

My Girlfriend's a Doll

Pilot Episode

Story by

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Screenplay by

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INT. MIDDLE INCOME CHICAGO APARTMENT (1994) - NIGHT

VICKIE, 29, young mom, is dressed up for a night on the town. She puts on lipstick. There's a KNOCK on the front door. Vickie opens it. STACY, 17, babysitter, enters.

VICKIE

There's manicotti in the fridge. He's already asleep.

STACY

So, is it Keith or Carl tonight?

Vickie tries to hide a guilty smile.

VICKIE

Just make sure you don't burn the place down... and no boys!

STACY

Boys? Gross.

Stacy gives a sarcastic grin. Vickie smiles back, exits.

INT. MIDDLE INCOME CHICAGO APARTMENT (1994) - LATER

NICK, 7, hears a NOISE and gets out of bed. He wears REN AND STIMPY footed pajamas and rubs the sleep out of his eyes. He walks out of his room, looks down by the front door and sees a pair of BEAT UP MEN'S BASKETBALL SHOES.

The NOISE continues. He walks into the living room and sees Stacy with her shirt off, no bra, on the couch passionately making out with her BOYFRIEND, 17. They don't notice him. Nick eyeballs Stacy's naked breasts.

INT. MIDDLE INCOME CHICAGO APARTMENT (1994) - CONTINUOUS

Nick goes back to his room. Stops. Something's different. Looks down to find his first erection. Confused he unzips his pajamas. Eyes widen. Darts to his bed unsure of his next move. He instinctively positions his pillows in the shape of some sort of makeshift body.

For the head, he uses the popular late '80s toy MY PET MONSTER. Complete with blue fur, large saber-toothed tiger teeth and jaundice yellow eyes.

While staring at the stuffed animal, he dry humps the human form. Harder and harder until: AHHH, UGH! Oh no, what just happened? He's never felt that before.

FLICK, the light goes on. Stacy is now clothed.

STACY
What are you doing?

Nick, embarrassed, pulls the covers over himself.

STACY (CONT'D)
It's bedtime, alright? You're not
supposed to be up. Don't make me tell
your Mom on you.

Stacy turns the lights off and shuts the door. Nick lies
in silence. Too excited to fall asleep.

INT. PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE - DAY

Nick, still 7, nervous. The PRINCIPAL, 58, heavy set
black woman, sits with Vickie. Valentine's Day
decorations litter the office.

PRINCIPAL
...and then, he kissed her on the lips.

Vickie glares at Nick.

VICKIE
Nicholas, you can't be doing that.

YOUNG NICK
But Mom... I'm in love!

He pulls out a heart-shaped valentine from the girl.

YOUNG NICK (CONT'D)
And I believe we're going to get married.

The Principal and Vickie try not to laugh.

VICKIE
I want you to listen to me. You can't
keep falling in love with every girl you
like, okay? You're little heart can't
handle it.

Nick ignores his mother's advice and takes a deep inhale,
smelling every ounce of the valentine, which has a
PICTURE OF NICK AND THE GIRL, 8. The girl is a puppet.

Vickie shakes her head knowing this will be trouble.

CUT TO: TITLE SEQUENCE

INT. NICK'S APARTMENT - NIGHT (PRESENT DAY)

NICK, now 28, attractive but not threatening, unkempt, sits alone in his boxers and stained undershirt. He's in a dark, isolated place. The only light that illuminates his face is from his computer. On the desk is a picture of him smiling with a BEAUTIFUL GIRL.

He scrolls through YouTube. Clicks on a montage of SOLDIERS returning home to their FAMILIES from Iraq. The joy is objectively touching. One of the soldiers is a PUPPET. Nick is devoid of emotion.

He looks at a full garbage bag that has been taken out of the can but not tied. Opens it. Inside are remnants of a failed relationship, T-shirts, knickknacks, a picture of Nick with the same beautiful girl that reads: SAVE THE DATE. They're embracing each other and smiling. He grabs the last photo off the desk and shoves it in the bag.

He doesn't know what to do next. Catches himself staring off. Opens the BUMBLE APP on his phone and without looking, swipes right on every photo, aka 'Power Liking.' About one out of five of the girls are puppets.

He waits for a second. No response. He looks through his missed calls. No one has called. He dials a number.

MIKE (V.O.)
(excited voicemail)
Hey, it's Mike. Sorry I missed you. I'm probably out doing something sweet. Leave a message.

Hangs up, defeated.

INT. NICK'S APARTMENT - BATHROOM - LATER

Nick opens the medicine cabinet, grabs a prescription bottle, opens it and dumps two pills into his hand. Washes them down with a glass of water.

Looks at himself in the mirror and is still devastated. Pills aren't working. Dumps the rest of the bottle into his hand. Grabs another bottle, opens it and dumps those pills into his hand.

Thinks long and hard, then lifts his hand to his mouth ingesting two bottles' worth of pills.

Swallows hard. Washes them down with water and then looks at himself in the mirror.

Immediately regrets his decision. Bolts to the toilet stuffing his finger down his throat.

BLEEEAAHHH HurkurkULLEAAHH, pukes out his soul. Through his bloodshot eyes he fishes the pills out of the toilet lining them up on the floor for a rough count.

Oh shit! It's not all of them. Re-shoves his finger down his throat. More pain but the remaining pills surface. He tallies them as they float in the toilet water... Takes a breath of relief. They're all there.

He lies on the floor of the bathroom, exhausted, trying to catch his breath.

NICK (V.O.)

So you're here to make me look pretty?

MAKEUP WOMAN (V.O.)

(sarcastic)

Well, I don't know about *pretty*...

INT. YOUCOMPLETEME.COM OFFICE - WHITE BACKDROP - DAY

Nick, now clean-cut and laughing, sits on a stool in front of a white backdrop. Lots of bright light. The MAKEUP WOMAN applies powder to him.

NICK

I know I'm a bit of a garbage fire but please do your best.

MAKEUP WOMAN

(grinning)

You look great.

Nick smiles. The Makeup Woman exits.

NICK

(to Producer off camera)

So where's this going to end up?

PRODUCER (O.C.)

Just our website. With our client base we find testimonials to be incredibly effective. If it gets enough hits we'll feature it on our home page.

(beat)

...and we're rolling. Please state your name and why you decided to use YouCompleteMe.com.

CUT BACK TO:

EXT. NICK'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Nick, still disheveled, exits his apartment with the garbage bag. There are palm trees and cool air. At least now he's wearing pants. He travels in flip flops and heaves the full garbage bag into a giant trash can. It slams into the bottom of the noisy metal container.

He saunters back to his apartment. His phone RINGS.

NICK

Hello.

It sounds like Mike is at the greatest party ever.

MIKE (V.O.)

What the hell is going on! Whooooooooo!
How's L.A., playa?

Nick stands alone in the middle of a desolate parking lot. He tries to match Mike's mood.

NICK

It's good. How's Chicago?

MIKE (V.O.)

Cold as balls but still the greatest city
in the world.

(yelling)

Ricky, give that girl her top back...

(back to Nick)

I'm coming out to see you and Sara soon,
I promise.

Nick pauses.

MIKE (V.O.)

Nicky, did I lose you? Hello...

NICK

You haven't seen on Facebook?

RANDOM DUDE (V.O.)

Cheers, Mikey.

MIKE (V.O.)

Cheers, bro.

(back to Nick)

Seen what?

NICK

Just call me later. You're busy.

MIKE (V.O.)
What's up? Just tell me.

NICK
Man, I'm just not in a good place right now. Sara and I broke up, like a month ago, and... I'm not handling things well.

MIKE (V.O.)
Seriously? You just left Chicago, what happened?

NICK
I don't know... I don't think she ever really loved me.
(beat)
I think she was just in love with the fact that I was in love with her and now I'm... not thinking right.

Nick waits for a response.

RICKY (V.O.)
You got any ones?

MIKE (V.O.)
(ignores Ricky)
Oh dude, I'm so sorry. So the engagement's off?

NICK
(hard to admit)
Yes.

MIKE (V.O.)
Ah, but I was planning on banging her Maid of Honor.
(Nick doesn't respond)
Are you going to be okay? Do you need me to come out there? You say the word and I'm on the next flight.

NICK
No, I'm not okay. I can't do this anymore, man. I'll probably just come back.

MIKE (V.O.)
To Chicago?

NICK
Yeah.

MIKE

Ah Jesus, look man, this isn't the best time for me to be Dr. Phil-ing this shit. I'm real high.

A bunch of FUN NOISES, including the sound of a DONKEY'S HEE-HAW, come out of the phone.

NICK

Mike? Hello.

MIKE (V.O.)

Man, things are getting a little weird here, let me call you tomorrow.

(searches for wisdom)

I'm going to need you to stop being so dramatic. You moved out there for a reason and you need to have faith in that. Okay? You know I love you, right?

NICK

Yeah.

MIKE

I need you to trust me. Everything is going to be fine. I promise.

Nick really needed to hear that.

NICK

Thanks brother, love you too.

INT. NICK'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Nick walks back into his room and sees all the used tissues on his desk, he looks around the entire room. It's in shambles. Realizing he's a sad mess he gathers all of the tissues and throws them away.

He tidies the rest of his room and turns on a proper light. With purpose, he opens his e-mail. There's an UNOPENED MESSAGE from YouCompleteMe.Com.

NICK (V.O.)

My name is Nick Felicetta and I started using your site because...

He clicks on it.

NICK (V.O.)

Well, I guess it was because I was tired of being alone.

PRODUCER (V.O.)
And how did we do?

INT. YOUCOMPLETEME.COM OFFICE - WHITE BACKDROP - DAY

Nick smiles.

NICK
Emma's the best. It's only been four months, but I feel like I've already known her for years. There are just so many fake people in this town. She's just so... real.

INT. EMMA'S APARTMENT - DOORWAY - DAY

Clean cut Nick is bored while he waits for Emma. He picks up a pile of her mail. As he shuffles through, there is a piece of mail from STEVE LAWSON in a BLUE ENVELOPE. He sets down the mail not giving it much attention.

Nick starts pacing while going through his phone.

NICK
Babe, I just found this app that shows me where all my friends are.

EMMA (O.S.)
Do *they* know, *you* know where they are?

NICK
Yeah, they have to enable the feature on their phone. You should download it.

EMMA (O.S.)
It sounds kind of creepy. If you need to know where I am, can't you just text me?

NICK
Yeah, I guess.
(kidding, under his breath)
Or I could just stalk you the old fashioned way.

EMMA (O.S.)
What was that?

NICK
You almost ready? We're already like twenty minutes late.

EMMA (O.S.)

Just a sec.

(beat)

How do I look?

A genuine smile comes across Nicks's face. Reveal that Emma is an incredibly attractive puppet. (NOTE: Emma is a Muppet style puppet. In this world puppets are another race, i.e. there are black people, there are white people, there are puppets, etc... Nick is not controlling the puppet himself. You will never see a puppeteer. To Nick and everyone else she is as real as any human.)

NICK

You look beautiful.

Nick steals a kiss. Their embrace gets more and more intense. They're now both lost in each other's lips.

EMMA

(mocking)

I thought our reservation was for twelve?

Nick smiles and tickles Emma.

EMMA (CONT'D)

Please stop it, you're going to rip my felt. Let's just go.

