

NOT SO FAST

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EXT. NOAH'S HOUSE - DAY

Rain falls. A POD container rests on the manicured lawn. A car is parked in front, "NOAH SUX" spray-painted on its side.

INT. NOAH'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - DAY

NOAH, 50s, unshaven, in a dirty robe, a Pop-tart in his mouth, pulls a six-pack from the fridge, uncaps one, swigs it down. This is breakfast.

INT. NOAH'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY

Noah passes moving boxes, the five-pack under his arm. He opens the door. BOB, early 30s, sporty, is about to knock.

NOAH  
Oh! Hi, Bob.

BOB  
Today's the big day. Got much left to do?

NOAH  
Almost done. I'm running into work for some final interviews.

BOB  
Wow. Talk about last minute.

NOAH  
No rest for the wicked.

BOB  
That's ironic.

Noah brushes past Bob.

EXT. NOAH'S HOUSE - DAY - CONTINUOUS

Bob trails Noah to his car. Bob opens the door for him. Noah tosses in the beer.

BOB  
Noah, I know this is a big ask--

NOAH  
Bob, I can't take you with me.

BOB  
--but Kim's pregnant.

Noah freezes. He gets in the car, but leaves the door open.

BOB (CONT'D)  
 Maybe you can "forget" a couple of  
 animals? Or maybe we can stowaway  
 in this POD here?

Bob steps toward the POD. Thunder RUMBLES. Lightning sears  
 the ground in front of the pod. They look up. Noah sighs.

NOAH  
 I'm so sorry.

Bob watches as Noah drives away, tracing an erratic path.

BOB  
 How many beers have you had, Noah?!

EXT. OFFICE PARKING LOT - DAY

Noah passes a CROWD holding signs that read, "Make Room,"  
 "Human Lives Matter," and "2 Legs Good, 4 Legs Bad."

CROWD  
 Come on, Noah! / You suck! / Pig  
 lover! / I'll sleep with you!

INT. OFFICE - HALLWAY - DAY

Dozens of animals, queued up and overcrowded, chat nervously.  
 Hyenas, gazelles, chickens, unicorns, mosquitos, etc. Noah  
 rushes past them into...

INT. OFFICE - NOAH'S OFFICE - DAY

Noah sits at his desk. Animals tussle and growl outside.

NOAH  
 Cecil!

A lion ROARS. CECIL, a bouncer of a lion, glides in.

CECIL  
 Yes, boss?

NOAH  
 Please maintain order out there.

CECIL  
 Will do. I have a request: may I  
 eat the rejects? I'm peckish.

NOAH  
I don't see why not.

They both look up, waiting for God to object. Nothing.

NOAH (CONT'D)  
Eat any trouble-makers while you're  
at it.

CECIL  
Really? Thanks.

NOAH  
Who's next?

CECIL  
Gary. He's a gazelle.

NOAH  
Send him in.

Cecil exits. GARY, a young, muscular, hyperactive gazelle,  
darts in. He carries a paper bag.

GARY  
Thanks for the audition. Man, I'm  
excited. I heard amazing things  
about this show.

NOAH  
This... What?

GARY  
This amazing reality show, where  
all these party animals get picked  
to go on a singles' cruise, for  
like, six months!

NOAH  
Wow. Close. Except everyone gets  
voted off first. Gary--

Gary whips his head around to look behind him.

NOAH (CONT'D)  
Um, what are you doing?

GARY  
Checking for predators. Surviving  
the grind, you feel me?

NOAH  
Right. Gary--

GARY

Oh! Hang on, bro. I brought us something. Ice-breakers!

Noah watches as Gary pulls a six pack of beer out of the bag. He pulls two out. With a great flourish, he pops the cap off each one with each horn. He hands one to Noah.

GARY (CONT'D)

Come on, bro. Live a little.

Noah takes a beer.

GARY (CONT'D)

Cheers, bro!

About to drink, Gary whips a look behind him. Noah coughs.

GARY (CONT'D)

Sorry, man. So. Tell me about all the fine specimens I get to bang. I'm so horny--

NOAH

You get one gazelle, Gary. One.

Gary laughs uproariously.

GARY

Wait. Dude! Seriously? Only one?

NOAH

One.

