

Del Rosso Life Savers (Draft 11.21)

1.

Saturday. A sidewalk in San Diego.

Matt, Karl, and Ian stand next to each other. At least one of them wears cargo shorts.

A moment. Then –

IAN

I'm gonna take her to the ballet.

MATT

Woow

KARL (*really?*)

The ballet

IAN (*fuck yeah*)

The ballet

KARL

Where?

IAN

Downtown

KARL

Like, the Nutcracker?

IAN

No they only do the Nutcracker when it's the holidays

[scrolling on phone]

Balanchine's Masterpieces

MATT

They only do that for Christmas

KARL

What

IAN

That's what it's called – Balanchine's Masterpieces

KARL

Sounds fancy

IAN

She danced for 14 years but then she injured both her ankles

So I thought it would be nice to like, bring her back

MATT

When are you going?

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IAN
Next Thursday

MATT (*realizing*)
Isn't that Valentine's Day?

IAN (*so?*)
Yeah

KARL
Don't do that

MATT
Yeah don't do that

IAN
I already asked her, she already agreed

KARL
Ian do not have a first date on Valentine's Day

IAN
It's not a first date. We got coffee last month

KARL (?)
Last *month*

MATT
That's a long...gap

IAN
It's not that long

MATT (*it is*)
Well

IAN
She's a total overachiever. I didn't believe her for the longest time but she's really busy

KARL (*sure...*)
Uh huh

IAN
We had a three-hour coffee. We sat in the park and talked for Three Hours, so that's. You know.
Not, nothing

MATT
What's her name again?

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IAN
Joanna

KARL
She's the one who looks 19, right?

IAN
But she's not

KARL
Right I said she Looks / 19

IAN
She speaks like, seven languages

MATT
Really? Wow

KARL
Why?

IAN
I don't know, something with her job. I need a plan though. For After the ballet

MATT (*dub*)
Go to a bar

KARL
A hotel bar

IAN
Why a hotel bar

KARL (*bad joke*)
Because they never check i.d.s

IAN
Dude she's not Actually 19

KARL
I'm just kidding, chill

MATT
You gonna dress up you think? Suit and tie?

IAN
I dunno. Maybe a jacket

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KARL

I bet she'll wear a cocktail dress. Heels

IAN

Not heels

KARL

Not heels?

IAN

Her ankles. Remember?

KARL

Oh right

The guys space out for a bit.

MATT

She's probably flexible

IAN

What?

MATT

If she was a dancer, then

IAN

Oh. Yeah probably.

MATT

I've never been able to touch my toes is that bad

Karl and Ian shrug.

KARL

What are you and Maxine gonna do. For Valentine's Day

MATT

...we broke up

KARL (!)

What?

IAN

Oh shit, I'm sorry Matt

MATT

She told me she couldn't see us "long term"

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KARL

Damn. Were you at her place?

MATT

No we were at this vegetarian restaurant in the Gaslamp

IAN

Maxine's a vegetarian?

MATT

Since a month ago. She really wanted cauliflower tacos

IAN

Is that a thing? Waste of a taco

MATT

That's what I said

IAN

Man. You guys seemed so solid

MATT

We were. We were solid

KARL

I hate when people say stuff like that: "I can't see us long-term." Did they suddenly find a crystal ball or what?

MATT

Yeah. Sucks

KARL

I liked her. She was really sporty

MATT

Yeah

KARL

I feel like she was always wearing yoga pants and like, running off somewhere to strengthen her core

MATT

Yeah

KARL

And remember when I threw that Superbowl party? And she told us all that story about, what was it, something about her sorority formal?

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MATT

Yeah

KARL

Was that it though? Her sorority formal?

IAN

The bus ride on the way to the sorority formal

KARL

Oh right right. But what about it?

IAN

Someone pissed on the bus

KARL

Right right right someone pissed on the bus! I was losing it.

I remember sitting in my living room like, heaving, I was laughing so hard. She was hilarious

Matt doesn't respond. He just puts his hands in his pockets.

KARL

That really sucks man

MATT

Yeah. Whatever

No one says anything for a little while.

Karl begins to apply sunscreen. Really intensely. Throughout his body.

