

ONE LAST NIGHT

INT. HOUSE -- NIGHT

Four friends walk into an apartment after a night of karaoke. THALIA, a nineteen year-old bubbly girl with black hair, leads her three friends into her apartment. JUNA, an eighteen year-old shy Indian girl and Thalia's girlfriend walks in first, followed by SHAWN, a twenty year-old slightly overweight man with glasses and finally NICK, a twenty-one year old fit man, getting ready to leave for the Navy, walks in last.

THALIA

Welcome friends, to my humble
abode.

Thalia waves her hand dramatically to her apartment room. Juna smirks at her girlfriend.

NICK

It's homey.

SHAWN

That's a nice way of saying her
apartment is crap.

Thalia does a full turn and puts her hands on her hips.

THALIA

Least I don't live in my moms
basement.

JUNA

Guys...

Juna pinches the bridge of her nose in annoyance.

JUNA (CONT'D)

Not tonight.

THALIA

Fine, so what do you wanna do Cadet
Nicholas? It's your night.

Nick turns his attention from scanning the apartment.

NICK

You said you got Dungeons and
Dragons right?

THALIA

I have the beginner campaign here,
yeah.

SHAWN

I'd be down for a game, you guys
in?

JUNA

I don't know how to play.

THALIA

I'll teach you Cher. Nick you wanna
be the Dungeon Master or play?

NICK

Do you know how to be a DM?

THALIA

Not in the slightest.

Thalia smirks sheepishly and Nick sighs.

NICK

Alright, I'll be DM.

Thalia, Shawn and Juna all sit down at the dining room table as they begin to assemble their characters. Thalia sits immediately next to Juna and begins to walk her through the nuances of the game and the character creation. Nick watches them as they argue about classes and how to play. Before long the group is ready.

INT. HOUSE -- NIGHT

Thalia, Shawn, Juna and Nick assembles at the table as they are about to begin the game.

NICK

Everyone say your name, race, and
class. If you got a custom
background, go ahead.

Thalia pushes her chair back and stands up.

THALIA

I am Amber Grey Fox, accomplished
thief and plague of kingdoms and
dukes alike. I am a, human, female,
rogue and everyone's friend.

Long pause.

SHAWN

I hate your character already.

NICK
Alright Juna, you're next.

Juna opens her mouth to speak.

SHAWN
Like with a burning hatred.

THALIA
Yo schmuck, let her say her stuff.
Not my fault my character is
fucking awesome. Go ahead.

Juna takes a deep breath before continuing.

JUNA
Okay, I'm a male Elven warlock
named Reese.

Juna looks around.

JUNA (CONT'D)
That's all I got.

NICK
Uh okay, Shawn, your turn.

Shawn takes a long sip of soda and clears his throat
dramatically.

SHAWN
(Scottish Accent)
Silent Snorey's the name, smashing
is my game. I took an oath of
silence until I avenge me dear
mothers death at the hands of
godless goblin heathens. So short
and sweet, like me, I'm a dwarven
cleric.

Thalia, Juna and Nick all look at each other quizzically then
back at Shawn.

THALIA
So you took an oath of silence?

SHAWN
(Scottish Accent)
Ai lass I did indeed.

THALIA
So why the accent?

Shawn opens his mouth to answer then pauses for a second to think of a reply.

JUNA

Also isn't making your character basically a mute counter-intuitive to the campaign?

SHAWN

Well when you put it like that it sounds dumb.

NICK

So we have Amber the Rogue, Reese the Warlock, and Silent Snorey the dumb ass mute who will no doubt screw the party. Lets begin.

EXT. FIELD -- DAY

Amber, Reese and Silent Snory ride into a field on a transport cart filled with gold, jewels and fine clothes. There stands a single human rogue, an elf warlock and a dwarven cleric.

NICK V.O.

Okay so you all enter the field riding in your cart filled with expensive stuff you were paid to transport to the next town over. In the middle of the road are two dead horses with no riders around, what do you wanna do?

