

"The Truth About Nerds and Dogs" Writer's Draft 8/4/05 14.  
(I/B)

BEN

I just wasn't expecting you home this early, and...

OLIVER

You rascal! You have a date in there, don't you? Is it the chick from the diner?

BEN

Caught me. Guilty as charged. And things are getting pretty hot and heavy, so if you don't mind --

~~ARTHUR MALE VOICE (O.S.)~~

Ben, get in here! Sauron is gathering the Orcs!

OLIVER LOOKS QUIZZICALLY AT BEN, THEN PUSHES PAST HIM.

RESET TO:

INT. BEN'S APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

OLIVER ENTERS TO SEE A GUY, TED, SITTING IN FRONT OF THE TV.

BEN

(BUSTED) Oliver, you remember my friend Ted, from high school.

TED

Pull up a chair, Ollie. We're having a "Lord of the Rings" marathon -- nine hours eighteen minutes of the greatest sci-fi fantasy story ever told.

"Out of Practice"

Start →

'Ted'  
'Arthur'

#1

1/7

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OLIVER

(SAD) Oh Ben. "Lord of the Rings"?

BEN

It happens to be a classic -- a  
timeless allegory of good versus evil.

TED

And it's got Liv Tyler.

ANOTHER FRIEND, ARTHUR, EMERGES FROM THE KITCHEN WITH CHIPS.

ARTHUR

(LONGINGLY) Liv Tyler. I'd like to  
be the lord of her rings. (THEN) Hi,  
Oliver.

OLIVER

Hi. Sorry, I don't remember...

ARTHUR

Arthur. Yeah, I didn't come by your  
house very often. I was always afraid  
I'd get beat up.

OLIVER

I would never --

ARTHUR

Not you, Regina.

OLIVER

So, you guys are hanging out again?

2/7

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TED

Yeah, the minute we heard Ben's old lady split we called him up and said, "B-Squared, we're on our way."

ARTHUR

We're all single at the same time. Isn't that weird?

OLIVER

What are the odds? (THEN) Ben, you're single again. Do you really want to waste that on some movie about midgets and fairies?

TED AND ARTHUR CHORTLE.

TED

Hilarious. (TO OLIVER) Uh, Oliver, there are no fairies in "Lord of the Rings." There are elves, hobbits, orcs, ringwraiths, balrogs...

ARTHUR

"Harry Potter" has fairies. (OFF THEIR LOOKS) But "Harry Potter" is totally gay and stupid, right guys?

OLIVER

Excuse us.

OLIVER TAKES BEN ASIDE.

OLIVER (CONT'D)

Snap out of it, man!

3/7

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BEN

What? It's just a movie.

OLIVER

That's how it starts. ~~"Just a movie"~~  
~~Seen it? ~~carbon figures, like, tapes~~~~  
~~and nerds~~ Next thing you know you're  
going to the convention center in Spock  
ears to get Leonard Nimoy's autograph.

ARTHUR

Leonard Nimoy's coming to the  
convention center?!

BEN

Zip it, Arthur.

OLIVER

(SOTTO) Ben, don't let these needs  
back in your life. I know a dozen  
girls I could --

BEN

Oliver, stop meddling. I told you I'm  
not ready to date.

OLIVER

At least get out of the apartment. Go  
drinking...

BEN

We're drinking.

OLIVER LOOKS OVER AT TED, WHO IS LINING UP SHOT GLASSES.

4/7



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(II/J)

BEN

(PROUD) Yeah, I was on fire, wasn't I?  
(THEN) As for your endless competition, any Freudian can tell you a deep-seated sibling rivalry --

OLIVER

Okay, don't push your luck.

REGINA

Yeah, we're sorry.

OLIVER

We're going to make it up to you.  
Let's pour some wine and hang out -- just the three of us.

#2

BEN

Sounds great.

AS THEY START TO SETTLE IN...

SFX: DOORBELL RINGS

BEN ANSWERS THE DOOR TO TED AND ARTHUR.

TED

B-Squared! (THEN) Hi Oliver, Regina.

REGINA

Hey guys.

SHE GOES TO SHAKE ARTHUR'S HAND. HE FLINCHES.

TED

Sorry we didn't call. We were in the video store across the street and they had the "Planet of the Apes" boxed set.

6/7

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(II/J)

ARTHUR

It's got all five movies, plus more than four hours of bloopers.

(CHUCKLING) Whenever Dr. Zaius forgets a line, he says a swear. Which is funny, because apes don't swear.

BEN

(TO OLIVER AND REGINA) What do you say? Ready for an "Apes" marathon?

OLIVER

(STANDING) Actually, I still have that dinner reservation.

REGINA

(STANDING) I'm pretty hungry.

BEN

Have fun.

OLIVER

(HEADING FOR THE DOOR) My treat.

REGINA

I can afford it.

OLIVER

I know you can, I'm just saying I do earn quite a bit more...

REGINA

Yeah, rub that in my face again.

THEY EXIT BICKERING, AS WE:

FADE OUT.

7/7