

CATCHING UP
by
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CHARACTER LIST:

TODD - A mentally lost semi-drunken college student with depression and self doubt.

PETE - A college student with a decent head on his shoulders and best friend to Todd.

SETTING:

Small mountain on the outskirts overlooking the city, 2019.

PROPS:

Fake throw up, Car, Water Bottle, Bushes, Boulder, Fake Blood, Trees and a stand in city backdrop/ mountain range.

PLOT:

PETE has just picked up TODD from a party where he got overly drunk. PETE drives to the lookout above the city to kill time until TODD feels well enough to go home.

EXT. OVERLOOK - NIGHT

PETE drives his car onto a small clearing on the mountain just before the drop-off. TODD is leaning on the window in the passenger seat. PETE puts the car into park.

PETE
How ya feelin buddy?

TODD
I feel like uh... like I'm gonna-
BLAAAAGGGHH!

TODD vomits out the window. Some of it gets on the car door.

PETE
Jesus dude what the hell!

TODD looks a little more awake now straightening up.

TODD
(sluggish)
Sorry.

PETE
Man... I just washed it yesterday.

PETE turns off the car and gets out walking around to TODD'S side.

TODD
(slow)
What are we doing all the way up
here?

PETE opens TODD'S door and helps him out of the car.

PETE
Waiting till you look enough like
a normal human being so your Mom
doesn't kick you out again.

TODD
Hey *hiccup* I'm not *that* bad
right now.

PETE
Trust me when I say this, you look
like the human embodiment of
Mickey Rourke's plastic surgery.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

TODD is out of the car as PETE closes the door behind him, helping TODD limp over to a nearby large boulder.

TODD

Oh God you're gonna make me puke
again-

TODD stops as he clutches his stomach about to throw up again, then turns to the side of the rock away from the audience to throw up again.

TODD sits down on the rock slowly which faces the audience and PETE takes a seat next to him.

PETE pulls out a bottle of water from his jacket pocket and hands it to TODD.

TODD

(slurred)
Oh my God you're a life saver.

TODD begins to drink the water.

PETE

Yeah? Well I won't always be here
to pick your dumbass up every time
you're face down in the middle of
the dance floor.

TODD

Yeah I know but-

TODD is drinking and spilling water on himself.

TODD

(happily)
That's what makes us best friends.
We're always there for each other.

TODD is still drinking but notices PETE is not paying any attention, staring off into the city.

TODD

Right?

PETE

Yeah, I guess.

TODD puts the water down.

TODD

(slurred)
What do you mean you guess?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

PETE puts his hands in his pockets.

PETE

I don't know man. It seems like every weekend I have to come get you out of something you're too drunk or high to get out of.

TODD

Yeah... so?

PETE stands up a bit angered trying to reason with him.

PETE

So I'm tired of having to bail you out all the time.

TODD

(slurred)
Uh.. huh...

PETE

(drunk voice when imitating Todd)
Every weekend it's "Pete come get me" or "Pete I fucked up can you give me a ride". I'm just tired of it.

TODD

(slurred)
I *feel* *hiccup* like you're just jealous of my life bro. Because you're too pussy to have any fun.

PETE

What are you even talking about?

PETE puts his hand to his head in disbelief and stands up.

PETE

(to self)
Why the hell am I even trying to reason with you when you're like this?

TODD

(slurred)
You're just mad because you wish you were me. That's all I'm sayin.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

PETE

Sure that's it. Crack job Sherlock
you solved the mystery.

TODD walks over to the bushes to take a leak and PETE
watches him stumble to get the button undone.

PETE

(to self)
Oh my God.

PETE pipes up at TODD.

TODD

Glad you finally accepted it bro.

TODD is peeing.

TODD

(to self)
Ahhhhh. That's the good stuff.

PETE

Todd you're an alcoholic. You
haven't stopped drinking and
smoking since we graduated
highschool.

TODD finishes his business and zips up his pants now
angry.

PETE

I don't know what changed in your
life that turned you into loser
but you're a mess man.

TODD

Ha that's funny.

TODD walks over to PETE putting his hand on his shoulder.

PETE

What?

TODD

I forget the part where my life
was any of your God damn business!

TODD jabs PETE in the face knocking him to the ground.

PETE

Agh! What the hell dude?!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

PETE's nose is bleeding as he wipes it away.

TODD's is trembling with rage still drunk. TODD wipes the blood off on his pant leg.

TODD

My business is my business! No one else's!

