

How Not To Be Single - Episode Two: Party

By

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FADE IN:

INT./EXT. MATT'S HOUSE - FRONT DOOR - DAY

A KNOCK at the door. It's opened from the inside to reveal AJ and PAT outside smiling and SIMON on his mobile, leaning against the wall, not interested. It's been answered by MATT, who looks at his friends, depressed.

AJ
Today's the day.

EXT. MATT'S HOUSE - STREET - DAY

Matt, Pat and AJ are loading Matt's belongings into Pat's car. Simon is on his mobile, leaning against the wall.

AJ
Are you gonna give us a hand, Si?

SIMON
(not looking up from mobile)
Huh?

PAT
He's obviously got more pressing concerns.

AJ
(to Simon)
What are you doing?

SIMON
(not looking up from mobile)
What?

Simon looks up from his mobile to see AJ looking at him disapprovingly.

SIMON
Just chattin' to Terry. 'Bout games and that.

PAT
Terry?

SIMON
Yeah. Me best mate.

PAT
And what about us?

AJ passes Pat a box, and the bottom gives way, dropping items all over the floor, making the two look foolish.

(CONTINUED)

SIMON
(dismissive)
Pfft.

AJ picks up the items, and Matt rushes over, concerned.

AJ
(picking up some photos)
What's this, Matt?

The photos are of Matt and Polly. Matt looks guilty.

MATT
They were meant to go with the
rubbish.

AJ
I thought we were done with this
episode?

Matt takes the photos and puts them in a bin bag.

MATT
There. It's like it never
happened.

AJ stares at Matt disapprovingly.

INT./EXT. PAT'S CAR - DAY

Pat is driving. Simon is sat in the front passenger seat, which is pushed too far back. Behind him, very cramped, surrounded by boxes, is AJ. Matt, unseen, stares sadly at a photo of him and Polly. He hides it away in his pocket.

AJ
Simon, can you move your seat
forward a bit? My knees are in my
teeth here!

SIMON
Nah, mate. I think I can feel my
claustrophobia coming on. I could
start hyperventilating any
second. Oh, here it comes.

Simon starts hyperventilating. The others look concerned.

SIMON
(shouting)
Pat, stop the car!

Brakes SCREECH and the car comes to a sudden stop.

SIMON
(leaning out window)
Hello, ladies.

KAYLEY, OLIVIA and SALLY, all 20, very attractive, are standing on the street corner, looking unimpressed.

KAYLEY
Alright, Si?

SIMON
All the better for seeing you,
Kayley.

The girls are not impressed. Matt, Pat and AJ can't believe what's happening.

SIMON
So what're you mighty fine ladies
up to on such a beautiful day?

Nothing. KAYLEY OLIVIA
Nothing.

SALLY
Nothing.

SIMON
There's a party later at AJ's for
Matt, if you're interested.

AJ is stunned; first he's heard of this.

KAYLEY
Matt?

SIMON
Yeah, he's moving in.

KAYLEY
Thought he was with Polly?

SIMON
Polly! No... They haven't been
together for ages! She dumped his
sorry arse.

Matt looks sad.

SIMON
It was doomed from the start,
let's face it. I've been helping
him through it though. He's been
benefiting from my vast
experience with the fairer sex.

Simon gives Kayley a suggestive look. She's not impressed.

SIMON
So I'll see you later then?

KAYLEY
Uh...

SIMON
Free booze!

KAYLEY
Yeah, alright.

SIMON
Cool.
(to Pat)
Let's drive!

The car drives off. Simon puts his head out the window.

SIMON
(shouting to Kayley)
I'll text you the deets!

Simon's head comes back in. He's pleased with himself.

SIMON
That Kayley's well into me, huh,
guys?

The guys look dubious.

INT. AJ AND MATT'S - MATT'S ROOM - DAY

Matt and Pat are unpacking. Simon is lying on the bed, on his mobile. AJ enters and puts down a box.

AJ
That's the last of 'em.

SIMON
Sweet deal. Time to get prepping
for the party.

AJ
When did I say anything about a
party?

SIMON
AJ, you can be so insensitive
sometimes. It's Matt's first day
in the house, a party just goes
without saying.

PAT

It's a bit short notice. Hardly enough time to draw up a proper schedule.

SIMON

I can't believe my ears. Don't worry, Matt, at least you've got one true friend.

Simon puts his arm around Matt.

AJ

What do you want, Matt?

MATT

Party sounds good to me.

Simon smiles smugly at AJ.

AJ

Well, if it's a party you want, then it's a party you'll get. Welcome to your new home, mate.

Matt smiles for the first time.

MONTAGE - PREPPING FOR THE PARTY

-- Simon is lying on the sofa, on his mobile.

-- AJ puts a six-pack of beer down on the table, smiling at it lovingly.

-- Simon is lying on the sofa the opposite way round, on his mobile.

-- Matt places a large tub of ice cream in the freezer, smiling at it lovingly.

-- Simon is sat upside down on the sofa, on his mobile.

-- AJ stands in front of a mirror, flexing his biceps.

