

STRANGE PEOPLE

"Pilot"

Written by

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CHARACTERS

FRANK - Intelligent. Emotional. Funny. Mocks everyone. Writer with mediocre success. His love life is a disaster.

JONNY - Inept. Liar. Idiot. Frank's flatmate, have known each other from college. Awkwardly tries to find his place in the world.

KELLER - Eclectic. Unpredictable. Good-looking. Frank's and Jonny's invasive neighbor. He doesn't work, lives off of others and even has success with women.

EMMA - Cynical. Casual. Maneater. Frank's ex-girlfriend, now his friend. She works as designer for an almost deranged fashion stylist.

MERCY - Cheerful. Absent-minded. Extroverted. Jonny's sister. She loves music, art and the environment. Has a good heart, but can be pretty bad.

NICOLE - Smart. Pretty. Methodical. Mercy's flat mate. Computer science doctor, works as researcher. The perfect girl. Kind of.

They're all young crazy singles in their 20's living in NYC.

ACT ONE

INT. FRANK & JONNY'S APARTMENT - DAY

FRANK IS WATCHING TV. JONNY OPENS WIDE THE FRONT DOOR.

JONNY

Yes! I got it all!

FRANK

That conspiracy website again?

JONNY

No! We were all wrong!

FRANK TURNS OFF THE TV.

FRANK

You for sure.

JONNY

I lived all my life following a specific dogma: I'm too ugly to have beautiful women.

FRANK

And now you discovered the beauty filter.

JONNY

Stop it! I was walking in Central Park, when I suddenly had a revelation...

HE RUNS TOWARDS THE FRIDGE AND STARTS SEARCHING INSIDE IT.

FRANK

You lost it into my fridge?

JONNY

Hey, it's my fridge too!

FRANK

Do you have the rent money?

JONNY

No.

FRANK

Okay, so that's my fridge.

JONNY GRABS AN AVOCADO AND A BANANA FROM THE FRIDGE.

JONNY

Here's the thing: all human beings
are divided into avocados and
bananas.

FRANK

This is getting interesting.

JONNY

(WAVING THE FRUITS) Avocados like
avocados, bananas like bananas -
full stop! It's literally
impossible that an avocado likes a
banana, and vice versa.

FRANK

And what do you have to do with
this madness?

JONNY

I'm not ugly, Frank! I'm just an
avocado!

FRANK

Oh my God...

JONNY

I spent all my life running behind
bananas, but it was completely
useless! Avocados like me!

FRANK

You're not an avocado, Jonny,
you're just crazy.

KELLER OPENS WIDE THE FRONT DOOR, HOLDING A MAGAZINE.

KELLER

Yes! I got it all!

FRANK

Are you an avocado too?

KELLER

(TO JONNY) Again with that
nonsense? I already told you it
doesn't work. (TO FRANK) No, I
understood that I have to read
more.

FRANK

This is a revelation.

KELLER

See, my friend Dustin Esposito has
got a ton of Science & Nature
magazines - I borrowed them all.

JONNY

How many are they?

KELLER

All the issues since 1982, I can't
even count them!

FRANK

You won't open a single one.

KELLER

Well, instead I thought: Science &
Nature, if I read them all I'd
become a genius!

FRANK

Indeed, every genius is created
exactly this way.

KELLER

Problem is, my friend wants them
back in a week, so I have no time
to lose!

HE SITS QUICKLY AND STARTS READING. EMMA ENTERS.

FRANK

(TO EMMA) Let me guess: you too got
it all.

EMMA

Me? I don't even got one thing.

NICOLE AND MERCY ENTER.

EMMA

(SURPRISED) I just arrived! How did
I not run into you?

NICOLE AND MERCY LOOK AT EACH OTHER.

MERCY

To say the truth, we're following
you from your place.

EMMA

What? And you didn't say hi!?

NICOLE

Mercy said we could follow you the whole time and you wouldn't turn around, I said it was impossible... but here we are now.

GIVES 20 DOLLARS TO MERCY.

NICOLE (CONT.)

Thanks a lot, Emma.

EMMA

Thanks to you for your splendid friendship.

FRANK

Listen, since you invaded my home...

JONNY

Hey, it's my home too!

FRANK

Do you have the rent money?

JONNY GLARES AT FRANK.

FRANK (CONT.)

As I was saying, why don't we hang out somewhere? It's getting hot in here.

EMMA

Coffee shop?

MERCY

Okay for me, I have this brand new 20 to spend.

NICOLE

Damn. You're buying me coffee.

JONNY

Alright, let's go there, my opinion
wouldn't make a difference anyway.

EMMA

I see you've become a realist.

EVERYONE GOES TO THE FRONT DOOR, EXCEPT KELLER.

FRANK

Come on Keller, you can become a
genius there, too.