PETE gets up and TODD goes for another swing. PETE dodges and pushes him away.

PETE

Stop swingin you're only gonna hurt yourself!

TODD

Shut up asshole!

They break into a scuffle trying to get a grip on each other but eventually break apart and PETE jabs TODD in the gut sending him backwards.

PETE

Just calm down already.

TODD is catching his breath and holding the spot PETE hit him on his chest. TODD stumbles over to the boulder and takes a seat.

PETE

You need help dude.

TODD

I don't need anyone.

PETE

Just talk to me! What happened to all the plans we had? Starting a Youtube channel, creating a business and living the dream? We haven't actually shared a decent conversation in months. I just want my best friend back.

PETE walks towards the boulder.

TODD

(depressed)

What do you want to hear then huh? About how I flunked out of college? Or how Lexi dumped me for some guy she met on Tinder?

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (5)

TODD (CONT'D)

Or maybe how my shit Dad just got released from prison, kicked me out of the house and is back home beating my Mom again?

PETE stares in disbelief.

TODD

Well pick one since you're so damn interested.

PETE

Todd... I'm sorry. I had no idea. If I had I would've-

TODD interrupts.

TODD

Don't say anything.

TODD lays back on the rock.

TODD

I can handle it.

PETE takes a seat next to him.

PETE

Look I uh, I'm sorry. I had no idea that you had so much goin' on.

The two sit in silence for a moment.

PETE

I thought that maybe if I tried to hold onto everything, then it would all stay the same. Guess I just wanted my best friend back is all.

TODD is staring at the stars.

TODD

Well. Life has an odd way of fuckin ya just when ya least expect it.

PETE stares off into the city.

TODD

But you are right though.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (6)

PETE turns listening to TODD who's got his eyes closed now.

TODD

I need help. I keep trying to start over but every time I come back to the same place. Sometimes I just wish I could be someone else ya know?

PETE

I get it.

Another moment of silence.

PETE

Well you're always welcome to stay at my place. We can start over, together. Do all the things we talked about when we were kids.

TODD

That... actually sounds nice.

The two sit on the boulder admiring openness and the fresh air.

TODD

Hey, remember back in middle school when we both liked Hailee Kleinfeld?

PETE

(jokingly)
You mean when we both didn't talk for a week when you asked her out the same day I planned to?

TODD

Haha yeah that.

PETE

(chuckling)
Then yes I remember vividly.

TODD

You ever wonder where we're all going?

PETE

What do you mean?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (7)

TODD

People.

PETE turns to face TODD again.

TODD

Like there's so many choices we have to make in life it's damn near endless right?

PETE

(hesitantly)

Right.

TODD

Yet no matter the choices we make we continue to move forward towards an end goal. So what is it then?

PETE

I guess... I mean, I don't know really?

TODD

There's so many of us on this planet. So that means we're all destined for something. But how do we know what that something is?

The two sit in thought for a moment.

PETE

What the hell did you drink at that party?

TODD shoots PETE a look of seriousness. PETE chuckles to himself and they resume the conversation.

PETE

In all seriousness though I don't know dude. That's a deep question.

TODD

Have you found your something yet?

TODD is still laying down on the rock hands on his chest eyes closed.

PETE

Well, I thought college would help me figure that out but I'm still walking in circles.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (8)

PETE (CONT'D)

Ever since I was little I just wanted to be famous, but that was it. I didn't know how to get there or what I'd actually do, but that's all I wanted to be. Famous.

TODD

(sarcastic)
That's lame.

PETE

(jokingly angry)
Screw you asshole.

The two share a laugh.

PETE

What about you though? What's your grand life plan?

TODD

Not a clue. I thought maybe basketball, but we both know how that turned out. Couldn't even make the FROSH team.

PETE

Haha I remember your tryout. I think I still have the video.

TODD

Please don't make me relive that.

PETE

What? I thought that two point airball was amazing.

TODD

(laughing)
Stop.

PETE

(playful)
Oh c'mon I'm just messin.

PETE lays back as well admiring the stars.

PETE

But back to your point, I think whatever we're meant to do while we're here will come to us sooner or later.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (9)

PETE (CONT'D)

It's just a matter of living life
for all its worth until we find
something that we absolutely
cannot live without.

PETE waits for a response but there is nothing.

PETE

At least that's just what kind of
makes sense to me.

Still no response.

PETE

Todd?

TODD is passed out on the rock snoring. PETE smiles
gently and goes to pick him up to bring him to the car.

PETE

Let's get you home buddy.

THE END.