

The Couches - Pilot

Written By

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EXT. RUINED CASTLE - ESTABLISHING - STORMY EVENING

INT. DARK DUNGEON - STEREOTYPICAL OF OLD BAD FANTASY MOVIES

Twenty by twenty room -- no windows -- one door on a partially collapsed wall. Room is empty except for spiderwebs in the corners, and a single pedestal in the middle of the room with a small glass ball sitting on top.

A door opens slowly as a LITTLE GNOME WIZARD, played by HANNAH (20's, blond, pigtails, permanent scowl across her face) peeks into the room. She's small, three feet at the most, wearing lavender mage robes and encumbered by a horde of jewelry.

She sniffs the air and feels the door-frame and floor for traps. She pauses when she sees what is in the room, closes her eyes and sighs loudly.

HANNAH

Damn it, Dave! The empty room thing again?

The door opens wider to allow others to look cautiously inside.

A LARGE AMAZONIAN PRIESTESS steps up behind her, easily more than twice the gnome's height, dressed in a revealing leather and metal, almost-bikini style armor, played by JENNY (20's, dark haired, sarcastic smile).

Behind her comes the diminutive ELF, looking like a short version of a Tolkien elf. He's dressed in his light leathers colored green like the trees, played by LITTLE ANTHONY (20's, chestnut colored perma-bed-head and partial chin scruff).

Behind him stands the HALF-ORC WARRIOR, clad in glowing armor and carrying a sword as big as he is, played by LEONARD (20's, in reality, he's frail and skinny).

They let out a collective groan.

DAVE (V.O.)

Okay, what you see before you is a perfectly clean, twenty by twenty room, with nothing but a pedestal with an orb resting on top of it.

HANNAH

Cobwebs?

DAVE (V.0.)

Some, but looks like nothing's been there for a very long time.

LITTLE ANTHONY

So, nothing's in those cobwebs?

DAVE (V.0.)

They're empty.

LITTLE ANTHONY

I use my elf sight to look into the dark corners of the cobwebs.

DAVE (V.0.)

There's nothing there!

JENNY

Anthony, is it the spider thing again? I can use find-life-chant.

DAVE (V.0.)

Guys. Guys? There's nothing there! What about the treasure on the pedestal? Is anybody going to pay attention to that?

The gnome walks to the pedestal and grabs the orb.

HANNAH

Got it!

DAVE (V.0.)

What? How did you ...?

HANNAH

gnomes save against hidden traps, so I just walked up to it.

DAVE (V.0.)

You can't just--damn it! Roll!

Her character stands waiting. The half-ore sits and sharpens his sword. The Amazon adjusts her skimpy breast plate. The elf throws a pouch of fire into the cobwebs.

RATTLE. RATTLE. Sound of dice being thrown.

HANNAH

Yeah, I got the shoes of slipperiness that adds to my agility factor, plus this

She pulls out a ring from a pouch at her belt.

HANNAH (CONTID)
ring of magic resist.

DAVE (V.0.)
Yeah. Yeah. Got it. Uh, roll.
(To Anthony)
Wait. Anthony, did you just toss a
powder bomb into a small, enclosed
room?

LITTLE ANTHONY
Yeah? Maybe. Yeah. Yeah, I did.

HANNAH
I rolled a two.

DAVE (V.0.)
What?

HANNAH (CONTID)
A two. I rolled a two.

The gnome freezes, all but her wide eyes, as she looks
around the room.

The other characters slowly move away from her.

DAVE (V.0.)
Anthony, roll for how much damage
the bomb does, plus a roll for the
combustible spiderwebs.

The elf stops in the middle of sneaking out the door.

DAVE (V.0.)
Two six-sided dice.
(To Hannah)
Hannah, you roll defense for this
damage too.

HANNAH
Natural 20, bitches!

LITTLE ANTHONY
Do I still have to roll?

DAVE (V.0.)
No, with her magic items, she
escapes it, but the explosion does
trigger the trap.

LITTLE ANTHONY

Wait. Did you say trap?

HANNAH

I told you: it's that empty room thing again.

(Switches to little girl voice)

It's an empty room. Come play with me. I promise you treasure, then he gropes your boobs, 'cause he thinks you're too drunk to kick him in the balls, but you kick him, and then he tells all his frat BROs that you're a bitch ...

INTERCUT:

INT. STUDENT UNION LOUNGE - DAY

... Reality: ALL PLAYERS sit around the university student union in a couch area. Their actual selves look nothing like the glamorous fictional versions of their characters. All twenty-somethings. All dressed in a myriad of gamer t-shirts and blue-jeans, except Leonard, who wears a sweater vest over a button-up shirt.

All except for Hannah. She's dressed in a hoodie, short bootie-shorts and Ugg boots. She doesn't look like she belongs to the group -- more like a Sorority girl visiting.

They stare at Hannah silently.

They look uncomfortable. DAVE (20's, overweight and balding, wears an Iron Man t-shirt) presses a button on his wheelchair and rolls it over to her. She looks pissed.

