

BAD BREAK
By Tanner S. Sykes

CAST:
BRETT
PAULA
JULIE

(Brett and Paula wait for the school bus.)

BRETT

Yeah, and then I killed her and got the money back, even though I'd already seen her boobs.

PAULA

Man, that sounds so cool! I wish my mom would let me play GTA.

(Julie enters.)

JULIE

Hey guys.

PAULA

Julie! Did you have a good Thanksgiving break?

JULIE

I don't want to talk about it.

BRETT

Come on! After all three of us got a rare, life threatening infection from licking the same monkey bars, we promised we'd be best friends for life, and best friends tell each other everything!

JULIE

Okay, okay fine. I guess I can tell you a little bit before the bus comes. This year we went to my grandparents house in Naperville and it was so annoying because my grandparents don't have working internet! I was so bored the entire time!

BRETT

I know exactly what you mean! My family and I went to my uncle's house in Paris...

JULIE

Oh!

BRETT

...Tennessee.

JULIE

Oh.

BRETT

And he doesn't have a working Xbox or a Switch or anything! He just had books! How am I supposed to kill when all I have is *A Farewell To Arms*? Whoever wrote that book should shoot themselves in the mouth with a shotgun.

PAULA

My break wasn't as bad as you guys's but it still totally sucked. It was my dad's year to have me for Thanksgiving and we went to my grandmas house, and she doesn't have a working pair of, like, lungs or kidneys or eyes or anything, so she was in this giant metal tube in the living room and she didn't move or talk to me like at all!

BRETT

...What?

PAULA

Yeah, when we got there she was sitting there in the dark, and when I went to hug her she just unhinged her jaw and let out this loud, shrill cry that sounded like a wounded animal. God, that totally stinks right?

JULIE

Yeah... Oh guys, I didn't even mention the worst part.

BRETT

Mention it! Mention it!

JULIE

I had to share a room with, like, 7 other people. I had absolutely no privacy at all!

BRETT

Dude, that's nothing. I had to share a BED with 2 of my cousins, and I kept waking up in the middle of the night because my cousin Cameron kicks in his sleep. It made me so mad! I just wanted to wrap my hands around his throat and slowly apply pressure.

PAULA

I know, right? Ugh. I don't think I can top that, but eventually after my grandma stopped shrieking at me, I took my stuff to one of the guest rooms, and that's when my dad came in and said "What are you doing? You're sleeping in the bunker," and I had to drag all of my stuff down 3 flights of stairs and outside to the bunker! So annoying.

BRETT

The... the bunker?

PAULA

Yeah, and it was so dark and cold in there! It didn't have lights, or heat, or a bed, or anything!

JULIE

By yourself?

PAULA

No, there was someone there with me.

BRETT

Who?

PAULA

I don't know, I couldn't see him that well and I didn't want to bother him, but man was he tall! But I wasn't being kicked every five seconds, that stinks!

JULIE

Dude... oh! Dude! Dude! I didn't even get to the dinner yet! It was so long and boring, and my grandparents can't cook for crud so everything was either overcooked or under done.

BRETT

I was trapped at the dinner table for 3 hours! I was so bored the whole time, I just wanted to break my mom's wine glass and start pricking my fingers just to feel something.

PAULA

Dinner wasn't that bad for me, actually, it was just a little boring. My grandma made me the best cup of flark, but I had to go and eat it by myself in the bunker.

BRETT

Flark?

PAULA

Yeah, well, that's what she called it. It was so so good. I'm so mad that I couldn't drink more of it though because when I left the bunker to get seconds, my grandma and dad were totally gone, even the bunker guy had left. And that was when I realized, "That guy wasn't my dad!". It was so funny.

JULIE

Who was he?

PAULA

Now that I'm thinking about it, I'm pretty sure he was the same guy who was in the bunker with me.

BRETT

And they just totally vanished?

PAULA

I know that sounds bad, but in their defense, the house was also nowhere to be found, like David Copperfield had done one of his sick magic tricks and made it disappear. It just stunk that I had to walk all the way back down the mountain.

BRETT

Paula, are you okay?

PAULA

Oh, yeah. My feet are bleeding as crap but I'm fine. Why?

BRETT

Paula, your break was awful.

PAULA

Yeah, I guess I didn't realize how crazy it was until I said it all out loud.

(Beat.)

Not as crazy as the Westminster Dog show this year though!

(Julie and Brett say stuff like, "It was so good, it rocked," etc.)

BLACKOUT.