

LOST IN THE SAUCE

Written By

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INT. BEDROOM - DAY

BUZZ - a cell phone VIBRATES, shaking the table atop which it sits.

JEREMY (20) reaches for it groggily, knocking it onto the floor. He's an underachiever with a penchant for spending more time figuring out how to avoid doing something, than it would take to actually do it.

JEREMY

Who the fuck calls anymore.

Jeremy gets out of bed and grabs his phone off the floor.

JEREMY (CONT'D)

(yawning)

Hello?

AUNT CLAIR

Hi Jeremy, Just confirming you'll be home this afternoon when I drop off the twins.

Jeremy grabs a half-full beer from his desk and takes a drink.

JEREMY

Uh... Yeah... I'll be here.

AUNT CLAIR (V.O)

Great! Thank you so much. We'll be back Sunday morning to pick them up!

JEREMY

Sounds good, bye.

Jeremy hangs up the phone, takes another sip of beer, and goes downstairs.

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

BEN (20), lies unconscious on the couch. He's more capable than he lets on, and he's a strong believer in 'work smart not hard.'

When Jeremy walks into the room Ben sits up groggily.

He's shirtless and his face is covered in lewd words and drawings.

BEN

Bro... What happened last night.

JEREMY

We went to the bar with Kylie and her new boyfriend...

BEN

Michael?

JEREMY

If you say so.

Ben shrugs and digs through the couch for a shirt. Jeremy walks past him into the kitchen, and grabs a beer from the fridge.

BEN

What time is it?

Jeremy walks back into the living room, tosses the beer cap onto the coffee table, and collapses into the couch.

JEREMY

Almost one.

BEN

Oh Shit! I'm late for class.

Ben finds a button-down, throws it on, and runs out the door - his shirt is unbuttoned and he is barefoot.

EXT. FRONT DOOR - DAY

DING DONG - A woman, AUNT CLAIR (34) and two small children, ALEX (8), JENNA (8) stand on Jeremy's front step, as Jeremy opens the door.

Alex is mischievous and stubborn, while Jenna is rebellious and resourceful.

JEREMY

Hey... guys...

The kids run inside the instant Jeremy opens the door.

Aunt Clair turns to leave.

AUNT CLAIR

Thanks again for watching them.

Jeremy waves and closes the door behind her.

INT. JEREMY'S HOUSE - DAY

Jeremy turns the TV on and gives the twins an Xbox controller each to play with, and sits down on the couch.

BEAT.

Ben storms into the living room.

BEN

Hey asshole! Thanks for letting me go to my lecture of 400 people with dicks drawn all over my fucking face!

JEREMY

Could you please watch your goddamn language, I'm watching my little cousins.

Jeremy gestures towards the twins who stare at Ben in shock.

JEREMY (CONT'D)

Also, it's payback for the time you let me go to that interview with half my head shaved.

Ben starts GIGGLING to himself.

BEN

Oh right... I guess we're even now.
(to the kids)
So... do you guys... want a beer.

JEREMY

Bro, they're eight!

BEN

then... light beer?

Jeremy SIGHS.

BEN (CONT'D)

Fine. More for me.

Ben goes to the fridge and grabs two beers - he returns to the living room, hands one to Jeremy, and sits down on the couch.

Ben takes a long pull from the beer, then looks at Jeremy expectantly.

BEN (CONT'D)

So... did you... decide to bail on your plan?

JEREMY

What? You mean Stacy's party? That's on the twenty-second.

BEN

Uh dumbass, tomorrow is the twenty-second.

JEREMY

Man, stop trying to mess with-

Jeremy grabs his phone and checks the calendar app.

JEREMY (CONT'D)

Oh fuck!

He quickly claps his hand over his mouth and looks at the twins who are staring at him in shock.

JEREMY (CONT'D)

Hey kids go play outside in the backyard, grown-ups are talking.

ALEX

You aren't a grownup, grownups wear clean clothes.

Jeremy looks down at his shorts and notices a stain on them, he grabs a cushion and throws it at his cousin.

JEREMY

Just go, you little smartass!

