

JUNIOR

Written by

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INT. SCHOOL HALLWAY - DAY

"BORN TO DIE" PLAYS. Classic All-American Chuck Taylors step against the tile.

The popular quarterback CHICO (16) hangs out at the lockers with A COUPLE JOCKS and his cheerleader girlfriend LEXY (16) all gag at Kit's transformation.

LEXY
Is that Kit?

JOCK
Fat Cat?

Blooming wallflower KIT (16) passes his preppy, overachieving nerd friend BRIDGET (16) without acknowledging her.

Skinny jeans hug Kit's sinewy legs. His waist is narrow, his arms are big, and a ripped black shirt reveals a toned chest. It's 2010, and he's the male Effy Stonem.

Chico is suddenly very attracted to Kit.

CHICO
Kitty got hot.

JOCK
"Kitty?"

Chico smiles, closes his locker, and struts over.

CHICO
Hey, Kitty, Junior said you're coming back to the Emporium.

Kit is still a quiet outcast at heart.

KIT
Y-yeah...

CHICO
Cool.

JOCK
See ya, Kit Kat.

One of the Jocks slaps Kit's ass. They LAUGH like it was humiliating as they walk away, but Kit's turned on. Was that even bullying? He doesn't even notice Bridget approach him.

BRIDGET
Kit?

KIT
Oh, hey, Bridget. How are you?

BRIDGET
Um, I'm good. You look really good!

KIT
Oh, thanks. Um...

BRIDGET
I see why you were so busy this summer.

Kit notices that Chico loiters nearby, talking to some more of his friends.

KIT
Yeah, I, um... Yeah.

BRIDGET
Can we talk later?

KIT
I actually have to work tonight.

BRIDGET
I know. I saw the schedule. We're in the store tonight.

KIT
Okay, I'll talk to you then.

Bridget nods and walks away as THE BELL RINGS.

INT. CAFETERIA - DAY

Lexy and Chico ignore their friends to gossip about Kit.

LEXY
He told some people he was visiting family in Montana, BUT Megan worked at Walmart this summer and she said she saw him come in at night, so I think he's been **here** all summer. Losing weight.

During Lexy's revelation, Kit enters the cafeteria. No lunch. He sits alone until the stoner BENJI (16) joins him.

CHICO
What a psycho. Like, join a sport.

LEXY
 (laugh)
 Yeah, seriously.

Kit looks over and catches Lexy and Chico talking about him.

LEO
 But honestly? What a moment. Sexy
 sneak attack

CHICO
 You think he's sexy?

LEXY
 Don't you?

Chico eats his meal staring at Kit.

INT. THIRD FLOOR MUSEUM - DAY

Little has changed about the Emporium in the 15 years, except
 the current manager: exceptionally average JUNIOR (30's).
 Chico enters.

CHICO
 Hey, Junior.

JUNIOR
 You're early, Chico.

CHICO
 Yeah, I was bored. Hey, am I up
 here with Kitty tonight?

JUNIOR
 No, I need him on the second floor.

CHICO
 No! Put him up here! I'm lifting
 furniture, so I need another guy.

JUNIOR
 It was on the schedule --

CHICO
 -- You're the manager, right?

Junior thinks that's rhetorical.

CHICO (CONT'D)
 Right?

JUNIOR
Y-yeah, I, I can ask him if he
wants to --

CHICO
No, just tell him!

JUNIOR
Why do you want Francis up here?

CHICO
(struggling to lie)
I. Want. To talk to him... About
school.

JUNIOR
Chico, leave him alone.

CHICO
DUDE! Just tell him. God!

He walks off to change into his work outfit.

INT. SECOND FLOOR - DAY

Chico and Lexy lean over the balcony talking, necking, and laughing. Lexy wears the hostess uniform.

INT. FIRST FLOOR BAR - DAY

Junior listens to complaints from the BARTENDER until Kit enters. He wanders away from the bar and approaches Kit.

JUNIOR
Francis!

KIT
Kit.

JUNIOR
I still like Francis.

Kit chuckles uncomfortably.

JUNIOR (CONT'D)
It's a good name. It's good to see
you again. I've missed you.

KIT
Thanks, Junior. You too... Well, do
you know notice anything different
about me?

Apparently not.

KIT (CONT'D)
Like, I've lost about 35 pounds
since you last saw me?

JUNIOR
Oh, of course! Yeah, wow. HOT.

Junior notices Chico and Lexy watching from the level above.

JUNIOR (CONT'D)
So, I had you and Bridget in the
store, but Chico wants your help
setting up the museum.

KIT
He said that?

JUNIOR
Yeah, he was a jerk about it.

KIT
Yeah! Yeah, I'll do that.

Chico grins at Kit's noticeable excitement.

JUNIOR
(jealous)
No. Well, yeah, go work in the
museum with Chico. I mean, he's
probably going to leave you here to
close, so I'll see you later.

KIT
Okay...

Junior watches Kit leave.

INT. LOCKERROOM - DAY

Kit opens his locker and looks at his old stuff. He opens his old journal and cringes at old emotions. He shuts the journal and puts it back. With a sigh, he takes off his shirt.

THE DOOR SLAMS! Kit jumps and turns around.

No one.

Kit grabs his old uniform and stares at the XL label.

CHICO
You look good, Kitty.

Kit jumps.

CHICO (CONT'D)
Stick with your training and you'll
be able to wear it with muscle
instead of fat.

KIT
I appreciate the advice.

Chico grabs the shirt.

CHICO
I bet it fits me better than you.

Chico takes off his shirt. Virginal Kit gets embarrassed, yet aroused.

KIT
No doubt.

CHICO
Glad to be back from Montana?