NICK

Fine, just give me like forty-five minutes to do my hair.

EMMA

(smiling)

Whatever.

Their kissing gets more and more aggressive.

NICK

We could just stay in.

Emma giggles. Nick slowly goes down on her. Emma moans in pleasure.

EXT. DRIVEWAY - DAY

Nick and Emma walk to the car.

EMMA

Did I tell you I styled Kanye West yesterday? He was actually super nice.

NICK

Really?

EMMA

Although, he did make us all call him
'Your Majesty' and we had to genuflect.

Nick gives a judgemental look, opens the door for her.

NICK

Sounds like a real peach.

Nick shuts her door and walks around to the other side. Looking through the back window, Nick watches Emma reach over and unlock his door. He pumps his fist in celebration.

INT. CAR - CONTINUOUS

Nick gets in.

NICK

I knew you were one of the great ones.

EMMA

(Bronx accent)

"Ah, never mind, it's an Italian thing."

NICK

You know "A Bronx Tale?"

EMMA

Please, it was DeNiro's directorial debut.

Emma smiles at Nick, he smiles back.

NICK

Oh, by the way I made you a key.

Nick pulls a key out of his pocket. Emma just looks at it, not saying anything.

NICK (CONT'D)

It's for my place.

She still doesn't take it. Nick's a bit offended.

NICK (CONT'D)

Do you not want it?

Emma still doesn't know what to say.

NICK (CONT'D)

Fine.

Nick goes to put the key back in his pocket.

EMMA

A key is a big deal. You haven't even seen me pee with the door open yet. I don't even know your middle name.

NICK

It's just a key.

EMMA

We both know it's not just a key... and it's kind of a big deal to me that it's not a big deal to you.

NICK

I'm sorry. Sometimes you get to my place before me and it would just be more convenient.

EMMA

Every relationship we've been in has failed. Don't we want this one to be different?

Nick is trying not to get upset.

NICK

Fine.

(a bit sarcastic)

Emma, if I made you a key to my apartment do you think that would be a good idea?

EMMA

Thank you for asking. Do you think we are ready for a key?

NICK

Obviously, if I took the time to make you a key I think we are ready!

(catching himself.)

Yes, yes, I think we are ready for a key.

Emma thinks to herself.

EMMA

Good, that's good. I don't think we're ready quite yet, but, I like knowing that you think we are.

Emma smiles. Nick's about to lose his mind.

NICK
Great.

EMMA
Great.

NICK
Great.

EMMA
Great.

INT. YOUCOMPLETEME.COM OFFICE - WHITE BACKDROP - DAY

NICK
We're just trying to find our rhythm.
Figure out our pace.
(shadow boxes with his hands)
You know, I push and she pulls.

PRODUCER (O.S.)
You're not hitting her are you?

NICK
No, no, that's crazy, no. God no.

Nick folds his arms as if he's putting his hands away.

INT. CAR - CONTINUOUS

NICK
Seat belts.

Emma can't quite reach the seat belt. Nick reaches over to help her and accidentally hits her on the nose.

NICK (CONT'D)
Oh, I'm so sorry.

EMMA
(holding her nose)
Jesus.

NICK
Are you okay?

EMMA
I'll be fine.

Nick's worry turns into frustration as he tries to pull the seat belt but it won't unlock. He keeps pulling and pulling but just gets more frustrated.

INT. YOUCOMPLETEME.COM OFFICE - WHITE BACKDROP - DAY

Back to the YouCompleteMe.com interview.

NICK

It's not without its ups and downs, but with Emma it seems worth it. She's just such a special... girl.

EXT. PATIO OF TRENDY RESTAURANT - DAY

Nick and Emma sit with 10 OF THEIR FRIENDS outside, under umbrellas, drinking mimosas and eating brunch. Nick admires Emma's beauty as she talks with one of her girlfriends (not a puppet).

Emma looks over and smiles at Nick. He smiles back.

EMMA

I have to pee, anyone else?

All of the girls stand.

NICK

Ah babe, don't break the seal.

EMMA

I'm going to piss my pants if I don't.

Emma gives Nick a kiss. She and the girls go to the bathroom. As Emma walks, Nick sees another MALE PUPPET across the restaurant eyeing Emma and pointing her out to his PUPPET FRIENDS. Nick catches himself getting upset.

NICK

Where's Liz?

REMMY

Looks like she's parking now.

REMMY, 37, a bohemian looking human, long blonde curly hair, has different colored paint all over his hands and in his hair, looks 28, dates younger girls, looks at his phone and then shows it to Nick.

NICK

Oh cool, you use that Find-A-Friend app? I tried to get Emma into that, but she thought it was too weird.

REMMY

I like her style. Stay off the grid. You can't be too careful with the ole-N.S.A.

(MORE)

REMMY (CONT'D)
(pronounced 'nisa') theses days. E,
Snowden's totally my Jesus.

NICK
You don't care about Edward Snowden or
the N.S.A., you just don't want Liz
finding out about all of your side
pieces.

REMMY
Maybe Emma and I are more similar than
you think?

Remmy gives Nick a playful look.

NICK
Please, Emma showers.

REMMY
Showering off all that 'D.'

NICK
(laughing)
Shut up.

The rest of the guys are talking amongst themselves. Without them noticing, Nick grabs Emma's phone off of the table. He quickly downloads the app and turns it on. He pulls out his own phone and now there's an icon with Emma's name on it and her exact location.

Nick looks around to make sure no one noticed. He puts the phone back exactly where he found it.

INT. YOUCOMPLETEME.COM OFFICE - WHITE BACKDROP - DAY

Back to the YouCompleteMe.com interview.

PRODUCER
One thing we find with couples that meet
online is that it's hard to develop trust
initially. Have you found that to be a
problem with Emma?

NICK
No. I trust her completely.

Nick's eyes tell a different story.

INT. EMMA'S APT. - NIGHT

Emma has a towel up to her armpits and another towel up in her hair.

EMMA
(Beyoncé's 'Pretty Hurts')
Mama said, you're a pretty girl.

Instead of the bathroom she goes into the laundry room.

LAUNDRY ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Emma opens a front load washing machine.

EMMA
What's in your head, it doesn't matter.

She takes off her towels, climbs in and shuts the door. The washing machine violently spins her around.

EMMA (CONT'D)
(violent muffled noises)
Ggagagaglalglgaafllallaalf.

The wash stops. A beat of silence. The spin cycle starts.

EMMA (CONT'D)
(more violent noises)
GGgwgwgwgwgggglglwfwglwglwglgw.

The machine stops. The door opens. Emma steps out.

EMMA (CONT'D)
(she never stopped singing)
Pretty hurts. We shine the light on whatever's worse.

Emma dries herself off and puts on her pajamas.

EMMA (CONT'D)
*But you can't fix what you can't see.
It's the soul that needs the surgery.*

She lifts up the seat and sits down on the toilet. She opens the door to see if Nick is there. He's not. It's quiet. The sound of her peeing fills the silence. Out of nowhere Nick enters. He was there the whole time and heard her peeing. She finishes.

NICK
Scott.

EMMA
 (smiling)
 Marie.

Nick smiles back. She finishes peeing.

NICK
 It's nice to meet you, Emma Marie Dargis.

EMMA
 You too, Nicholas *Scott* Felicetta.

They both admire each other. After a long pause.

EMMA (CONT'D)
 I still don't think we're ready for a
 key.

Nick shakes his head in pure frustration, walks away.

EMMA (CONT'D)
 Where're you going?
 (beat)
 Babe?

INT. EMMA'S APT. - MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT

Emma opens the BLUE ENVELOPE from STEVE LAWSON. Inside is a card that reads: IN THE PAST 6 MONTHS I'VE THOUGHT ABOUT YOU EVERY SINGLE DAY. I NEED TO KNOW I'M NOT CRAZY. I STILL LOVE YOU, EMMA. PLEASE WRITE ME BACK. - LOVE STEVE.

Emma ponders her next move. She pulls out a blank piece of paper. She writes: DEAR STEVE, YOU'RE NOT CRAZY. I DO STILL HAVE FEELINGS FOR YOU...

Emma looks over and sees Nick asleep in her bed. She feels guilty, stops writing and puts the letter away. She lies next to Nick and goes to bed.

NICK
 Everything okay?

EMMA
 Yeah, everything's fine. Sorry I woke
 you.

END OF PILOT.

My Girlfriend's a Doll
Episode #2

Story by

Nicholas Anthony, Jason Lansing & Prashanth Venkataramanujam

Screenplay by

Nicholas Anthony

INT. YOUCOMPLETEME.COM OFFICE - WHITE BACKDROP - DAY

YouCompleteMe.com interview. Nick is in the chair.

PRODUCER (V.O.)
So, you met Emma's parents?

Nick's eyes grow nervous.

NICK
Ah...

PRODUCER (V.O.)
Oooo, that is not going to play well.

NICK
Theeeeey're great?

PRODUCER (V.O.)
Okay, this pensive Tony the Tiger routine isn't going to cut it. Look, this is yours and Emma's story and it's a successful one. We want to tell that story.
(over explaining)
So, let's do it again, but this time let's try to...

The Producer gestures for Nick to say the next word.

PRODUCER
...focus

NICK
(catching up)
Focus.

PRODUCER
...on the

NICK
On the.

PRODUCER
...positive.

NICK
Positive.

Nick feels manipulated.

PRODUCER (V.O.)
Cool?

NICK
Yeah, they really are good people.

PRODUCER (V.O.)
Good. More of that.
(beat)
What was it like meeting Emma's
parents?

NICK
(actually convincing)
Amazing. Such a nice couple and
after all these years they're still
so in love.

Nick gives a convincing fake smile.

EXT. GAS STATION - DAY (SOMEWHERE IN CONNECTICUT)

A rental car is parked at a pump.

INT. RENTAL CAR - DAY

Nick sits in the passenger seat looking at a map. Emma is
outside pumping gas. The window is open.

NICK
...it just doesn't seem like you
want to meet *my* mom.

EMMA
It's not that, I just don't want to
have to go to Chicago in January.

NICK
Okay, when would you like to go?

Emma hesitates.

NICK (CONT'D)
See, you don't want to.

EMMA
Babe, I want to meet your mom.
(beat)
I just--

Emma's phone is on the dash. It RINGS.

NICK
Your phone is ringing.

EMMA
Who is it?

Nick looks.

NICK
It's your dad.

EMMA
Answer it.

NICK
No.

EMMA
Will you please just answer it?

NICK
(defensive)
I don't know your dad.

EMMA
Just answer the phone.

Nick still has no desire to but doesn't want to fight.

NICK
Hello.

MR. DARGIS (V.O.)
Who is this?

NICK
It's Nick, Emma left her phone in
the car. She's pumping the gas. Is
this Ken?

MR. DARGIS (V.O.)
I think you mean Mr. Dargis. *She's*
pumping the gas?

NICK
Ah...

MR. DARGIS (V.O.)
Will you still be here at 5?

NICK
I think so.

Mr. Dargis hangs up. The line goes dead. Nick is confused.

NICK (CONT'D)
Hello?

Emma gets back in the car. Nick pretends to still be on the phone.

NICK (CONT'D)
I can't wait to meet you, too, Mr. Dargis.

Nick hangs up the phone.

EMMA
Ahhh, you called him, Mr. Dargis?

