

ROSS AND CASS

BEOWULF, LORD OF THE BROS

by Jed Feder and Matt Deitchman

mattandjed@gmail.com

page 8 of 107

~~SHH!!!~~

~~GOPS~~

~~OF A...~~

~~PARTY GOERS~~

~~SHH!!!~~

~~GOPS~~

~~A TOAST FOR...~~

~~PARTY GOERS~~

~~SHH!!!!!!!!!!!!~~

~~GOPS~~

~~ZEKE, with suitcases, is the last out. He puts his keys on a hook by the door, and pulls the door shut behind him.~~

SCENE 2 -- AFTER-PARTY (ROSS' APARTMENT)

START

ROSS and CASS are now on the sofa, watching 'The Little Mermaid,' surrounded by beer cans, solo cups, and party paraphernalia.

ROSS

(gesturing to beer cans)

Empty apartment at 10pm, fallen soldiers everywhere, and The Little Mermaid on TV. This isn't how I pictured Zeke's last night.

CASS

He had a great time. Stop worrying. He had a K-Night To Remember.

ROSS

Yeah, I get it. Nice.

CASS

Ok, dummy, I think I know something that might cheer you up. I have a present for you.

ROSS

What? Oh Cass you don't have to...

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CASS

No, no. I was gonna give it to you at the party but I didn't want to upstage Zeke's gift slash broad romantic gestures. Anyway...

She's running to the other side of the room to grab a box.

CASS (cont.)
handing it to Ross

C'mon. Open it.

She's laughing to herself, excited about what is sure to be a hit gift.

CASS (cont.)

Well...?

ROSS opens the box to find a build-a-bear, wearing glasses and Zeke's regular techie-style outfit.

ROSS

Oh my god...it's a (simult.) Build-a-bear.

CASS

Build-a-bear (simult.)

ROSS

Our first date!

CASS

It's supposed to be Zeke! I know it doesn't really look like him, but Zeke isn't a bear. So...I tried.

ROSS

No, it's perfect! *(to the bear)* Hey Zeke, you nerd. Did you remember to throw out your spoiled leftovers?

He rushes the gift over to the life-sized cutout.

ROSS (cont.)

I'm gonna put him right next to life-sized Zeke...does this make me look weird? Whatever I don't care. Can you take a picture so I can snap him? No, you're right, selfie is probably better for this one.

He snaps a selfie with bear-ZEKE, doing the same pose as/next to medieval ROSS/ZEKE.

CASS

Yeah, it wouldn't be a selfie if I took it! Amiright?...

ROSS

No...he won't get it. He's still on the plane.

CASS

Snap him before work tomorrow.

ROSS

...but it's like two hours earlier...I hope we still talk to each other...

Suddenly lost in thought, he slumps back onto the couch with the bear next to CASS and watches more of The Little Mermaid.

CASS

Ross, he's your best friend! Send him the picture. He'll get it when he lands.

ROSS

Yeah...totally...

He takes out phone, sends the picture, and tosses it onto the couch. Zones out to movie, clutching the bear-ZEKE.

(still with eyes on the screen) Thanks for this. *(He gestures with the bear).* That was a good date. Did it right.

STOP 1

CASS

Yeah. Of course. It's not every guy who thinks to build a custom stuffed platypus on the first date.

ROSS

It's not every girl who finds that romantic.

They both chuckle at this and gradually return to watching the movie.

CASS

So I ended up applying for that fellowship, the one I told you about.

ROSS

Oh...yeah?

CASS

Yeah I know it's a crapshoot and will never happen anyway, but I figured why not. It's not like people are lining up to publish me. Or hire an exiting grad student in Lit and Poetics for anything that doesn't kill my soul. It's not exactly what I want to be doing, but there's a chance it could be a really big step in the right direction. Or just meet the right people. Or, you know, it could just be more of the same. Jeez, if I never teach a freshman again, I'll die happy.

ROSS

This is the one that's, like, a year in London (simul.)

CASS

London, yeah, I know it's a while. But now's the time, right? I'm young, I'm energized, I'm on a month-to-month lease. I'm not like, settled down or anything...

ROSS

No, I'm glad you did. I mean, that would be amazing...right?

CASS

...right...

(beat)

Ursula gets a bad rap. Ariel signed a contract and then didn't follow through - it's her own damn fault. Hashtag deal or no deal.

*ROSS chuckles politely but doesn't really hear her.
He's returned to watching the movie.*

CASS (cont.)

I mean, of course, even if I got it, I dunno, I probably won't hear for a while...if there were a good reason to...umm...have you thought about Zeke's room?...I guess I'm asking--

ROSS

(not fully hearing her)

Isn't this the perfect movie? I mean, aren't we all that mermaid, trying to have, like, legs?

CASS

Yup. Hashtag metaphor...location tag under the sea...(no response)well if I'm gonna sleep back at my place I should probably get going. I've got to run a 10am discussion section with a bunch of kids who probably didn't do the reading. Except for Kyle. (to self) Ugh...Kyle. (back to Ross) Or if you want I could stay here?

"...part of that world..."

Pause

ROSS

(still focusing on little mermaid)

No it's cool. You do you. Could you lock the knob on the way out?

Music.

CASS sighs, leaves. ROSS sings to bear-ZEKE.

STOP 2

2. IS THERE A BRO OUT THERE FOR ME?

ROSS

~~LOOK AT MY SHIT, ISN'T IT SWEET? WOULDN'T YOU THINK MY APARTMENT'S COMPLETE?~~

~~WOULDN'T YOU THINK I'M THE DUDE, THE BRO WHO HAS EVERYTHING?~~

~~I'VE GOT TANK TOPS AND BEER BONGS A PLENTY. I'VE GOT~~

~~CHEESE ITS AND WHAT'S ITS GALORE~~

~~YOU WANT PROTEIN BARS? I'VE GOT 20!~~

(crossing to computer)

~~BUT WHO CARES. N.B.D. I WANT MORE.~~

~~"Wanted: 1 male roommate to finish off sweet bro pad. Must be cool with parties, down to chill, not a fuckin slob, and able to pay rent on time..."~~

~~LIKE HAN WITHOUT A CHEWIE, LIKE WILL WITHOUT HIS GRACE~~

~~LIKE SHAGGY SANS A SCOOPY, A GOOD BODY WITH A BAD FACE~~

~~ZEKE LEFT ME ROLLING SOLO, I GOTTA FILL HIS SPACE~~

~~A BRO NEEDS A BRO TO BE A BRO~~

~~"Rent includes utilities and access to my dope speakers. Seriously, they're out of control. My girlfriend will be around a lot but she's cool. Strict no sleeves policy is in effect from 6pm Friday to 8am Monday..."~~