DAVE

Hannah? Hun? Anything you want to get out into the open?

HANNAH

(Stares blankly at him)

No, why?

LITTLE ANTHONY

How about we break for pizza?

Little Anthony and Jenny crawl over the back of the couch to not get in between Dave and Hannah. Leonard quietly leaves with them. Dave notices them leaving and slowly rolls away backwards, leaving Hannah looking mad at her thoughts.

INT. STUDENT UNION LOUNGE - IN THE COUCH AREA - THE NEXT DAY

Jenny sits by herself, typing away on her laptop. Little Anthony comes in and drops his backpack next to the couches.

Anthony slings himself down next to her, letting his head rest on her shoulder.

LITTLE ANTHONY

Whatcha doing?

JENNY

Changing my art history class to Acting 101.

LITTLE ANTHONY

Why? I thought you liked my art history. It's the only class they let me teach.

JENNY

Sorry, but it's not you; it's me. I'm horny, and there's a ditzy blonde girl in Acting 101.

LITTLE ANTHONY

Never understood why you go for dumb girls.

She stops her typing and looks at him, and then back to typing.

JENNY

Don't know. I guess they just make me feel smart: plus, they're easy.

LITTLE ANTHONY

I never found them easier than normal girls.

JENNY

You never go for the dumb ones. I think you just like the challenge. That's why I never see you stay with one long enough for anything serious.

Anthony looks away from her and whispers:

LITTLE ANTHONY

(To himself)

Yeah, that's why.

JENNY

What?

LITTLE ANTHONY

Oh, nothing.

LEONARD (O. S.)

Hey, guys.

Leonard walks over: his face covered in perpetual acne. He wears the same sweater vest as always, looks like he just came from church. His small frame makes him look sickly.

LEONARD

Hey, did you happen to see my pill bottle here after I left yesterday?

JENNY

No.

LITTLE ANTHONY

No.

Anthony perks up a bit and looks around.

LITTLE ANTHONY

Are you sure you left it here?

LEONARD

I thought I did.

Dave comes wheeling into the scene. He has a large plastic cup of some bright green liquid that he calmly slurps.

DAVE

Is everyone ready?

He rolls up to the couches and starts getting stuff out of his backpack that's strapped across the back of his wheelchair.

LITTLE ANTHONY

No. Hannah's not here yet, and Leonard can't find his pills.

DAVE

Leonard, we can wait, if you need to run back to your dorm.

LEONARD

Nah, it's cool. I can go a day without them.

DAVE

You sure?

LEONARD

Yeah, no problem. Where's Hannah anyway?

LITTLE ANTHONY

She had cheer leading practice today.

JENNY

Lucky.

LITTLE ANTHONY

You'd hate being a cheer leader.

JENNY

Yeah, but imagine how much ass and boobs you get to grab.

There's a moment of silence as the guys and Jenny look off wistfully in the distance and half-smile at their thoughts.

The silence is interrupted by the loud, perfectly business cadenced voice of Jenny's brother, ANDREW (19, a short haired, boy version of Jenny), Jenny's younger brother and campus douche in a suit, with a perma-stick-in-the-butt.

ANDREW

What's up everyone?

JENNY

What are you doing here, Andy?

Andrew flusters, then calms down.

ANDREW

Wish you wouldn't call me that ...

LITTLE ANTHONY

... Hey, Andy, what's up?

Andrew flusters again. Little Anthony ignores him and digs into his pockets for something.

ANDREW

Anthony, please. I need to talk to my sister. We have some family business to discuss.

JENNY

What?

ANDREW

It's been brought to my attention
that you've been sneaking out of
the house and sleeping with women:
again.

JENNY

Well, that's none of your business.

Andrew sits on the couch across from her and Anthony. He
sits at the edge. Looking down at it in disgust.

ANDREW

As your brother, it is my business.
I have informed mother and father
of your heathen-ness, and they
would like to talk with you.

JENNY

I'd rather not, you freaking
snitch.

ANDREW

I don't think it was a request.

JENNY

(To Anthony)

Hey, you live off campus. Can I
crash at your place?

Anthony stops dig in his pocket.

LITTLE ANTHONY

All I've got is a couch.

JENNY

Good enough for me.

LITTLE ANTHONY

Hope you don't mind seeing me
naked.

Little Anthony pulls something out of his pocket and smiles
big for her.

JENNY

I'll try not to laugh if I do, you
sexy beast, you.

LITTLE ANTHONY

Didn't have to say it like that.

His grin vanishes just as quickly as it came.

JENNY

(To Andrew)

Tell them, I dig chicks, and
they'll just have to get over it.

Andrew turns to leave.

JENNY (CONT'D)

Oh, and I'll be by for my things.
Tell them that too.

LITTLE ANTHONY

Hey, Andy

Andrew huffs loudly and turns around.

ANDREW

... what?

LITTLE ANTHONY

Hey, it's cool. I just know you
like Oreos. I happen to have one
left. You wanna share it with me?

