

BUDDIES

BY

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CHARACTERS

Phillip, 23, slightly overweight, slightly nerdy.

Marcus, 23, in good shape, both a man's man and a lady's man.

SETTING

The present. Yankee stadium.

(Lights up. Phillip is on stage. He has a beer and a hot-dog in his hands. He looks around for Marcus who has already missed five innings. Enter Marcus)

Marcus

Hey, buddy. Sorry I'm so damn late, rehearsal ran over and there was just no way I could get out of it, but let me tell you, man, I am going to nail this part! Hot damn, you are not going to believe this character I'm creating.

Phillip

You missed five innings, Marcus. Next time you ask me to a ball game, try to plan ahead a little. Jesus, I would've sat in the bleachers, at least there I'd have a little company.

Marcus

Boo-hoo. Anyway, what's the score?

Phillip

Nothing, nothing.

Marcus

See, I didn't miss a thing.

Phillip

I don't even like baseball, I just wanted to talk to you about...

Marcus

COME ON DARRYL, YOU SON OF A BITCH! SHOW ME SOMETHING!
I'm sorry Phil, what were you saying?

Phillip

Do you remember the girl of my dreams?

Marcus

(Still looking at the game) How the Hell am I supposed to know what you're dreaming about these days?

Phillip

Not these days, back at school. Come on you know who I'm talking about. You were my roommate for crying out loud.

Marcus

Best damn roommate you'll ever have, too.

Phillip

I know you remember her.

Marcus

Betty?

Phillip

Give me more credit than that.

Marcus

What's wrong with Betty? She was a nice girl. I set you up with her and you blew it.

Phillip

She was missing her two front teeth.

Marcus

What's a couple of teeth?

Phillip

Look, it doesn't matter. Rebecca, I'm talking about Rebecca.

Marcus

Oh, yeah, Rebecca. HOTDOG! Can I get a dog over here?

Phillip

Are you listening to me?

Marcus

Yeah, I'm just hungry. So what about Samantha?

Phillip

Rebecca. The love of my life. Remember, I almost killed myself because of her?

Marcus

But I came in with Shannon Dobbs and we talked you off the ledge. Oh, my God, I almost forgot about that. Then she wouldn't sleep with me because she didn't want to kick you out in case you went up to the third floor and tried to jump. Ha!

Phillip

Yeah, that's right. Anyway I saw Rebecca yesterday at Walden books and she said she wanted to go out to dinner some time. She gave me her number.

Marcus

What?

Phillip

Yep. (taking out the number) See, it's right there in black and white.

Marcus

That's not her number.

Phillip

What?

Marcus

Nothing.

Phillip

How do you know that's not her number?

Announcer

And now, ladies and gentlemen, it's the seventh inning stretch. Please join in for a round of "take me out to the ballgame". Take me out to the ballgame...

Marcus

(on his feet, singing)

Take me out to the crowd. Buy me some peanuts and crackerjacks.

Phillip

How do you know that's not her number?

Marcus

I don't care if I ever get back, cause it's route route route for the home team, if they don't win it's a shame.

Phillip

How do you know, Marcus?!

Marcus

For it's one, two, three strikes you're out at the old ballgame!

Phillip

HOW DO YOU KNOW!?

Marcus

I just do, all right.

Phillip

You fucked her! You fucked the love of my life. How could you do that to me? You were my roommate for four years! You fucked her. I can't believe you fucked her. I can't believe...

Marcus

I fucked her? (Phillip nods) Well, I did. And let me tell you, she is not worth all this yelling and screaming. She wasn't even that good.

(Phillip punches Marcus in the nose)

Marcus

What the Hell are you thinking? My nose? I need that nose. It's my career for crying out loud!

Phillip

I love that girl.

Marcus

Yeah, well she doesn't love you. She never did. Wake up man! All your life you've been going for girls that would never want to be with you, and honestly, you couldn't handle them if they did. Are looks your only criteria? Huh! You are not a good looking guy. I'm sorry, but that's just the way it is. On top of that, you're a nerd. You have no concept of style, no comprehension of social nuances, and your fucking breath smells like Doritos every time I see you. Face it, man, you are about the farthest thing from a stud. You are never going to be with a drop dead gorgeous girl like Rebecca. It's not going to happen.

Phillip

You are one heartless bastard.

Marcus

How you figure?

Phillip

You're
Cause your right. I am ugly, and I am a loser. I don't know how to impress girls. I wouldn't know the first thing to say to Rebecca on a date. I'm nothing. You, you're everything. Everywhere you go people look up to you and either want to be you or be with you. You have it made. You're set. Me, I have to wallow in the shit, and look up at you and wonder, just wonder what it would be like to be you for a day. Just one day I would like to be looked up to. Just one day.

Marcus

Phillip, don't you know that I envy you. You're so busy looking up, that you don't see what's right there in front of you. Someday, man, maybe not tomorrow or next week, but someday you are going to fall in love with a girl, and it won't be because of the way she looks, or whether or people look up to her. It'll be because she's right for you, and good for you. You won't be thinking "What am I missing out on?" You won't cheat on her and she won't cheat on you. You won't have to worry about your looks starting to fade, because that won't be why she's with you. That's something I'm never going to have, Phillip, and I'm damn proud to be your friend. You are my buddy, and you're a hell of a lot better to me than I am to you. Shoot, you're just better than I am in general. I look up to you.

Phillip

You really mean that?

Marcus

Yeah, I do.

Phillip

Thanks, man. You're not so bad yourself.

Marcus

Thanks.

Phillip

I'm gonna' run to the bathroom, and flush this number down the toilet. You need anything?

Marcus

I'd love a dog and a beer.

Phillip

Yop got it, buddy.

(Phillip exits with the number in hand and a giant smile on his face. Marcus watches him leave.)

Marcus

What a yutz. I can't believe she gave him her real number. It's a strange world, Marcus. You never know what people will do. COME ON SAMMY! GIVE US A HOMER!

(lights fade out)