KELLER

Right, incoming.

HE GETS UP WHILE STILL READING, HITS THE FURNITURE,
THEN EXITS TOGETHER WITH THE OTHERS.

INT. COFFEE SHOP - DAY

NICOLE, EMMA AND MERCY SIT ON A COUCH. KELLER SITS NEXT
TO THEM, READING THE SAME MAGAZINE AS BEFORE.

EMMA

Yesterday at work there was this
new guy, Mike. He came to me asking
for the copy room, so I started
giving him directions, but he
didn't take his eyes away from my
cleavage for a single moment!

NICOLE

What a maniac! Get him fired.

EMMA

Not really, I liked it.

MERCY

Such a good girl.

EMMA

Excuse me, why should I have my merchandise in plain view, if not to have it looked at?

NICOLE

But you should allow only a single look, not a full tour!

EMMA

And you call that a full tour? We have a saint here.

MERCY

I allow three looks at most, then BOOM! First strike!

EMMA

I don't care. If I like a guy, then he can have all the looks he wants.

MERCY

So you like this Mike?

EMMA

Well, yeah. If even today he just looks at me, I'm going to make a move myself...

BEAT. THE GIRLS TURN TO KELLER, FOCUSED ON THE READING.

NICOLE

But... doesn't he hear us? He didn't even notice Emma's cleavage?

MERCY

(SHOUTING) Keller!

KELLER

(SCARED) Damn, you distracted me! I already studied Emma's cleavage.

EMMA

Hey, you don't have permission! One strike for you!

KELLER

Give me a break! How long have we been here?

MERCY

About an hour.

KELLER

One hour and I have read just six pages! I need to move faster...

HE LOOKS AROUND AND NOTICES SOMETHING.

KELLER

I had an idea! Coming back soon.

HE GETS UP AND GOES TO ANOTHER TABLE, WHERE THREE NERDS ARE SITTING.

KELLER

(SERIOUS) You look like smart guys. I've got a job for you.

NERD A

Is it illegal?

KELLER

Nope. I have a mountain of Science & Natures: you'll have to read them all and sum up their content to me.

NERD B

And you would pay us for this?

KELLER

10 dollars for each magazine.

NERD C

Let's make 15.

KELLER

Agreed. Do you accept?

THE THREE NERDS LOOK AT EACH OTHER IN AGREEMENT.

NERD A/B/C

Deal.

KELLER

Fantastic! Now please follow me.

KELLER AND HIS TEAM GO TO THE COUCH. NOW FRANK AND JONNY ALSO ARE SITTING THERE.

KELLER

(SERIOUS) Ladies and gentlemen,
urgent affairs are waiting for me
and my new associates. I shall
catch up with you later.

KELLER AND HIS TEAM EXIT THE COFFEE SHOP.

FRANK

I don't even want to know who the
hell those three were.

JONNY

I'm leaving too.

MERCY

Where are you going all alone,
little cookie?

JONNY

I have things to do. And don't call me like our mom does!

EMMA

I'm going to work. It's about time.

MERCY

I'm coming with you. I still have to take back my purse from your office.

EMMA

Right, it's been there only two weeks. Are we sharing a taxi, Jonny?

JONNY

No... I want to walk.

FRANK

Uh, now I understand what you're thinking about. Beware of wild bananas.

JONNY

Do you want me to curse you?

FRANK

Easy with the magic powers, let's not overreact.

EMMA

Okay freaks, let's get moving.

MERCY

Later.

JONNY, EMMA AND MERCY EXIT. FRANK AND NICOLE REMAIN ALONE.

FRANK

Listen, can I make you a proposal?

NICOLE

Shoot.

FRANK

What if tonight we have dinner together? It's been a while since the last time.

NICOLE

Sure thing! We meet at six at your place and go somewhere nice?

FRANK

(SMILING) That's perfect.

INT. SUPERMARKET - DAY

A BEAUTIFUL WOMAN IS PICKING OUT FRUIT. JONNY NOTICES THAT SHE IS HOLDING AN AVOCADO.

JONNY

Excuse me, miss, can I trouble you for just a moment?

WOMAN

Sure, go ahead.

JONNY

I couldn't help but notice that you also are, let's say... an avocado kind of person.

WOMAN

Excuse me?

JONNY

Let me better explain: if you had to choose between a man who prefers avocados and one who favors bananas, on whom would your choice fall?

WOMAN

What are you alluding to!?

JONNY

Don't you like avocados? You're holding one!

THE WOMAN PUTS BACK THE AVOCADO.

WOMAN

Listen, you're creeping me out. If you don't mind, I'll go on with my shopping.

SHE'S ABOUT TO LEAVE.

JONNY

Alright, I'm sorry, I'm sorry: one last thing and I won't trouble you anymore...

