

IN THE MAKING

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Final Draft

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INT. PAUL'S ROOM- NIGHT.

A kid wearing a Batman costume and a girl dressed as Barbie are sitting on small chairs in a dimly lit room. Faint moonlight can be sensed. Paul sits facing them with an alcohol bottle in his hand, face invisible.

PAUL
(drunken voice) Kids, today I'm gonna tell you the story of how I defeated a group of Ninjas.

Both the kids are oddly silent, as if in a freeze-frame.

PAUL
Wow, you guys are good listeners.

PAUL (O.S.)
(mock narrator voice) So, it was back in, like, yesterday, when I saw my new roommates fighting.

INT. LIVING ROOM -DAY.

Sid and Andy are sitting on the couch with glum faces, their hands folded. Paul arrives and keeps his guitar aside.

PAUL
Hey... What the hell happened to you two?

SID
I don't know, Andy here acts as if I told him Thor could defeat Batman.

ANDY
(serious) You didn't! Thor is a fictional "God" and Batman is an iconic, modern, ... no, no, That's not the point. He stole Amanda from me!

SID
I didn't steal her. We just got to

talking and formed a genuine connection. I dated her before you anyway!

ANDY

Yeah no, it was an unethical backslide!

SID

Unethical? You dated your best friend's ex!

ANDY

You did the same, (beat) after me!

PAUL

Okay, okay, okay, you guys are both idiots. This is LA, we're in our early twenties, and you both are fighting for the same girl? Bite me. (shakes head)

ANDY

It was genuine love. Sid spoiled Game of Thrones AND Looking for Alaska for her! I waited for her to watch two full seasons of The Flash before I could have intimate discussions about it with her.

SID

Those spoilers were accidental!

ANDY

You were accidental!

PAUL

Guys come on! Amanda was a total.... inconsiderate woman who toyed with both of your feelings and moved on to the next guy!

SID

Actually, it was more like..a girl, I think, last I checked her Instagram.

PAUL

Whoa..Is that girl in question hot?

ANDY

IT DOESN'T MATTER! Wait..Is she actually into girls..does that makes us..

PAUL

Stupid! You guys are stupid!

SID

What do *you* know about us? You just moved here yesterday, wannabe rock star.

ANDY

Yeah, you don't know what love is. She was so nice, and cute, and nice, and..

PAUL

Cute?

ANDY

Let me finish!..Cute.

SID

(to Paul) You just bang chicks and never call them again.

PAUL

That's wrong actually, I do, but..umm..it's just that, sometimes,

they're not exactly what I'm looking
for in a..

ANDY
They ghost him.

SID
They ghost him!

Sid and Andy high-five each other, and then suddenly wipe
their hands off their shorts and look away.

PAUL
You know that doesn't always happ..

ANDY and SID
Shut up dude! Just.. shhhhhh.

PAUL
What do you guys want? It's my first
day here and already two of my
roommates are fighting? Maybe I need
to find some other, friendlier place
or something and be more selective
with my housing choices.

Sid and Andy give him a questioning grin.

PAUL
I mean who am I kidding. I need--
Ahem! Here's what we're gonna do.
(enthusiastic) Today! We're gonna go
out and expand our horizons and help
you move on from that bi-
uhh-beautiful and mean woman, what's
her name?

Both of them try to mouth words.

PAUL
Uh Uh Uh..Was a test. Shouldn't
matter.

SID
I thought one usually goes out at
night to pick up girls.

PAUL
Day game, boys. Think outside the
box.

ANDY
You got that gig at night where you
dress up as a chicken, don't you?

PAUL
(beat) (looks at Andy) Outside the
box. Let's go!

EXT. THE STREETS - DAY.

Paul, Sid and Andy are walking on the beach with phones in
their hands.

PAUL
Isn't this nice? Out in the Sun,
soaking in the energy of this city,
completely forgetting about stupid
Amanda or whatever, and getting along
again?