SHAWN

I go to the horses and try to throw them to the side of the ride so we can pass.

NICK V.O.

Cool beans, anyone else wanna do something?

THALIA

What do I see around me?

NICK V.O.

There are forests to the east and a cliff to the west.

THALIA

I decided I wanna give Silent Snorey motivation in moving the horses.

NICK V.O.

What about you?

Nick gestures to Juna with his head

JUNA

Reese thinks it's smart to stay with the cart and hopes his friends aren't going to die or get a hernia.

Silent Snorey and Amber walk over to the horses as Reese stays behind with the cart. The two horses lie dead in the road with a single arrow in the sides of each of them.

THALIA

Well if this isn't a trap I don't know what is.

SHAWN

Silent Snorey attempts to move the dead horses.

THALIA

I provide motivational support.

NICK V.O.

So, Snorey attempts to move the horses, how do you wanna motivate him?

Thalia checks over her character sheet.

THALIA

I do a back flip, then two thumbs up and flash a smile.

Nick and Shawn look at her like she sprouted three heads.

THALIA (CONT'D)

My skill in acrobatics is freaking high, I can do it. I want the dwarf to be blown away with how cool I am.

NICK V.O.

Okay roll for it.

Thalia rolls to see if she does the back flip successfully.

THALIA V.O.

Nat twenty.

NICK V.O.

Amber does her back flip and Silent Snorey is so impressed by her backflip he shits himself.

SEAN

(Angrily)

I do not shit myself.

NICK V.O.

Roll for shitting yourself.

Sean rolls the die.

NICK V.O. (CONT'D)

You shit yourself.

THALIA

Do I smell it?

JUNA

Do I see it?

NICK V.O.

Yes and yes, Amber smells it instantly and Reese with his elf eyes sees a brown stain seep across Silent Snorey's tunic.

SHAWN V.O.

I don't wanna play this anymore, if I'm just shitting myself before the campaign even starts. We haven't even gotten into a fight yet.

NICK V.O.

Speaking of which, Thalia roll the die.

Thalia shakes the die in her hand for a few seconds before dramatically tosses it onto the board.

THALIA V.O.

One. Well fuck me with a tire iron, what happens?

JUNA

(Sarcastically)

Does she just explode or something?

NICK V.O.

Something like that, an arrow flies through the air and she takes an arrow through the neck and you fall down bleeding.

THUD! An arrow flies through the air and strikes Amber in the throat, her body hits the ground. Tiny goblins begin to creep out of the forest.

JUNA

Is she dead?

NICK V.O.

Nah she'll live, but not for long. What do you guys do?

THALIA V.O.

I'm so glad I do an amazing backflip then instantly get killed.

Shawn and Juna roll to see who reacts first, Juna wins the roll.

NICK V.O.

Reese your move, what do you do?

Juna reads over her character sheet to see what she can do, she reads over her spells and weapons.

JUNA V.O.

How far away are they and how many there are?

NICK V.O.

They're about sixty feet away and you see about four.

JUNA

Whelp too far away to attack, I have a healing spell but it's touch based.

Juna taps her pencil on her lip for a couple of seconds as she contemplates her next action.

JUNA (CONT'D)

I take the reins of the carriage and turn the other way.

THALIA V.O.

You definitely do not.

JUNA

Fine, can I ride the carriage right into the goblins?

SHAWN

(Sarcastically)

The smartest choice, literally deliver the cart full of gold and gems to the attackers.

NICK V.O.

I won't stop you, the hell kind of damage would that even be?

Nick flips back and forth between pages.

NICK V.O. (CONT'D)

Fuck it. Just roll the dice.

Juna rolls three dice.

JUNA

Seventeen.

NICK V.O.

You smash right into one of the goblins and kill him instantly just smearing him under the cart.

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SHAWN

Damn, okay my turn?

Nick nods at him

SHAWN (CONT'D)

Hmmm what could I do? I guess I just hit them with my War Hammer.