THE WOMAN TURNS AGAIN TO JONNY, IMPATIENT.

JONNY

(CLEARS HIS THROAT) Shall we have dinner together, tonight?

WOMAN

(SHOWING A RING) I'm married, you idiot! And I would never date a person like you.

JONNY

Uh, really? May I ask why?

WOMAN

You dare even ask? We don't know each other and you start freaking me out like that. You're not only ugly, but also annoying.

JONNY

Perfect. No problem. You know what? I wouldn't be surprised if one of these days your husband leaves you.

WOMAN

What!?! You're a monster!

THE WOMAN GOES AWAY SCANDALIZED. JONNY SHRUGS.

JONNY

Probably she wasn't an avocado.

INT. EMMA'S OFFICE KITCHEN - DAY

EMMA AND MERCY ARE DRINKING COFFEE TOGETHER.

MERCY

How much coffee did you have since this morning?

EMMA

Three cups, if we don't count the one that Keller sent flying to the ground.

MERCY

It's too much! Coffee is a highly exciting substance.

EMMA

As long as something excites me, I
don't see a problem at all.

MIKE ENTERS. HE'S A GOOD-LOOKING BOY.

MIKE

'Morning.

HE STARTS SEARCHING INSIDE THE FURNITURE.

EMMA

(WHISPERING, EXCITED) It's him!

MERCY

(WHISPERING) The perv?

EMMA

Yes!

MERCY

He's cute.

EMMA

He is!

MERCY

I must get to know him.

EMMA

What!?

MIKE APPROACHES THE GIRLS.

MIKE

Sorry, do you know where the coffee
is?

EMMA

Wait, we made it just now. Let me
pour some for you.

EMMA REACHES OUT FOR AN EMPTY CUP, BUT MERCY IS FASTER
THAN HER.

MERCY

Don't worry, leave this to me.

SHE FILLS THE CUP, WHILE EMMA WATCHES ANGRILY.

MERCY

Here's your...

SHE FAKES A FALL AND SPILLS THE COFFEE ON MIKE.

MERCY

I'm such a klutz, I'm so sorry!

MIKE

It's alright, there's no problem...

MERCY BRINGS OUT A WIPE AND STARTS WIPING HIM.

MERCY

Let me handle this... oh dear, look at these muscles. My name's Mercy.

MIKE

Mike - and really, no problem. I couldn't be mad at such a nice girl.

MERCY

(SIMPERING) Oh, don't make me blush! Wait, take this...

SHE PUTS A BUSINESS CARD IN HIS POCKET. EMMA COUGHS AND MIKE FINALLY NOTICES HER.

MIKE

Uhm... she's Mercy, but what's your name?

EMMA

You're joking?

MIKE

Why?

EMMA

I'm Emma, yesterday you asked me
for the copy room!

MIKE

Oh, yes, I didn't memorize your
face.

EMMA

I believe that, you were focused on
memorizing something else.

MIKE

Anyway, I'm sorry, but I'm afraid I
have to get back to work right now.
I'll call you, Mercy.

MERCY

I'm counting on it!

MIKE

Bye to you too, Ella.

MIKE EXITS.

EMMA

(INCREDULOUS) Ella!? I can't
believe this! Screw you, Mercy!

MERCY

Don't be mad, you know no one can
resist to my charm - even if I
spill coffee on you.

EMMA

Get out of here!

MERCY

But I still have to take back my
purse!

EMMA

Leave, before I kill you!

MERCY RUNS OUT FROM THE ROOM.

INT. KELLER'S APARTMENT - DAY

THERE ARE PILES OF MAGAZINES EVERYWHERE. THE NERDS ARE
STUDYING THEM, WEARING THE "TEAM KELLER" SPORTS
UNIFORMS. KELLER ENTERS WITH A PIZZA.

KELLER

Partners, your mind might even be
full, but here's some food for the
rest of your body!

SLAMS THE PIZZA ON THE TABLE. HIS TEAM DOESN'T SEE HIM.

KELLER

Are you not hungry?

NERD A/B/C

(IMPATIENT) We're working.

KELLER

So serious! Whatever.

TAKES A SLICE OF PIZZA AND STARTS EATING IT.

KELLER

(TO NERD A) You! Listen up a sec, I
have doubts about something.

NERD A

Let's hear.

KELLER

In summary: this Daenerys Targaryen, stormborn, queen of it all, wanted to sail with a thousand ships, an enormous army and three dragons, to conquer the West.

NERD A

Correct.

KELLER

And this happened 4000 years ago.

NERD A

(PUZZLED) Actually, this never happened.

KELLER

What do you mean?

NERD A

It was an article on Game of Thrones, the TV show.

KELLER

What!?! You said it really happened!

NERD A

Are you kidding me? Do you think dragons really exist?

KELLER

So what about that Komodo dragon? Another lie?