-- Pat hovers, Simon, on the sofa, raising his legs so he can pass but not looking away from his mobile.

-- Matt is looking at the photo of him and Polly, but he hides it away and gives an innocent smile as Pat passes wearing his marigolds and brandishing a toilet brush.

-- Simon is lying on the sofa, on his mobile, as Matt and AJ put a banner up behind him.

-- Pat walks around with a clipboard, ticking off tasks on his schedule.

(CONTINUED)

-- Simon, on the sofa, puts his mobile down, ready to help.

PAT
Smashed it!

Pat, Matt and AJ sit on the sofa and high five each other. Simon picks his mobile back up.

INT. AJ AND MATT'S - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

The hands on the clock on the wall move slowly around. Everything is ready for the party, but the friends sit in awkward silence.

AJ
So, where are all these people
you invited then, Si?

SIMON
Don't worry, Terry said he'd be
here any minute. He'll liven
things up.

PAT
Si, can I have one of your beers?

SIMON
No way! You'd have had time to
buy your own if you weren't too
busy vacuuming the table and
polishing the floor!

Pat looks disappointed. The doorbell RINGS.

SIMON
(excited)
That'll be Terry!
(beat)
Get that would you, Pat?

Pat begrudgingly obeys. AJ and Matt shake their heads at each other in disbelief. Pat returns with TERRY, a cool looking character with no respect for anyone but himself.

SIMON
Alright, Terry mate? Great to see
you.

Terry looks at Simon with disdain and sits next to him.

SIMON
These three losers are Pat, AJ
and Matt.

The guys hold up their hands in greeting, but Terry just looks at them disdainfully.

TERRY
(passes Simon a computer
game)
Here you go.

SIMON
Thanks, mate. I've been meaning
to check this one out for ages.

TERRY
(holds out his hand)
You got the money?

Matt and AJ look at each other in disbelief.

SIMON
(trying to cover
embarrassment)
Yeah, sure. Here you go.

Simon passes Terry a note, and he gets up to go, but Simon
pulls him back down.

SIMON
So you fancy a game then?

TERRY
If I wanted to play it, I
wouldn't have sold it.

The friends feel the awkwardness; Simon has to act.

SIMON
(fake laughter)
Yeah. Nice one, Terry.

Terry gets up to go, but Simon pulls him back down.

SIMON
Hey, you want one of my beers?

Pat looks offended.

TERRY
Yeah, alright.

Simon gives Terry one of his beers.

SIMON
Any minute now, this place will
be teeming with hotties. This one
chick, Kayley. She's all over me.

Terry drinks his beer, not caring. The doorbell RINGS.

SIMON
That'll be them!

Simon slaps Terry on the back, causing him to spit out some of his beer and give Simon a dirty look.

LATER

The hands on the clock on the wall move slowly around. Awkward silence. The boys are sat on one side of the room, Kayley, Olivia and Sally on the other. Simon gives Kayley a cheeky wink. She turns away in disgust.

OLIVIA
So, where's this free booze then?

SIMON
Of course, ladies, what can I get you?

KAYLEY Lager. OLIVIA Lager.

SALLY Lager.

SIMON
Coming right up.

Simon grabs a four-pack of lager off the table, plops himself down in the middle of the girls, hands the lager to Olivia and puts his arms around her and Kayley.

SIMON
Let's partay!

The girls look at Simon with disgust.

INT. AJ AND MATT'S - HALLWAY - NIGHT

Matt answers the front door. A stream of guests pile in. Stunned, Matt checks outside to see if there are any more before heading in after them.

INT. AJ AND MATT'S - LIVING ROOM - SOFA #1 - NIGHT

The party is in full flow. Terry and Kayley are chatting. Simon casually plops himself down between them.

SIMON
Hey, guys, check this out!

(CONTINUED)

Simon enthusiastically holds up his mobile, oblivious to the annoyance he's causing. On the mobile is the selfie taken at the river in Episode One.

SIMON
Classic times. Matt fell in, and those fools jumped in after him. Nearly died of pneumonia!

Simon laughs. Kayley looks disapproving.

KAYLEY
Your friends fell in a river, and you took a selfie?

SIMON
Yeah. Awesome, isn't it!

Terry and Kayley stare at Simon, unimpressed.

MONTAGE - THE PARTY IN FULL FLOW

- A disco ball spins.
- People are engrossed in lively conversations.
- A gormless VAPE SMOKING GUY blows smoke on people.

INT. AJ AND MATT'S - LIVING ROOM - SOFA #2 - NIGHT

Matt is sat alone. Olivia sits next to him.

OLIVIA
Hey, Matt, great party! And I love your new place.

Matt smiles awkwardly.

OLIVIA
Sad about you and Polly though. Must be hard?

MATT
Nah, I'm well over that.

OLIVIA
(flirtatiously)
Good.

Matt looks nervous as Olivia moves closer.

MATT
I love this tune!

Matt starts waving his arms around in an awkward dance, and Olivia moves away, unimpressed.

OLIVIA
Yeah, it's alright.

MATT
I'm a musician myself.

