

DAMIEN

You're kidding me, Mr. Muntz? Oh my god, he's getting her number. Ugh. Fine. But if I'm working on this stupid play, so are you.

ERIN

Ok. I think it'll be fun.

DAMIEN

You're so annoying.

She gives him half of her brownie and he takes a bite.

ERIN

So did you register for scuba diving lessons yet?

DAMIEN

Tch. Yeah. It wiped out like half the money I've made this year.

ERIN

Don't you think your mom is gonna think it's a little weird you signed you guys up, especially when she sees who the instructor is?

DAMIEN

She doesn't know I paid for them.

EXT. CARDINAL ADVENTURES - DAY

Damien and Laurie arrive on their bikes.

INT. CARDINAL ADVENTURES - CLASSROOM - DAY

There's about a DOZEN PEOPLE in the class, all couples, except for Damien and Laurie. Damien's hand taps against the desk - a nervous fidget.

LAURIE

You nervous?

DAMIEN

(stops tapping)

I'm excited, that's all.

Start

GREG (fka Handsome) arrives, but looks like he's been in a bad accident. His eyes are black and purple, lip blue. He moves slowly, like he's in pain. The class is horrified.

GREG

Good morning, everyone. So as you may have surmised, I suffered a minor case of the bends recently. It was my fault, I unfortunately ascended far too quickly. The good news is they say after a few more chemical peels, the scars will hardly be noticeable.

Greg chuckles and wipes the make-up off. It was a joke.

GREG (cont'd)

I'm sorry. I have a twisted sense of humor.

Most of the class is relieved, but also a little freaked out. But Laurie smiles, finding it funny.

GREG (cont'd)

Scuba diving is actually very safe. As long as it's done properly. Which is why you are all here, of course. As some of you know, I'm Greg. I am the owner here at Cardinal Adventures. Now my first question: is there anyone who signed up alone?

(no hands go up)

Of course not! Partly because you're required to sign up in pairs, but mainly because, like life, scuba diving is best experienced with a partner. And on that note, let's go around and meet all of you. We'll start with you two.

A couple, SUSAN (60s), chatty, and DOYLE (60s), crotchety, probably ex-military.

SUSAN

Hello everyone. I'm Susan. This is my husband Doyle.

Doyle nods, not much of a talker.

SUSAN (cont'd)

Our daughter is taking us to the Caribbean for our 40th anniversary in July, so that's why we're here.

GREG

The ruby anniversary. That's beautiful. Congratulations.

End

LOU
Erin. I thought you had to work.

EXT. BIKE SHOP - DAY

Damien pulls up the nannycam feed as he walks over to Dom's. Erin says something to Lou and he nods, smitten.

DAMIEN
Here we go.

Lou heads towards the nannycam with a big grin to grab his coat. In his excitement, he knocks over some props, and a horse mask falls down, right in front of the nannycam.

Damien's entire view is obscured by the mask. Damien looks on, dumbfounded. He sighs and pockets his phone.

He reaches Dom's and tries to peek inside, but can't see a thing. He sees a BOUNCER at the door, he's not getting in.

It starts to rain, so Damien heads back to the bike shop.

Start

INT. DOM'S - DAY

Greg and Laurie talk over drinks.

GREG
...I'm walking back to my place, it's like four in the morning, I'm, ya know, inebriated, and then a jeep pulls up out of nowhere, pulls up right next to me and a guy points an AK-47 right in my face.

LAURIE
Oh my god.

GREG
I thought they were robbing me, so I hurled my wallet at them in a panic. Nailed one of them in the face. Turns out that one of their friends had just been robbed, and they were looking for the culprit. They ended up giving me a ride back to my resort. Really cool dudes.

She laughs as he takes a hit from his vape, unleashing smoke all over her.

GREG (cont'd)

Oh. My bad.

LAURIE

It's fine.

(re smoke)

So that's why you always smell like cucumbers.

GREG

I can't stand the taste of them but oddly I find their aroma intoxicating. Your turn.

LAURIE

I'm not supposed to be smoking.

GREG

Huh? Oh, no, I meant, what's your craziest experience abroad?

LAURIE

I don't have one.

GREG

I find that hard to believe.

LAURIE

I've never been out of the country.

GREG

No. Really?

LAURIE

...I almost moved to Amsterdam for a year.

GREG

Yeah?

LAURIE

Technically, Utrecht. It's 25 minutes away. This was back in college. There was this undergrad exchange program with Utrecht University for veterinary medicine, that's what I wanted to do. It's one of the top programs in the world, and somehow I was accepted.

GREG

Nice.

End