NERD A

That exists, but it's not a real dragon.

KELLER IS CONFUSED. THE PHONE RINGS, HE GOES TO ANSWER IT.

KELLER

Hello? (BEAT) You really expect us to pay for electricity, nowadays? After all the casualties in the War of the Currents? Shame on you and your company!

HE HANGS UP THE PHONE.

NERD B

To say the truth, the War of the Currents had no casualties.

KELLER

And what a war would that be!?

NERD B

Not a real war.

KELLER

Listen, I need some fresh air. Meanwhile, you all study for me.

HE GOES TOWARDS THE FRONT DOOR, BUT STOPS.

KELLER

One moment, so not even the time travelling car ever existed?

NERD C

If it did, I would use it to tell myself not to take this job.

KELLER

Heck, I owe an apology to the car salesman. See you later.

KELLER GOES AWAY.

EXT. STREET - DAY

JONNY IS STROLLING. HE PASSES BY A GROCERY STORE. IT SEEMS HE WANTS TO STOP, BUT HE THINKS ABOUT IT AND GOES ON. SUDDENLY, HE HEARS A VOICE...

GIRL (O.S.)

Oh my goodness! It's you!

A GIRL WITH MIDLY CRAZY EYES NEARS.

JONNY

(CONFUSED) Me? Do we know each other?

GIRL

Yeah, I can't believe this! The banana man!

JONNY

The banana man...?

GIRL

Yes! We were right here! A robber tried to steal my purse, but a man in a banana costume chased him wielding an advertising board. And now I finally found that man again! My hero!

JONNY

(LYING) Oh... well, the search is over!

GIRL

It's wonderful!

THE GIRL HUGS JONNY, THEN TAKES A GOOD LOOK AT HIM.

GIRL

Even though I thought you had an eyepatch...

JONNY

An eyepatch? I guess you didn't see me well. It must have been the heat of the moment, you know, the adrenaline.

GIRL

Right, but it doesn't matter now! It just matters that I found my true hero again. Banana man, let me thank you like I couldn't on that day.

THE GIRL KISSES JONNY, INCREDULOUS.

JONNY

(TO HIMSELF) So I was a banana, not an avocado...

GIRL

What did you say?

JONNY

Nothing, nothing. Will we see each other again?

GIRL

You don't even have to ask.

THE GIRL BRINGS OUT A PIECE OF PAPER, WRITES ON IT AND HANDLES IT TO JONNY.

GIRL

This is my number, name's Janet.
We'll meet again soon, banana man.

JANET KISSES JONNY'S FOREHEAD AND GOES AWAY. JONNY REMAINS DUMBFOUNDED.

INT. FRANK & JONNY'S APARTMENT - DAY

FRANK IS ON THE COUCH, READING A BOOK. JONNY ENTERS.

JONNY

I knew it!

FRANK

Please, no more revelations for today.

JONNY

Ha-ha, laugh it up! Do you know who I met today? Janet.

FRANK

Who?

JONNY

The girl that proved my theory, kissing me at first sight.

FRANK

How courageous, just because you're an avocado?

JONNY

Apparently, I'm not an avocado: I'm the banana man.

FRANK

(LAUGHING) The banana man!?

HE CLOSSES THE BOOK AND GETS UP.

JONNY

Yes, this girl was saved by a man in a banana costume...

FRANK

And she thinks it was you.

JONNY

That's right.

FRANK

And you didn't tell her that you weren't.

JONNY

That's right.

KELLER ENTERS.

JONNY

(TO KELLER) Hey! I was right!

KELLER

Enough with fruit and vegetables deliriums! Do you know how an economic bubble works?

JONNY

I don't even know how soap bubbles work.

KELLER

Then I will explain it to you with an experiment - you will thank me later. Frank, give me 10 dollars.

FRANK

Why me?

KELLER

You're the richest among us.

FRANK

You should stop with this story: if
you don't work, it's obvious that
I'm the richest.

IMPATIENT, FRANK CHECKS HIS WALLET AND BRINGS OUT A 20
DOLLARS BILL.

FRANK

I only have a 20. And I don't make
that kind of money, just saying.

KELLER

You don't have to justify yourself,
a 20 is fine too. Alright, let's
pretend that Frank has a debt of 20
dollars with me.

FRANK

Impossible example, but whatever.

KELLER TAKES THE MONEY FROM FRANK.

KELLER (CONT.)

Then, let's say I have a debt of 20
dollars with Jonny - and I repay
him with the same money.

PASSES THE BILL TO JONNY.

KELLER (CONT.)

And finally, let's pretend that
Jonny has a debt of 20 dollars with
Frank.

FRANK

He really does, and it's way more
than 20 dollars.

JONNY

I actually have a debt with Keller too, of exactly 20 dollars.