Andy is still on his phone the entire time.

ANDY
Yeah sure, man, is this Adam guy
stupid? (mocking) Oh, I'm a
billionaire, income inequality could
be solved if you tax me even less.

SID
Whoa, he has a point though, we can't

punish innovation and enterprise with taxes all the time.

ANDY

Of course, steal people's girlfriends, and don't pay taxes. That's exactly what you Republicans do.

SID

Democrats sleep with their friend's exes and steal everyone's hard earned money!

ANDY

You're a Republican, in California, might as well give her up.

SID

California was all red before-

PAUL

Aaaghh guysss! Okay, first of all, Andy has a point. A Republican in California? I mean, Sid, if you wanna be Governor someday, might as well run as a Green party candidate.

SID

Reagan won California!

ANDY

Reagan's dead!

PAUL

Okay okay stop! I thought we were out here having fun, meet new bit..girls and forget about our squabbles..Man, why can't we all get along? Why fight over girls and states? Wait, Andy, is

that my Mars bar?

ANDY
Look, technically-

PAUL
That was my Mars Bar! I work so hard,
struggling all day, trying to make it
with my band and musi- Ughh, give me
that!

Paul takes the Mars bar from Andy and starts eating it.

SID
That's what socialists do. Take
people's Mars bar-

PAUL
Shut up dude! Just..shhhhh..

EXT. THE BEACH - DAY.

NARRATOR(V.O.)
Now kids, there was something I had
been doing that your uncles hadn't
noticed that day but it eventually
came up.

Paul, Sid and Andy are walking on the beach.

PAUL
I know right. LA, full of hot bi-
girls.

ANDY
Ay Paul, Why do you keep
self-censoring "bitches" when you
talk?

PAUL
It's nothing really, I've been trying

to be more respectful towards women
in general-

SID
Yeah right. That's about as
believable as "temporary government
programs." You're full of shit.

ANDY
What's reaaallyy going on?

PAUL
Oh guys, it's nothing,
just..(expression turning to fearful)
Oh My God, help me! I am being
haunted by Crazy Donna for the past
two weeks!

SID and ANDY
Crazy Donna?

PAUL
Every time I say...you know what..She
just attacks me out of nowhere!

INT. A BAR- NIGHT.

Paul is partying with his band mates.

PAUL
Let's get rolling, bitches!

A tattooed woman jumps on top of him and scratches his face.

WOMAN
Show some respect, else look out for
Crazy Donna!

EXT. THE STREETS. - DAY.

Paul is meeting some friends.

PAUL
Wadduuup, bitches!

The same woman comes up from behind him and tackles his to the ground.

EXT. THE STREETS. - DAY.

Paul is helping out an old woman.

OLD WOMAN
Thank you for the directions, son.
One more question, do you happen to
know the word for female dog?

PAUL
(fumbles and makes weird noises)
It..ju..aah.j..ju..juuooowaaaaa
a(whispers) A bitch?

The old woman rips her disguise and is revealed to be Crazy Donna. She then jumps on top of Paul and tackles him to the ground.

Whip-Pan back to the beach.

ANDY
She *calls* herself Crazy Donna? Not
very creative of her. Why do you
think she's doing this?

SID
More importantly, *how* is she doing
this?

PAUL
I don't know, it's just, does she
follow me, track me..?

ANDY

But what could be her reas-

SID

What if she's CIA? Did she manage to install some sort of tracking device inside you while you were asleep?

ANDY

Why would the CI-

PAUL

What if she watches me using some sort of mosquito-sized drone?

SID

Yeah, but like, she could be Russian. Maybe she knows I wanna be Governor someday, sees me as a threat, saw you with me, and wants to hack the election..

PAUL

Sid, don't be ridiculous.

ANDY

Thank you!

PAUL

I met you a week ago. She has been bugging me before that. So definitely rule out the election thing, come on. And, she doesn't have an accent. Unless-

ANDY

(annoyed)Have any of you even thought of her intentions? And can you guys stop being total goddamn lunatics!