OLIVIA
(flirtatious enthusiasm
returns)
Oh cool, I love musicians. What
do you play?

MATT
Songs mostly.

Olivia looks confused.

OLIVIA
(suggestive)
So, what other things you into,
Matty?

MATT
Er...I love bowling. Me and Polly
used to go all the time. Well, we
did everything together. Polly
loved bowling. Although she
always used to lose. And she
couldn't do it for too long
'cause her fingers would ache, so
we'd have to go home early.
That's if we could go at all.
Something always used to come up
on bowling night. Like the time
her sister's goldfish died.
(thinking)
Wait a minute, Polly's sister
never had a goldfish. Come to
think of it, Polly never had a
sister.
(thinking)
Maybe she didn't love bowling
that much after all.
(turns to Olivia)
What do you think?

Olivia is long gone, and the Vape Smoking Guy is sat in
her place; he shrugs his shoulders.

INT. AJ AND MATT'S - KITCHEN - NIGHT

AJ is in the corner drinking. Sally stands before Pat.

PAT
Do you know what's odd?
Sally stares at Pat, looking annoyed.

(CONTINUED)

PAT
Every other number.

Pat stares at Sally, smiling. Sally stares back, annoyed.

PAT
Bit of math humour there for you.

SALLY
Math humour?

PAT
Yeah, I'm doing a maths degree.

Sally stares back, unimpressed.

PAT
That one usually kills on campus.
(beat)
Here's one for you. You plus me
equals--

Sally leaves. Pat looks upset. AJ joins him, grinning.

PAT
I'd like to see you do better.

AJ
Challenge accepted. All I've
gotta do is flex the pecs, and
the girls come running.

AJ flexes his biceps and kisses them. Pat's unimpressed.
Olivia enters.

OLIVIA
Hey, AJ, great party!

AJ
(surprised his tactic
worked)
Hey, er, yeah.

OLIVIA
You look great. Do you work out?

AJ
Only like five times a day.

Olivia starts stroking AJ's arm, and he becomes nervous.

OLIVIA
I love a guy with muscles.

Olivia goes to take AJ's can of lager. AJ's nerves vanish,
and he looks serious, gripping the can tightly.

All the guys dance together, having a great time.

MONTAGE - THE PARTY AT AN END

-- The Vape Smoking Guy has found a VAPE SMOKING GIRL, and they blow smoke in each other's faces romantically.

-- AJ is passed out drunk in a corner, surrounded by cans.

-- The disco ball spins, but the music has ended.

INT. AJ AND MATT'S - HALLWAY - NIGHT

AJ, dazed and confused, wanders in from the living room. He bumps into Simon.

AJ
Alright, Si? Seen Matt anywhere?

SIMON
Nah, you seen Kayley?

AJ
(grinning)
Still after her, are you?

SIMON
Mate, it's a dead cert, she's like putty in my hands.

AJ
(grinning)
Well, good luck, mate.

SIMON
Cheers.

AJ heads into the kitchen, and Simon heads upstairs.

EXT. AJ AND MATT'S - GARDEN - NIGHT

Matt is smiling, sat in front of a fire burning on a barbecue. AJ enters from inside.

AJ
I've been looking for you everywhere. You alright?

MATT
I'm good.

AJ sits down next to Matt.

(CONTINUED)

AJ
Had a good night?

MATT
I've had a great night.

AJ
Did we show them how to party or
what!

MATT
Yeah.

AJ and Matt smile with satisfaction. Pat enters half-naked, wearing his marigolds and holding his toilet brush, clearly the worse for wear.

PAT
Guys, we're gonna have to get up
pretty earlier to clean up that
mess!

AJ
(friendly)
Shut up and sit down.

INT. AJ AND MATT'S - UPSTAIRS LANDING - NIGHT

Simon walks along, looking around. He pushes open the bathroom door, but it is empty. He moves on to Matt's bedroom door. He opens it.

Standing there kissing are Terry and Kayley. Simon stands there in shock. Terry notices him and gives him a disdainful look as he shuts the door in his face. Simon hangs his head in disappointment.

EXT. AJ AND MATT'S - GARDEN - NIGHT

Matt, Pat and AJ are sat by the fire; Pat is passed out. Simon enters, looking stunned and depressed.

AJ
Hey, there he is. Did you find
her?

SIMON
Nah...

Simon takes a seat.

AJ
You alright, mate?

Simon does not respond.

(CONTINUED)

AJ
Did you pull her or what?

Simon does not respond.

AJ
Simon?

SIMON
(back to chirpy self)
Turns out she was a lesbian.

They all laugh.

AJ
Never mind. Who needs girls when
you've got your best mates, 'ey?

Matt smiles, but Simon still looks a bit down.

AJ
(to Simon)
'Ey?

Simon gives in and smiles. The best friends sit happily by the fire. In the fire, the photo of Matt and Polly burns up in the flames.

SIMON (O.S.)
Matt?

MATT (O.S.)
Yeah?

SIMON (O.S.)
I think there's two people in
your room screwing.

MATT (O.S.)
What!

FADE OUT.

THE END