Thalia shoots her hand up to get everyone's attention

THALIA

Wait, wait before you do that I have an idea.

NICK

What's up?

THALIA

I want Silent Snorey to throw my lifeless body at the goblin that shot me.

SHAWN

Oh my God.

Shawn and Thalia look at each other as smiles creep across their face and they begin to laugh maniacally.

THALIA

Throw me.

SHAWN

(Excitedly)

I throw her at the nearest goblin.

JUNA

You're an idiot, she's already dying, you're just gonna kill her faster.

THALIA

It's my last dying wish to be thrown at a goblin, it's my heroic sacrifice.

NICK

So you throw her?

SHAWN

Yeah I throw her like a sac of potatoes.

EXT. FIELD -- DAY

Shawn rolls to throw Amber at the goblins. He shakes the dice in his hands while Thalia bounces up and down in her chair in excitement. He rolls, missing his throw.

NICK V.O.

So you grab her by her ankles, and swing her around like a you're gonna toss a frisbee, but you over compensate for the size of the goblin and her weight and miss. You toss Amber right over the goblins head.

Amber flies straight over the goblin and hits the dirt with a harsh thud, her limp body groans quietly as she lays there.

JUNA V.O.

(Sarcastically)

Wow, that turned out like crap, who woulda thought.

THALIA V.O.
Shush. I will die a hero.

NICK V.O.
Alright so Amber takes...

Nick rolls three dice in his hand and throws it on the table.

NICK V.O. (CONT'D)
You take five points of damage,
you're now even closer to death.

SHAWN V.O.
Okay I wanna try to come back from
this, I yell over to Reese and tell
him to heal Amber while I ready my
weapon.

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NICK
Wait you wanna yell to Reese?

SHAWN
Yeah, speaking is a free action
right?

NICK
For people who aren't silent I
imagine it is.

Thalia begins to cackle to herself.

THALIA
I'm fucking dead in the dirt and
even I'm more useful than you.

JUNA
So what, he can't talk to me?

NICK
He can write down a message on
paper but he'd have to do that next
turn.

SHAWN
I'm starting to think that my
character is crap and I kinda shot
myself in the foot with this one.

THALIA

Least you weren't literally shot.
I'm gonna make us some tea, I doubt
my corpse is gonna do much while
I'm gone.

Thalia gets up, plants a kiss on Juna's head.

THALIA (CONT'D)

I'll make you some too.

Thalia walks over to the fridge across the room. Nick looks at Juna and then down at his hands.

NICK

You guys wanna keep playing while
she's gone?

SHAWN

Yeah sure lets continue, what
happens?

Juna turns back to the table and shifts in her seat with a smile on her face.

NICK

Okay, so that's one goblin down but
there are still three alive. So the
first one attempts to throw his
spear at Snorey, cause he just
attempted to throw someone at him.

EXT. FIELD -- DAY

The goblin looks at Amber as she lays on the ground, then back at Silent Snorey. He readies his spear and throws it at Silent Snorey striking him in his chest.

NICK V.O.

He hits you dead in the chest for
eight points of damage.

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Sean stands up swinging his arms like he's swinging a giant hammer.

SHAWN

(Scottish Accent)

Aye let the wee fucks come at me,
imma avenge me ma or die tryin'.

Juna leans back in her chair and smiles at Thalia. Thalia turns back, points her fingers at her head and pretends to shoot herself.

EXT. FIELD -- DAY

NICK V.O.

The goblins aren't done, the next one is annoyed at Reese for barreling a cart into his friend so he's gonna shoot an arrow at you.

Nick rolls the dice getting a sixteen.

NICK V.O. (CONT'D)

Uh he gets a one, critical failure.

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SHAWN

(Scottish Accent)

You a lucky lass right there, the Gods have smiled fondly on ye elf blood.

THALIA

So you're doubling down on the accent, huh.

Thalia walks back to the table and sets the tea down in front of Juna and sits down with her own mug.

THALIA (CONT'D)

So what'd I miss?