Sid and Paul stare at him.

PAUL
Guess he has a point.

SID
Yeah, like, it can't be out of
nowhere. But like, she could be first
generation Russian, like, revenge for
America having military bases in
their near-abroad..

ANDY
You gotta be kidding me!

EXT. THE BEACH- DAY.

Our guys are relaxing on some reclining chairs at the beach.

SID
You know, you've been pretty quiet
lately.

ANDY
He has been spouting his Russian
theory for the past half hour!

SID
Yeah, CNN has done that shit for
years! Give that guy a break. He is
under stress. Hey, you brought us out
here to move on and have fun. You
know, you should too. Just enjoy
the..(looks at a girl passing by)
viewwwssss, and take your mind off of
Crazy Donna.

ANDY
Yeah, he's right. I mean, I don't
even think she can harm you here, in

public.

PAUL
(sarcastic) Yeah, cause nightclubs
and the streets are private places.

SID
Man, I don't know, is she some girl
you ghosted on?

Both Sid and Andy burst into laughter.

PAUL
Hey, she could be! I have ghosted on
many, hot, bitches in my lifetime.

Suddenly, three girls dressed as Ninjas arrive and tackle,
scratch and beat up all three of them while they scream and
cry for help.

EXT. BEACH - LATER THAT DAY.

All three of them wake up with scars and bruises on their
faces and bodies. They look messy.

PAUL
Damn it!

SID
Does this..

ANDY
We're all afflicted by the curse of
the Donna!

All three of them start screaming.

CUT TO:

INT. THE LIVING ROOM - AFTERNOON.

Sid and Andy are on the couch while Paul is pacing around

the room.

SID

Oh my God, who? Why? Why on Earth?

ANDY

We didn't even sleep with them and didn't call them back later!

SID

How do you know?

ANDY

How many girls have we slept with anyway?

SID

I mean yeah, guess you have a point.

ANDY

I don't believe it! We met this dude a week ago, he starts living here, is haunted by a stupid word, and we get roped in too? Is this some sort of nightmare? What's happening? We need to get some help. This doesn't feel right.

PAUL

Guys, focus. Now, there's a total of three women who I slept with and didn't call back. None of them were named Donna, or even look like Crazy Donna.

ANDY

Three women!? What happened to "many, hot,..girls?"

PAUL

That's not the focus here..

SID

This Donna's real smart. Using a fake name to hide her true identity.

ANDY

Ohh, real smart. Noone ever thinks like her.

PAUL

Why would this woman care about my language so much? Is it revenge? Is it some sort of cause she believes in?

ANDY

She's probably just stupid, obsessed and crazy and you need to call the poli-

PAUL

This is a mystery that we must solve using our unique talents and grit.

ANDY

Theeeree we go.

SID

And uncover the identity of this Russian spy.

PAUL

Be more realistic, Sid. She ain't no spy.

ANDY

Oh, *that's* the unrealistic part.

SID
So, what's the plan?

PAUL
(looks ahead) First, I..uhh.

SID
You what?

PAUL
I mean, I uhh, plan to do some *social engineering* and get some information out of people.

ANDY
Yeah, he doesn't have a plan.

PAUL
Like you do?

ANDY
(clears throat)Glad you asked. Okay, here's the thing. We say the word-that-must-not-be-said out loud in public.

SID
Oh, no one really thought of that. What a novel idea.

ANDY
Hear me out! Jeez. Okay, so we go out in the middle of the street and say 'bi---uuuuyuuu--' that word, out loud. And then-

SID
Say the secret Russian code word and unmask her identity?

ANDY
Why--whaa-

PAUL
Dude! I gave it up long time back.
Just stop.

SID
Fine. Sooka-bb...She probably knows
the Russian word for..

ANDY
(sighs) And then, when we say it, we
quickly hide and wait for them and
confront them. Ask them what they
want. Their price for our freedom.