Andrew squints at him untrustingly as Anthony holds one in
his hand.

ANDREW

I guess so.

Anthony twists the cookie to break it apart. Then has the
two halves in each hand.

LITTLE ANTHONY

Which side do you want? Are you
more of a top, or are you more of a
bottom guy?

ANDREW

I'm a bottom, thank you very much.

LITTLE ANTHONY

Yeah. Yeah, I kind of thought so.

He hands Andrew the cookie and Andrew leaves. Jenny waits
till he's gone before turning to look wide-eyed at Anthony.

JENNY

I can't believe you.

LITTLE ANTHONY

Well, I'd been planning that for
some time now. Tell you the truth,
it's been sitting in my pocket for
a few days. I should probably go
home and change.

Jenny scoots away from him.

LITTLE ANTHONY

(In funny voice)

Vy am I all drippings vit goo?

DAVE

T.M.I.

Leonard scoots away from Anthony too.

LITTLE ANTHONY

No, it's it's what that little
guy says in Ghostbusters 2.

DAVE

I do believe I said: T.M.I.

Anthony gets up slowly and walks off.

END ACT ONE

ACT TWO

INT. MEDIEVAL BARROOM - TYPICAL OF BAD FANTASY MOVIES - DAY

DAVE'S VOICE echoes what is seen on screen.

DAVE (V.O.)

You're in a tavern. Jenny's Amazon sits at a table, surrounded by men betting either on her, or against her, as she chugs pints of ale across from a hairy, thickly muscled dwarf.

Leonard's half-ore is also in the room, taller than everyone else; he leans on top of their heads to see over the wall of men that are wagering on the drinking contest.

LEONARD

I'm there! Right? How come you haven't told me what I'm seeing? Have I gone blind?

DAVE (V.O.)

Depends. Have you been masturbating?

LEONARD

Well, no more than usual.

All the action in the barroom stops and everybody stares at the half-ore as he shrugs.

LEONARD

What? I get lonely sometimes.

DAVE (V.O.)

Anyway, Jenny, roll to see how much affect the drink is having on you. I'll roll for the dwarf.

JENNY

Is dwarf a P.C. term still, or would he be called a 'little person'?

DAVE (V.O.)

He's a dwarf, a freaking dwarf. That's his race, not his stature!

INTERCUT ...

INT. STUDENT UNION LOUNGE

... in REALITY: Leonard, Jenny, and Dave are all quiet while a LITTLE PERSON, MIKEY (20's, bald, looks like Mini-Me from Austin Powers), walks by staring at them.

DAVE

Hey ...

Dave clears his throat.

DAVE (CONT'D)

... hey, Mikey. What's up?

Mikey growls at Dave and walks away.

Dave sweats and scoots back as far as he can in his wheelchair. Wide-eyed.

DAVE

(Calls after Mikey)

Yeah, good to see you too, buddy!

JENNY

You know, your roommate hates you.

DAVE

One time, I caught him watching me sleep. Dude scares me.

INTERCUT BACK TO ...

INT. MEDIEVAL BARROOM

... the FANTASY REALM: TAVERN where EVERYBODY moves again.

DAVE (V.O.)

Okay. Roll for your constitutional status against being drunk.

JENNY

Missed my goal by five.

DAVE (V.O.)

Damn it! The dwarf doesn't make his. You see things blur a bit, and you get a little dizzy, but the dwarf falls face first into the table and then slips off onto the floor with a loud thud.

JENNY

I collect my winnings.

Leonard's half-ore keeps looking through the crowd.

LEONARD

Hey! Hey! There any girls here?

JENNY

Yeah, at least one.

LEONARD

You don't count. Are there any hot chicks in here?

DAVE (V.O.)

No. Everyone in here is ugly, even the barmaids in this place are butt ugly.

JENNY

(To the ceiling)

Are you counting me in this now that you're saying everyone's ugly.

Everyone in the bar sits quietly, and stares at the floor. Someone in the crowd COUGHS loudly.

DAVE (V.O.)

No?

HANNAH (V.O.)

What the heck, people? You couldn't wait for me?

DAVE (V.O.)

You were at cheerleading. Anthony had to run home too, so we're just playing some drinking games at the bar while we waited.

LEONARD

Is there any place I can find some girls? I mean, I wanna to show off my fitness scores!

DAVE (V.O.)

No.

Leonard's warrior is covered from head to toe in glowing armor, but you can tell by his head dropping and the slump of his shoulders that he's sad. A random person in the crowd pats his armored shoulder.

DAVE (V.O.)

Later, I promise.

The warrior perks up.

LEONARD

Yay!

DAVE (V.O.)

Shouldn't you be pumping someone for information on the standing stones, while we're here?

LEONARD

I'd rather be pumping

JENNY

girls. Yeah, we get it.

Hannah's character comes in the front door of the tavern.

DAVE (V.O.)

Hannah's collection of mystical jewelry catches more than a few eyes, and not all of them pretty, or honest.

