

Hitting on Jess

by

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EXT. TERRACE. NIGHT

Young love is in the air at a swanky Valentine's Party. The toilet flushes and out of the bathroom comes JAMES.

He glances at the glamorous JESS and CHERYL who sit on the terrace wall talking before he approaches BEN who is admiring the same view.

BEN

James! You ready to nail this?

JAMES

(petrified)

Yep, I'm all good. Totally relaxed. Cool. Chilled out completely. You know, just extremely calm and yeah...

James mistakenly picks up and drinks from a decorative vase containing a rose.

BEN

Hey, she's seen you soil your pants in PE before and you still got to play cricket on that wicket.

JAMES

Well, it's not exactly a tactic I want to try now, Ben!

Someone enters the toilet but gets punched by the smell.

BEN

OK look, I think I might be in with a chance with Cheryl...

Cheryl is not subtle about wanting Ben.

BEN (CONT'D)

So why don't I go over first and then you just copy me with Jess?

JAMES

Like I need coaching! But yeah, you can go first. Definitely.

BEN

OK my friend, it's time for a class from the Master of Ass...

Ben grabs his drink and swaggers over to the girls. He's so charming, giving both of them a kiss on the cheek.

Ben then flirts with a very tipsy Cheryl who is completely won over before he struts back to an impressed James.

BEN (CONT'D)

Oh! Oh! Protect your lungs cos I am smoking! Seriously, hurry up while it can still see.

JAMES

OK, I got this. Leave it to me.

James sets off towards the girls.

BEN

Yo James?

Ben holds up James' drink. James has walked off with a container of carrot sticks instead.

James sheepishly returns the container and takes his drink.

JAMES

They're good for your eyes?

BEN

Evidently.

James attempts a swagger on his way to the girls but trips and spills half of his drink. The girls don't notice. James looks at his dry trousers and turns to Ben, relieved.

Ben urges him to continue and turns away to get his stuff.

James takes a deep breath and approaches Jess confidently.

JAMES

Hello, Jess.

JESS

Oh my God, James! Hi...

James steps in for the kiss but slips on ice from his spilt drink and greets Jess with a flying head-butt that sends her tumbling backwards.

Jess smacks Cheryl in the face with a flailing foot and they both disappear over the back of the terrace.

James turns to the shocked guests. His trousers are wet.

JAMES

It's my drink.

There are two distant thuds as the girls land.

Ben sprays breath freshener in his mouth and down his pants as James grabs him and darts towards the exit.

JAMES (CONT'D)

They're already downstairs.