

ROOMMATES

Episode #101 "Roommates"

Written by

Noah Needle

ACT ONE

EXT. OXWELL UNIVERSITY - MORNING

Cars pull up outside the large, gothic building and new students get out of them. There's a plethora of them and they're all heading towards the open double doors.

As students make their way into the main building, they pass a vertical banner: "Welcome! This way to get your information and accommodation!"

INT. OXWELL UNIVERSITY - CONTINUOUS - MORNING

Inside the building are several rows of tables set up with teachers and student volunteers behind them. The new students spread out and visit all the tables.

The final table for all the new students to visit is the accommodations assignment table. A STUDENT VOLUNTEER (19-21, male) is sat behind the desk and gets people to fill in their names on a list that's sitting on the table.

It takes little to no time for the single rooms to be filled up. Before long, most of the shared rooms are gone too.

There's only two rooms left.

PENNY HILL (18), fairly short and looks like she belongs with the plastics from Mean Girls, makes her way over and fills in her name, leaving her roommate slot free and one completely empty room left.

INT. OLLY'S BEDROOM - MORNING

The room is dark with only a sliver of light peaking through the closed curtains.

OLLY'S BROTHER (O.S.)
Oi! Olly, you awake yet?

OLLY (18), sporting a bit of stubble on his chin and dark, messy hair, groans. He really doesn't want to be woken up just yet.

There's a knock at the door, followed by a brief pause.

The pause continues as Olly pulls his duvet up, then the door flies open. OLLY'S BROTHER (15) walks in and picks up a pair of earphones from the floor.

OLLY'S BROTHER (CONT'D)
(mumbling)
Thought you were at uni today.

Olly rolls over and opens his eyes wide. He forgot.

He closes them and rubs his eyes before stretching and sitting up. He takes a deep breath and lets out a sigh and a grunt.

INT. OLLY'S KITCHEN - MORNING

Olly, now fully dressed, stands in front of the countertop where the toaster is sat. It's down and heating up pop tarts for him. The box is next to the toaster.

He rubs his eyes again as his MUM (mid 40's) walks by.

OLLY'S MUM
Morning, hon. Thought you were
meant to be at uni today.

OLLY
(slightly annoyed)
Yep.

She stops where she stands, which is on the other side of the kitchen, and looks at him confused.

OLLY'S MUM
Aren't you going to be late?

Olly sighs before smiling at his mum.

OLLY
Think I already am.

The toaster pops and Olly takes the pop tarts. He takes a bite out of one of them as he leaves the kitchen.

I/E. OLLY'S CAR - MORNING

Olly finishes one of the pop tarts and puts the other down on a book that's on his passenger's seat.

He goes to start up the car and it grunts and groans before making a small pop. Smoke comes out from under the bonnet.

OLLY
Oh for fu--

I/E. CLARA'S CAR - SAME TIME - MORNING

CUT TO:

CLARA - (18), pale with a lot of freckles and a nerdy-cute look about her - and her friend GEORGIA - (19), tanned girl who looks like she could be a supermodel - are sat together in the front of her car. Clara drives as Georgia is on her phone.

Both of them smile, for different reasons.

CLARA

I can't believe we both got in here. I mean, I get to spend another four years with my best friend now.

Georgia nods and hums, in agreement, but doesn't really respond. She's too busy on a Tinder-like app.

CLARA (CONT'D)

It's going to be so good.

GEORGIA

Do you think there'll be any fit lads in our hall?

Clara looks at her friend, briefly, with a bit of a shocked expression on her face. She forgot how sex-obsessed her friend can be.

CLARA

I--um--I don't know. Maybe. I guess it depends on what you--

GEORGIA

(cutting her off)

I hope there is. That's the only reason I moved out.

Georgia finally looks up from her phone.

GEORGIA (CONT'D)

Can't exactly have a lad round to sleep with when you share a room with your 8-year-old sister.

Georgia chuckles at her own remark. Clara smiles and laughs awkwardly. She's a little uncomfortable now.

EXT. OXWELL UNIVERSITY - MORNING

Clara's car pulls up in the car park.

She and Georgia get out and Clara's face drops as she sees all the other cars around them.

CLARA

I thought you said we didn't have to be here until 10:30? Why is the car park full?

GEORGIA

Yeah, 10:30 was wishful thinking, really. I just didn't want us to be the first people here.

Clara looks at Georgia, completely baffled by her thought process.

CLARA

(a little irritated)

So... what? Now we're late?

GEORGIA

Only by an hour.

Clara closes her eyes and clenches her fists to stop her from breaking down or lashing out. She takes a deep breath.

She keeps like this for a few seconds before smiling at Georgia, who smiles back--oblivious to how Clara really feels.

CLARA

Let's go in then.

The girls head inside. Georgia goes first and Clara follows, visibly frustrated with her friend.

INT. OXWELL UNIVERSITY - DAY

The girls walk inside and it's nowhere near as busy as it was at the start of the day. There's maybe 50 people there.

Clara looks at Georgia then looks back at the near-empty hall and sighs.

INT. OXWELL UNIVERSITY - MOMENTS LATER - DAY

The girls reach the accommodation assignment table and Georgia pushes in front of Clara, in a way that Clara doesn't notice.

STUDENT VOLUNTEER

Hey, guys. If you just put your name in one of the free slots left then we'll sort you out with your keys and stuff. Not much available, though, I'm afraid.

Georgia writes her name down in the free slot under Penny Hill's name--putting them together.

STUDENT VOLUNTEER (CONT'D)

Long drive here?

Georgia looks up at the student volunteer with mild disgust, before looking back down and finishing her last name.

Clara, stood behind Georgia, smiles at the volunteer.

CLARA

Not exactly. Someone didn't quite remember the right time.

The volunteer smiles back, understanding what Clara's getting at. Georgia stands up, having finished writing her name.

Clara steps forward and looks at the accommodation list and sees what Georgia's done. She turns around to confront her friend.

CLARA (CONT'D)

You didn't put us together?

GEORGIA

(playing dumb)

Oh, I didn't realise I could. I thought we had to fill rooms first.

CLARA

Ah, okay. That's fine. We'll just ask to change it around.

Clara turns and looks at the volunteer.

CLARA (CONT'D)

She can change it around, right?

The volunteer smiles apologetically as Clara looks back at Georgia, optimistically.

STUDENT VOLUNTEER
Well... No, actually. No.

Clara looks back at the volunteer with a raised eyebrow.

STUDENT VOLUNTEER (CONT'D)
Once your name is down, you've got
to stay there for a semester.
School rules.

CLARA
(facing the volunteer)
No offence, because I'm glad to be
a part of this school, but that's a
crap rule.

Clara looks back at Georgia. She looks worried. She expected
to be spending the next year, at least, as Georgia's
roommate. Now she has no clue who she'll be staying with.

The doors suddenly burst open.

Olly walks through the doors, out of breath. He looks around
and sees the accommodation assignment table.

He snaps his fingers and points over to the table before
heading in Clara and Georgia's direction.

Clara looks at Georgia who looks at her--and then they both
look back at Olly.

CLARA (CONT'D)
Oh crap.

END OF ACT ONE