HANNAH

What do I see going on?

DAVE (V.O.)

Leonard's searching the crowd of guys for any girls, and Jenny's drinking a dwarf under the table.

JENNY

A little person.

DAVE (V.O.)

Dwarf! He's a freaking dwarf! Gah!

INTERCUT AGAIN ...

INT. STUDENT UNION LOUNGE - IN THE COUCH AREA

... in REALITY: Mikey walks by slowly, staring daggers at Dave. He does the hand sign: *'I'm watching you.'*

Then walks away.

JENNY

Dave, I don't think you should walk home alone tonight, or sleep.

Dave stares after Mikey.

EXT. DEEP DARK FOG COVERED FOREST - NIGHT

ALL the characters are back together as the group holds torches and walk out of the forest.

DAVE (V.O.)

Up ahead is a clearing. There, before you, are the mysterious giant graves of Algoth. The standing stones of the dead.

LITTLE ANTHONY

Really? Does everyone call them that, or is that just a YOUthing?

DAVE (V.O.)

The Standing Stones of Algoth are known wide and far ...

LITTLE ANTHONY

... yeah, but -- I mean -- the whole "of the dead" thing. Is that something you just made up? It sounds like something Steve Jackson would put on Munchkin cards.

Little Anthony's elf picks up a twig from one of the trees.

LITTLE ANTHONY (CONT'D)

Ooo, it's the twig-OF THE DEAD! I'd kick in a door, but we don't have those cards in this game, Dave.

The others look at him and wait.

JENNY

You done?

He drops the twig on the ground.

LITTLE ANTHONY

Over there, it's the slightly stomped on grass blade-of the dead.

Jenny's Amazon character taps her foot impatiently

LITTLE ANTHONY

... yes, ma'am.

HANNAH

We're not here for fun! We're here to kick some nut-sack!

Hannah's gnome runs off ahead of the group.

LEONARD

Am I the only one scared of her
more than monsters in the woods?

Anthony's character cups his crotch in a defensive measure.

LITTLE ANTHONY

I'm already in case she attacks.

DAVE (V.O.)

It wouldn't matter to me. I can't
feel them anyway.

The characters all stare in different directions, looking
very uncomfortable.

LATER

The group reaches the stones as the sun rises over distant
mountains. The stones look golden in the morning light.

DAVE (V.O.)

You place the crystal back into the
stone bench that lays within the
standing stones. Your mission now
comes to a close: for now. The dead
can now return to their graves and
sleep peacefully once more.

There are mounds surrounding the stones, and spirits walk
out of the woods beyond the clearing to the graves from
which they came.

Some spirits do the one finger salute to the adventurers as
they settle back into the mounds, knowing their days of
raising havoc on the countryside are over.

INTERCUT BACK TO ...

INT. STUDENT UNION LOUNGE

... in REALITY: Leonard yawns as Dave closes his book and
puts it away. Everyone else puts away character sheets.

LEONARD

(To Hannah)

So, will you be here on time for
the next game, or do you need me to
come by your sorority and yell:
Hey, role-playing game is ready.

Hannah grabs Leonard by the sweater vest.

HANNAH
You do that, and I will kill you in
your sleep, little man. Got that?

LEONARD
(Whispers)
Yes, ma'am.

HANNAH
Okay then! See you guys next week!
Remember: come to the big game!

She smiles wide and runs off.

LITTLE ANTHONY
She really does scare me.

LEONARD
Tell me about it.

The group disperses in different directions.

MOMENTS LATER

Leonard rushes back. He frantically checks the couch
cushions for something and doesn't find it.

LEONARD
Oh, come on, please be here ...

EXT. ONBOARD A PIRATE SHIP - DAY

Explosions go off on the side of the ship. Water splashes
and causes the ship to rock back and forth. Little Anthony's
elf is on the deck with a telescope.

LITTLE ANTHONY
Why'd I get chosen to stay behind
with the crew. You guys are
probably having ALL the fun.

DAVE (V.O.)
Too bad you don't know what's going
on with the other members of your
party. You're stuck on board the
ship with a bunch of -- LITTLE
PEOPLE -- and they don't speak your
language.

INTERCUT ...

INT. STUDENT UNION LOUNGE - DAY

... in REALITY: Everyone, except Leonard, sits around.

Close-up of Dave's face as he looks around. Wide-eyed.

Mikey stands next to him, staring intently. When Dave sees him, he flinches and prepares for punishment, but Mikey just nods agreement, smiles, and then walks away.

DAVE

Oh, my gah, he's going to make me
have a panic attack! I need a
cyclo.

JENNY

Hurry up! We want you to get back
to the rest of us too.

INTERCUT BACK ...

EXT. ONBOARD A PIRATE SHIP

... FANTASY REALM: The rigging falls. The small sailors try to keep the ship together as the explosions get closer.

LITTLE ANTHONY

I try to tell them what to do.

DAVE (V.O.)

You do remember, I just said they
don't speak your language, right?
What are you going to do, speak
slower? Yeah, maybe that'll work.

