

Dork to Dork

by Rebecca Clements

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EXT. SUNNY FALL STREET

Kate rides her bike down a street delivering newspapers. She hums to herself listening to her i-pod, popping bubble gum bubbles, oblivious to her surroundings.

One paper starts a car alarm, another goes through a window followed by a cats snarl, the last hits an old man with a cane who dramatically loses his balance and falls to the ground.

INT. STAIRWELL

Kate struggles to open a door to the stairs which she starts to climb. In her arms she holds several delivery boxes which she appears to be struggling with.

After making her way up several stairs she loses one of the boxes and it goes crashing down the stairs with sounds of glass breaking inside.

PASSERBY
Should've used the elevator

EXT. FRONT YARD BY A TRUCK

Kate struggles with a large bag of leaves. Other yard workers move around her moving their various gear into the back of the truck. They laugh at her girliness. One bag breaks on Kate. She then attempts to shovel the leaves back into the bag with little luck as the hole just tears wider. Her superior stands behind her, takes his hat off wiping sweat from his brow in distress of her nuisance.

EXT. TABLE ON CAMPUS

Kate plops down in an empty chair at a table where two of her closest friends sit. She still has on her yard work attire. She is covered in grass stains, leaves are stuck in her braids and she has dirt all over her. Kate looks exhausted and helpless.

Ashley and Jane wait for an explanation while at the same time are trying not to laugh. Jane is having a harder time of it.

Kate reluctantly pulls out a pink piece of paper which Jane takes, looking back and forth between the two with the deja vu of the situation on her mind.

(CONTINUED)

JANE
(sympathetically and slightly
disappointed)
Oh Kate, not again...

ASHLEY

(Grabbing the piece of paper out of Jane's hand; as she
reads she get more and more hysterical)

"Dear Kate, Thank you for your
time; however, we feel this just
isn't working out. Please turn in
your uniform to Frank and you can
pick up your check for the week's
work."

Ashley breaks into laughter which instantly rubs off on
Jane.

ASHLEY
(laughing)
You..you didn't even make it
through the week??

JANE
(laughing)
Well it couldn't have been worse
than when you had to sell knives.

EXT. FRONT PORCH

Flash Back.

Kate is attempting to sell knives to an old lady. She holds
up a piece of leather and has the old lady hold it to
demonstrate.

KATE
So this is one of your basic steak
knives. It can cut though leather.
If you would hold this please.

Blood splats up on Kate's face. Kate panics.

KATE AND OLD LADY
AHHHHHHHHHHH!!!

EXT. TABLE ON CAMPUS

All three girls come out of memory mode, as they were all thinking of the same horror story.

Kate throws her head down onto her arm.

KATE
(groans, frustrated)
Gruuuuggghhh....

Kate lifts her head back up, her chin still resting on her arm. Her face has a mix of disappointment as well as acknowledgment in her issues.

JANE
Kate??

KATE
(mumbling)
I suck. I'm never going to keep a job.

ASHLEY
(trying to sound reassuring)
Sure you will. We'll just come up with a list of things you are actually good at.

Ashley pulls out a pen and pad out of her backpack.

ASHLEY (CTD.)
Ok... so sharp items...
OUT. Physical strength is out.

JANE
Customer Service??

KATE
Hardly.

ASHLEY
What about fast food?

JANE
(starting to crack a smile but quickly realizes it's too soon)
Not once she sets the kitchen on fire.

(CONTINUED)

ASHLEY

Math?

KATE

Still hopeless.

JANE

Your a good listener.

KATE

(Sarcastically)

Yeah OK... I guess I'm qualified to
be a paid friend.

Ashley gets an idea and starts to type away on her laptop.

JANE

You could walk dogs. That's an
easy job.

KATE

Yeah that could work.

JANE (CHANGING HER MIND)

I guess that involves a lot of poo
though.

Both girls look at each other with looks of disgust and now
disapproval of the idea. Then they notice Ashley has been
silent.