PAUL
Man, I can't believe it. It's my
birthday tomorrow and I'm still being
haunted by that crazy bi-

SID and ANDY
No, no, no, no, stop!

EXT. THE STREETS - EVENING.

Paul, Sid and Andy are walking in the streets waiting to
execute their plan.

PAUL
Well, there's one upside to us all
being cursed. At least we're not
fighting amongst each other. We even
forgot about what you two guys were
on about.

SID
What were we on about? And why were
we on about it?

ANDY
Yeah, some girl..

SID
Oh my God, Crazy Donna has been
equipped by memory-stealing gadgets!

ANDY
The future governor, ladies and
gentlemen.

PAUL
Alright, ready, boys?

SID and ANDY
(dull tone) Ready!

PAUL
3..2..1..

PAUL, SID, and ANDY
Biiiaaaaatttttchhhhhhh!

SID
Run for your lives, gentlemen!

All three of them run and hide behind a taco truck. They see
a team of girls dressed as Ninjas arrive running, serious
looks on their faces.

CRAZY DONNA
Can't hide, Paul. Justice will be
served!

SID
(to himself) She'll make a terrible
actor.

PAUL

Alright team, it's time!

The three of them surround the three Ninjas out to get them. Sid and Andy come up from behind Donna's two partners and tackle them to the ground. Paul has a Western-style face-off with Donna.

PAUL
Well, well, well, we meet again.
(spits)

CRAZY DONNA
And probably the last time we will.

Upbeat orchestral music plays as both of them run to each other in slow-motion and fight to the death.

NARRATOR (V.O.)
At least that's how we thought it
would happen.

Whip-Pan back to the present.

PAUL
Oh my God I don't wanna die.

SID
Man, I had such plans and visions for
the state of California.

ANDY
I wanted to write at least one
original Batman comic before I went
out like that.

CRAZY DONNA
Looks like they aren't here. We'll
get them later.

All three of them heave a sigh of relief. As they start to come out slowly out of their hiding places, they get ambushed by three femme fatales and get tackled and beaten

up.

CRAZY DONNA

A taco truck? Really? Later losers!

The three of them slowly try to recover from their shock.

SID

Man, I thought a taco truck was easy to hide behind.

PAUL

So did we, Sid. So did we.

Both of them look at Andy.

ANDY

Well, I guess that plan sorta went to shit.

SID

Would have never guessed.

PAUL

I guess we'll just have to keep censoring ourselves for the rest of our lives and uhh, be nice, and respectful-

SID

It's like one of those videos asking kids not to do drugs except, this ain't a video, and..it actually works.

ANDY

Yeah--

Just as Andy was about to say something, he spots a key ring.

ANDY

Hmm..Looks like they left one of

these here.

PAUL

You sure it's them? Could be anyone else.

ANDY

It's the same spot you got tackled and got punched in the-

PAUL

Okay, yeah yeah I got it. Wait, I think I recognize this.

SID

Please let it not be one of those "I'm your father" twists like you being born into a Ninja cult and then left to raise in a different family to protect yo-

ANDY

Paul, what do you mean you recognize this? Are you sure?

PAUL

Yeah, yeah, I just..I'm not sure from where..Jenny! It's Jenny's!

SID

Jenny?

PAUL

My sister! Why would this ninja girl have her key ring?

SID

Ohhhh..

PAUL and ANDY
What?

SID
Your sister dressed up as a Ninja,
and wore a face mask just to mess
with you.

Both of them give dismissive shrugs but then suddenly hit a realization.

PAUL
Wait, could this be some sort of
elaborate prank?

ANDY
Except without the face mask.

SID
Hey, so I was close.

PAUL
We don't know for sure yet.

ANDY
Why would she do this? Does she like
torturing you? Does she hate you?
Does she hate everyone? Like, the
people you befriend? And then torture
them too?