LITTLE ANTHONY

I try miming what to do.

DAVE (V.O.)

It was a stupid idea to leave you
in charge while the rest of the
party is gone, huh?

LITTLE ANTHONY

Looks that way.

DAVE (V.O.)

The shelling gets closer and
closer. Finally, ...

Anthony and the crew stand still as they wait for Dave.

DAVE (V.0.)
... hold on. I can't find my dice.

One of the crew starts to talk, but it's Little Anthony's voice talking through the sailor in a very sarcastic tone.

DWARF SAILOR
Does he do this often?

LITTLE ANTHONY
Yes. He does do this often. And what excellent speaking skills you have.

DAVE (V.0.)
Oh, ha, ha. Stop making them talk. They don't speak the same language as you. You wouldn't understand them, even if they did talk to you.

The dwarven sailors and Anthony look embarrassed as Dave makes weird grunting sounds.

DAVE (V.0.)
Ah, there they are!

LITTLE ANTHONY
Testicles? You finally found them?

DAVE (V.0.)
I could add some damage dice to what I'm about to throw at you.

LITTLE ANTHONY
No. No, you probably have enough.

DAVE (V.0.)
You sure?

LITTLE ANTHONY
Yeah, just roll.

DAVE (V.0.)
Okay, the shelling hits the ship, for: two hundred and fifty points of damage.

LITTLE ANTHONY
What?

DAVE (V.O.)

Yup. These shells contain explosives. Once they hit, they explode, doing fire damage, as well as sending shrapnel everywhere.

LITTLE ANTHONY

Why do I even bother?

DAVE (V.O.)

The ship is sinking. A mast swings at your head. Roll to avoid it.

LITTLE ANTHONY

Five ...

DAVE (V.O.)

... the mast hits you, but only enough to knock you out. Now you are laying there unconscious, on a sinking ship.

LITTLE ANTHONY

Thanks, Dave.

DAVE (V.O.)

Hold on: need to make some rolls for the sailors.

Anthony's character lies on the deck of the ship, and the dwarven sailors stand around watching as the ship sinks around them.

DAVE (V.O.)

Okay. They rolled to save you, versus leaving you to sink with the ship: 0, acting captain! My acting captain! They drag your limp body to a rowboat and launch it from the ship: the rowboat -- not yourbody.

INTERCUT ...

INT. STUDENT UNION LOUNGE

... back in REALITY: Anthony stretches out, putting his feet on Jenny's legs.

LITTLE ANTHONY

I guess I'm done for a while. My guy's all passed the heck out.

JENNY

Does this mean we get a turn? The girls finally get to do something?

HANNAH

Yeah, I've been itching to fight.

LITTLE ANTHONY

I bet.

HANNAH

What?

LITTLE ANTHONY

Nothing.

DAVE

Your turn is next. I just wanted to torture Anthony for a while to buy Leonard some time to get here. But it doesn't look like he's showing.

LITTLE ANTHONY

I'll go call him.

Anthony calls from his cell phone. He gets up and walks off to get some quiet for the call.

DAVE

Okay now, you two are currently sneaking up to the enemy shipyard. I need you to make a roll to see if the guards spot you.

JENNY

I cast the QUIET TRAIL chant to soften my footfalls.

HANNAH

I get my two mini-crossbows ready to take them out when we get close.

Anthony comes back over. His face is drained, and his eyes have a lost look about them.

LITTLE ANTHONY

Thanks, Mrs. Potts. I'll let everyone else know. My condolences.

EVERYONE stops and looks at Anthony.

LITTLE ANTHONY

Leonard passed away last night. It
was his heart

Anthony starts crying.

LITTLE ANTHONY (CONT'D)

... he told us he couldn't find his
pills, and we didn't listen.

No one says a word. Jenny gets up and hugs Anthony.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

INT. STUDENT UNION LOUNGE - IN THE COUCH AREA - DAY

The couches are empty, except for Dave, sitting alone in his wheelchair, looking off in the distance.

He's dressed in a buttoned-up shirt and tie. His hair is combed, the first time in a long time.

The others come over, one at a time. They're all dressed in dark outfits befitting a funeral. Except for Hannah. She's not there.

DAVE

Thanks for coming today. I know you just got back from the funeral. I'm sorry I couldn't go. I ...

Dave cries.

DAVE (CONT'D)

I just can't send off one of my best friends like that. I'd like to think of him like he was the last day I saw him ...

He tries to laugh.

DAVE (CONT'D)

... alive and trying to get laid by fictional girls.

LITTLE ANTHONY

Where's Hannah? I didn't see her at the funeral either?

DAVE

I haven't seen her in a few days, not since we got the news.

Mikey shows up. He's wearing a black suit as well.

MIKEY

I saw her at the sorority house as I was on my way here.

Little Anthony looks shocked.

LITTLE ANTHONY

Whoa. You can talk?