KELLER

True, you had to have at all costs that Lego Movie Blu-ray.

FRANK

And you get deeper into debt for The Lego Movie!?

JONNY

Hey, it was the special edition!

KELLER

Calm down, don't forget about the experiment. Jonny, be good and pass the money.

JONNY GIVES THE MONEY TO KELLER RATHER THAN FRANK.

JONNY

Here. Your debt is paid.

FRANK

One moment, you can't pay a debt with my money! Besides, didn't he have to pass it to me to complete the experiment?

KELLER

I don't know anymore! It was simpler when they showed it to me!

FRANK

I'll show you: Keller, give the money back to Jonny and he will pass it to me.

JONNY

No, I don't want your money again.

KELLER

(IN PANIC) So I can't give the money to Jonny, nor Frank. We're trapped in an economic bubble! What do we do now!?

FRANK HIDES HIS FACE IN HIS PALM.

ACT TWOINT. EMMA'S OFFICE - DAY

EMMA

(ON THE PHONE) Yes, Mister
Giuliani, I already bought your
milk chocolates. (BEAT) No, Sir, no
one replaced them with dark
chocolates last time. (BEAT)
Alright, see in you in your office
at teatime.

MIKE ENTERS HOLDING SOME SHEETS.

MIKE

Hello.

EMMA

Hey, Mike!

HE STARTS STARING AT HER CLEAVAGE. SHE RISES HIS CHIN.

EMMA

No-no, this time you look at me.

MIKE

Sorry Ella, I got distracted.

EMMA

Ella? Again!? My name is Emma! E-M-
M-A! It's written on the damn door!

MIKE

Oh, sorry again...

EMMA

How come you're here? Did you miss me?

MIKE

To say the truth, I'd like to understand where the copy room is.

EMMA

This will never end...

MERCY PEAKS OUT FROM THE DOOR. SHE HAS A BOX OF CHOCOLATES.

MERCY

Guess who's back!

EMMA

Go away.

MERCY

Oh, Mike, you're here too!

MIKE

Mercy!

EMMA

I see you remember her name.

MERCY

I came to get my purse back. And I also wanted to say hi to my sweet friend Emma.

EMMA

I'm sorry, but I can't stay. I was just going to make some copies with Mike.

EMMA TAKES THE SHEETS FROM MIKE'S HANDS.

MERCY

Uh, really? I brought him some chocolates to apologize for the coffee accident...

EMMA

Uh, really? And I was going to ask him to go out tonight.

MERCY

What a coincidence! I was just going to do the same thing!

MERCY HUGS MIKE.

EMMA

I'll kill you.

EMMA HUGS MIKE AND MERCY AT THE SAME TIME. IT'S EMBARRASSING.

MIKE

Girls...

MIKE PULLS HIMSELF AWAY FROM BOTH GIRLS AND TAKES BACK THE SHEETS FROM EMMA.

MIKE

Sorry, now I really got to go!

MIKE QUICKLY EXITS FROM THE OFFICE. MERCY IS ABOUT TO FOLLOW HIM.

EMMA

Stop there, witch!

MERCY FREEZES. EMMA CHECKS HER WATCH.

EMMA

It's teatime - and you're coming with me to Giuliani.

MERCY

Why should I?

EMMA

Because otherwise I will rip your damn purse apart. (INDICATES THE CHOCOLATES) Are those milk chocolates?

MERCY

Yes.

EMMA

Take them with you, I need them.

INT. FRANK & JONNY'S APARTMENT - DAY

FRANK IS HOLDING 20 DOLLARS. KELLER AND JONNY ARE LOOKING AT HIM.

FRANK

See? It wasn't difficult, you just had to give me the money. If the world was in you guys' hands, we would all be dead already.

KELLER

It's this thing with Science & Nature, it's turning my brain into oatmeal! Anyway, now I'm going to Emma - I need something from her.

FRANK

Don't get lost on your way.

KELLER GOES AWAY. JONNY GOES TOWARDS THE FRIDGE.

JONNY

(TO FRANK) Shall we have pizza tonight?

FRANK

Sorry, I've already made plans.

JONNY

Where are you going?

FRANK

I'll tell you, but you have to
promise you won't tell anyone.

JONNY TAKES A COKE CAN FROM THE FRIDGE AND OPENS IT.

JONNY

You know I can't keep secrets.

FRANK

I know well, but you will find out
anyway - so listen up and keep that
bad mouth shut.

JONNY

Alright. Let's make it quick.

JONNY SIPS.

FRANK

Well... I realized I got a crush on
Nicole.

JONNY SPITS THE COKE ON FRANK, STAINING HIS SHIRT.

FRANK

This is disgusting! Are you nuts!?

JONNY

Am I nuts!? What about you? Nicole!
All these years and you realize
that just now?