GARY

I need more! I'm good with deer, antelope, ibex, Alpine and Nubian, of course, and sheep. Wait, no! Lamb. Gary likes 'em young.

NOAH

Gary--

GARY

But not underage, man. I'm a freak, not a monster.

NOAH

I like you. A lot. But there's lots of animals left to interview. The man upstairs says we sail tonight.

Noah stands.

GARY  
Are you saying I got the part?

NOAH  
Yes.

GARY  
Alright!

NOAH  
But. Only one gazelle. More than  
that would be wrong.

GARY  
Pfft. Okay. But, who decides what's  
wrong? Consent is consent. Love is  
love, man. Haven't you ever gotten  
yourself a little strange?

NOAH  
God decides. And I'm married.

Gary stares at him, then chuckles. There's a KNOCK on the  
door. Gary whips around to see. Cecil enters.

GARY  
Loving is never wrong, I always  
say. It's made some good memories  
for me, my friend.

CECIL  
Boss. Time check. Running late.

NOAH  
Gary, my hands are tied. And I'm  
under a lot of pressure here.

GARY  
Life is full of choices, Bro-ah.  
You gotta live a little, too.

NOAH  
And you can stop looking over your  
shoulder. I got your back.

CECIL  
Boss?

NOAH  
He's in, Cecil. Don't touch him.  
Who's next?

PENELOPE, a sleek hyena, sneaks in.

PENELOPE

Me!

CECIL

She wasn't next.

PENELOPE

You're lion! You bet giraffe I am!

Penelope laughs. Cecil and Gary exit. Noah rubs his temples.

PENELOPE (CONT'D)

This is hawk-ward. I'm just kitten!  
But seriously! It's panda-monium  
out there!

INT. OFFICE - HALLWAY - DAY - CONTINUOUS

Penelope's CACKLING spills through the door. The animals settle down when Cecil and Gary appear. Cecil puffs up.

CECIL

Listen up, mammals! I will eat the  
next fool who steps out of line.

Several animals freak out, including a few ZEBRAS that herd together and shiver. Cecil points to a cluster of MOSQUITOES.

CECIL (CONT'D)

You! Front of the line.

The door opens. Penelope exits, crying.

NOAH (O.C.)

Next!

The mosquitoes flock past. Cecil sniffs Penelope. She freezes.

CECIL

Mmm. Fear...

PENELOPE

I'm gonna puma pants!

Penelope laughs, then chokes as Cecil pounces on her. He goes for her jugular. Blood splatters across Gary's face.

GARY

Damn, bro.

INT. OFFICE - NOAH'S OFFICE - DAY - CONTINUOUS

A half dozen mosquitoes buzz and fly in arcs around the office. They all speak in a buzzy, monotone unison.

MOSQUITOES

How many of us will you take?

NOAH

Right to the point. Good. Two.

MOSQUITOES

Of each species? We are three thousand species.

NOAH

I didn't know. I guess so, sure.

THUNDER rolls. Noah looks up. He grabs his arm in pain.

NOAH (CONT'D)

Ow! What the-- God damnit!

He slaps his arm. A mosquito falls on the floor. THUNDER.

NOAH (CONT'D)

Two! Just two. You. And you.

Noah stands and chases the others. He slaps them all dead.

INT. OFFICE - HALLWAY - DAY - CONTINUOUS

Two unicorns sashay past the queued animals, DOUGLASS, entitled and sneering, and LEORA, owning the catwalk.

DOUGLASS

Coming through!

Cecil wipes blood from his mouth. He intercepts them.

CECIL

Where do you think you're going?

LEORA

Front of the line.

DOUGLASS

Where we belong, cretin.

CECIL

What did you call me?

Douglass tilts his head back and brays with laughter. Cecil snaps off his horn, throws it to the ground.

DOUGLASS

Oh! My!

Cecil pounces. Gary winks at Leora as blood splatters across her face. Leora weeps. The tears transform into diamonds as they hit the floor.

Noah enters and sees what Cecil has done. He gasps.

NOAH

Cecil! That's the last male unicorn!

Cecil looks up from Douglass's broken, bloody carcass.

CECIL

Oh, shit. Sorry, boss.

Noah, Gary, and Cecil all slowly turn to face Leora.

NOAH

I'm so, so sorry. You're the last of your kind. I can't take you.