JANE

What are you doing Ashley?

ASHLEY

Reading off her computer screen

Need a friend that's not pretend?

Call Kate she has a great rate!

Kate and Jane pause, look at each other with bewilderment
and burst out laughing.

KATE AND JANE

WHAT!!!????

JANE

It's perfect. No sharp objects, no
poo, no mess!

KATE

Grabs the laptop and starts to read.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

KATE (cont'd)
The classifieds??

ASHLEY
Yeah! We'll make you your own boss!
It'll be great.

KATE

reading

Service offered... A Paid Friend

Pay me to be your friend. \$12 an
hour. I'm a good listener. I also
like to talk. I like watching
movies.

Kate pauses in thought. She comes to an agreement that she
can do this job.

KATE (CTD.)
I'll give it one week!

Kate starts to add to the ad herself. She reads her
additions aloud as she types.

INT. HOUSE

Doorbell Rings

POV. A Door is opened to Kate. She walks in.

KATE V.O.
I'll be there for you. A shoulder
to cry on. A friend to hear your
complaints. I can be comforting and
reassuring.

INT. DINNER TABLE

A goofy looking boy is sitting at the dinner table giddy and
nervous that such a cute girl is sitting at his table.

The camera pans from the table's center to show the mother.
She looks at her boy with pride then over toward Kate when
she slowly smiles to reveal a mouth full of old brown
crooked teeth.

The camera pans again to show Kate who is a little wide eyed
and trying to force a smile in her odd situation.

INT. VIDEO GAMER'S ROOM

Video Game Enthusiast is intense into his video game and is rambling off about them as they play together. Kate is a little frightened by the gamers enthusiasm and seriousness of it.

KATE V.O.

I'm decent at video games.

GAMER

QUICK you idiot! Duel-wield those SMGs. We need to climb in the warthog and get to the flag..... My gamer tag ranking is going down with all your dying!

EXT. OPEN GRASS AREA

KATE V.O.

I'll play most sports.

Star Wars nerd is light saber fighting with Kate. Kate is being dominated.

(Yelling as she is getting whacked)

KATE CTD.

Are you sure this is a sport!???

INT. TECH ENTHUSIASTS ROOM

Tech enthusiast showcases his gadgets to Kate. Robots and Motherboards. Kate pretends to be interested.

TECH ENTHUSIAST

(all in one breath, very quickly)

So you have and RGB LED and plug it here to the pic projector which allows you to create 16.7 million colors with one light. And here's the best part! After you write PBASIC code you use the USB to RS232 connection to load EEPROM Ram...

INT. DUNGEONS AND DRAGONS NERD ROOM

Dungeons and Dragons nerd is rambling on about D&D lingo with a short attention span as he attempts to teach Kate the Rules of the Game.

D AND D NERD

Which of the core races do you want to be? A dragonborn, a dwarf, Eladrin, a High Elf, a Rock Gnome, a Half-Elf, Half-Orc, Halfling, Human, or a Tiefling.

KATE

Um... one of the high-half creatures?

INT STAR WARS NERD ROOM

Kate is in full Star Wars attire as Princess Leia, hair buns and all. A nerd sits down next to her in full Darth Vader attire. Though he was silent when he sat down he slowly turns to look at her and reaches up to touch one of her buns. Kate looks a little horrified.

DARTH VADER

(Darth Vader like breathing.
Nervously)

eeeehhhhh hooooowwww eeeeeheheh

INT KATE'S ROOM

Kate plops down in front of her computer, still in her princess Leia attire. One of her buns is rustled.

KATE V.O.

P.S. I will NOT participate in ANY weird reenactments, role playing or fantasies.

KATE CLOSES HER LAPTOP. ROOM GOES PITCH BLACK FOR TRANS

EXT. TABLE - CAMPUS

Kate is playing 'Axis and Allies' with a nerd whom is very passionate about it. He is rambling off to Kate about the rules.