Nick fake smiles.

EMMA (CONT'D)
...he loves that.

Nick has a 'What have I done?' look on his face.

INT. PARENTS' HOUSE - NIGHT

The door bell RINGS.

Emma's mother, PATRICIA DARGIS (PATTY), 53, human, thin and tall, over-the-top nice, think Joan Cusack, has on an apron, approaches the door. KENNETH DARGIS (KEN OR MR. DARGIS), 55, puppet, hair on the sides but bald on top, very fatherly, is also making his way to the door.

PATTY
Wait for me.

Mr. Dargis ignores his wife and opens the door to reveal both Nick and Emma.

PATTY (CONT'D)
You never wait for me.

Ken still ignores his wife.

MR. DARGIS
There's my girl.

Mr. Dargis and Emma hug. Mr. Dargis eyes up Nick. Emma and her Mother hug.

PATTY
Ooooo, hello! It's so good to see you and finally meet you.

MR. DARGIS
Is this the guy?

NICK

Very nice to meet you. Not on the phone, I mean.

MR. DARGIS

Well, he's a lot taller than Steve, that's a plus.

Nick gives a confused look.

EMMA

(to Nick)

Steve was my ex.

(with emphasis to her Dad)

Like two years ago.

Nick and Mr. Dargis shake hands.

MR. DARGIS

Dargises don't shake hands. Bring it in.

Mr. Dargis brings him in for a hug.

PATTY

Come in, come in. Dinner is almost ready. Take your shoes off, relax for a bit. Ken, I could use your help in the kitchen.

(to Nick)

It's so nice to finally meet you.

Patty and Nick hug.

PATTY (CONT'D)

How was your trip?

NICK

It was long but we were able to pass out on the flight.

PATTY

It's so nice when you can sleep on the plane, it feels like time traveling.

MR. DARGIS

Emma, help your mother. Nick, come outside, I need a hand.

PATTY

Ken, they just got here.

MR. DARGIS

He doesn't mind pitching in. Do you, Nick?

Nick is put on the spot.

NICK

Not at all. How can I help?

MR. DARGIS

There we go.

Nick looks at Emma. She gestures for him to go with her Dad. Nick goes with Mr. Dargis and Emma goes with her Mom. Patty gives a giant smile but is hiding years of frustration.

EXT. HOUSE - EVENING

Mr. Dargis and Nick are outside putting up a large white party tent. Keep in mind, Mr. Dargis is a puppet, yet seems to have an easier time lifting heavy objects, which just ends up emasculating Nick.

Mr. Dargis puts a pole in place.

MR. DARGIS

Can you hold this?

Nick holds the pole. Nick can't quite see what he's doing. Mr. Dargis finishes and reveals a perfect butterfly knot.

NICK

That's a cool looking knot.

MR. DARGIS

Cool?

NICK

I'm just saying it looks... par-tic-u-larly effective. Where did you learn to tie it?

MR. DARGIS

The Navy. You ever spend time on the water?

NICK

No, not really. Lake Michigan as a kid, but mostly on the beach.

MR. DARGIS

So how long have you and Emma been dating now?

NICK
Seven months.

MR. DARGIS
Ah, still in the honeymoon phase.
Have you used the L-word yet?

Nick is uncomfortable.

NICK
Love?

MR. DARGIS
What other L-word would I be
talking about? Luchador,
libertarian... labia?

There's an awkward pause.

NICK
We've both said it.

MR. DARGIS
Did you mean it?

NICK
Yes.

MR. DARGIS
Be careful, Nick. It takes a lot
more than just love. You see that
garden over there?

Nick looks and sees a well-tended garden.

NICK
It's beautiful.

MR. DARGIS
(calm but intense)
The hardest part about a garden is
that there aren't any guarantees.
Patty likes broccoli raab, so I
wanted to surprise her with some. I
hadn't grown it before so to be
careful I planted it in a long box
to get it started. After four
months they still just looked like
seedlings. Turns out I hadn't
amended the soil properly.

(stares off)
And if it's not the soil it's
something else. You put in all this
goddamn time.

(MORE)

MR. DARGIS (CONT'D)

You pull every single goddamn weed
and if you're not careful ONE piece-
of-shit deer could come in and
destroy your entire harvest.

(furious but still calm)

Even when you do *everything* right,
life, with all of its trickiness,
can still somehow find a way to
fuck you in the ass.

Mr. Dargis turns to Nick and makes deep eye contact. Nick is speechless.

Breaking the tension, Emma and Patty come outside with large plates of food. Nick is still freaked out.

PATTY

Ken, food's ready.

EMMA

Nick, can you come help me bring
some things out from the kitchen.

NICK

Sure.

Nick keeps his eyes on Mr. Dargis as he walks with Emma to the house.

NICK (CONT'D)

Was your Dad in Iraq or something?

EMMA

Oh, don't let him scare you. He
loves messing with my boyfriends.

NICK

I don't know, Em. He just went on
this PTSD level rant about growing
broccoli. I think the Navy might
have messed him up?

EMMA

(rolling her eyes)

He was never in the Navy.

NICK

What?

Nick glares at Mr. Dargis, feeling he has been had.

INT. HOUSE - NIGHT

Emma takes Nick's hand.

EMMA
Come with me.

Nick is curious. She leads him into her childhood bedroom.

NICK
You still have a room here?

INT. EMMA'S CHILDHOOD BEDROOM - NIGHT

The room is still how Emma left it. Emma sits on the carpet and invites Nick to join her.

EMMA
I have something that no one knows
I have.

NICK
It can't be that bad or I'd
probably have it by now.

Emma pulls out an old photo album. It's a combination of her parents wedding photos and candid pictures of her parents being romantic with each other. It's a shrine to their love.

EMMA
I used to sit in this room and
think about my own wedding day. I
even bought these.

Emma pulls out a TINY WEDDING CAKE BRIDE AND GROOM. She takes the top hat off of the groom and puts it on Nick's head. Nick takes the tiny tiara off of the bride and puts it on Emma's head.

They admire one another. They kiss. Nick sees a happy photo of Emma's parents. Emma also sees the photo and smiles.

NICK
See how happy we are? Now why don't
you want to meet my mom?

EMMA
(annoyed)
I do. Will you please just drop it?
I promise I will meet your mom.
We'll set it up as soon as we get
back.

NICK
Okay, fine.

EXT. HOUSE - OUTSIDE TABLE - NIGHT

BOISTEROUS LAUGHTER erupts from the table as the family sits around and eats crab. Also there are two MORE SETS OF AUNTS AND UNCLES (one of the older aunts is a puppet), and Emma's sister BECCA, 23, human. Everyone except for Nick is proficient at picking crab.

MR. DARGIS
Hey, everybody, who am I?

Mr. Dargis has a crab cracker and an oyster fork and he's clanging them together.

MR. DARGIS (CONT'D)
(teasing but fun)
How do I get the meat in my mouth?
I'm Nick.

Everyone, including Nick, laughs. Mr. Dargis looks for Patty's attention but she refrains.

Mr. Dargis watches Emma admire Nick. He's completely jealous.

MR. DARGIS (CONT'D)
(to Patty, while laughing)
...and you want to end this.

Mr. Dargis keeps laughing.

NICK
(at the end of his laugh)
End what?

Awkward moment.

PATTY
Can we please just have a nice night?

NICK
I'm sorry, I didn't mean to--

MR. DARGIS
We are having a nice night, Patty.
But our guest here has a question.
Can't we answer Nick's question...
Patty?

The tension is heavy.

PATTY
Please, Ken.

NICK
I really don't--

MR. DARGIS
Everything must come to an end.
Isn't that what you said?

Patty awkwardly smiles at all of her guests.

PATTY
You're really doing this now?

EMMA
Why are you talking to each other
like this?

MR. DARGIS
I don't know, Patty, why are we?

Mr. Dargis takes a drink of wine. Nick is quiet and feels responsible.

MR. DARGIS (CONT'D)
Tell her. *This* is what you wanted,
isn't it?

PATTY
No, *this* is exactly what I didn't
want.

Nick isn't sure what's happening.

MR. DARGIS
That's bull shit. You've been
planning your exit for years.

Having him say that in front of all the family cuts to
Patty's core. She loses it, lets her guard down.

PATTY
How am I supposed to be with
someone who can't exist without me?

MR. DARGIS
Is that really your biggest
complaint? I love you too much?

PATTY
What are you without me? Who are
you?

(MORE)

PATTY (CONT'D)

Is there anything else in there? I can't live my life with someone who doesn't have their own.

Mr. Dargis is furious and walks away.

EMMA

Dad?

Emma looks to Becca.

EMMA (CONT'D)

What is going on?

BECCA

Come on, Emma. It's always been like this.

EMMA

Mom, tell me what is happening.

Patty just cries.

EMMA (CONT'D)

(to Becca)

It's never been this bad.

Mr. Dargis comes back in with divorce papers and SLAMS them on the table.

MR. DARGIS

Just sign them now so we can finally be done with this charade!

Emma and Patty cry. Everyone else is speechless/horrified. Nick is riveted, still wearing a crab bib, holding a cracker.

MR. DARGIS (CONT'D)

Fucking broccoli!

Mr. Dargis grabs the broccoli and throws it across the yard. Emma runs away crying. Becca runs after her. Patty looks at her husband with disgust and storms off.

Nick, shocked by the drama of it all, still is front row for this Albee-esque scene. Crab in hand, butter dripping off.

INT. EMMA'S CHILDHOOD BEDROOM - NIGHT

Emma grabs the photo album and wants to rip it to shreds but holds herself back and cries while looking at the photos.

INT. CAR - NIGHT

Nick drives, Emma stares out the window, dispirited.

Emma grabs Nick's hand and holds it. She needs him right now.

INT. YOUCOMPLETEME.COM OFFICE - WHITE BACKDROP - DAY

Back to the YouCompleteMe.com interview.

PRODUCER (V.O.)

...yeah, I get it, it was messed up
but how can we give it a positive
slant?

Nick furrows his brow searching his mind.

NICK

(rationalizing)
At least now she'll have two
Christmases.

Nick makes an 'ouch' face.

END OF EPISODE.

My Girlfriend's a Doll
Episode #3

Story by

Nicholas Anthony, Jason Lansing & Prashanth Venkataramanujam

Screenplay by

Nicholas Anthony

INT. CHURCH BASEMENT - DAY

ANTON, 25, a white gangster puppet with cornrows.

ANTON
(dumb and deep)
...and she laughs at all my jokes
and she gotta fat ass.

The sound of 8 people CHUCKLING can be heard.

MODERATOR (O.S.)
Okay, okay. Now Stacy, say
something you like about Anton.

STACY, 19, human, fat ass, Puerto Rican, long colorful finger
nails. Chews gum.

STACY
(ghetto)
Well, he doesn't cheat on me,
that's nice. My last boyfriend was
a cheatin' piece of shit and I hope
his dick falls off while he burns
in hell.

ANTON
That's right baby, my dick ain't
goin' nowhere.

Anton and Stacy kiss. Reveal the MODERATOR, 48, white lady
with glasses and a kindergarten teacher's disposition.

MODERATOR
(too nice)
Oh, that's so sweet.

The Moderator turns and reveals Emma and Nick also sitting on
folding chairs with 4 OTHER SETS OF COUPLES in a circle.