PAUL
No, No, we just, well, have a history
of, uh, playing, practical jokes on
each other.

INT. HIGH SCHOOL LOCKERS - DAY.

Paul is talking to a girl. Jenny walks by the two of them.

JENNY
He has syphilis!

The girl runs off.

INT. SUBURBAN GARAGE - DAY.

Paul is jamming with his band. In the background, we can hear Jenny screaming.

JENNY
He has syphilis!

Paul and the rest of the band members give a confused shrug.

INT. RESTAURANT- DAY.

Paul is waiting tables. Jenny walks in the restaurant and shouts.

JENNY
He has syphilis!

EXT. THE STREETS (BACK TO PRESENT) .

ANDY
Wait, so, the only practical joke your sister played on you was shout that you had an STD at inappropriate moments? That's just sad.

SID
And extremely weird. Like how does she know that you have syphilis? Did someone tell her? (shocked expression) Or-

PAUL
(shouts) I do not have syphilis!

People walking by give surprised looks to them.

ANDY

She doesn't seem smart enough to pull an elaborate prank like this, if it's that.

SID

Unless, those crazy ninjas broke into her house, killed her, and took her belongings, the key-ring being one of them!

ANDY

Oh man, this conspiracy nut, not aga-(beat) Wait, Paul, when was the last time you talked to Jenny?

PAUL

Like a month ago, I guess. Haven't heard from her since. (beat, expression changing to shock) Oh my God.

INT. JENNY'S HOUSE - NIGHT.

Paul, Sid and Andy are sneaking around Jenny's house somewhere in the LA suburbs and talking softly.

SID

Yeah so, if Jenny does turn up dead, you can thank me later.

Paul and Sid give him a dismissive look and shake their heads.

ANDY

You know, you could have just called her first and maybe, I don't know the police or something-

PAUL

The authorities? No way. We have to be discreet if we are to outsmart those Ninjas.

SID
At least someone shares my skepticism of government institutions.

ANDY
Okay, Ron Swanson. (to Paul) What do you plan on doing anyway?

PAUL
Just see if she's alive, and maybe ask her what's the deal with Crazy Donna.

SID
And if she's dead?

PAUL
Then go home, devise a strategy to plan my revenge on those,...

Sid and Andy give him a questioning look.

PAUL (CONTD.)
...Hide and pray to God they stop coming after me.

ANDY
Us. Coming after us.

SID
Yeah, you gave us bitch syphilis.

PAUL and ANDY
Duuudee!

SID

Oh God! We gotta hide again. But that was kinda funny you gotta admi-

ANDY

Shut up!

The three of them frantically try and find places to hide. Sid tries to hide behind a pole but gets pulled aside by Andy. They suddenly find a couple of bean bag chairs behind an oddly messy spot by the pool with beer bottles strewn all beside them. As they awkwardly try to hide their large bodies behind them somehow, they start to lose hope.

PAUL

Beanbag chairs? Score!

ANDY

You're one to talk!

SID

If only we could find a way to implant a virus in their ninja troupe like Jeff Goldblum did to those aliens in Independence Day.

PAUL

Resistance is futile. They could be here any minute now.

Suddenly, Paul notices something. It looks like somebody left their ninja costume in the between those beanbags, almost too obvious too be seen.

PAUL

Wait a minute..

SID

Yeah we're waiting.

PAUL

No, I mean, look-

ANDY
We're looking.

PAUL
The ninja costume!

Andy and Sid shush him and give a surprised look.

SID
Oh my God! So someone murdered the
ninjas AND Jenny?

ANDY
Dude, we don't know of any murder
yet. Just..Also, this definitely
means Crazy Donna, or at least one of
her subordinates were here.

PAUL
Kinda Odd. I thought they were gonna
attack us, NOW. But if the costume is
here-

Suddenly, another costume comes flying by in Paul's face, as
if thrown on purpose.

PAUL
Wait a second...

ANDY
Does this mean..

