

Cutscene Script - **'The Fool'**
Scriptwriting Sample

*Not based on an existing IP.
See accompanying documents for context.*

[The player selects the coinciding mission from the menu]

CUT TO:

BLACK SCREEN

TITLE:

**ACT 1 MISSION 4
THE FOOL**

Text disappears.

An elevator door is heard opening.

CUT TO:

INT. APARTMENT BUILDING - EARLY MORNING

Zero is shown walking down the hallway of a dimly lit apartment building, armour clad as usual. The walls are in poor shape and there's litter scattered across the floor. He reaches a door at the far end of the hall and gives 4 knocks in a distinct rhythm.

He waits and listens for any movement before sticking his hand in a pocket and fiddling about its contents. After some trial and error, he pulls out a keycard and opens the door, checking over his shoulder as he does so.

The door slides open and he enters the room as it slides back behind him. The room is a cramped 3 room apartment with a large floor to ceiling window overlooking the skyline, roughly 30 stories up. The weather outside is particularly stormy, giving the morning light a grim blue shade and illuminating the room poorly. None of the lights are on and a small television display plays an all-hour weather channel, bathing the front of the room in an eerie pale glow. The kitchen to the other side of the room is unlit and devoid of food.

Sitting on the floor near the television, leaning into the base of a couch, is Four. He's wearing nothing but a vest and underwear. He's staring at the window as it holds back the fury of the torrential rain. He doesn't react to Zero entering.

ZERO
So you *are* here.

Four doesn't respond

ZERO
Toso said you stopped showing. 'The hell happened?

Zero stands in the centre of the room, looking around.

ZERO
Don't tell me the lights don't even work.

Zero walks to the kitchen and flicks on a light, which illuminates that side of the room in a golden haze. He begins to flick through some of the drawers.

ZERO
All you have is bread. Have you been eating at all?!

FOUR
Sighing
What do you want?

ZERO
You stopped showing up to Toso's place. You know he's only trying to help you.

FOUR
I don't want...help

ZERO
Are you really in the position to give in to wants right now?

FOUR
gestures broadly
Well I didn't WANT this but I still got it anyway!

Astounded, Zero walks back towards the centre of the room.

ZERO
Shaking his head
What?

FOUR

Standing up

I was ready! I had NOTHING else to lose and yet you and your FUCKING
conscience had to keep me alive.

ZERO

I should've killed you. Is that what you're saying?

FOUR

I...I...

Four catches himself and slowly sinks back to the floor, his gaze
returning to the window.

FOUR

Before I went into that tower...I had come to terms. I was ready to go,
to die for something. I could have died thinking I made a
difference...thinking I did the right thing. And instead I was denied
that, saw everything I stood for was in vain. And even at that point,
I...you could still have killed me then, but you wouldn't. You denied
me even that and now I'm stuck. Stuck thinking why things ended up
like this, why I got to live and nobody else, why I don't just do it
myself already.

ZERO

Four...

FOUR

Don't. Just...I'm paying for my sins, alright. So just let me be.

Zero leans back against the kitchen counter and crosses his arms,
looking down. There's a brief pause. The weather broadcast quietly
continues over the silence.

ZERO

I didn't spare you for the sake of punishment. But you've already
figured that out.

Four doesn't respond.

ZERO

You've realised that I've done this for your own sake. You just don't
know what to do in return.

Another pause.

FOUR

I need...something. An anchor. Anything. Just whatever to keep me going. Before, I had the squadron, then I had revenge and even after that I had my pals and now... nothing. The few people that kept me going when I may as well have been a dead man walking are gone and it's my own damn fault. Nothing can undo that.

ZERO

You said it yourself, the fact that you're still here, my involvement or no, is a miracle enough as is. So do what you've done before and find something to live for.

Four turns his head to Zero slightly.

ZERO

You've been through hell and back and had every opportunity imaginable to die, I was just the latest case. If you want something to keep you going, figure out why you're still here. Figure out why despite hitting rock bottom multiple times you just keep coming back stronger. I'm not one to tout fate or whatever but I also know when to draw the line on it being just a coincidence.

FOUR

What's the point if it always ends the same way?

ZERO

Because there's always the chance it won't.

Four returns his head towards the window.

ZERO

May as well see where the road goes, and you can start by obliging the people trying to help you now.

FOUR

With Toso? He teaches the way of the fool, it's all bullshit.

ZERO

Toso's had two people talking constantly in his head for a decade and despite that he still hasn't snapped. "The way of the fool" as you call it, is more or less why. But that aside...he's helped me in similar situations before. You might not think it but he knows what he's talking about.

Four doesn't respond.

ZERO

Fine, if you won't train with him then you'll train with me.

Zero grabs a gear bag from behind the couch that has Four's armour sticking out of the zip and tosses it next to Four. Four lets out a sigh and gets up.

CUT TO:

EXT. APARTMENT ROOF - EARLY MORNING

The two arrive at the roof of the apartment building, the rain still pouring from the heavens. Four is now donning his full armour, matching closely with Zero's, only dyed black. Four stands in shelter under a thin metal sheet above the door to the roof while Zero strolls to the centre of the rooftop.

ZERO

Scared you'll catch a cold? C'mon.

Four shakes his head and joins Zero.

[Gameplay resumes and the player takes control of Four as they learn how to play as Four via tutorial segment]