MODERATOR (CONT'D)
Okay Nick, it's your turn.

NICK
Well, she's always surprising me.
For our one year anniversary she--

MODERATOR
--actually it's better if you talk
directly to your partner.

NICK
Oh, okay.

Nick shifts in his chair so he's facing Emma.

NICK (CONT'D)

I love how soft you are... You, your clothes, everything you own is soft and all of your things smell like a girl, like you, and I fucking love that smell. I love your laugh and the fact that you can make *me* laugh... You always let me know when I have food on my face and you taught me how to use chopsticks. I love that you don't think you're that pretty, especially in the mornings. Even though I always think you're beautiful. But you know what I love the most? I love snuggling my cheek into that warm part of your neck... No matter how bad my day has been that always makes me feel better.

(beat)

I could spend the rest of my life in the warm part of your neck.

Emma is overwhelmed. The small crowd applauds.

MODERATOR

That's beautiful, Nick.

(beat)

Now Emma, tell us something you like about Nick.

Emma doesn't like being put on the spot.

EMMA

Um...

Everyone waits.

EMMA (CONT'D)

Ah...

Emma can't find the words.

CUT TO:

INT. EMMA'S APT. - DAY

Nick and Emma enter. Nick is upset.

NICK

Not one thing?

EMMA

I'm sorry, my mind went blank.

Nick can't believe her.

EMMA (CONT'D)

Oh please, I was put on the spot. We didn't need couples therapy in the first place. I told you this.

NICK

For the last time, it wasn't couples therapy. It was PRE-couples therapy. PRE! There's maintenance on a relationship just like there is on a car.

EMMA

Nick, this is working. Why are you messing with us?

NICK

I don't know, I... I'm... I just want to make sure it keeps working.

EMMA

(tender)

Everything is okay. We're good.

Nick thinks this is now an opportunity to make a move. Emma kisses him back but then stops.

EMMA (CONT'D)

What are you doing?

NICK

What?

EMMA

Not right now. You know I have Lexi's birthday tonight.

NICK

Oh, c'mon.

EMMA

I will see you when I get home.

Emma kisses Nick.

EMMA (CONT'D)

You know I love you?

NICK
(with a smile)
I guess.

They kiss again. She leaves.

Nick lets out a large sigh and then goes to the internet and starts looking at porn. He scrolls and scrolls but doesn't like anything he sees.

A POP UP WINDOW appears with a SUPER HOT EASTERN EUROPEAN GIRL, 21, wearing a skimpy piece of lingerie. A CHAT WINDOW also appears. At first he isn't sure but then puts in his credit card information.

CHAT WINDOW
(typed)
Hey you!

Nick hesitates but then types.

NICK
(typed)
Are you real?

Nick waves his hand in front of the computer. She waves her hand back. The rest of this conversation is typed out.

NICK (CONT'D)
Show me today's newspaper.

CHAT WINDOW
Who still reads newspapers?

NICK
Good point. Lol.

CHAT WINDOW
You want me to dance for you?

She starts dancing.

NICK
Yeah, that's nice.

CHAT WINDOW
Let me see your cock.

NICK
You want me now?

CHAT WINDOW
More than anything baby.

She starts touching herself. Nick suspiciously closes the curtain.

INT. EMMA'S APT. - MORNING

Nick is in bed while Emma gets ready for work.

EMMA

Hey, I'm sorry about yesterday. There are endless things I love about you. You know exactly how much space I need. You don't judge me when I watch shitty reality TV shows. You're loyal and supportive and you always take out the trash and vacuum and you never complain when I'm clearly being emotional. You always make me feel beautiful and I just want you to hear me say this, I really do love you.

NICK

Thank you, Em. I'm sorry I made us go to that stupid pre-therapy session. It was a mistake.

They kiss. Nick tries to make his move again.

EMMA

I'm already late for work.

NICK

Again? You're killing me here.

EMMA

Tonight. I promise.

They kiss. Emma leaves.

Nick, again frustrated, goes back to the internet. But this time as he scrolls one video grabs his attention. Nick can't believe his eyes.

NICK

No.

It's a VIDEO OF HIM JERKING OFF yesterday.

NICK (CONT'D)

What the hell?

Nick stands up in a panic.

NICK (CONT'D)

Holy shit.

He plays the video. It's for sure him. Panic takes over.
Pulls out his phone and dials.

INT. TEEN VAMPIRE MOM SET - DAY

Emma gathers wardrobe for an actor. Her phone RINGS.

EMMA

Hello?

CUT TO:

INT. LOFT STYLE APT - DAY

FOUR SUPER FLAMBOYANT PUPPETS sit around a computer screen.

RUFFIO

(into his cell)

Peanut, are you sitting down?

EMMA (V.O.)

Yeah, why?

RUFFIO

I don't know how to tell you this,
girl, but... Your BF is on the
inter-webs.

EMMA (V.O.)

What are you talking about?

RUFFIO

I'm totes texting you a link now.

INT. TEEN VAMPIRE MOM SET - DAY

Emma is watching a video on her phone.

EMMA

Oh my God.

She can't believe it. Her tiny puppet mouth is agape.

INT. EMMA'S APT. - DAY

Nick, frantic, is on the phone with Remmy, his artist friend.

NICK
...what would you do?

REMMY (V.O.)
I don't know. Look bro, this is still a company and they have to obey laws and shit. If I were you I would find an e-mail address and threaten to sue their asses.

NICK
You really think that will work?

REMMY (V.O.)
Probably not. Who knows, it's a bad sign when you're asking *me* for legal advice.

Nick hunts through the WANK TUBE site for an e-mail address.

NICK
Got it. Okay, what do I write?

REMMY (V.O.)
Why do you keep asking me for advice on this? I have no idea. Maybe... Google 'cease and desist' letters? You're the one with your cock on the line, online.

NICK
(freaking out)
Just tell me what to do.

REMMY (V.O.)
I don't know. Sure, I've camera phoned a bunch of one night stands, but I keep that shit off of the internet.

NICK
Fine, I've got to go.

REMMY
What website did you say it was on again?

NICK
I didn't, goodbye.

Nick hangs up.

He quickly cuts and pastes LEGALESE from CEASE AND DESIST LETTERS found on the web. He opens a new e-mail and pastes in his message. He reads it over a few times and then hits send.

Nick sits back in his chair clutching the armrests.

DING. He receives a text from Remmy.

It's a picture of a screen grab of Nick jerking off on the internet and a caption that reads: HHAHAHAHAHAHAHAHAHAHAHA

NICK (CONT'D)
Ah, sweet Jesus!

INT. NICK'S WORK - CONFERENCE ROOM - DAY

HANNAH, 38, Producer, talks to a GROUP OF CO-WORKERS sitting around a large conference desk.

HANNAH
And we're specifically looking for new show pitches, so if you have any ideas please e-mail me.

Nick keeps looking at his phone waiting for an e-mail from WANK TUBE but there's nothing.

INT. CAR - DAY

Nick is now driving home and still checking his phone. Still nothing. He swerves almost hitting a parked car.

EXT. EMMA'S APT. - NIGHT

Nick walks up. DING. He pulls his phone out and see an e-mail from WANK TUBE. A wave of relief comes over him. E-mail: DEAR MR. NICK, WE HAVE REMOVED YOUR VIDEO...

NICK
Oh, thank God.

INT. EMMA'S APT. - NIGHT

Emma is in the kitchen preparing dinner. Nick rushes in and opens his laptop. Scrolls through the WANK TUBE website. Doesn't see his video anymore. Exhales in relief.

EMMA
What are you doing?

NICK
Nothing, I was just checking my
Twitter.

Looks over and sees Emma preparing dinner.

NICK (CONT'D)
Hey babe, what do you think about
letting me cook you dinner?

EMMA
You sure?

NICK
Yeah, let me take care of you
tonight.

EMMA
That would be nice.

Emma has no problem enjoying Nick's guilt.

INT. EMMA'S APT. - DINNING ROOM - NIGHT

Nick and Emma share a meal.

EMMA
I must admit this is delicious.

NICK
I'm glad you like it.

EMMA
So, what did you do today?

Nick has his mouth full and looks guilty.

NICK
Oh, you know, just work.

Emma nods letting Nick know that she heard him but doesn't
say anything back. Nick feels some tension.

INT. EMMA'S APT. - NIGHT

Nick and Emma climb into bed. They snuggle.

EMMA
You haven't cooked for me in a long
time. What got into you?

NICK
I just wanted my girl to feel
special.

EMMA
There's no other reason.

NICK
No. Why? What else would there be?

EMMA
I don't know. I guess I should just
appreciate it.

They kiss. Their pent up desires from the last three days get released. They attack each other. Nick takes his shirt off and as he goes to take Emma's shirt off...

EMMA (CONT'D)
This is so hot. Get your phone.

NICK
What?

EMMA
I want you to video us.

NICK
Okay, are you sure? I thought you
didn't like that?

EMMA
I don't, but I know you do.

Nick hands Emma his phone. She starts filming.

NICK
This is weird.

EMMA
We'll just record a little bit--

Nick tries to block the camera with his hands.

NICK
You're making me really
uncomfortable, will you please just
stop?

She doesn't stop.

NICK (CONT'D)
Please Emma, I don't like this.

Emma's mood changes.

EMMA
(calm anger)
...but then what will I put on the
internet FOR ALL MY FRIENDS TO SEE.

Nick realizes she knows.

EMMA (CONT'D)
Isn't that what you want... NICK?

He's caught.

NICK
Who told you? Did you actually see
it?

EMMA
YES I SAW IT, NICK! It was on the
fucking internet. The whole world
saw it. What the hell is wrong with
you?

NICK
What? You know I watch porn.

EMMA
This isn't just porn, you cheated
on me.

NICK
What are you talking about? I
didn't cheat on you. Cheating
involves touching and I was only
touching myself!

EMMA
Another woman was on a live video
feed while you jerked off and let
her record you.

Nick realizes her argument holds some water.

NICK
Okay, I understand how this looks
bad, but--

EMMA
Why? Why have you done this to me?

NICK
I didn't know she was recording,
I'm sorry.

EMMA

You didn't know she was recording?
How the fuck am I supposed to feel?

NICK

I don't know.

EMMA

I'm so angry right now. I hate that
you can make me this angry. I
fucking hate you right now.

NICK

I don't understand why you are so
mad. It's not that big of a deal.

Emma is furious. She storms out.

NICK (CONT'D)

Where are you going?

She comes back in with a handful of letters from Steve.

EMMA

Not that big of a deal?

She throws the letters at him.

EMMA (CONT'D)

Are these a big deal?

Nick opens one of the letters and reads it.

NICK

What is this?

EMMA

You're not the only one who steps
outside of this relationship for
their needs.

He keeps reading.

NICK

Wait! Are you cheating on me?

EMMA

(mocking)

Oh, I don't see what the big deal
is, they're just letters.

NICK

Have you been fucking this guy?

EMMA

No.

NICK

Do you still have feelings for him?

EMMA

Obviously, there's something still there.

NICK

Whoa, this is way worse than what I did. This was your fucking boyfriend. He knows your parents.

EMMA

Oh, so because Olga the internet whore hasn't had a meet-and-greet with your folks, what you did isn't as bad?

NICK

What the hell is going on here?