The cushion misses Alex, and he and Jenna scamper out of the room.

BEN

So what are you going to do about tomorrow?

JEREMY

I don't know, do you have any ideas?

BEN

Well we could get someone else to watch them.

JEREMY

You mean outsource it? What are we, a tech support company? Besides, everyone is going to be at this party.

BEN

Then let's hear your brilliant plan.

Jeremy stands and paces for a BEAT - he stops and sits down again.

JEREMY

I've got nothing... Maybe if we sleep on it we'll come up with something.

INT. JEREMY'S HOUSE - DAY

CRASH - Jeremy wakes up and springs out of bed. He vaults down the stairs, searching for the sound of the crash. He spots the twins in the living room trying to hide a broken lamp.

JEREMY

Hey guys, go play outside.

Jeremy opens the back door and gestures for the twins to go outside.

As they leave, he throws a ball after them... like someone would for a dog.

Jeremy sits down on the couch.

Ben comes downstairs and goes straight to the fridge - he grabs two beers, hands one to Jeremy, and sits down next to him.

BEN

What happened to the lamp?

JEREMY

Don't worry, I'll get a new one.

Ben starts to LAUGH.

BEN

I think the bigger issue is, what are you going to do with them tonight.

JEREMY

I still have no idea.

BEN

What if you skip the party.

JEREMY

I can't, Stacey's leaving for
Ottawa Sunday for her internship.
It's tonight... or never.

Jeremy and Ben grab their beers and go outside.

EXT. JEREMY'S BACKYARD - DAY (CONTINUOUS)

Jeremy and Ben grab a pair of lawn chairs and take a seat side-by-side, watching Alex and Jenna, who are playing catch.

BEN

What are we going to do, we can't
bring them with us.

JEREMY

Can't we?

BEN

No! We can't! You know how parties
get around here. Remember when that
girl brought her dog to that frat
party, and a bunch of guys on the
football team got it drunk and
painted it's fur?

JEREMY

(laughing)

Oh, yeah. It was so drunk it
couldn't walk.

BEN

Or how about that guy who had that
collection beta fish, and people
started a fish fighting ring in his
dorm.

Jeremy LAUGHS harder.

BEN (CONT'D)

Those fish died, bro!

JEREMY

You think people are going to get my cousins drunk, and make them fight each other so they can bet on it?

BEN

MAYBE!

JEREMY

We'll just give them some ground rules and make sure one of us is always with them.

BEN

(under his breath)
And people say *I'm* the irresponsible one.

JEREMY

What?

BEN

Nothing... At least this way I won't have to hang out with Stacy's bitchy roommate.

JEREMY

Denise? You two **STILL** hate each other?

BEN

Bro! She told everyone I wet the bed.

JEREMY

(laughing)
That was in, like, the third grade.

BEN

Hey, it's not funny! Instead of Ben Webster, people called me Bed Wetter until high school.

JEREMY

But didn't you start it by telling everyone she couldn't go outside in the rain because she was a witch and she'd melt.

BEN

Oh yeah, because she was from Kansas.

JEREMY

How many times do I have to tell you, that doesn't make sense. Dorothy is from Kansas, the witch is from Oz.

BEN

Whatever, bro, everyone else got it.

JEREMY

You two need to just hook up and get it over with.

BEN

I would never... Not with her! Ever!

JEREMY

I think the real question is: can you go the whole night without having to change the sheets.

Ben leaps from his chair and tackles Jeremy who is still LAUGHING, and the two wrestle playfully on the grass.

INT. LIVING ROOM - EVENING

Jeremy and Ben stand in the living room, Alex and Jenna sit on the couch facing the older boys.

JEREMY

Alright guys, we're taking you to a party tonight, so we have some ground rules. Rule number one: Ben and I are in charge. Rule number two: don't drink anything anyone gives you.

ALEX

What if you give us a drink.

JENNA

Or Ben?

JEREMY

If Ben or I give you a drink that's fine, but no one else! Rule number three: if the cops show up tell them you're lost and need a ride home. And do not tell anyone your name.