(CONTINUED)

BOARD GAME NERD
My Panzer battalions just dominated
your infantry in Stalingrad . . .
Horrible strategy!

DOLLY SHOT MOVES FROM KATE TO BRITTNEY, A GIRL ON HER LAPTOP
SITTING AT THE TABLE NEXT TO HER.

Jake walks up surprising Brittney, flirts with her, sits
down.

JAKE
What are ya doin'?

BRITTNEY
Just cruzin' the classifieds.

JAKE
Cool.

Jake puts his school stuff down and has a seat.

Brittney spots the paid friend ad Kate posted.
(Talking to her computer.)

BRITTNEY CTD.
Are you serious??!?

JAKE
What?

BRITTNEY
This chick is totally selling
herself online, as a paid friend in
the classifieds.

JAKE
(a little high on himself)
Seriously? (half smiling at the
idea) Wow what a loser. Then
again, might not be such a bad
job. I mean, tons of chicks would
totally pay me to hang out with
them. Get a bit of the 'ol mono eh
mono with the J-Dog.

Jake spots a friend and yells to her.
Hey! What up Chelsea!

Brittney whacks Jake for being so obnoxious

BRITTNEY

It's sad to think of all the losers that reply to it... I bet she makes bank.

JAKE

I so would. Seriously. Paid to be a date? Get a little action maybe. It's just legal enough.

BRITTNEY

Yeah but then again you'll probably just get stuck with weirdo's like that guy.

Brittney gestures toward the Board Game Enthusiast.

Board Game Enthusiast has lost his patience with Kate's lack of skill and knowledge of the game.

BOARD GAME ENTHUSIAST

NO, NO, NO! You can't take Asia out with Germany alone. If you don't coordinate with Japan, you might as well just LET me win.

Now half listening and no longer watching Kate and the nerd, Jake is tapping on his phone. He then lifts it to his ear.

Chris Answers

Inter cut following conversation.

INT. CHRIS'S APARTMENT

Chris is sitting in front of the TV playing a video game. He answers the phone.

CHRIS

Yeah.

JAKE

(with a goofy jamaican accent)
Hey mon, are ya comin to the party tonight mon? All the ladies are comin' and callin.

CHRIS

No. I have my own plans.

(CONTINUED)

JAKE
(quick and more serious)
Like what, watching Battle Star
Galaticrap? Talk about nerdy guys
in spandex outfits.

There is no answer from Chris as he is playing his video game.

JAKE (CTD.)
Your such a loser. Seriously, I
can't stand having a roommate with
no social life.

CHRIS
Uh huh. Hey you still owe me \$150
bucks. Pizza and poker night.

JAKE
A little goofy and Jamaican like again trying to avoid the
subject. Brittney is entertained by his goofiness but also
rolls her eyes.

Yeah mon. I got ya covered. We all
beez best friends yah and lookin
out for me best interest. I got ya,
I got ya...

CHRIS
Seriously dude it's been 2 weeks
and you owe.....

Brittney's computer screen catches Jake's attention as he is
no longer listening to Chris. He gets an idea. He covers his
phone, gesturing toward Brittney to get her attention

JAKE
(whispering)
Hey pull up that Paid Friend for losers ad again.
Brittney pulls it up. Jake leans over to read it.

JAKE (CTD.)
Hey Chris, ya gotta come. There's
this chick you should meet. Her
name is ... Kate, yeah she's pretty
cool, for you that is. And she's
hot.

Brittney whacks Jake for being so obnoxious.

CHRIS

Fine. But bring my money. See ya tonight.

BRITTNEY

(confused)

What was all that about?

JAKE

Taking over Brittney's laptop and starting to type.

Just making Chris less of a loser with his own money. Loser el Loser equals good times for Jake... I can't wait for this to get out.

Brittney Smirks.

INT. LIVING ROOM PARTY (LOC. E)

Dolly shot moves down a hallway with college kids to reveal the living room also full of kids hanging out. Two boys are walking quickly in front of another stout boy(Host). The boys have a fancily urn.