EMMA

I can't believe you did this to me.

Nick holds up the letters.

NICK

I can't believe you did this to me.

INT. YOUCOMPLETEME.COM OFFICE - WHITE BACKDROP - DAY

Off camera the Producers and the crew LAUGH and LAUGH at Nick's situation. Nick is getting annoyed. Just when he thinks they're done... they keep laughing.

NICK

Hey, it's not that funny. You guys, this is my life. I could lose my job if this leaked.

RANDOM CREW MEMBER (O.S.)

That's why it's so good.

PRODUCER (O.S.)

Don't worry, Nick. I promise we won't include this in anything. Remember we're trying to show people success stories, not a PSA about how to keep from getting blackmailed by a Bangkok lady-boy.

The Producer and the crew LAUGH again. Nick is embarrassed.

NICK
(under his breath)
She was from the Czech Republic.

INT. NICK'S APARTMENT - DAY

Nick is depressed. He hits: CALL MOM. Goes to voicemail.

MOM'S VOICE MAIL (V.O.)
This is Vickie Spencer. Please
leave me a message and I will do my
best to get back to you quickly.

BEEP.

NICK
Hey, Ma. Call your son when you get
a chance. He needs to chat.

Nick hangs up the phone. Opens a prescription bottle, takes
four pills. He examines his own glum face in the mirror.

INT. THERAPIST OFFICE - DAY

Nick and Emma sit in an elegant office. The THERAPIST, 45,
woman, wears a smart suit and glasses.

THERAPIST
These puppets are designed to
provide a psychological distance so
that you can see *yourselves* with a
fresh perspective.

Both Emma and Nick have crude looking puppets on their hands.
Both of the puppets oddly look like Emma and Nick.

THERAPIST (CONT'D)
So, how do you both feel?

Nick uses the puppet to speak for him.

NICK
Now THIS is therapy.

END OF EPISODE.

My Girlfriend's a Doll
Episode #4

Story by

Nicholas Anthony, Jason Lansing & Prashanth Venkataramanujam

Screenplay by

Nicholas Anthony

INT. THERAPIST OFFICE - DAY (SESSION 1)

REBECCA CALDWELL, 45, therapist, smart suit and glasses, sits with Emma and Nick.

REBECCA

You've hit a critical point in your relationship. You can either work this out and deal with things head on, or you can walk away, never really understanding what happened.

(beat)

Who would like to go first today?

Neither of them say anything.

CUT TO:

INT. THERAPIST OFFICE - DAY (SESSION 2)

Rebecca sits with Nick and Emma and smiles politely. They both wait for the other person to talk.

CUT TO:

INT. THERAPIST OFFICE - DAY (SESSION 4)

Emma and Nick sit. Rebecca looks at her watch. Nick has finally had enough.

NICK

I just don't see what the big deal is?

EMMA

You never think anything you do to me is a big deal. Like when you first got me a key for your apartment.

Nick bites his lip.

CUT TO:

INT. YOUCOMPLETEME.COM OFFICE - WHITE BACKDROP - DAY

NICK

(furious)

She never lets the key thing go. Why? I get it, it was too early for a fucking key.

INT. THERAPIST OFFICE - DAY (SESSION 6)

Rebecca sits with Nick and Emma.

NICK

You know I'm not the only one who made a mistake here?

EMMA

At least I admit what I did was wrong!

NICK

I've said I'm sorry. What else do you want me to say?

EMMA

Admit that it was cheating.

NICK

What you did is way worse.

REBECCA

Let's just slow down for a moment here.

(to Nick)

Do you hear what Emma is saying?

Nick stops.

NICK

Yes. I understand on an emotional level that it's cheating but Em... do you still love that guy?

Emma gathers herself.

EMMA

No, yes, I don't know.

That stabs Nick in the soul. He points at Emma.

NICK

That's why it's worse.

EMMA

We've both been in love before. Do I have feelings for someone that I spent three years of my life with, sure. On some level how could I not? But I don't want to be with him. I admit what I was doing was wrong. I guess I was just having a hard time letting it go.

(MORE)

EMMA (CONT'D)

That doesn't mean that I don't love you and more importantly it doesn't mean I don't want to spend the rest of my life with you.

Everyone freezes. Emma has never expressed that before. They look at each other both knowing this fight is over.

Nick gets emotional.

NICK

I'm so sorry.

EMMA

I'm sorry, too.

They passionately embrace forgetting that they're in a therapist's office. Rebecca awkwardly looks at her watch.

REBECCA

Okay, that is all the time we have this week.

Rebecca leaves while they're still making out.

INT. EMMA'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Nick is wearing a nice collared shirt. He's frantically setting up a candle lit dinner. He sprinkles rose petals on the table.

Nick hears the back door open. He gives the scene a once over, gets down on one knee and produces a ring box.

EMMA (O.S.)

Honey?

He hits play on the computer and music plays.

NICK

In here.

EMMA (O.S.)

You know what I've decided?

NICK

Why don't you just come in here?

EMMA (V.O.)

I've decided Becky is a cunt.

NICK

Okay. Umm...

EMMA

She literally bought the same Kate Spade bag I have. She knows it's my favorite bag and she bought it anyway. She's such a cunt.

NICK

Will you please just come in here?

The doorbell RINGS. Emma walks past Nick without seeing him and opens the door.

EMMA (O.S.)

Dad?

Nick realizes this may not be the best time and quickly cleans up the rose pedals. He walks over to the front door.

NICK

(disingenuous)

Mr. Dargis, so good to see you.

Mr. Dargis' hair is a mess. He has a flask in his hand and is slurring his words.

MR. DARGIS

(yelling)

You think you're better than me?

(to Nick)

You, you with your face?

Mr. Dargis falls over. Nick and Emma help him up.

INT. REALITY SHOW PRODUCTION STUDIOS - DAY

Nick is bored out of his mind editing a TV show called, "Chubby Chasers." He monotonously watches hours and hours of meaningless reality show footage.

Doing the same job next to him is EVAN TROLLER, 23, 400 lbs. of super nice guy.

EVAN

You know what I love about you,
Nick?

(beat)

You're just happy pulling clips.

Nick gives a perplexed look.

EVAN (CONT'D)
You're content. I like that. It's
exhausting being around ambitious
people.

Nick doesn't like the connotation. He becomes hyper aware of
the situation and he's none too pleased.

INT. REALITY SHOW PRODUCTION STUDIOS - DAY

Nick and Evan are in a production meeting with 6 OTHER
PRODUCERS all sitting around a big conference table. Evan has
his sunglasses on and is actually sleeping.

PRODUCER
Alright, I think we are all on the
same page. Let's finish this
episode strong.

Everyone stands to leave.

EVAN
(as he wakes, sleep yells)
Nachos!
(beat)
Sorry bro, you think I could borrow
a few duckets for lunch?

NICK
Ah, sure...

Nick is focused on what the producers are talking about.

PRODUCER
(from a distance)
What I'm really looking for is a
reality show about fashion, but
with some sort of fresh hook.

PRODUCER #2
Why? People who watch reality shows
don't like anything new. I honestly
believe they want us to keep re-
packaging the same old garbage.

EVAN
So, 'bout them nachos?

NICK
I don't care. Nachos work for me.

Nick ignores Evan and walks over to the Producers.

NICK (CONT'D)
I couldn't help but overhear that
you're looking for fresh ideas.

PRODUCER #2
Nope. Full up on ideas. Brimming.
The *most* full--

The Producer gives Nick a chance.

PRODUCER
Yeah, you got something?

NICK
My girlfriend works over at Teen
Vampire Mom. For a while now I've
thought that their costume
department would make for a great
reality show.

The Producer and Producer #2 think about the idea for a
moment.

PRODUCER #2
Who are you?

NICK
I'm editing Chubby Chasers.

PRODUCER #2
That's... sad.
(beat)
Why are you even outside of your
bay?

PRODUCER
Calm down, Greg. I actually think
that might be a decent idea. My
daughter loves that show. Think you
could get us a meeting?

NICK
Yeah, for sure.

PRODUCER
Awesome. Let's set it up. What was
your name again?

NICK
I'm Nick... Felicetta.

Nick walks with the Producer out of the room, leaving Evan
with Producer #2.

EVAN
 (awkward)
 You wanna get some nachos with us?

INT. EMMA'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Nicks walks in with his bag from work.

NICK
 Babe, I've got some great news.

Emma and Mr. Dargis are watching a movie on the couch. Mr. Dargis is asleep. His heavy BREATHING is loud.

EMMA
 (whispering)
 He's sleeping.

Nick is annoyed.

NICK
 So I was at work today--

Again, Emma motions for Nick to be quiet.

EMMA
 Shhh...

NICK
 (quieter)
 Sorry... so I overheard one of my bosses talking about wanting show pitches based on fashion. So I told him about you and Teen Vampire Mom and he loved the idea of turning your department into a reality show.

EMMA
 (sotto)
 Oh my God, that's amazing. So what's next?

Mr. Dargis shifts a bit.

MR. DARGIS
 (while asleep, deep hate)
 Those fucking deer, eating my fucking broccoli!

NICK
 (sotto)
 They want to set up a meeting.
 (MORE)

NICK (CONT'D)

If this works out they said I would be lead editor.

EMMA

Baby, I'm so proud of you. This is incredible.

Mr. Dargis' snoring gets LOUDER.

EMMA (CONT'D)

Let's celebrate tomorrow night. I love you so much.

Nick and Emma kiss. Nick wishes Mr. Dargis wasn't there at that moment.

INT. REALITY SHOW PRODUCTION STUDIOS - DAY

Nick is editing footage. Suddenly his phone RINGS.

NICK

Hello.

INT. TEEN VAMPIRE MOM STUDIO - DAY

Emma is outside pacing back and forth by the actors' trailers.

EMMA

(scared)

What are you doing right now?

NICK

I'm at work. Are you okay?

EMMA

I just got a really weird phone call from my Dad. He was saying he loved me way too much. Can you please just go check on him?

NICK

I'm at work.

EMMA

I know, I'd go myself but we're in the middle of a shoot and I just can't leave right now. I wouldn't ask if I didn't think it was serious.

NICK
 (annoyed)
 What did he say to you?

EMMA
 He just made it seem like I
 wouldn't ever see him again. I've
 got a bad feeling he might do
 something dramatic.

NICK
 Jesus. Fine, I'll go now.

EMMA
 Thank you. Please call me as soon
 as you are with him, okay?

Nick hangs up.

INT. EMMA'S APARTMENT - DAY

Nick enters, it's eerily quiet.

NICK
 Hello?
 (beat)
 Mr. Dargis?

Nick looks down and on the floor and sees what might be
 puppet stuffing. "Oh No! What have you done, Mr. Dargis?"

There's a trail of it. Nick follows the trail, anxiety sets
 in as his mind prepares for the worst. He comes around the
 corner and sees Mr. Dargis with his back to Nick.

NICK (CONT'D)
 Ken?

Mr. Dargis' puppet hand falls to his side revealing a knife.

NICK (CONT'D)
 What's going on?

MR. DARGIS
 It's just not worth it. It's just
 not worth it.

Mr. Dargis raises the knife and starts violently stabbing.
 Stuffing goes everywhere.

NICK
 Nooooo! Don't!