FRANK

I know I'm speaking to the least
humane person on Earth, but you
can't control certain things.

JONNY

This won't go well. This won't go well at all.

FRANK

Whatever, tonight I'm gonna go out with Nicole and I'll come forward. Don't say anything to the others or I'll kick you out of the house!

JONNY

(UPSET) Okay Frank, but you have to tell her or I'm warning you... Jonny could explode! And the truth could splatter everywhere!

FRANK

That's fine, don't you splatter yourself anywhere... that's so gross. And why do you even speak in third person?

NICOLE ENTERS.

NICOLE

Heyyy!

FRANK

...here's New York City's smartest girl!

NICOLE

What did you do with your shirt?

FRANK

Let's say our friend Jonny has got some problems with drinking.

JONNY

Here we go, now it's my fault.

NICOLE

It's always your fault.

FRANK

Exactly. (TO NICOLE) I'll change my shirt and then we can go out.

NICOLE

Okay!

FRANK GOES TO HIS ROOM. EMBARRASSING SILENCE. JONNY HAS AN ALARMED LOOK ON HIS FACE.

NICOLE

What's up? Did you see a ghost?

JONNY

N-no, it's just...

NICOLE

What?

JONNY

Nothing, I was just thinking...

NICOLE

About what?

JONNY

The Knicks, Central Park, bananas, avocados...

NICOLE

You're hiding something.

JONNY

No!

NICOLE GETS CLOSER, MENACING.

NICOLE

Spit it out or I'm burning your
Lego Movie Blu-ray.

JONNY

The special edition!

NICOLE

And don't you dare cast on me one
of your curses.

JONNY

Okay, I'll count up to three and
then I'll scream...

FRANK COMES BACK.

FRANK

Oh dear, I can't leave you for a
second!

JONNY

(TO FRANK) I resisted!

FRANK

Come on Nicole, let's go or we will
miss our reservation.

NICOLE

Okay. (TO JONNY) It's not over yet
between us. I'm watching you.

FRANK

Bye Jonny, be good.

NICOLE AND FRANK EXIT.

JONNY

(TO THE DOOR) I hate you - you both! And leave The Lego Movie alone!

INT. EMMA'S OFFICE COPY ROOM - DAY

MIKE HAS FINALLY FOUND THE COPY MACHINE. KELLER ENTERS WITH A MAGAZINE.

KELLER

(POINTING AT THE COPY MACHINE) Hey, are you using it?

MIKE

I'm new, I don't know how it works.

KELLER

Hold on, I'll show you.

KELLER STARTS COPYING.

KELLER

I need to copy an article from Science & Nature. The 100 funniest Internet websites, proved by science.

MIKE

I see. Which department do you work in?

KELLER

I don't work here.

MIKE

And you can make copies?

KELLER

Sure, I always come. I know someone here.

MIKE

Could it be Mercy and Ella?

KELLER

Oh yeah, you mean Mercy and Emma.
Great friends.

MIKE

You know, I think they are both
trying to get a date with me...

KELLER

Do you want some advice from a
friend? Run away from both.

MIKE

What?

KELLER

I adore them, but they're crazy.
And if they're competing against
each other, rest assured it will go
badly for you.

BEEP. THE COPY MACHINE HAS FINISHED.

KELLER

Good, I'm done here. Take care, my
friend. Remember my suggestion.

KELLER QUICKLY EXITS.

MIKE

Wait, the copy machine! Is there
anyone in this place that can give
me a decent explanation!?

INT. EMMA'S OFFICE - DAY

EMMA AND MERCY ENTER.

EMMA

Nothing, Mike is not here either...

MERCY

We looked everywhere.

EMMA

It's your fault, you made him run
away!

MERCY

He actually seemed to appreciate
me. At least he remembered my name.

EMMA

Enough! Take your damn purse and go
away!

SHE GETS THE PURSE FROM A DRAWER, THEN NOTICES A NOTE
ON HER OWN DESK.

EMMA

One moment, what is this...?

SHE TAKES IT.

EMMA

(READING) Dear Mercy, dear Ella
(MAKES A FACE). A wise man advised
me to get away from you two. Since
I already didn't like this job from
my first day, yesterday, I decided
to quit. Good bye. Signed by Mike.

MERCY

Such a shame.

EMMA

You really had to meddle!

MERCY

Next time. Maybe you'll be luckier.

EMMA

Do I have to call security?

MERCY TAKES HER PURSE.

MERCY

No thanks, I'm going alone. I don't
need muscular men to accompany me.

Or do I...

EMMA

Go away!

MERCY

Kisses!

MERCY EXITS IN A RUSH.

INT. KELLER'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

TEAM KELLER IS STILL AT THE TABLE, READING MAGAZINES.
KELLER IS STANDING NEXT TO THEM.