HOST

Guys put my grandma down!!

Doorbell Rings.

The door to the party opens to let Kate and others in. Jake spots her from across the room and scoots through his group to meet her. He passes in front of Brittney who also sees Kate and smirks at the situation, she then turns to a friend and whispers the secret. The friend starts laughing and the girls gossip.

Jake is sly in his mannerisms as he greets Kate.

KATE

(thinking Jake is the guy)

Hi.

JAKE

Hey, how's it going cutie.

(Beat.)

Um...so.. That's Chris over there.

Jake gestures toward Chris sitting on the couch

(CONTINUED)

Shot changes to show Chris on the couch with a girl on each side of him. The girls are giggly and are fighting over a cell phone text message. They move over and around Chris as though he isn't there. Chris is awkward about it all. Kate and Jake watch from behind the couch.

JAKE

Yeah, he's pretty cool. A bit of a nerd though. He's into sci-fi, video games, space, all that.

KATE

(ready to get on with her job)
Sounds great.

JAKE

So, here's Chris' money.

Handing it to her slyly with a handshake

JAKE (CTD.)

Just don't mention this k?

Kate nods

JAKE (CTD.)

Come on, I'll introduce you

Jake and Kate walk over to Chris.

JAKE (CTD.)

Chris this is Kate, the girl I told you about.

Chris disentangles himself from the giggle girls because he finally had to use his legs to help separate them. He stands up at the sight of Kate.

Chris tries to smile, but is nervous, he tries to think of something to say

CHRIS

(awkwardly)

Hey

KATE

Hi

CHRIS

(trying to sound cool)

Pretty kickin' Party

(CONTINUED)

KATE
Yeah, it'll be fun

Chris looks excited as he realizes she might have meant the two of them will be having fun.

Shot changes to a 3 shot which reveals Jake in the middle with a mischievous grin at his prank. Behind him the boys are playing monkey in the middle with grandma's urn. Suddenly grandma's urn flies in and Chris catches it. He hands it to Jake. Jake tosses it over his shoulder without looking and it rejoins the game. Jake walks away backwards behind Kate, giving Chris a good luck look as he leaves.

CHRIS
So uh...

KATE
(interrupting, as she has already gained experience in dealing with socially awkward guys)
So Jake tells me your into video games. I personally love Oblivion, Halo's of course at the top of my list and pretty much anything Sci-Fi for that matter.

Chris is in awe, speechless; jaw slightly dropped.

QUICK PAN TRANSITION TO CHRIS TALKING TO JAKE.

Chris and Jake are on the other side of the room. Kate is waiting over on the couch.

CHRIS
I thinks she's into me and I'm kinda weirded out by it but I don't know what to do. It's like she wants to hang out you know, like outside the party.

Jake is standing with his girls who all have smirks as they know the situation. Jake pauses as he gets into another one of his weird characters. This time he is a medieval court announcer. He announces to his posse.

JAKE
IT HAS HAPPENED. ME LADIES AND LORDS OF THE THIS FINE COURT, IT IS DONE! FINALLY, A YOUNG MAIDEN HAS TAKEN INTEREST IN OUR ODD CHRIS. AND SHE IS HOT! INDEED MY odd gentlemen, HOT!

(CONTINUED)

Jake's hand is on Chris' shoulder; he is gesturing toward Kate dramatically.

Kate is sitting over on the couch but stands up to talk to some girls, the door is open behind her making a very dramatic wind effect. She is angelically back lit and a triumphant trumpet blows as she looks over toward Chris and smiles. Jake and Chris stand there checking her out. Suddenly the shot changes to reveal a kid right next to them annoyingly playing his trumpet.

JAKE AND CHRIS

Turning in unison to the annoying kid
DUDE!!!

The trumpet player's note whimpers down as he walks away. Chris looks as though he has found his confidence; he walks away out of frame.

Jake steps forward, ready to make another medieval remark.