Nick runs over to Mr. Dargis and grabs him revealing that he has been stabbing a pillow. Stuffing floats everywhere. Mr. Dargis cries in Nick's arms.

NICK (CONT'D)
It's okay, it's okay. You're going to be okay.

Nick gets the knife and throws it out of reach.

NICK (CONT'D)
Everything's going to be alright.

MR. DARGIS
(sobbing)
I'm finished.

Nick doesn't know what else to say.

INT. A DARK BAR - NIGHT

Nick sits across from Mr. Dargis. They both have beers. Mr. Dargis is exhausted from crying.

NICK
You can't do that to Emma. You can't scare her like that.

Mr. Dargis holds back tears.

MR. DARGIS
Why am I being such a pussy about all of this?

NICK
Because you really loved your wife.

Mr. Dargis is impressed with Nick's assessment.

MR. DARGIS
This wasn't the plan, Nick. Whether it's true or not, I decided to buy into the idea that everything happens for a reason. Mind you, it may not, it may all just be random bullshit, but despite that, despite that it can't be proved, I've consciously made the choice to live my life as if there was a fucking rhyme to the reason.

(MORE)

MR. DARGIS (CONT'D)

I'm not talking about some bearded man throwing lightning bolts but at least some sort of cause and effect. Some logic.

NICK

Can't that still be true?

MR. DARGIS

No. Happiness is some clever lie Walt Disney drummed up to help sell movie tickets. In real life Mickey Mouse ends up in a trap, with a broken spine, watching himself bleed to death.

(beat)

How am I not scaring the hell out of you right now?

NICK

Oh, you're doing a pretty good job.

MR. DARGIS

I'm sorry. I know you love my daughter. I'm jealous. The beginning of a relationship is, sublime... Cherish it. Drown yourself in these moments before you commit the inevitable crime of becoming too familiar with each other... Those first few months are a drug I wish I could bottle.

NICK

What else could you have done?

MR. DARGIS

Pay better attention.

NICK

To what?

Mr. Dargis stops.

MR. DARGIS

She cheated on me, Nick. Some dickhead kindergarten teacher made a cuckold of me.

NICK

Really? How is that your fault?

MR. DARGIS

She was my everything. I'm nothing without her. I should have known a woman like that would never need me as much as I needed her. I should have never married her.

NICK

Should anyone get married?

MR. DARGIS

No. I don't know. Am I really the guy you should be asking?

NICK

If I were to ask Emma to marry me would you give me your blessing?

MR. DARGIS

No!

Nick sits with that for a moment.

MR. DARGIS (CONT'D)

...and it's not because you're not a great guy or that I don't think you are the right guy for her, but I know Emma and she's a lot like her mother. She doesn't *need* anyone and if you're the type of person that *needs* someone I don't think you should marry my daughter.

Nick takes it as a punch to the gut.

EXT. EMMA'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Nick mopes up to the apartment door. He pulls out the ring box and opens it. He lets out a deep sigh, closes the box and puts it in his pocket. Suddenly his phone RINGS.

NICK

Hello.

MOM (V.O.)

Hey, your mother got your message and figured she better call her son back. You doing okay?

Nick doesn't respond.

MOM (V.O.)

Tell me what's going on. Talk to me.

NICK

I'm scared. I love Emma so much and I want to spend the rest of my life with her but I'm scared.

MOM (V.O.)

You know I'm probably the last person to talk to about successful relationships but this last time I did finally get it right. You know how Darryl and I have stayed together for all of these years?

NICK

How?

MOM (V.O.)

We just never broke up.

(beat)

There were times we sure wanted to but we didn't. I could've saved myself a lot of trouble if I would have realized earlier that, for the most part, every relationship is the same. So find someone you actually love, admit that you both have flaws and just figure it out.

(beat)

Is she worth it?

NICK

A million percent.

MOM (V.O.)

Then don't be scared. You have your answer.

Mom's words calm Nick.

INT. EMMA'S APARTMENT

Nick enters. Emma comes rushing in and hugs him.

EMMA

I can't believe you. I love you so much.

NICK

What's going on?

EMMA

Look at you, being all coy.

NICK

Seriously, I have no idea what you are talking about.

EMMA

Peter Brachard just called and said they're turning my department into a reality show!

NICK

Really? The meeting went well but I hadn't heard anything yet.

EMMA

I'm so excited. I love you so much. I know my dad being here has been a bit much but you've been great and I just want you to know how much I love you.

Nick is a bit confused, but he lets the moment put him in a great mood. He looks Emma deep in the eyes.

NICK

There's something I've been meaning to ask you and I've been meaning to do it for a while.

Nick gets down on one knee. Pulls out the ring box and opens it. Emma GASPS.

NICK (CONT'D)

I know life isn't always perfect but I don't believe you end up in a mouse trap bleeding to death.

EMMA

Huh?

NICK

What I'm trying to say is that I love you and I know it's not going to be easy but... Emma Marie Dargis, will you marry me?

Emma is speechless. She can't find the words.

Nick's concern grows.

EMMA

YES! Of course. I love you, too.

Nick is relieved, they embrace.

INT. YOUCOMPLETEME.COM OFFICE - WHITE BACKDROP - DAY

NICK
...and she said yes. We're getting
married!

PRODUCER (O.C.)
(fighting back tears)
That's actually really sweet, man.

The crew APPLAUDS.

NICK
Thank you. It's like our therapist
said: You can either work it out
and deal with things head on...

CUT TO:

INT. MEXICAN BORDER - DAY

An Officer STAMPS Mr. Dargis' passport and hands it back.

MR. DARGIS
Thanks.

NICK (V.O.)
...or you can walk away, never
really understanding what happened.

Mr. Dargis takes the passport, walks a few feet and throws it
into a garbage can. He enters Mexico with just a duffle bag.

INT. YOUCOMPLETEME.COM OFFICE - WHITE BACKDROP - DAY

PRODUCER (O.C.)
This is all dynamite, but can we
get you to do it again? Only this
time... could you cry?

Nick is confused.

NICK
Seriously?

END OF EPISODE.

My Girlfriend's a Doll
Episode #5

Story by

Nicholas Anthony, Jason Lansing & Prashanth Venkataramanujam

Screenplay by

Nicholas Anthony

ADVERTISEMENT: "THE REAL COSTUME DESIGNERS OF COSTUME DESIGN"

MONTAGE:

Loud, popular, annoying music. Meghan Trainor or worse.

Shots of great costumes from TV shows and film.

FIVE HIGH FASHIONED GIRLS going through thrift store racks.

Those same girls now in fitting rooms with ACTORS/ACTRESSES.

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)

You may think you know fashion but
these girls live it. They are...

The LOGO APPEARS.

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)

"The Real Costume Designers of
Costume Design."

END MONTAGE.

SHOT OF EMMA GIVING A TESTIMONIAL

EMMA

Hi, my name is Emma. I'm 26 and I'm
a shopper for "Teen Vampire Mom."
Before that, for like 2 years, I
worked on "No Girl, You're The
Hussy." I've got a boyfriend who is
super supportive and...

(shows the ring)

We just got engaged!

Music stops. The shot is still on Emma.

PRODUCER (V.O.)

Ooooo, the other producers and I
just had a quick pow wow and we
feel your story shouldn't involve
you... getting married.

EMMA

Oh, okay.

PRODUCER (V.O.)

In fact we would prefer, for just
the show, if you would completely
slut it up... but in a fun way.

Emma looks into the camera, unsure.

PULL OUT TO:

INT. REALITY SHOW PRODUCTION OFFICES - DAY

Reveal Nick watching the footage by himself. He's furious.

On a second monitor, Nick plays a different clip where a MALE CO-STAR has his hands on Emma's shoulders and is giving her a back rub.

INT. BAR - NIGHT (FLASHBACK) AS ONE OF THE CLIPS

Nick and Mr. Dargis share a beer.

NICK

What else could you have done?

MR. DARGIS

Pay better attention.

NICK

To what?

MR. DARGIS

She cheated on me, Nick.

CUT BACK TO:

INT. REALITY SHOW PRODUCTION OFFICES - DAY

Nick pulls out his phone and opens his Find-A-Friend App. A small circle reads: EMMA. Nick grabs his things and leaves.

INT. DANCE STUDIO - NIGHT

Start on Nick and Emma's hands clasped and Emma's engagement ring. They salsa dance in a fancy dancing studio. A handsome Latino man, FRANKY, 42, billowy white blouse, guides them.

EMMA

...are you seriously jealous of a man named Zack?

Franky slightly pushes Nick away from Emma's body. They continue to dance.

NICK

Are you implying that Zacks are traditionally unimpressive dudes? What about Zack Snyder? He directed *300* and *Superman*. Zack de la Rocha was the lead singer of Rage Against the Machine. Not to mention the 'C-H' Zachs, then you've got Galifianakis and Braff. Say what you will about *Scrubs*, but *Garden State* was our generation's *The Graduate*. Do you think I'm blind? I see how close you guys are getting.

EMMA

Listen to yourself, you're being crazy. And for the record, *Garden State* sucked.

Nick's face disagrees. He pulls Emma too close.

FRANKY

Oh, come on baby, how am I supposed to ready you for the wedding bells when you don't trust Franky?

(to Nick)

Give her some room, baby.

Franky makes more room between them.

EMMA

You're being ridiculous.

NICK

Am I?

Again, Nick pulls her close. Again, Franky pulls them a part.

FRANKY

(to Nick)

Baby, why you no listen to Franky?

EMMA

Will you please just listen to our incredibly kind, in-shape, beautiful dance instructor?

Emma pretends to fawn over Franky. Nick ignores her and pulls her close. Emma pushes him away.

EMMA (CONT'D)

You're seeing things that aren't things. This is your problem, Nick. Don't put this on me.

NICK
I'm not going to end up like your
father.

Emma stops.

EMMA
What does that even mean?

Nick gives a skeptical look.

EMMA (CONT'D)
Can you please stop with the
eyebrows? Just say it.

NICK
Maybe your parents weren't as
faithful as you thought?

EMMA
He would never do that to my Mom.

NICK
(sotto)
Maybe it wasn't him?

Emma doesn't believe him.

EMMA
He told you that?

NICK
Why would he lie to me?

Emma leaves upset.

NICK (CONT'D)
(remembering)
Oh, and what about Zack Morris? I
mean, c'mon!

INT. REALITY SHOW PRODUCTION OFFICES - DAY

Nick re-watches footage of Emma and Zack. He rewinds the back
rub over and over. Nick plays a different piece of footage.

Emma complains to a FELLOW COSTUME DESIGNER.

EMMA (V.O.)
He's just a guest star. I hate it
when actors come in for fittings
and then act all cocky.

He finds another clip of Emma with the HEAD COSTUME DESIGNER.

EMMA (V.O.)
Do you think Zack could pull off a
full seersucker suit?

Emma holds up a seersucker sport coat.

Nick drags the 2 clips together. Cuts out the extra dialogue.
Moves the clips around, finesses them and then hits play.

EMMA (V.O.)
(stilted)
I hate Zack! He's a cock(hard edit)
sucker.

Nick smiles.

INT. EMMA'S APARTMENT - DAY

Emma is alone, wearing a white veil, surrounded by piles and
piles of table cloth samples, thick wedding dress magazines
and different types of napkin samples.