SID
That Jenny is Crazy Donna with a face
mask!

PAUL
Oh dude, you're crazy!

ANDY

This means she's coming..alone?

PAUL
Why you asking me?

ANDY
Hey, you're the one being tormented
by a group of Ninja thugs. We don't
even need to be here.

SID
Yeah, you got us into this stupid
mess.

And then suddenly, another ninja costume comes flying by..
at Sid's face.

SID
Oh my God!

Sid fiddles with the dress.

ANDY
You won't find a bra in there!

Sid keeps the dress down, disappointed.

Suddenly, we hear voices in the distance.

JENNY
Here losers!

At the back, we suddenly see Jenny come out with "Crazy
Donna" by her side, in normal clothing. A bunch of people
come out and start singing "Happy Birthday" to Paul. The
three friends are confused.

INT. THE POOLSIDE - NIGHT.

Paul, Sid, Andy, Jenny and Donna are talking with drinks in
their hands.

SID
Donna is your real name? So you're
not *that* smart.

The others give brief dismissive looks.

PAUL
This sick joke, for several days,
just to spook me for my birthday? I'm
never celebrating again. I had started
to believe in ghosts for a while. How
did you even track me?

JENNY
Well..

She looks at Sid. Sid gives an evil mock laugh.

PAUL
You were in on this thing?

SID
Team effort.

He winks.

SID (CONTD.)
You see, whenever you were out, I
just texted her your whereabouts,
based on what you told me. She just
alerted her roommate, Donna and her
friends to dress up as Ninjas and
catch up with you, and decide to
smother you in random moments.

ANDY
So it wasn't because he was saying
'Bitch'?

DONNA
Nah, that's just something he came up
with on his own. It was coincidental.

SID

And I let you run with it, and kept you distracted-

ANDY

With all your crazy, annoying theories.

PAUL

But how do you even know Jenny?

SID

(hesitating)Uh, she came by one day looking for you, and we just..uhh..

JENNY

He tried to hit on me, and I gave him my number and ran off so I could plan this little skit.

PAUL

You tried to-

DONNA

It's all good, she already rejected him. Props to him though, stayed in character right up till now.

SID

So-

DONNA

No.

She walks away.

PAUL

My baby sister, all grown up, doing more creative pranks, huh. I'm annoyed and proud at the same time.

JENNY

You're welcome. And you've been warned. Enjoy, Chicken Little! It's your day.

ANDY

Chicken little!?

JENNY

Yeah, I kind of started calling him that since his little "marketing gig" began.

They all laugh. Jenny walks off.

SID

Chicken li-

PAUL

Stay away from Jenny, or I'll cut you.

SID

Okay I'm sorry!

ANDY

Chicken li-

PAUL

Later folks, and come up with something original.

Paul walks away to join his party.

CUT TO:

INT. POOLSIDE - NIGHT.

Jenny calls everyone's attention at the party.

JENNY

So guys! As you all know, it's
brother's birthday, and he turns 23
today. It's a very special day for me
and I'd like to say a few words.

Our three protagonists raise their eyebrows and look on.

JENNY

PAUL HAS SYPHILIS!

Everyone groans with disgust.

JENNY

Works every time!

She runs away.

PAUL

I WILL KILL YOU!

He tries to chase her into the house.

INT. PAUL'S ROOM - NIGHT.

PAUL

So then, she hid in her room, I gave
up, got more drunk and then came back
to the house. I guess I didn't really
defeat the ninjas, but come to think
of it, they kind of defeated
themselves, right?

He starts laughing. Suddenly Andy comes into the room.

ANDY

Hey, Paul, why have you been talking
to yourself for the last, twenty
minutes? Or..

We see the couch with the kids dressed up as Batman and
Barbie. Turns out they're just dolls.

ANDY (CONTD.)

..these dolls?

Paul is too drunk to care. He smiles.

PAUL

They are like adorable little dolls,
aren't they?

He then passes out on the bed.

END.