JAKE

And there we have it me lords and
me ladies. There we have it. That
fine lady of the court has managed
to woo our Christopher Myers. Yes
indeed HE HAS been wooed!

EXT. OPEN GRASS AREA IN GULLEY

Kate and Chris are in full attire as Princess Leia and a Jedi Knight and are light saber fighting. Kate has learned all these new hobbies and unique skills from the nerds and is thus kicking his butt. Kate knocks Chris down.

INT. KATE'S ROOM.

She pulls out axis and allies. They play.

KATE

Prepare to be annihilated. Your
carrier group is no match for my
super submarines.

INT. VIDEO GAME NERD'S ROOM

Chris, Kate and the video game nerd are all playing a video game. The shot dolly's past Chris and Kate to reveal the Gamer with a jealous eye on Chris for wooing his girl.

INT. CHRIS'S BEDROOM

Chris lies asleep taking a nap, midday. Jake creeps in and steals money from his wallet on the night stand.

INT. LIVING ROOM AT A HALLOWEEN PARTY

Chris and Kate are enjoying themselves at a Halloween party, dancing. They are dressed up as a knight and princess. They dance and party. During the party Jake slips Kate the money he stole from Chris. She nods and slips it into her purse. She looks a little disheartened by the money. She doesn't like being reminded he is a client.

One of the gossip girls spots this action and decides to interact with Kate. She approaches Kate.

GOSSIP GIRL
(sarcastically)
So what are you? A
Medieval Call-Girl?

The music is loud and Kate can't hear her. They speak loudly to one another.

KATE
Huh?

GOSSIP GIRL
A Call-Girl.

Still not hearing, but previously catching the word "medieval".

KATE
Sure.

The gossip girl looks entertained by the fact and goes back to her friends to share the gossip.

HOST
Grandma!

(CONTINUED)

KATE
(a little tired, she moves in
toward Chris)

You wanna sit down?

CHRIS
Yeah.

They make their way to a couch. Chris decides to lean in for a kiss. Kate is slightly awkward and nervous about it. She really likes Chris and thus moves in for the kiss.

Only an inch apart, she stops, backs away and thrusts a hand up between them remembering he is a client.

KATE
(rambling and rushed)
WHOOOaa. Hold it, sorry this is too weird. I'm not a prostitute you know. This isn't in my contract... then again, I never wrote a contract, and I'm not that kind of girl anyway!

Kate frantically gathers her purse and coat and starts to leave. In the process she spills her things and only grabs some of it in her panic.

KATE (CTD.)
I'm sorry, but this business relationship is over.

Kate starts to leave bumping the table by the couch and thus knocking over grandma's urn.

CRASH!

The host runs into frame. Kate leaves in her embarrassment.

HOST
GRANDMA!

Chris is bewildered and confused, sitting there trying to figure out what happened. He wonders what of his lady skills led her to say all that.

Jake is also dressed up as an announcer of sorts with a greased up hairdo.

JAKE
(announcing into a toy mic)
(offscreen)
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

JAKE (cont'd)

This just in. Once again, a story too often told. The male specimen is left bewildered.

(coming into screen)
and confused wondering WHAT he did wrong as the female specimen storms off in a tantrum.

Chris ignores Jakes goofiness. He still sits there with utter confusion. He bends down and starts to pick up Kate's belongings where he finds the envelope full of money.

JAKE(CTD.)

And up next! Grandma's Ashes unveiled and the ensuing chaos released!

Behind Chris the host is fighting people off with a broom. Chris is observing his find from Kate's purse. He finds a note attached to it. It reads:

"Kate, Chris could use a little of the ol' Chiwawa, if you know what I mean!! Love the J-Dog??"

Chris holds the note. Jake starts laughing hysterically at the sight of the note, several of the other girls join him as they all realize Chris has begun to figure out the prank. Chris looks upset. He gets up off the couch and exits the frame.

INT. KATE'S ROOM

Kate is sitting at her laptop, upset, contemplative. The arrow on the screen scrolls to delete on her posting.