KELLER

(TO THE TEAM) So while I was away,
you read 89 issues.

NERD A

Yes.

KELLER

Counting 15 dollars for each
magazine... how much is it? You're
the geniuses.

NERD B

It's 1,335 dollars.

KELLER

(STARTLED) Oh my God, I don't have that money!

NERD C

I told you we shouldn't trust him.

NERD A

I don't care, you have to pay us.

KELLER

Unfortunately, I can't...

NERD B

And now what?

KELLER

I have no other choice: I declare bankruptcy.

NERD B

You can't, you haven't got a real company.

KELLER

Damn, so we're in trouble!

NERD A

No, you're in trouble.

NERD C

Guys, we're wasting our time here.

Let's go.

THE NERDS GET UP FROM THE TABLE AND REMOVE THEIR TEAM KELLER SPORTS UNIFORMS. THEY THROW THEM TO THE GROUND AND GO TO THE DOOR.

KELLER

(DESPERATE) No, don't leave me! We had hopes and dreams, don't you forget!

NERD B

We just wanted your money.

NERD A

It's over, boss.

NERD C

Good bye.

THE THREE NERDS EXIT. KELLER FALLS ON HIS KNEES BEFORE THE OPEN DOOR, HEARTBROKEN.

KELLER

Nooooo! Come here, please! Team
Keller can't end like this!

INT. RESTAURANT - NIGHT

FRANK AND NICOLE ARE DINING.

NICOLE

Do you know that today marks an important anniversary?

FRANK

Which one?

NICOLE

It's been exactly 3 years that I lived with Mercy.

FRANK

Oh, wow! She won't be upset that you're not with her?

NICOLE

Nah, she won't even remember it.
And besides, she would just end up
drinking too much and being
overdramatic.

FRANK

Typical.

NICOLE

But I have to be grateful to her.
Thanks to her I've met you and the
rest of the gang.

FRANK

(SMILING) We had some great moments
together.

NICOLE

Tons of.

FRANK

Do you remember when Keller let the
rental car fall in the river?

NICOLE

(LAUGHING) How could I forget?

FRANK

He was desperate, but for the
donuts that were on the dash.

NICOLE

Obviously, he hadn't even had a
bite!

FRANK

And do you remember when we made
Mercy believe that Quidditch was a
real sport from our childhood?

NICOLE

Sure, she even went shopping to
find a sports broom.

FRANK

Such madness...

NICOLE

You guys are crazy, but you made my
life in New York City great. I have
to say it.

FRANK SMILES. IT'S TIME.

FRANK

Speaking of something else, I
actually invited you because I have
something to tell you...

NICOLE

I should tell you something
important too.

FRANK

Really?

NICOLE

Yes. You or me first?

FRANK

I'm a gentleman: ladies first.

NICOLE

Fine. Do you remember that English team that wanted to work with us researchers of the University?

FRANK

Yes.

NICOLE

Well, now they want us really bad... and they made a big offer.

FRANK

(HAPPY) Great!

NICOLE

I already accepted, but they want us close by... so I will have to relocate to England.

FRANK

(CONCERNED) Uh... when?

NICOLE

In thirty days. And I will stay there for several months.

FRANK

Wow...

NICOLE

Are you unhappy?

FRANK

(CONFUSED) No, I mean yes, but I'm happy for you! Very much! It will be a big step for your career, even though it will be bad to not see you for so long...

NICOLE

We'll see each other on video call! Time will fly, I bet you.

FRANK

You say so? I'm not so sure...

NICOLE

You'll see! But now it's your turn, what did you have to tell me?

FRANK

Uh, me? Right! Well, yeah... today, uhm...

NICOLE

Today what?

FRANK

Jonny! Yes! This morning he laughed while having breakfast and the milk blew out of his nose.

NICOLE

(LAUGHING) Come on, be serious! What's your big announcement?

FRANK

Naaah, no big announcement... on second thought, nothing special.

NICOLE

Mmmh... you and your little friend
are hiding something. I know it.

FRANK

No, really...

NICOLE

Okay, so when you'll want to tell
me this thing, I'll be here - or
rather, I'll be here for another
month.

FRANK LOOKS DOWN. HE DOESN'T KNOW WHAT TO SAY.

EXT. STREET - DAY

JONNY AND HIS NEW GIRLFRIEND ARE STROLLING.

JONNY

What a splendid day!

JANET

I love walking with you, Jonny! My
hero!

JONNY

I'd like an ice cream, you like
that?

JANET

Everything you desire, sweetheart.

JONNY NOTICES A BIG CROWD AHEAD.

JONNY

Heck, there's a funeral there...

JANET

So sad, let's cross the street. I
don't want to pass by it.

JONNY

Nah, I hate crossing the street for nothing. Let's pass through them, there's no harm.

JANET

(UNCOMFORTABLE) Okay...