MATT

You're pretty, thorough with that

KARL

What

MATT

With the [sunscreen]

KARL

Oh

MATT *(making fun)*

What is it like a force field?

KARL

Sure, yeah

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MATT *(making fun)*

Karl, “the sun safety expert”

Matt and Ian crack up.

KARL

They uh, they found melanoma on one of my moles.

IAN

Shit what

KARL

So I’m trying to be, More Careful

MATT

Fuck I’m - wow I’m an idiot

IAN

Melanoma? So like...

MATT

...Cancer?

KARL

Well yeah it’s cancerous. But I can get surgery

MATT

And then...

KARL

And then it should be out of me

IAN

Cuz they caught it early right?

KARL

Think so.

IAN

Thank God

KARL

Yeah. But my dermatologist is on vacation right now. For four weeks

MATT

Oh shit

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KARL

Yeah. She's in the Caribbean. So I have to wait to do the surgery. She called me and was like, "I have some bad news" and then was like, "I'm glad we caught it when we did" and then was like, "We'll have to wait a month"

IAN

Whaaaat

KARL

And I'm all: Do you realize you're putting my life at risk lady? I am literally carrying a cluster of cancer cells on my left arm right now

MATT

Are you gonna – Like are you gonna be –

KARL *(trying to play it off...)*

Yeah yeah yeah yeah I'm fine I'm fine

MATT

Ok...

KARL

They'll just slice me up a little, remove it, I'll take some pain meds that'll make me super constipated for a week, and then hopefully I'll get a bad ass scar. Plus, full-body check-ups for life.

No one says anything for a little while.

IAN

Can we see

KARL

What

IAN

...The mole. Just so like, we can know. Like what to keep an eye out for

KARL

Oh, uh. Yeah sure

Karl rolls up his shirt sleeve. He points out a mole on his shoulder. Matt and Ian peer at it.

KARL

That one

MATT

Which one?

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KARL

That one. See the discoloration?

IAN

Ohh, uh huh

KARL

And how it's like, breaking through the margins of what a mole's supposed to be? Like it's, rebelling?

MATT

Huh. Rebel Mole

KARL

Kinda tear-drop shaped, right?

IAN

I see that, yeah

Karl rolls down his sleeve. Matt and Ian begin to inspect some of the moles on their body. They try to be discreet, but Karl notices. Stares at them. They stop.

IAN

I'll pray for you, man.

MATT

Yeah. Me too.

KARL

Thanks. Thank you.

No one says anything for a while. They stand there.

IAN

Hey where's Benji?

KARL

Kansas City, remember? Visiting his niece

IAN

So we don't have a megaphone this week?

KARL

No

IAN

Damn

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KARL

I mean, no, we *do* have a megaphone this week. I brought one

Seemingly out of thin air, Karl retrieves a megaphone.

IAN

Oh sweet

MATT

Nice one Karl

IAN

Yeah thanks Karl.

KARL

Hey look, I see a couple

IAN

Yup. Here they come

KARL

You guys ready?

MATT

Uh huh

IAN

Let's go

Matt and Ian lift two pieces of poster board in the air. They hold them high.

Maybe the posters were there all along and we never noticed. Maybe not.

On Matt's poster: A large, grotesque image of a fetus.

On Ian's poster: The words "Children are a blessing from the Lord."

KARL (*megaphone*)

Sir, ma'am, listen to me: Do you realize that children, innocent children, two to three *thousand* children a DAY are being butchered? Right here, right inside these very walls, children are getting Poisoned. Pulled limb from limb. Burned alive. That's right. Innocent children, the blessing of our lord, are getting torn Piece by PIECE, inside the mother's WOMB! And you choose, You CHOOSE to forget this! You choose to block out your conscience! What, you think you're going to feel relief? Let me tell you this: That relief will be Temporary! Because soon, the guilt will come forward. That guilt will Pour Forward. And the gravity of what you've done will reach the surface And you will carry that loss, that grief, for the Rest Of Your Life. Shame on you Shame on you, sir, for escorting your lady. You are not a man. You are a boy! You are a boy and you are a coward!

You are a coward

You are a coward

You are a coward

You are a /

Tight scene change to: the lobby of a building.