EXT. KAPPA UPSILON NU SORORITY HOUSE - LATER

Dave leads the pack up to the door. He leans up in his wheel chair and presses the doorbell -- DING. DONG.

The sound is loud and echoes around the house.

A blonde girl opens the door. She's in UGG boots, yoga pants, and a Kappa Upsilon Nu sweat-shirt on (KYN).

She smiles until she sees who is at the door. Her smile falls off and vanishes completely. She wrinkles up her nose, as if smelling something bad.

SORORITY GIRL

Sorry. We already gave to the homeless shelter this year.

DAVE

We're looking for Hannah. She said she lives here.

The smile comes back.

SORORITY GIRL

Oh, you must be the underprivileged people she's been volunteering with lately. Just a sec. I'll go get her.

She slams the door hard.

LITTLE ANTHONY

Underprivileged?

Mikey looks over at the others and nods his head.

MIKEY

Yeah, I can see how she got that impression.

The door opens and two other girls, identical to the first one, walk out. They're spooked by Dave and the others.

One of them tucks her purse under her arm in a protective way. The other one reaches into her purse and pulls out cash and throws it on Dave's lap before both girls run off.

SORORITY GIRL 2

(To other sorority girl)

Did you see? I gave to the poor?

SORORITY GIRL 3

I know. So proud of you.

Dave watches them leave before looking down at the money in his lap. Little Anthony looks over Dave's shoulder to look at the money too.

LITTLE ANTHONY

Well, it's enough for a pizza after this.

DAVE

Strangely enough, this isn't the first time this has happened to me.

ANGLE ON ...

An upper-story window breaks. A guy in just boxers fall out and into the bushes in the yard.

The boys look worried. Jenny looks curious.

LITTLE ANTHONY

Oh my God. I wonder if he's okay.

UNNNNNnnnn. The guy in the bushes moans.

Jenny smirks.

JENNY

Sounds like he's fine.

The door opens.

Hannah peeks out the door. Half her face is cover by the door-frame.

HANNAH

What?

DAVE

You didn't show up to the funeral.

JENNY

Are you okay? What's going on with you ...?

HANNAH

... I'm fine. Just couldn't make it, okay? I'll come by later. I have some stuff to take care of.

Jenny pushes on the door. It opens enough to see that Hannah has a black-eye. She tries to hide it with her hair.

Hannah bites her lip and looks away from the others.

JENNY

Who did this to you. I'll kick his
ass.

Hannah scowls and looks out the door, toward the bush where
the guy landed.

HANNAH

I've got it taken care of. Just had
to remind someone of what the rules
are around here.

The guy stands up and looks woozy for a second before seeing
Hannah and starts walking up. He looks mad.

He's built. He's huge and stands taller than all the rest, a
good six-five, all muscle.

Jenny pulls out a knife. The blade springs open.

Little Anthony and Dave put themselves in the way of the big
guy. Little Anthony looks ready to run but stands firm with
the others.

JOCK

Why you little

DAVE

... Stay away from her.

He stops in front of the group.

JOCK

Or you'll what?

Little Anthony tries to swing at the guy, but nothing
happens when he hits him, just a smacking sound.

JENNY

Wow. That was pathetic.

Little Anthony looks at her.

LITTLE ANTHONY

I was taking it easy on him

Little Anthony flies off as the guy punches himback.

Dave tries to hit the guy too, but the guy steps back, and
Dave falls out of his chair. He keeps reaching for the guy,
grabbing him by the ankle and trying to bite him.

Mikey runs at the guy, but the guy holds him by the head and none of Mikey's swings or kicks land.

Jenny's about to step up, but Hannah stops her.

HANNAH

Stop, guys. I've got this.

Dave stops trying to bite the guy's ankle and looks up.

DAVE

Are you sure about this?

HANNAH

Yeah, you guys step down.

The guy lets go of Mikey's head as the little guy stops fighting and helps Dave back into the wheelchair.

The big guy smiles and looks ready to fight Hannah too, but she pulls a taser from her pocket and puts it against his bare nipple. He tries to grab it but starts to seize and falls to the ground off camera.

Hannah sighs and smiles.

HANNAH

Damn. That felt good.

She looks at the others.

HANNAH

You guys should get out of here,
before the police come.

Jenny picks Anthony up, and the group stand there for a second before she nods to them, and they nod back.

HANNAH

Go. I'm going to have some fun
before the cops show up.

She walks off toward where the big guy fell.

ZZZZZZZZ. ZZZZZZZ -- the taser sparks off camera.

The group looks horrified as they watch. Jenny covers Anthony's eyes as he looks ready vomit.

JENNY

We should just go.

HA HA HA HA -- As they leave, they're haunted by Hannah's maniacal laughter.

INT. PAISANO'S PIZZA PLACE - MOMENTS LATER

The group sits at a table in front of the big window. They look rough.

Dave has grass-stains on his clothes. Little Anthony is still leaning on Jenny. There's bloody toilet-paper stuffed up his nose. He looks woozy.

DAVE

Well, our first real-life adventure was pretty much a bust.