JONNY AND JANET MAKE THEIR WAY THROUGH PEOPLE.

JONNY

Sorry, excuse me...

THE WOMAN FROM THE SUPERMARKET STANDS OUT FROM THE CROWD. IN TEARS, SHE POINTS AT JONNY.

WOMAN

It is him! It's all his fault! His words have killed my husband!

JANET

What...?

WOMAN

Are you happy now? Your wish came true!

JANET

Jonny, I thought you were a hero...

JONNY

(NERVOUS GIGGLE) Ma'am, I believe there has been a misunderstanding: I meant to say that your husband should have left you, not died.

A MAN WITH AN ADVENTUROUS LOOK AND AN EYEPATCH ARRIVES.

MAN WITH THE EYEPATCH

(TO JONNY) You should be ashamed!
You don't have a clue about what it
means to be a hero!

JANET TAKES A GOOD LOOK AT THE MAN.

JANET

No, I can't believe my eyes... he
is my true hero! The true banana
man! (TO JONNY) You lied to me!

JONNY

I can explain this too...

JANET

You took advantage of me, coward!
You make me sick!

WOMAN

You killed my husband! You're a
monster!

THE CROWD GOES CRAZY. JONNY STARTS BACKING UP.

JONNY

One moment, this this is getting
out of hand...

MAN WITH THE EYEPATCH

Take him! Don't let him escape!

JONNY RUNS AWAY, THE CROWD CHASES HIM ENRAGED.

HE MANAGES TO BE FASTER AND ENTERS A METRO STATION. HE
GETS INTO A TRAIN AT THE LAST SECOND.

DOORS CLOSE, THE CROWD HIT THE TRAIN WHILE IT LEAVES.

JONNY IS SAFE, SWEATY, BUT ALL THE PASSENGERS OF THE
TRAIN LOOK AT HIM INDIGNANT.

INT. DINER - DAY

FRANK, KELLER, EMMA AND MERCY ARE AT THE TABLE, HAVING LUNCH. JONNY ENTERS.

FRANK

Hey, banana man! Where were you?

JONNY

Don't call me that ever again.

JONNY SITS DOWN WITH THE OTHERS.

FRANK

Now you're the zucchini man?

JONNY

No, I'm done with all that.

KELLER

I told you it doesn't work. More than once.

JONNY

Surely not with the first woman I met: I cursed her husband.

EMMA

(UPSET) You cursed him!?

JONNY

Unfortunately, I did, in fact he died.

MERCY

(SCARED) Jonny strikes again.

JONNY

In my defense, I said he had to leave his wife, not drop dead.

KELLER

You have to use your words wisely;
you know you have a great power!
And with great power...

EMMA

...comes great responsibility.
Thanks, uncle Ben.

FRANK

And what about the banana woman?

JONNY

The theory was working with her, we
were feeling good. But of all
places, we stumbled just into the
cursed husband's funeral... and
there he was, the true banana man.

FRANK

Banana Man & The Cursed Husband: it
could be a movie.

JONNY

So much effort for nothing! But
that's enough.

NICOLE ENTERS WITHOUT SAYING HELLO. SHE GETS CLOSE TO
MERCY.

NICOLE

So? I'm waiting.

MERCY

Alright! There you go!

SHE GIVES 20 DOLLARS TO NICOLE.

EMMA

(LAUGHING) Just a moment, what was that for?

NICOLE

You have to know, dear Emma, that Mercy and I made another bet: she said she could easily steal a guy from you, I said she couldn't... but apparently it didn't go so well with that Mike.

EMMA

I can't believe this, you suck! (TO MERCY) I liked that guy Mike, you...

MERCY

Come on, you said you weren't really interested in him! Nicole has got her money back and we already made peace, let's not start all over again.

EMMA

I'll forgive you only if you buy me a muffin. One from each of you.

NICOLE

(SITTING DOWN) These bets are costing me too much.

JONNY

I want a dessert, too. Waitress, excuse me, can we order?

THE WAITRESS GETS NEAR TO THE TABLE.

WAITRESS

Sure, tell me.

JONNY

What is the cake of the day?

WAITRESS

Today we have a special avocado
cake. (WINKS, SMILING) It's really
good, I recommend it.

JONNY TURNS TO THE OTHERS, EUPHORIC.

JONNY

Avocado? It's a sign! (TO THE
WAITRESS) Listen, what if tonight
we...

FRANK/KELLER/MERCY/EMMA/NICOLE

(SCREAMING) Nooooo!

A NEON FROM THE CEILING CRASHES NEAR THE WAITRESS, WHO
SCREAMS IN FEAR. THE WHOLE DINER IS THROWN INTO
SILENCE, WITH EVERYONE STARING AT OUR TABLE.

JONNY

So, who likes avocados?