The Day the Internet Died
by Ian McWethy and Jason Pizzarello

2-PERSON SCENES

2F

Comedy

(JENNY is sitting on a park bench. Reading a book. NINA comes barreling in.)

NINA: Jenny!
JENNY: Ah!
NINA: Oh. Sorry! That was too loud. What are you doing? Reading? I heard reading is a really
great way to pass the time now that the internet isn’t working.
JENNY: Actually it is. You know I’ve had this copy of Anna Karenina in my house for five years
and never read it. And now I am! It’s a great book.
NINA: Uh…they called each other on the phone...

NINA: I know right! Cavemen. (Mimicking a phone:) Hello, this is my voice. Let’s do this
tomorrow. (Stops mimicking.) Thanks grandma. For the phone call! Uh. People were such
idiots in the past! Idiots!

JENNY: Uh, huh. Sure.

JENNY: I thought I’d miss the internet more but it’s actually been really relaxing! I didn’t realize
how much stress being online caused me on a daily—

NINA: Nice. Great. Sorry, I’ve just had a heck of a time keeping all my friends updated on
everything that’s going on with me now that the stupid internet is down. I mean how did
people keep in touch before Facebook and Instagram and Snapchat.

JENNY: Uh…they called each other on the phone...

NINA: I know right! Cavemen. (Mimicking a phone:) Hello, this is my voice. Let’s do this
tomorrow. (Stops mimicking.) Thanks grandma. For the phone call! Uh. People were such
idiots in the past! Idiots!

JENNY: Oh, I like talking on the phone—

NINA: So! I know you’re dying to know what’s been going on in my life! I mean it’s been what,
ten hours now! What Is Nina doing?! I don’t know!

JENNY: Oh, well, we’re not that great of friends—

NINA: Well I’ll tell you! Okay, so first. Instagram. I printed out all the photos I would’ve posted
on Instagram so that you can like them. Ready?

NINA: This is me this morning. With the caption (she pulls out a caption and holds it underneath)
“Monday Mornings are not my jam. Even though I’m in my jammies.” Like?

JENNY: What?

NINA: Like?

JENNY: Oh. Yeah I like that I guess.

NINA: YES! Oh sweet nourishing likes!

(JENNY takes out a thumbs-up sticker and puts it on the photo.)
NINA: I said hallelujah! Momma needed that like! Okay, here’s a picture of my toast after I took a bite out of it. No caption yet. Still working on it. But I’m thinking something like “This toast is toast” or “take a bite of toast!”

JENNY: Uh...sure like.

NINA: Well don’t like it if you don’t really mean it. If it’s not doing anything for you, you shouldn’t...just...like it.

JENNY: Okay then I pass.

NINA: Totally. Fine. I get it. But how about with a Hudson. (She puts a piece of colored plastic over the picture to “filter” it.) OR Inkwell. (Another filter.)

JENNY: I still don’t—

NINA: It’s gone. Forget about it... You know what, let’s head over to Snapchat. Who even uses Instagram anymore? Dead people, right? Snappers is my jam! Okay, here’s my story of getting a bellybutton ring and it getting infected so I had to go to the emergency room. We start with my belly button. (She takes out a belly button picture, then rips it up.) Then I went to the mall. (Shows a picture of her at the mall, then rips it up.) Then I was like “yogurt Mondays!”

JENNY: All right! Stop! I didn’t ask to see any of this!

NINA: Well no one ever wants to “see” any of my pictures. They just come up on your feed. Like I’m coming up to you now!

JENNY: Yeah but...what if I choose not to go on Facebook, or Instagram one day.

NINA: What do you mean not go on?

JENNY: Well, like every once in a while, if I have a lot of work or I just want to unplug, I won’t go on social media at all.

NINA: Not even on your phone?

JENNY: No.

NINA: You mean... So you’re saying... There are days, where...I take the time and effort to curate a really great series of pics of me...eating or trying on clothes and making the best duck face ever! And you... You don’t even see them.

JENNY: On the days I don’t go on social media...yeah. I mean I suppose I could—

NINA: Hide! Hiding you.

JENNY: I... What?

NINA: If you’re not gonna respect my feed then I won’t respect yours. HIDE!

JENNY: Well you’re not... Actually hiding my feed. We’re just talking.
THE DAY THE INTERNET DIED by Ian McWethy and Jason Pizzarello

Length: 30–35 minutes (a full-length version is also available)
Cast Size: 10–50 actors (suggested casting: 10F, 10M, 5 any)
Genre: Comedy

Synopsis: On a sunny day in the town of Bloomington, a devastating occurrence happens. No, it's not famine, or floods, or loss of your basic rights. The internet has gone down! And it will continue to be down! For a week! A whole week! Pandemonium! In a world that is so dependent on the internet for shopping, mailing, and posting pictures of cute babies, how will society function? Not well as it turns out. The Day the Internet Died hilariously explores how inept we are at dating, research, and basic human interactions when we don't have a screen to look at.