The scene I helped shoot wasn’t anything from my script. It was an idea my friend had that revolved around social media. The idea was to give personalities or faces to things or topics that we found annoying on social media. An example would be how everyone takes pictures of their food all the time, even though most of us know what food looks like. There were 4 of us talking about different annoying topics, and we were talking at my friend’s wife. So it was shot as if she was on social media and was getting bombarded with things that people post, but instead of reading them we would be in her face talking about them.

We shot everything in a garage with one camera, one light, and a Zoom Audio for sound. The entire scene will probably only end up being 2 minutes long or so. Everything was very loose and we went with kind of an improve approach to the whole thing. One person would choose a topic and deliver a rant. Then we would all give feedback to that person until everyone agreed that a certain line or delivery was funny enough. We kept rolling through the process in order to make it easier to edit at the end. Throughout the shoot everyone took turns holding the different equipment, and we all pitched in ideas for the lighting and camera angles. It was a very fun and laid back experience.

The only slight snag we hit was when the camera batteries almost ran out. Once those were changed and we tried to roll the mic batteries went out, and right after that the light accidentally got turned off during a take. We used all those things as a sign to take a break, and then spent some time talking about ideas and takes over dinner before starting the next session. Everything else went really smooth though.

Throughout the process I learned that I wasn’t prepared enough beforehand, but everyone kept a fun and positive attitude, which helped everything come together. I was pretty unsure of myself, but my friend had shot some things before and was very helpful. It was a very good experience behind and in front of the camera.

Next time I try and shoot something I will have a better understanding of the process overall. I will also be better prepared ahead of time, and will have a much clearer idea of what I want to accomplish with the scene.