NICK

Goblin rolled a one, so he's gonna...

Nick looks at the goblins, their placements and his weapons.

SHAWN

Please tell me he shits himself.

NICK

He doesn't shit himself but he sneezes violently, lets his arrow fly and shoots his friend in the lower back.

JUNA

Please tell me he's paralyzed.

THALIA
That'd be fucking vicious.

Thalia's eyes light up and she looks at Nick with a smile.

THALIA (CONT'D)
(Excitedly)
Is he paralyzed?

NICK
I'll have him roll for being
paralyzed.

Nick rolls the dice.

NICK (CONT'D)
He's not paralyzed but he is on the
floor in great pain. Then finally
the last one. Hmmm the last one is
gonna run, he likes his use of his
legs too much to risk it on a
fight.

EXT. FIELD -- DAY

One goblin looks at his friend lying on the ground with an
arrow in his spine, and back at his friend who shot him and
then turns and runs the other way.

THALIA V.O.
So we're down to two, and I'm still
dead.

NICK V.O.
Okay Reese, your go.

JUNA V.O.
I wanna cast chain lightning and
shock the both of them.

Juna rolls her dice, hitting them and dealing fifteen damage.

NICK V.O.
One's down, the last one is still
up. Snorey what do you wanna do?

SHAWN V.O.
(Scottish Accent)
Leave the last one to me lass, I
wanna use my holy Guiding Light to
fly from my hand to his heathen
flesh.

Shawn does twenty-four points of damage. A blinding white light flies from Silent Snoreys hand and hits the goblin. A burning light pierces his chest and he falls to the ground sizzling.

NICK V.O.

Finally the field falls silent, and so the first chapter of our campaign ends.

INT. HOUSE -- NIGHT

Thalia, Shawn and Juna all look at Nick sadly.

NICK

I, uh, I should probably start getting ready to head out.

Nick begins to get himself ready to leave as Shawn grabs his keys to drive Nick to the airport. Nick goes to Thalia and says his goodbye, hugging her as she tears well in her eyes. Nick walks over to Juna and hugs her for longer than he hugged Thalia before breaking the hug. He leads her slightly away from Thalia and Shawn to tell her something.

NICK (CONT'D)

(Nervously)

I wanna tell you something, and I want to prefix this by saying I think this is an awful idea on my part.

Nick takes a deep breath and lets out a sigh.

NICK (CONT'D)

I care about you, or I like you, I don't know. I've always cared about you, and I won't stop caring about you. I know you love Thalia and I know she loves you, and I know you could never love me. But I just needed to tell you, before, before this. Five years is a long time and I will still care about you. I hope you still wanna talk to me when I'm in boot camp, and you'll still write to me. Please still write to me and tell me what JRPG's you love, and what you guys are doing here, how college is, anything. Please.

Nick lets out a shuttered breath and begins to walk to the door as Thalia and Shawn look at him confused, having not heard what he had said to Juna. Shawn and Nick leave the apartment leaving only Thalia and Juna standing there alone. Thalia walks over to Juna as she stands completely still in shock.

THALIA
You okay Cher?

JUNA
I don't know.

Thalia looks in Juna's eyes to see them filling with tears. Thalia hugs her close as she strokes her hair.

THALIA
Hey five years ain't that long
right?

Thalia chuckles forcibly

THALIA (CONT'D)
Think about it like this, when he comes back we can always finish the campaign. That'll be our thing, next we see him he'll be Captain Nicholas Taylor, Dungeon Master. We can always write to him right?

THALIA (CONT'D)
You wanna spend the night? You can have the bed of course, I'll take the couch and I can make eggs in the morning.

Thalia wipes her eyes as she leads Juna into her apartment

THALIA (CONT'D)
Did you like Dungeons and Dragons? You seem like you had fun, more fun than I did being dead I imagine. So uh, what'd Nick say to you before he left.

Juna looks over at Thalia, as she wipes her eyes and leans her head back to keep the tears from falling.

JUNA
Nothing important.