Kate's cell rings. She hesitates, it's Chris, she answers.

Inter cut following conversation

EXT. OUTSIDE OF PARTY HOUSE

Chris is on his cell.

CHRIS

Hi, um. We need to figure this out... What just happened?

KATE

(upset with him)
You should already know that.

(CONTINUED)

CHRIS

Know what? That I was dumb enough to think a girl like you would ever be into me?

KATE

Look forget it. Did you find the money, I must have dropped it. I'm done with all of this, you can keep it.

CHRIS

You mean the chiwawa??

KATE

That wasn't you?

CHRIS

(figuring it out completely)
Jake's fine handy work it seems. Apparently he never thought I'd find a girl on my own.

(Beat.)

So what about us? I mean ... you like me right?

KATE

(realizing the whole thing was Jake's doing)
We'll get to that later. Listen, I have an idea. I have a few calls to make. Get your gear together.

EXT. NERD 1 FRONT DOOR

Kate and Chris knock. A nerd answers, paranoid. He grabs a bag and exits house with them.

EXT. NERD 2 FRONT WINDOW

Kate and Chris knock on the window. A nerd pops his face past a curtain.

EXT. NERD 3 FRONT DOOR

Doorbell Rings

EXT. NERD 4 FRONT DOOR

Doorbell Rings

EXT. NEIGHBORHOOD STREET

Kate and Chris walk together down a street in slow motion. The empty street fills with the various nerds and their mystery bags they hold as they come in from the sides of the street and join them.

EXT. PARK

A bag is unzipped. Darth Vader attire pulled out. Gloves put on.

Another enthusiast dresses in full attire. He whips a cape around him and ties it. He slips a sword into his belt.

Another nerd dresses in his anime ninja attire and grabs two toy swords in which he plays with. He practices a move with them.

Jake is flirting with Brittney and one of the Gossip Girls. They have just finished playing soccer.

JAKE

So then I was like DUDE! And he totally bailed...

The girls laugh at his story.

His phone rings. He answers. The girls walk away.

CHRIS(SAME LOCATION)

Are you running?

JAKE

No, hey man what's up??

CHRIS.

Well you should be.

JAKE

Should be what?

CHRIS

Running.

(Chris gives an evil cheesy laugh then hangs up)

(CONTINUED)

JAKE

(discovering he hung up)
Chris???

Beat.

In the distance is a noise of a large group screaming, ready to charge. Jake looks around then finally spots head's emerging over a hillside. Several nerds, some of which we have already seen, are fast approaching with their various attire. Star Wars, Star Trek, Aliens, Dungeons and Dragons, Ninjas, Medieval Sorcerer's etc.

STAMPEDE OF NERDS

ARRRUURUUUGGGHGHGHGHGGGGGHHHHHHH!!!!!!!

Jake looks scared then starts to make a run for it. He makes his way into the closest street where he stops in front of a car. The car is full of the girls he was flirting with. Jake waves his arms and runs around the car where he dives through the window. The car takes off driving past the stampede.

The entire nerd stampede stops in disappointment. Their "arrghhhhh" turns wimpy. They all look nerdy again as they have lost their confidence. Kate and Chris are in full attire as well, standing behind all the nerds.

NERD 1

I feel just like Luke at the death
star.

Other nerds agree in mumbles.

NERD 2

yeah but your chewy

NERD 3

Let's all go to radio shack

ENTIRE NERD GROUP

YEAHHH!

Group runs off.

Kate and Chris are still standing there.

KATE

So what now?

(CONTINUED)

Chris thinks a moment then gets a little bit of a smirk with his idea and his new found confidence Kate has instilled in him.

CHRIS

I'm taking you on a real date?

beat. Kate smiles in agreement, relieved they can both move past all the embarrassment.

CHRIS(CTD.)

But you're paying.

Kate smiles. They walk off together. Chris' arm around her neck, hers around his waist.

Roll Credits.