

Breaking Them Up

Yuri

4.

ERIN
(heard this before)
I know, Damien.

DAMIEN
You know what yesterday's big fight
was over?

ERIN
The usefulness of the electoral
college?

DAMIEN
The recycling not getting put out.

ERIN
Aren't you supposed to do that?

DAMIEN
I am, but I forgot, and they were
arguing over who forgot to remind
me. It's like everyday they find a
way to argue over something
completely ridiculous.

ERIN
Sounds like a broken record.

DAMIEN
(oblivious)
Yeah. It's so annoying. Part of me
wishes they'd just get a divorce so
we could all move on.

That touches a nerve with her and she looks up, serious.

ERIN
You don't mean that.

DAMIEN
I'm kidding. Kind of. But I
genuinely don't get why they ever
got married in the first place.

YURI (14), tall, on the nervous/goofy side, approaches. He wears a faded tee-shirt, his hair's shaggy.

YURI
Hey Damien, Erin. You mind if I
join you guys?

He's already taken a seat.

DAMIEN
Sure. Take a seat right there.

YURI
Cool. So what's that? Lunchables?

Damien and Erin exchange looks.

DAMIEN
Who's the girl?

YURI
What?

DAMIEN
Isn't that why you're talking to us?

YURI
What do you mean?

ERIN
I bet you it's Leanne Kolb.

DAMIEN
I was going to say Leanne, too.

They glance a few tables over at LEANNE (14), eating lunch by herself as she bobs her head to her headphones.

YURI
How'd you guys know?

DAMIEN
I dunno. Maybe it's cause you blindly trail her around like a zombie after French class everyday.

YURI
No I don't.

ERIN
Then why'd you walk into the girls restroom last week?

YURI
Ok fine, I'm crazy about her. When I see her it's like, uh, uh...

ERIN
...You can't put it into words?

YURI
Yeah. You guys are good.

DAMIEN
It's \$50 plus whatever expenses we incur.

YURI
Jesus. But you can get her to like me, can't you?

ERIN
No.

YURI
What?

Yuri looks to Damien, who shakes his head.

YURI (cont'd)
I thought that's what you guys do. That's what Chris Kovach said.

Angle on a SEMI-GEEKY KID, beside a SEMI-CUTE GIRL.

YURI (cont'd)
And Neil Rylance.

Angle on a SHY KID, sitting beside a CHATTY GIRL. While not total squares, both guys appear to have scored slightly above their pay grade.

ERIN
You've been misinformed.

DAMIEN
No one can make someone like someone else, Yuri.

YURI
Oh. Then what do you guys do?

DAMIEN
We create opportunities.

YURI
And for that you charge \$50?

ERIN
Plus expenses.

DAMIEN
So...shall we give it a go?

End