JENNY

Yeah, that was kind of embarrassing.

LITTLE ANTHONY

At least Hannah's a real life bad-ass.

DAVE

She's amazing.

Dave scoots his wheelchair back from the table and looks down at his lap.

DAVE

(To himself)

Well, how 'bout that?

LITTLE ANTHONY

Something wrong?

DAVE

(To himself)

I didn't think you worked anymore.
Welcome back, little buddy.

Mikey looks puzzled. As does Anthony.

Realization slowly crosses Jenny's face.

JENNY

Oh, God. Dave did you get an erection from getting your ass kicked?

DAVE

I'm not sure. But something's happening down there.

A pizza worker stops by their table with several pizzas. He looks suspicious at the group who try to act like nothing's wrong.

PIZZA WORKER
Got your order, for ...

He looks at the receipt.

PIZZA WORKER (CONT'D)
Ass-kickers?

The pizza guy looks puzzled. Jenny looks away.

JENNY
Yeah. That's us.

The guy puts the pizzas down and stands there for a moment. The gang tries to look anywhere but at the man.

PIZZA WORKER
Oh, I got it. No tip. Yeah, I'll remember that next time, Dave.

He walks off.

The gang gets ready to leave. Mikey grabs the pizzas and walks off.

Dave pauses.

DAVE
Hey, I'll catch up to you guys.

Little Anthony turns.

LITTLE ANTHONY
You okay?

DAVE
Yeah, got to run an errand real quick. Meet you back at the union.

LITTLE ANTHONY
You sure?

DAVE
I'm fine. Something I got to do.

LITTLE ANTHONY
Okay. We'll see you later.

The gang leaves. Dave watches them as he takes out his cell-phone and makes a call.

INT. STUDENT UNION LOUNGE - IN THE COUCH AREA

Jenny helps Little Anthony to the couch and drops him on it. He flops down and puts his feet up on the back of the couch.

LITTLE ANTHONY

I'm done. The world is too much for me, and I'm too much in it.

JENNY

Drama-queen much?

LITTLE ANTHONY

Well, excuse me. I've had a rough time lately.

Jenny sits down roughly on the couch next to Anthony, making him roll off and onto the floor. He crawls up and puts his head in her lap as she caresses his hair.

LITTLE ANTHONY

It's just been a lot to handle lately. And it's not like I got any sleep last night either.

JENNY

Sorry about that. I told her not to be loud.

LITTLE ANTHONY

You were both loud.

Jenny looks off into the distance, remembering something.

JENNY

Yeah, I guess I was, but it was fun.

LITTLE ANTHONY

I can't even remember her name.

Little Anthony pulls the bloody toilet-paper out of his nose and tosses it at a trash can. Misses.

He gets up and puts it in the trash.

JENNY

Yeah, neither do I.

LITTLE ANTHONY

You going to see her again?

JENNY

Naw. She was just a fling to let
some steam off.

Anthony sits on the couch next to her.

LITTLE ANTHONY

You haven't been keeping them
around very long. Is something
wrong?

JENNY

Look who's talking. I haven't seen
you bring a single girl home since
I moved in.

Anthony looks flustered.

LITTLE ANTHONY

I'm thirsty. Are you thirsty?

He jumps up and walks off. Jenny looks like she's about to
say something but then glares at him as he walks off.

ANDREW (O.C.)

Hello, Jennifer.

She rolls her eyes and lets out an extended and very loud
sigh as Andrew walks up, in yet another suit. His hair is
sprayed-still, and his skin is faked-tanned into a
bright orange glow.

JENNY

What do you ...?

... She turns to see him and recoils at the sight.

JENNY

What the hell happened to your
skin?

ANDREW

You like? It's all the rage among
the young Republicans on campus.
It's our way of showing support.

JENNY

For whom? Oompa Loompas? All hail
the dessert king. Shouldn't you go
back before the tour is over before
Willy Wonka finds out your missing?

She waves him off.

ANDREW

Ha. Ha. Very funny.

(Beat)

I just wanted to come let you know that mother and father have been discussing the idea of not paying for your tuition anymore.

He sits down in a chair next to the couch. She leans in to hear what he has to say.

JENNY

And why would they do that?

ANDREW

As long as you continue your hedonistic lifestyle, they're not going to be a party and support your sinning.

JENNY

So, they're going to be asses about it?

ANDREW

They just follow their beliefs. As should you.

She's turning red. The scowl on her face says that she's about to unload on her brother, but Little Anthony walks up with a couple of sodas in his hand.

LITTLE ANTHONY

Hey, Andy. How's it going?

JENNY

(To Anthony)

He was just telling me that my parents are going to cut me off. They're going to stop paying my tuition.

Anthony looks closer at Andrew, who looks a bit uncomfortable by Anthony's closeness, almost face-to-face.

ANDREW

(To Anthony)

What're you doing?

LITTLE ANTHONY
I was just admiring your tan.
(Beat)
Wow. I heard it was all the rage
among your people right now.