KIT
Yeah, I'm glad... Are you glad to
have me back?

JUNIOR
-- Hey guys?!

Chico and Kit jump in TERROR. They stare at the witness.

JUNIOR (CONT'D)
Your shifts started 2 minutes ago!

He storms off.

JUNIOR (CONT'D)
This is why I don't change the
schedule!

The door SLAMS.

CHICO
God, I hate that guy. I'll see you
out there, Kitty.

Kit can only nod.

Chico puts on one of the uniforms as he walks away. Kit picks up the remaining shirt. Before he puts it on, he reads the label. L.

It's Chico's shirt. Kit can't resist smelling it.

INT. SECOND FLOOR RETAIL - DAY

Bridget finishes ringing up a customer.

The bell above the door RINGS!

BRIDGET

Kit?

Junior enters.

BRIDGET (CONT'D)

Hey, Junior.

JUNIOR

Hi, Bridget.

BRIDGET

Did Kit call off?

JUNIOR

He's upstairs with Chico.

BRIDGET

Did he ask to switch?

JUNIOR

No. Chico practically demanded it.

BRIDGET

He did?

JUNIOR

Yeah, he's such an asshole.

BRIDGET

Yeah...

JUNIOR

If it's too slow, I might let you off early. If you get swamped, just page me.

Bridget nods as Junior leaves.

INT. THIRD FLOOR MUSEUM - NIGHT

Chico and Kit unpack the shipment of a new horror novel.

CHICO
You read, don't you?

KIT
Huh?

CHICO
Like, not for school. You read,
right?

KIT
Sometimes.

CHICO
Why?

KIT
To relax.

CHICO
Really?

KIT
Yeah. You got a problem with that?

CHICO
(laughs)
You read horror?

KIT
I've read a lot of Edgar Allen Poe.

CHICO
This book seems scary.

KIT
I don't really get scared by books.

CHICO
Me neither.

KIT
Maybe you would if you read more.

JUNIOR
Hey, boys!

Chico rolls his eyes.

JUNIOR (CONT'D)
How's that display going?

CHICO
You tell us.

JUNIOR
Looks half-done.

KIT
We finished the chairs and the
tables.

CHICO
Since you last checked on us.

JUNIOR
Good job. Stop talking.

Chico watches Junior leave.

KIT
You don't need to antagonize him.

CHICO
He's been interrupting us every
five minutes!

KIT
He's always like that!

INT. STAIRCASE - NIGHT (CONTINUOUS)

Irate Junior stands by the door, eavesdropping on the boys.

CHICO (O.S.)
I think he's half-retarded.

KIT (O.S.)
CHICO! That's not okay! He's
just... I don't know... Odd. But
he's nice.

Bridget walks up the stairs. Junior presses a finger to his
lips and walks away silently.

INT. THIRD FLOOR MUSEUM - NIGHT (CONTINUOUS)

Bridget enters the museum as Chico and Kit quarrel.

CHICO
I think he liked you better fat.

KIT
(snapping)
Well, he's obviously a sicko then!

Chico's focus shifts to Bridget.

CHICO
Hey, Bridget!

BRIDGET
Hey, Chico. Hey, Kit.

KIT
Hey.

BRIDGET
Can we talk?

CHICO
You close already?

BRIDGET
Yeah. Um, Kit?

KIT
Yeah. I --

CHICO
Sorry, B. Junior's been pulling our
dicks about this book display.
It'll take awhile.

BRIDGET
Oh, okay.

CHICO
But can you get me a chocolate
milkshake from the bar?

BRIDGET
Sure. Do you want anything, Kit?

CHICO
He's fine!

KIT
No, thanks, Bridget. Excuse me.

Kit leaves.

CHICO
(to Bridget)
Everything okay?

BRIDGET
He's just mad at me.
(shakes head)
Has he said anything about why he
went to Montana over the summer?

(MORE)

BRIDGET (CONT'D)
Does it have anything to do with,
uh, with us?

CHICO
Bridget, Kit Kat is gay.

Bridget is shocked.

BRIDGET
No, he's not.

CHICO
He's had a chub all night working
with me. Trust me, he's gay.

Bridget doesn't know what to say.

BRIDGET
Chocolate shake?

Chico nods and she leaves.

INT. FIRST FLOOR BAR - NIGHT

Bridget talks to Lexy during a lull in patrons.

LEXY
I'm not saying that they weren't
being mean about him being gay!
They're assholes! But, like, we
weren't lying about.

BRIDGET
You knew he was gay?

LEXY
Yeah, that's why we said it. You
don't call a short person ugly, you
call them short.

Junior enters in the background.

BRIDGET
Why didn't he just tell me?!

LEXY
Gay people are sensitive.

BRIDGET
Sensitive? He'd rather destroy our
friendship than be honest?

LEXY

Bridget, Kit isolated himself from everyone over the summer and lost 98 pounds! He's focused on becoming actively gay man.

JUNIOR

That's not why he did it.

Bridget and Lexy hadn't even noticed him.

BRIDGET

What?

JUNIOR

That's not why he lost the weight.

LEXY

(laughs)

No! He's horny and insecure, he's got something to prove, and he's up there with my boyfriend right now!

She and Bridget laugh.

JUNIOR

You're fired.

LEXY

... What?

JUNIOR

You're fired. Get out of here.

BRIDGET

Junior --

JUNIOR

Francis is a pure soul. You call him insecure, but he's not. He's strong and he has too much self respect to let a jerk like Chico corrupt him.

(to Bridget)

And you laugh at that?

Junior takes his clipboard and leaves. Neither Lexy nor Bridget know what to say.

THE BARTENDER puts Chico's shake on the bar.