Leora weeps, bitterly. Gary ushers her away. Noah sighs deeply. Cecil hands Noah the horn.

CECIL

I hear it's good luck.

Noah takes it and turns it around in his hands. He sighs.

NOAH

Dammit. Next!

MONTAGE - NOAH REJECTS MULTIPLE ANIMALS IN HIS OFFICE

-- Three Zebras await their answer. No. They scream.

-- A GOAT. No. She screams.

-- A CAMEL. No. She spits, then screams.

-- Four CHICKENS. No. They run around and scream.

INT. OFFICE - COPY ROOM - DAY

Gary and Leora gaze into each other's eyes. He gently pulls her horn off. He kisses her as he pats down her ruffled mane. She exits.

MONTAGE - NOAH ACCEPTS MULTIPLE ANIMALS IN HIS OFFICE

-- EMILY, a pretty gazelle. Yes. She tears up in relief.

-- Two DOGS. Yes. They jump on Noah and lick his face.

-- Two CATS. Yes. One hisses. The other smugly walks off.

-- Leora, hornless, and a male HORSE. Yes. She smiles.

INT. OFFICE - HALLWAY - DAY

The bodies of the zebras and chickens, the camel and the goat, lay strewn across the floor.

Emily, off to the side, whispers with another gazelle, JEREMY. Gary checks out Emily and saunters over to her.

GARY

So, you're my lady counterpart.  
Nice. I'm Gary.

Emily cries.

JEREMY

Look, time is short. I'm going to  
ask you for a favor.

GARY

Shoot.

JEREMY

She's carrying my... our baby. Take  
care of them on the other side.

GARY

Oh. Oh, man. No. No. This isn't  
right. Cecil!

Cecil looks up from the carcasses. Belches.

CECIL

What?

Gary hands Leora's horn to Jeremy.

GARY

Take this. Give it to Noah.

Gary rushes Cecil, and head butts him to the ground.

CECIL

What's gotten into you?

EMILY

No! Stop!

EXT. LOADING DOCK FOR THE ARK - EVENING

Noah and his wife, NAAMAH, watch as their SONS herd a host of animals in pounding rain. Emily and Jeremy approach.

EMILY

Gary asked me to give this to you.

Emily hands Noah Leora's horn, nods, and walks away. Noah turns the horn in his hand, confused.

INT. HEAVEN - GOD'S THRONE ROOM - EVENING

Gary sits with a beer. In the shadows across from him sits a silhouetted figure.

GARY

God damn! Beer tastes so much better up here. Cheers, buddy!

God laughs, and sits forward just enough to clink bottles.

EXT. LOADING DOCK FOR THE ARK - EVENING

Noah rushes to his car and peels out.

EXT. BOB AND KIM'S HOUSE - EVENING

Noah knocks furiously on the door. Bob answers. Noah thrusts the unicorn horns into Bob's hands. Kim appears at the door.

NOAH

Take these! Both of you. Come with me. Right now.

EXT. LOADING DOCK FOR THE ARK - EVENING

THUNDER. Noah's car skids to a stop. The three exit.

NAAMAH

Noah, what's going on?

NOAH

Shh. Don't call any attention to this.

Bob and Kim hold the horns up to their foreheads. Noah looks up for a long time. He runs Bob and Kim across the platform.

INT. HEAVEN - GOD'S THRONE ROOM - EVENING

Eight empty bottles lay on the floor. Gary and God drink.

GARY

What? You don't have a girlfriend? Unbelievable. You know, ladies love power, bro! And you're killing it!

GOD

I've got too much to do.

GARY

Pfft. Life is full of choices. You need love, too, man. It's what separates us from the animals.

God stands. His shadowy figure sways forward and looks down. Gary intercepts him and ushers him back into his seat.

GARY (CONT'D)

Dude. Not so fast! Whatever it is, it doesn't need your constant attention. Relax, man. Question.

GOD

Alright, my friend. Shoot.

GARY

What's the deal with the dinosaurs?

INT. NOAH'S ARK - CAPTAIN'S DINING ROOM - NIGHT

Cecil stands guard as Noah, Naamah, Bob, Kim, Jeremy, and Emily dine on their first meal together. Noah looks around the table, smiles warmly, stands, and raises a glass.

NOAH

To love. And to life.