

RED by John Logan

KEN

(Assistant to the painter, Mark Rothko. Ken is in his twenties.)

Bores you?! Bores you?! Try working for *you* for a living! – The talking-talking-talking-won't-hever-shut-up titanic self-absorption of the man! You stand there trying to look so deep when you're nothing but a solipsistic bully with your grandiose self-importance and lectures and arias and let's-look-at-the-canvas-for-another-few-weeks-let's-not-actually-paint-let's-just-look. And the *pretension!* The *pretension!* I can't imagine any other painter in the history of art ever tried so hard to be SIGNIFICANT! You know, not everything has to be so IMPORTANT all the time! Not every painting has to rip your guts out and expose your soul! Not every painting has to rip your guts out and expose your soul! Not everyone wants art that actually HURTS! Sometimes you just want a still life or landscape or soup can or comic book! Which you might learn if you ever actually left your hermetically sealed *submarine* here with all the windows closed and no natural light – BECAUSE NATURAL LIGHT ISN'T *GOOD ENOUGH FOR YOU!*