

The Fourth Wall

Sides for the role of SAM

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INT. LIVING ROOM, LATER

Everyone is still in their original positions. They have run out of options, and no one has presented any new ideas.

SAM

Guys, there's something really strange about this script. First off, these pages are old. And it's all marked on.

Everyone waits to see what's next.

SAM (CONT'D)

(pointing to script)

See, here, the original text was "I'll show you". But then "who's boss here" was added by pen later, and that's what Tony actually said.

PEACH

So?

SAM

So the script was written beforehand. It's not a transcription.

Looks of confusion all around.

PEACH

What exactly are you trying to say?

SAM

Look, I know it's a crazy idea, but I'm saying maybe we're not real.

PATRICK

You mean maybe we don't exist in the physical realm?

SAM

No, I mean maybe we're characters in a movie.

PEACH

That's insane!

PATRICK

Hold on guys. Let's hear him out.

SAM

I know it's impossible. But it's the only possibility.

Sam is surrounded by sceptics.

SAM (CONT'D)
(eureka moment)
Look, have you guys ever had a
crap?

PEACH
Excuse me?

SAM
I'm serious. Do any of you remember
going to the bathroom?

Jason sits up, considering.

SAM (CONT'D)
Have you seen people sitting on the
toilet in a movie?

JASON
I have.

SAM
OK, but I'm not talking about the
"give someone a laxative" cliché
prank. I'm talking about everyday
normal bathroom goings.

Everyone shakes their heads.

SAM (CONT'D)
Well that's because you would never
write such a scene in a movie. We
cut all the mundane parts of life
out of screenplays.

AMY
Who's "We"?

SAM
Filmmakers. That must be what my
character is. Here, I'll show you.
Tony, what's your profession?

TONY
I'm a PhD student.

SAM
OK, where do you study?

TONY
University of Washington.

Sam turns to Amy.

SAM
Amy, aren't you a student too?

AMY
Yes, of culinary arts.

SAM
And where do you study?

AMY
The Culinary Institute of Chicago.

SAM
(to everyone)
You see? How can these guys be
roommates if they are studying in
two different states?

Tony searches for an answer.

TONY
Maybe we're all on Spring Break.

AMY
(to Sam)
I thought you were a banker.

SAM
Yeah, so did I.

Sam searches for an explanation. He's empty handed.

INT. KITCHEN, NIGHT

Jason and Amy are having tea around the dining table. Sam is reviewing the script he's written. Everyone else is asleep.

JASON
(to Sam)
How's it going?

SAM
You know, quite honestly, this
script is not very good. I mean, I
wouldn't buy this.

AMY
Maybe it's a first draft.

SAM
Even for that.

JASON
So you don't think it will ever be made into a film?

SAM
I doubt it.

AMY
So what kind of film do you think this is.

SAM
It's not a comedy. That's for sure. Nothing funny has happened since.

AMY
What about a love story.

SAM
Well, since there isn't any conflict in your relationship, I would rule that out too.

JASON
What's left.

SAM
Too many to remember. But the basic ones are thriller and drama. It's not a thriller because you haven't been threatened by any overwhelming force. So my bet is drama. Then again, it could be some strange film school project with its own genre.

JASON
That would explain the bad writing.

Jason gets up and pulls Amy's hand away. She lets Jason pull her up and follows him out of the kitchen.

SAM
Yes. On the plus side, though, if it is a student film, it will at least get made.