Emma looks painfully at a framed picture of her parents on
their wedding day. She picks up the phone and dials.

INT. DARGIS HOME - DAY

The phone RINGS. Patty is sitting in bed. She answers it.

PATTY
How's my little bride-to-be doing?

INT. EMMA'S APARTMENT - DAY

Emma holds different types of napkins.

EMMA
Do I go silver or platinum foil?
Band or DJ? Should I have
vegetarian, sugar free, or gluten
free options? There are just too
many choices.

Patty has lost her 'nice' filter.

PATTY (V.O.)
Do whatever you want, your father's
paying for it.

EMMA

You know he came here?

PATTY (V.O.)

To Los Angeles? No, I didn't. I haven't heard from him for a while.

EMMA

He showed up wasted one night.

PATTY (V.O.)

We both know how dramatic he can be.

EMMA

I'm worried about him, Mom.

PATTY (V.O.)

Your father is going to be fine.

EMMA

Him and Nick spent a lot of time together.

PATTY

That's good. It's nice to hear they're getting along.

Emma doesn't know how to say what she means.

EMMA

They talked... about a lot of stuff.

BACK TO PATTY

Patty grabs two cigarettes out of a pack. She puts both of them in her mouth and lights them.

PATTY

(slightly confused)
That's great honey.

Emma takes a moment to marshal her courage. After a pause.

EMMA

Mom, were you and Dad faithful to each other?

Patty is a bit taken aback. She hands one of the cigarettes to: reveal HARRY, 58, rugged, athletic puppet, salt and pepper hair, and naked. He takes it and smokes it.

PATTY
Is that what he told you?

BACK TO EMMA

EMMA
Nick said they talked about it.

PATTY
Emma, your father and I were
married for a long time.

Emma processes the infidelity.

EMMA
I can't believe you.

PATTY
Do you want to judge me or do you
want to hear what I have to say?

Emma doesn't say anything.

PATTY (CONT'D)
Our relationship had been over for
years. We wanted to make sure Becca
was out of the house before we told
you kids.

EMMA
Why does it feel like such a
betrayal?

BACK TO PATTY

For the first time, Patty speaks from the heart.

PATTY
I'm sorry, but you have to know I
did everything I could to make it
work. I really tried. For ten years
I was unhappy. Can you understand
how hard that was on me?

Harry gets up and goes to the bathroom, revealing a large
puppet penis flopping in the wind.

EMMA
But you loved each other.

PATTY

We did. I do, I just... Your father was the type of person who wasn't complete without a woman in his life. He went right from college to dating a girl who basically took care of him for years. Then after she died--

EMMA

--Wait, Dad had a girlfriend who died? Why didn't I know that?

PATTY

He never liked talking about it. We met shortly after she passed, and it's part of the reason why he never really learned how to be alone.

EMMA

How am I supposed to take all of this? Now that everything I thought I knew about relationships is fucking wrong.

BACK TO PATTY

Harry comes back from the bathroom. Dick still flopping.

PATTY

I don't want you to think you can't be happy, you can. You will be. You just need to make sure it's the right fit.

(beat)

Falling in love and being married are very different things. Even in the best relationship you end up being like business partners. I know that's not a very sexy thing to say but at some point it simply needs to work on a practical level.

Harry looks at Patty and sneaks in for a kiss.

PATTY (CONT'D)

Just make sure he has an identity outside of your relationship. I know you, honey, and if he doesn't have a life of his own, it will smother you.

(beat)

(MORE)

PATTY (CONT'D)
I'm sorry sweetie, I gotta run,
okay? Know I love you.

INT. EMMA'S APARTMENT - DAY

Emma is now depressed.

EMMA
Love you, too.

Emma hangs up the phone.

INT. REALITY SHOW PRODUCTION OFFICES - DAY

Nick sits with 2 PRODUCERS. They finish watching an edit.

PRODUCER #2
What the hell is this?

NICK
What?

Producer #1 motions for Producer #2 to relax.

PRODUCER #1
We can't use this.

NICK
It's a solid cut.

PRODUCER #1
Look, Nick, you're clearly having a
hard time discerning between what's
happening on this show and what's
going on in your relationship.

PRODUCER #2
If you can't compartmentalize your
pussy from your professional life
we'll find someone else. We're only
giving you a second chance because
you brought us this project.

PRODUCER #1
Give us a cut we can use.

Nick's proud but knows he's wrong.

NICK
Fine.

INT. REALITY SHOW PRODUCTION OFFICES - DAY

Nick sits by himself at his desk. He drags a project file marked FIRST PASS into the trash can and hits delete.

Nicks sits for a moment, not sure how to move forward. He opens up new footage and watches Emma with AN ACTRESS.

CUT TO FOOTAGE:

INT. FITTING ROOM - DAY

Emma measures the actress' waist. Emma suddenly gets a text.

EMMA

Do you mind if I get that?

ACTRESS

For sure.

EMMA

Oh, he's so adorable.

ACTRESS

Is it your son?

Emma giggles.

EMMA

Oh my God, no, it's my boyfriend. He knows I love this band Bon Iver and he got me tickets to go see them play at the Hollywood Bowl. He's an amazing gift giver. He always knows exactly what I actually want. He makes me feel like the luckiest girl in the whole world. I thought I had been in love before but those other times weren't like this, what we have is real.

ACTRESS (V.O.)

You're going to make me cry. I can't say that about anyone in my life.

Emma doesn't notice that she is being filmed.

BACK TO NICK

Nick relaxes. He opens his phone and selects the Find-A-Friend APP and deletes it. He continues editing.

INT. EMMA'S APARTMENT - DAY

Nick comes home with bags of Thai take out. Emma is still trapped in a pile of wedding planning supplies.

EMMA

Did you get anything for me?

Nick starts setting dinner for the two of them.

NICK

Sorry, I went to Thai Town, to your favorite restaurant, and only got myself something.

He pulls out enough food for both of them.

EMMA

Oh baby, you so good to me. I'm starving.

They both dig in. Mouths full.

EMMA (CONT'D)

This is so good.

NICK

If you ever get kidnapped and smuggled overseas, forced to become a sex slave for obese, aging, billionaires... I hope it's by Thai criminals. So when I come to save you, à la Liam Neeson style, I can at least eat some real tasty food.

EMMA

If only we were so lucky.

Emma looks at all of the wedding planning supplies.

EMMA (CONT'D)

Are we still going to do this after we get married?

NICK

Nah, married people don't eat well. It's TV dinners from now till the grave.

EMMA
(crying)
I don't want to get married.

NICK
TV dinners aren't that bad. I'm
just kidding, we can have Thai
food.

Nick holds Emma close.

EMMA
I mean, I don't want to have a
wedding.

NICK
What are you talking about? You've
wanted this since you were a girl.

EMMA
I know but after everything that's
happened with my parents I'm
realizing it's just all bullshit. I
don't care anymore. I love you and
I just want it to be about that.

NICK
Okay, okay, what if we do it small?
Just me and you. We go up to...
Santa Barbara and we get married on
the beach.

Emma wipes the tears out of her eyes.

EMMA
We can do that?

NICK
Yes. That's exactly what we're
going to do.

EMMA
I like that idea.

They kiss. She goes into her room and comes out with the tiny groom's top hat and tiny bride's tiara. She puts them on each of their heads.

EMMA (CONT'D)
You're the first person I've ever
really let in because you accept me
for me, unconditionally and that's
why I'm going to marry you.

NICK
That, and I'm crazy good looking,
right?

Emma smiles. They kiss again.

INT. YOUCOMPLETEME.COM OFFICE - WHITE BACKDROP - DAY

Nick sits while being interviewed.

PRODUCER (O.C.)
So the big day is coming up next
week. Congratulations.

NICK
Thank you.

PRODUCER (O.C.)
...and to think you guys met on
YouCompleteMe.com.

NICK
Going to your site changed my
entire life. I don't know where I
would be without her. Thank you.

PRODUCER (O.C.)
Thanks man. That was all great.

Nick takes the mic off of his shirt and stands.

PRODUCER (O.C.) (CONT'D)
(cold)
Next.

A line of 20 GUYS waiting to give their interviews. SOUND GUY
takes Nick's mic, hands it to a NEW GUY, 25. New Guy sits
where Nick was sitting. The Producer sees Nick still there.

PRODUCER (O.C.) (CONT'D)
That will be all. Thank you.

As the ASSISTANT shows Nick to the door. Nick hears...

PRODUCER (O.C.) (CONT'D)
Please state your name and why you
decided to use YouCompleteMe.com.

END OF EPISODE.

My Girlfriend's a Doll
Episode #6

Story by

Nicholas Anthony, Jason Lansing & Prashanth Venkataramanujam

Screenplay by

Nicholas Anthony

EXT. SANTA BARBARA GRAVEYARD - DAY

From high above we see Nick and Emma six feet down, lying on their backs in two separate, empty grave plots.

NICK

Would you love me if... I lost my legs?

EMMA

With or without your penis?

NICK

There are different answers?

EMMA

Well...

NICK

So if I lost my legs AND my dick you wouldn't love me anymore?

EMMA

Probably not. Sorry boo, but if you couldn't bring home the bedroom-bacon what's really the point?

Emma laughs. Nick smiles shaking his head.

NICK

See this isn't so bad. I could spend the rest of eternity lying next to you.

EMMA

Awww, but I thought it was till death do us part? If we're already dead why do we still have to spend so much time together?

NICK

Because you love me.

EMMA

Uggh, I totally forgot about that. Stupid love.

Nick uses a ladder to climb out of the grave. He walks over to Emma's grave.

NICK

We should probably get the hell out of here before someone calls the cops on us for...

(MORE)

NICK (CONT'D)
(as ridiculous as it
sounds)
...lying in open graves.

EMMA
(fake confused)
This isn't normal?

They both laugh.

EXT. GRAVEYARD - DAY

Nick and Emma walk around looking at all of the gravestones.
Nick notices an ELDERLY MAN, laying flowers at a grave.

NICK
That's going to be me someday.

EMMA
No, you'll for sure die way before
me. You're too soft, you couldn't
handle me going first.

NICK
So you're willing to let me die
first just so I don't have to deal
with the grief of your death?

Emma nods yes.

EMMA
Stupid love.

They pull each other close.

NICK
You know, as romantic as eloping
is, we don't get to have our
respective bachelor-bachelorette
parties.

EMMA
I don't care about that.

NICK
What?! It's tradition, we have to.
C'mon, let's just have fun with it.

EMMA
I'm listening.

Nick thinks.

NICK
How about, I'll be your Maid of
Honor and you be my Best Man?

Emma smiles.

EMMA
Okay, but no strippers.

INT. STRIP CLUB - NIGHT

STRIPPERS everywhere. The music is crazy loud.

EMMA
(yelling)
I'm his best man.

STRIPPER
(yelling back)
I thought you were his fiancé.

EMMA
I'm both!

The Strippers love it and give ALL of their attention to Nick and Emma. Emma tosses a handfull of one-dollar bills in the air and they cascade down over the strippers.

CUT TO:

INT. STRIP CLUB - NIGHT

Emma is now swinging on the pole. She's balling out of control. Everyone in the club loves it.

EXT. STRIP CLUB - MORNING

Nick and Emma exit the club in the morning... wasted.

EXT. LAKE - DAY

Nick and Emma on jet skis having the time of their lives.