EXT. FRONT LAWN - NIGHT

Jeremy, Ben and the twins arrive at the house. The MUSIC is so loud it can be heard two blocks away.

JEREMY
YOU THINK THIS IS THE PLACE?

BEN
WHAT?

JEREMY
YOU THINK THIS IS THE PLACE?

BEN
I THINK THIS IS THE PLACE!

JEREMY
I'M GOING TO GO FIND STACY!

BEN
WHAT?

JEREMY
I'M GOING TO GO FIND STACY!

BEN
YOU SHOULD GO FIND STACY!

INT. STACY'S HOUSE - EVENING

Jeremy walks into the dining room - people are playing beer pong and there is a crowd around the table, but no Stacy.

INT. STACY'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Jeremy walks into the kitchen - there is a group of people crowded around a keg, but no Stacy.

INT. STACY'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Jeremy goes into the backyard - there's a a group of stoners enveloped in a cloud of marijuana smoke, but no Stacy.

INT. STACY'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Jeremy goes upstairs and opens the bedroom door to his left - inside is a MAN (20's) and WOMAN (20's) in the bed half-naked.

GUY

Get out!

JEREMY

Have you guys seen Stacy?

The guy throws a shoe at Jeremy.

He frantically closes the door to avoid getting hit.

INT. STACY'S HOUSE - NIGHT (CONTINUOUS)

Ben and the twins stand in the corner of the living room. DENISE (20's) sees them and approaches.

BEN

Denise, where's Stacy?

DENISE

(slurring slightly)

Who let you in here? Our landlord doesn't allow dogs.

BEN

Stacy did... and don't you live here... bitch?

DENISE

(slurring slightly)

Stacy only tolerates you because she's in love with your oblivious friend.

BEN

Are you drunk?

DENISE

(slurring slightly)

Not drunk enough to make talking to you bearable.

While Denise and Ben argue the twins slip away into the dining room.

INT. STACY'S HOUSE - NIGHT

There is a FOOTBALL PLAYER (20's) at the beer pong table, clearly intoxicated wearing a shirt that says "Lions' Football" with a picture of the York University logo.

At the other end of the table are two GREASERS (20's) with what looks like a full bottle of hair-gel in their hair.

FOOTBALL PLAYER

You losers are a disgrace! Take your pussy drinks and get the hell out of my house!

GREASER

Can we at least get our bag first?

FOOTBALL PLAYER

No! It's our bag now! Consider it payment.

GREASER

Payment? For what?

FOOTBALL PLAYER

For the loser tax! Now get the fuck out!

The football player high-fives his BUDDY (20's), while the two greasers walk away from the table pathetically.

FOOTBALL PLAYER (CONT'D)

Who's next?

The crowd of people try to avoid eye contact with the football player.

FOOTBALL PLAYER (CONT'D)

What about you little dude?

The drunken football player gestures at Alex and Jenna.

BUDDY

Chill bro, they're kids.

FOOTBALL PLAYER

They can play with water.

ALEX

Fine, we'll play.

BUDDY

Do you know the rules?

ALEX

You put the ball in the cup, seems pretty simple.

JENNA

Yeah, if you can do it, how hard can it be?

The crowd CHEERS at Jenna's retort.

INT. STACY'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Jeremy walks into the living room.

Ben and Denise sit on the couch, making out.

JEREMY

I knew it!

They both look up and see Jeremy standing in front of them.

They immediately push away from each other, feigning repulsion.

BEN

It's not what it looks like.

JEREMY

Sure it's- Wait, where are the twins?

BEN

Oh shit! They were here a second ago.

JEREMY

Fuck!

Jeremy, Ben, and Denise get up and run around the house looking for Alex and Jenna.

Jeremy runs into the dining room and finds them playing beer pong.

He grabs their arms and pulls them away from the table.

JEREMY (CONT'D)

Let's go.

ALEX

But we're about to win.

DRUNK FOOTBALL PLAYER

Hah! Maybe next time, chief!

BEN

What the hell's wrong with you?
They're kids!

Ben takes a step threateningly towards the football player but Denise pulls him away.