ANDREW
My people?

LITTLE ANTHONY
Yeah, little trust fund babies.

Andrew looks offended, but Anthony puts his hands up to calm him down.

LITTLE ANTHONY
Don't get me wrong. I admire it. I
kind of envy you.

Andrew looks skeptical.

LITTLE ANTHONY
No. Really.

He gestures to Andrew's face.

LITTLE ANTHONY
I mean. That's a great tan. You
must really like your vitamin D.

ANDREW
Vitamin D?

LITTLE ANTHONY
Yeah, vitamin D. You get it from
basking in the sunlight. A tan like
that, you must get a lot of vitamin
D. You must like it, huh, the D?

ANDREW
I guess so.

LITTLE ANTHONY
I mean. With a tan like that, you
must like the D way more than I do,
and as pale as your sister is, you
know she never gets the D. You
really like the D, don't you?

ANDREW
Yeah, sure. I like the D.

LITTLE ANTHONY

I could guess it just by looking at you that you like the D. It's that certain glow about you.

Andrew stands up and smooths out his suit and checks his hair in a window reflection.

ANDREW

Yes. I like the D.

(Beat)

Now, I must be off.

Andrew looks smug as he walks off with purposed strides.

Jenny and Little Anthony watch him leave, obviously holding in their laughter.

Jenny is the first to break. She laughs loudly as Anthony flops back down on the couch. He starts laughing too.

She manages to calm her laughter a little.

JENNY

The D? Really? The D? You know that someday, he's going to figure out that you're just punking him?

LITTLE ANTHONY

Punking? No. Trolling. Maybe.

Mikey shows up. He's carrying the pizzas, but there's one less box than there was earlier.

LITTLE ANTHONY

Hey, I thought there were more pizzas than that.

MIKEY

Tax for making me carry all of them myself and leaving me behind.

JENNY

Fair enough. Have you seen Dave?

LITTLE ANTHONY

Wait. You left before us.

Dave rolls in. He looks a little calmer than before. He still has his grass-stained clothes on.

LITTLE ANTHONY

You finish that errand?

DAVE

As much as I could.

He reaches into the backpack on the back of his wheelchair and pulls out Leonard's sweater vest.

DAVE (CONT'D)

Jenny, can you hand me that couch cushion over there, please?

She slowly picks up the cushion and takes it over to Dave. Dave looks on the verge of tears as he takes it from her.

He takes the sweater vest and pulls it over the cushion, and then hands it back to her as he wipes the tears from his face.

She puts the cushion in the spot where Leonard usually sat, like a LEONARD PLUSH DOLL taking his place, filling the void of his absence.

DAVE

Okay. Now, I'm going to keep my promise to him. Where's Hannah?

Hannah shows up. Her black-eye is covered by make-up, but it still can be seen, though faded.

HANNAH

I'm here. Just had to hide the body.

The group lets out a forced laugh. It's half-hearted.

LITTLE ANTHONY

Great joke, Hannah.

Hannah stares daggers at him. Her left eye twitches.

He swallows hard and backs up.

DAVE

Okay, then. I guess we're all here.

Dave pulls out his gaming book and looks around at everyone. Mikey walks up next to him. He has a look of sympathy and pats Dave's arm, nods, and walks away.

DAVE

Thanks, Mikey.

He clears his throat.

DAVE

What you see around you is a tavern common room, filled to capacity with adventurers and thieves. There are men, AND WOMEN, of every type here. All of them beautiful.

CUT TO:

FANTASY SETTING: TAVERN - SUNSET

A crowd of people gather. All the characters, except Leonard's knight, stand near the bar and toast each other.

LITTLE ANTHONY

And we're all here to celebrate victory over the evil that'd been plaguing this land and its peoples.

Leonard's half-roe knight steps up from the crowd. Women swarm his green arms. He looks happy and smiles a sharp-toothed grin.

JENNY

Leonard's here, in his magical armor. The women of the land have all heard of his heroic exploits, and they all want to hear his grand stories, of magic lands and monsters vanquished.

Leonard's voice isn't heard as he talks to the crowd of women around him. He laughs. They laugh. The gang stands around and watches.

HANNAH

So, we see him laugh drunkenly as he tells his tall tales to crowds of women. And we companions, we raise a toast to our hero.

They all raise their mugs of beer in a toast to Leonard.

CUT TO:

BACK TO REALITY:

The gang all raise up bottles of soda and energy drinks, clinking the cans together softly. Dave nods his head towards the Leonard vest cushion.

DAVE

Here's to you, my friend. Now go
off and be happy with what you've
earned in this short, hard life.

THE END

TAG

MOMENTS LATER

As the gang stand in a circle. Dave rolls his chair in the middle and raises his energy drink can high above his head.

The all cry and cheers, ignoring the looks from the other students in the room.

ANGLE ON ...

The couch. The Leonard cushion.

A hand reaches down and quietly grabs the cushion, leaving without anyone noticing.

END OF SHOW