh along with six other kids with their feet in the metal starting braces, all lined up. The camera zooms in on Josh as he licks his lips in anticipation. A drop of sweat slides from his brow in slow motion. The track official raises his gun. BOOM.

Camera pans out to show all the racers at the starting line. The racers explode, but after two quick steps, Josh stops and takes a step back. The others racers continue further and further away, as Josh continues to spring two steps forward and one back, two steps forward, one step back.

CUT TO:

INT.FAMILY LIVING ROOM - DAY

JOSH(CONT'D)

Fire drills weren't to much fun
either, I mean, It's a drill.
There's no reason to push me down
and use me like a carpet.

(mimicking)

Oh but the fire trucks came.

(regular voice)

They come every time! Ugh, outside
of school wasn't much easier for
me.

CUT TO:

EXT. STREET - DAY

We see John walking down the suburban street. He is walking in his two step, on step way. We see a lady open her window.

LADY

You're Like our Judicial System!!!

CUT TO:

EXT. ANOTHER STREET - NIGHT

Josh is walking on a different street as a car drives by. A man brings half of his body outside the passenger side window, and makes a cone with his hands and brings it to his mouth.

MAN

I thought the Cold War was over!

CUT TO:

EXT STREET - DAY

We see Josh walking the way he does again. Little kids with eggs in their hands surround Josh. A little girl steps forward as their leader.

KID

So you think you can try to imitate
Christine on American Idol do ya?
Get him!!!!

The kids throw eggs at Josh as he tries to get away, but is just too slow.

CUT TO:

INT. FAMILY LIVING ROOM - DAY

Josh's face is blank, and looks scared for a beat. He gets the shivers and looks back at the camera, and fakes a smile.

JOSH

Anyways, If people didn't give my
condition such a negative
connotation, then maybe I'd still
have a girlfriend.

CUT TO:

EXT.DINER - DAY

Through a diner window, we see Josh sitting at a booth with his GIRLFRIEND. They are engaged in a conversation. Josh laughs but she keeps a straight face.

CUT TO:

INT.DINER - CONTINUOUS

Josh and GIRLFRIEND still sit and chat, but GIRLFRIEND looks uneasy.

GIRLFRIEND

Look, Josh, I need to tell you something.

JOSH

Yes, anything. Is it about that fat cheerleader on your squad?

GIRLFRIEND

No Josh, this is serious.

JOSH

Serious?

GIRLFRIEND

Come on Josh, I can't keep kidding myself. It takes us forever to walk somewhere, every one looks at us, and I don't want to be known as the girlfriend of the guy who changed the whole graduation ceremony by making everybody walk, forward left, right, back right, forward left, right, back right.

JOSH

They said that wasn't because of me.

GIRLFRIEND

Yeah, because it looks so cool.

JOSH

Hey I have to do that everyday!

GIRLFRIEND

Whatever, besides, my mom said she'd buy me my prom dress if I went out with you. She felt bad for you.

(CONTINUED)

JOSH
That's not true.

GIRLFRIEND
It's purple.

There is a dramatic pause for a beat. We see the hurt in Josh's eyes.

JOSH
(fighting tears)
We'll just remember, when I walk
away, it'll be the last time you
see me.

Josh stands up, and walks away painfully slow as dramatic music plays in the background. He takes two steps forward, one step back, two forward, one back. He exits. As he exits the camera pans back on GIRLFRIEND who pulls out her phone and begins to text. We watch her text for a few beats and we see JOSH walk right passed the window where they were sitting. Josh tries not to look at GIRLFRIEND. Girlfriend sees Josh, but just looks away.

CUT TO:

INT.FAMILY LIVING ROOM - DAY

JOSH(CONT'D)
(aside to camera man)
Yeah it was a nice dress, but that
doesn't mean-
(out loud)
Oh, hi. So in all, I just want to
direct this message to the people
that still use this hateful simile.
Sometimes words can effect people
in more ways than you think. I'm
just trying-

MOM(O.S)
Honey. Your dad and I have a
surprise for you.

Josh's Mom and DAD are now seen. His parents stand shoulder to shoulder, his dad's arm wrapped around his mom's shoulder.

DAD
Go look outside son.

(CONTINUED)

Josh gets up, and runs out the front door as fast as he can, which is still slow. The camera man goes to the front window to catch the surprise on screen.

We see a segway with a red ribbon wrapped around the handlebars on the sidewalk. Josh hops up on it. He has a huge smile on his face. He presses the start button. He leans forward. The segway goes two feet forward, stops, then goes back a foot. The same sequence happens again, then once more. Josh stands on the segway, drops his head to the handlebars in disappointment.

FADE OUT.