DENISE

Come on.

As Jeremy walks out the front door he spots Stacy standing in the driveway.

EXT. STACY'S FRONT LAWN - NIGHT

BEN

You should go talk to her, I'll watch the kids.

Jeremy walks over to Stacy, who is standing with a group of people.

JEREMY

Hey Stacy, can I talk to you for a second?

STACY

Sure.

Stacy and Jeremy walk away from the others towards the end of the driveway.

STACY (CONT'D)

So what's up?

JEREMY

I've been trying to find you all night. I wanted to tell you that...

Jeremy trails off, and just looks at her awkwardly.

STACY

Tell me what?

JEREMY

I wanted to tell you that-

As he regains his composure, Jeremy's interrupted by SIRENS.

Two cop cars pull up in front of the house.

Ben runs over to where Jeremy and Stacey are talking, grabs his arm and pulls him towards Jenna and Alex.

Jeremy grabs Jenna, Ben grabs Alex, and they take off running.

INT. JEREMY'S HOUSE - DAY

Jeremy is passed out on the floor.

TILT UP to Ben, who is passed out on the couch.

TILT UP slightly further to Denise who is passed out on top of Ben.

Jeremy's phone BUZZES.

JEREMY

Hello?

AUNT CLAIR

Hi Jeremy, I'll be there to pick up the twins in about ten minutes.

JEREMY

Okay, see you soon.

Jeremy hangs up the phone.

JEREMY (CONT'D)

Shit, shit, shit!

He runs up the stairs into his bedroom where the twins are sleeping.

INT. BEDROOM - DAY

JEREMY

Alex! Jenna! Get your shit together! Your mom's on her way.

EXT. JEREMY'S FRONT DOOR - DAY

Aunt Clair stands at Jeremy's door, KNOCKING.

INT. JEREMY'S HOUSE - DAY

Jeremy crouches in front of Alex and Jenna, so they are at the same eye level.

JEREMY

Alright guys, remember, when your mom asks what you did, don't say you went with us to a college party.

JENNA

So, what should we say?

JEREMY

I don't know! Just make something up!

EXT. FRONT DOOR - DAY

Jeremy opens the door.

JEREMY
Hey, Aunt Clair.

Jeremy hands his aunt the twins' bag, as Alex and Jenna run outside and hug her.

AUNT CLAIR
So, did they behave? What did you guys do?

JEREMY
Uh... not go to a party and play drinking games.

AUNT CLAIR
What?

JEREMY
Nothing, goodbye.

AUNT CLAIR
Uh... Bye...

The twins run to the car, as Aunt Clair turns to leave.

INT. JEREMY'S HOUSE - DAY

Jeremy closes the door.

He gets half-way to the couch, when there is another KNOCK at the door.

EXT. FRONT PORCH - DAY

Jeremy opens the door

JEREMY
Did you guys forget- Oh... hi, Stacy.

STACY
Hey, Jeremy.

JEREMY
What's up?

STACY

We never finished our conversation yesterday.

JEREMY

Right, see... what I wanted to say was... The thing is-

Stacy leans in and kisses Jeremy, then pulls away.

STACY

I hope that wasn't-

Jeremy pulls her in and kisses her again.

After he pulls away they both smile at each other awkwardly.

JEREMY

Do you want to go get something to eat?

STACY

That sounds great.

Stacy and Jeremy get in Stacy's car and drive off.

INT. JEREMY'S HOUSE - DAY

Ben stands in the front hall, peeking out from behind the curtain of the window that faces the front lawn.

BEN

My boy finally did it.

DENISE

Uhm, are you blind? It was my *girl* who made the first move.

Ben turns around to see Denise standing behind him with her arms crossed.

BEN

Don't be stupid, if Jeremy hadn't talked to her at the party, she wouldn't have come over here.

DENISE

Oh, and what did he say? He ran off before he could say anything.

Ben turns around and walks towards the kitchen.

BEN

That's because the cops showed up!

Denise follows him.

DENISE

Sure... blame the cops. This is
just like...

FADE OUT.