EXT. FIELD - DAY

Nick and Emma are inside of giant inflatable balls and are rolling toward giant bowling pins.

INT. WINERY - DAY

Nick and Emma pretend to be sophisticated, wear nice clothes and drink wine with other SOPHISTICATED PEOPLE.

EXT. HILL - DAY

Nick and Emma ride Big Wheels down a hill in the ANNUAL BIG WHEEL DRIVE FOR CHARITY.

INT. LIBRARY - DAY

Nick and Emma learn how to crochet. Nick takes it extra seriously because he knows Emma likes it.

INT. MALE STRIP CLUB - NIGHT

There are a number of IN-SHAPE, HALF-NAKED MEN, gyrating their crotches in Emma's face.

EMMA
(super uncomfortable)
This isn't really my thing.

NICK
Really?

EMMA
Yeah, can we go somewhere else?

INT. COMEDY CLUB - NIGHT

Nick and Emma laugh their asses off while sitting in the front row of a comedy club. They both have a bevy of dick-related accoutrements. Dick-shaped straws, dick necklaces, Emma has on a multi-dick tiara and a sash that reads: DIS BITCH IS GETTIN' HITCHED.

INT. HOTEL ROOM - NIGHT

Nick holds Emma's hair as she pukes.

CUT TO:

INT. HOTEL ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Emma holds Nick's hair as he pukes.

INT. HOTEL ROOM - CONTINUOUS

They both pass out, falling on the bed at the same time.

A cheesy wedding song, something like: Holley Maher - "Rest of My Life" starts playing.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rN1k4kTiDs0>

MONTAGE in Black and White:

Emma meeting Nick in a coffee shop for the first time.

Nick and Emma talk. Emma laughs.

Emma gives Nick her number.

Nick opening the door for Emma on their first date.

Nick pulls out her chair for her at a sushi restaurant.

Emma teaches Nick how to use chopsticks.

Nick picks up the tab.

Emma and Nick walk down a street and see a crowd standing around a street performer doing a marionette version of Romeo and Juliet with wooden puppets.

Nick reaches for Emma's hand and she accepts.

Nick and Emma getting ice cream and wiping it on each others noses. They both laugh.

Nick watching Emma talk. He's falling for her.

Nick too nervous to kiss her. He leaves her at her doorstep.

Emma stops him, runs out to the street and gives him a kiss.

END SONG. END MONTAGE.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. BEACH - DAY

Nick and Emma, wearing all white, stand on the beach with a JUSTICE OF THE PEACE, 60, ASIAN WOMAN. Also there, acting as witnesses, are the COMEDIAN from the comedy club and a DANCER from the strip club.

It's a beautiful, picturesque scene.

JUSTICE
 (rude but sweet)
 So it's just us?

EMMA
 Yep.

The Justice uses her hand as a shield.

JUSTICE
 (to Emma, kidding)
 Is he cheap? You can still back out
 you know?

NICK
 I'm not cheap, this is supposed to
 be romantic.

EMMA
 (laughing)
 No, this was both of our idea.

JUSTICE
 Oh, so you're...

The Justice makes a gesture with her hand implying a pregnancy.

EMMA
 (smiling)
 No... could we please just go on
 with the ceremony?

The Justice immediately changes her mood to professional.

JUSTICE
 Ladies and gentleman. Although this
 isn't a traditional ceremony, it is
 still an incredibly joyous
 occasion. We are here today to bond
 the souls and lives of you two
 lovely people into the sanctity of
 matrimony. We act as witness to
 celebrate the marriage of...
 (she looks at a paper)
 Emma and Nick. Have you both come
 here freely without any doubt and
 with the intention of entering into
 this marriage?

There is a naturally nervous/humorous moment for both Nick and Emma. The Justice also laughs a bit.

EMMA

Yes, we both came here freely.

NICK

She has my family in her trunk.

(beat)

No, I am here freely.

JUSTICE

It is now time to proclaim your
vows to each other. Emma, would you
like to go first?

Emma is both excited and nervous.

EMMA

Thank you. One of my very first
memories as a kid was dressing up
my sister as the groom and getting
married in our living room. Our
dog, Keko, was the ring bearer and
my father was the priest. I
remember he took it so seriously.

CUT TO:

INT. DARGIS HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY (FLASHBACK)

YOUNG BECCA, 4, wears a top hat and an oversized adults black
sport coat. She stands next to YOUNG EMMA in a white sheet
and a home made veil.

MR. DARGIS

Once you put those rings on your
fingers, you become man and wife
forever. Can you handle that
commitment? No matter how tough it
gets... you can never walk away.

YOUNG BECCA

I DO.

YOUNG EMMA

I DO.

BACK TO:

EXT. BEACH - DAY

EMMA

...and I imagined it to be a larger-than-life church with a larger-than-life party. Hundreds of my friends and family. And once I found the guy, I even started making all of those plans. But then life happened, and I started to realize that none of that actually mattered. I love you, Nick, and I want to spend the rest of my life with you.

Nick is now tearing up. Even the Justice is feeling it.

JUSTICE

That was beautiful. Nick, it's now your turn. Please state your vows.

Nick wipes away his tears. Takes a moment to compose himself.

NICK

I didn't think this would be so hard to write but I wanted so hard to get it right. Emma, you know that I love you, but I need you to know that it's more than that. You make me feel like everything is going to be okay. As complicated as any two people can be, somehow we fit. Before I met you, I felt like I was only 50% of myself, and when I'm with you, I feel whole. I don't know what I would be without you...

Emma looks up concerned.

CUT TO:

INT. EMMA'S APARTMENT - DAY (FLASHBACK)

Emma is on the phone.

PATTY (O.S.)

Just make sure he has an identity outside of your relationship. I know you, honey, and if he doesn't have a life of his own, it will smother you.

BACK TO:

INT. BEACH - DAY

Nick notices a subtle change in Emma, but continues.

NICK
 (pushing through tears)
 There's no place I'd rather be than
 right here, with you, right now.

Emma can't look at him. Nick feels the shift in her energy.
 Something's wrong.

CUT TO:

INT. A DARK BAR - NIGHT (FLASHBACK)

Nick and Mr. Dargis have a beer.

MR. DARGIS
 She doesn't *need* anyone and if
 you're the type of person that
needs someone I don't think you
 should marry my daughter.

BACK TO:

INT. BEACH - DAY

Nick looks like he's seen a ghost. Emma doesn't say anything.

JUSTICE
 (to Nick)
 Is everything okay?

A long pause.

NICK
 Yeah, everything's fine.

Emma and Nick look at each other knowing tragedy looms, but
 neither of them have the courage to stop the inevitable.

The Justice looks to the Comedian and the Dancer.

JUSTICE
 Do we have the rings?

The Dancer hands Emma Nick's ring.

JUSTICE (CONT'D)
 Emma, do you take Nick to be your
 lawfully wedded husband?
 (MORE)

JUSTICE (CONT'D)

Do you promise to always be his biggest fan and partner in life? Promise to create and support a family? Fill a household with laughter, patience and understanding? Love him faithfully through the difficult and the easy? From this day forward, till death do you part?

EMMA

I do.

Emma puts Nick's ring on his finger for him. The Comedian hands Nick Emma's ring.

JUSTICE

Nick, do you take Emma to be your lawfully wedded wife? Do you promise to always be her biggest fan and partner in life? Promise to create and support a family? Fill a household with laughter, patience and understanding? Love her faithfully through the difficult and the easy? From this day forward, till death do you part?

Nick is now so overwrought with emotion he can't even look Emma in the face.

NICK

I do.

Nick puts Emma's ring on her finger for her.

JUSTICE

I now pronounce you husband and wife. You may kiss your beautiful bride.

Nick smiles knowing this may be his last kiss.

They kiss.

The Justice can tell there's something amiss.

EXT. BEACH - DAY

Emma and Nick hold hands as they walk on the beach back towards the boardwalk.

Dramatic but sad string music plays.

We follow just their hands. We see Emma's ring.
Clasped. Swaying in the cool ocean air.
One last intimate embrace.
After a moment, they both let go.
Each going in different directions.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. NICK'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Nick sits alone in his boxers and a stained undershirt. He's in a dark, isolated place. The only light that illuminates his face is from his computer.

He opens an e-mail from YOUCOMPLETEME.COM, it reads: CLICK HERE TO SEE ANOTHER SUCCESS STORY FROM YOUCOMPLETEME.COM

Nick wears pain like a birthmark on his face. He CLICKS it.

YOUCOMPLETEME.COM SUCCESS STORY VIDEO MONTAGE:

Chyron: SANTA MONICA, CA 2015

Chyron: FOUNDER OF YOUCOMELETEME.COM DR. TIMOTHY BESSOR TALKS ABOUT LOVE WITH SUCCESS STORY NICK AND EMMA.

Playful/romantic music plays in the background.

Emma sits. Behind her is a white backdrop.

EMMA

I work long hours.

Nick sits. Behind him is a white backdrop.

NICK

I had just come out of a relationship that left me pretty devastated.

Cut back and forth between Emma, Nick and Dr. Bessor.

EMMA

...and wasn't interested in meeting people in bars.

NICK

...I was tired of being alone.

Shot of DR. TIMOTHY BESSOR, 65, white hair, tie under a light sweater, at a park talking with Emma and Nick.

Shot of Dr. Bessor at his office.

DR. TIMOTHY BESSOR

A lot of people are hurting before they find each other. Loneliness is one of life's most severe, painful spots.

EMMA

I was hesitant to go on YouCompleteMe.com.

NICK

I had tried other sites but without success.

Dr. Bessor at office.

DR. TIMOTHY BESSOR

They both were longing for a relationship. And when they found each other they had such a deep spirit of joy.

Nick and Emma sit together at a park. With other successful couples milling around.

Dr. Bessor at office.

DR. TIMOTHY BESSOR (CONT'D)

I love the idea that we've had the opportunity to have front row seats to watch loneliness dispel.

NICK

...and she said yes. We're getting married!

EMMA

I really love him.

Shot of Nick and Emma at the park together.

NICK

She's my best friend and I would be nothing without her.

EMMA

Awww, I love you too baby.

They laugh a little and kiss.

Chyron: YOUCOMPLETEME.COM "Happiness is out there. Let us help you find it."

BACK TO:

INT. NICK'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Nick is a complete mess. He bawls his eyes out.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. NICK'S APARTMENT - MORNING

Lots of sunlight. Nick wakes up refreshed. From above we see he's in a queen-size bed, alone. With content he looks at the empty part of the bed.

INT. NICK'S APARTMENT - MOMENTS LATER

Nick opens the medicine cabinet. No pill bottles. He brushes his teeth. All of the pill bottles are in the trash.

INT. NICK'S APARTMENT - MOMENTS LATER

Nick now has on a nice wool blazer and eats a healthy breakfast he made for himself.

INT. NICK'S APARTMENT - MOMENTS LATER

Nick walks toward the door to leave, but stops to look at himself in the mirror. He takes a visual/mental inventory.

He grins, a calmness comes over him.

NICK
(to his reflection)
You're enough.

He throws the strap of his computer bag over his shoulder and heads out for the day.

EXT. BUSY DOWNTOWN STREET - DAY

Nick walks through a crowd of people getting lost in the masses.

THE END.