

Beta (Working Title)

By

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ON A TV SCREEN

The original Super Mario Bros. Mario jumps up some stairs and leaps for the flag at the end of the level. He walks in a castle where a character tells him the usual message, "Thank you Mario! But our princess is in another castle!"

INT. TOBY'S ROOM (NIGHT)

TOBY, a scrawny and neat college sophomore, sits on his couch holding a controller. Posters of video game characters, obscure bands, and a Carl Sagan poster cover his walls. A bouquet of flowers lays on his table. He frowns at the message in the game.

DAVE (OFF CAMERA)
It's-a me! Da-vi-do!

DAVE, Toby's roommate and best friend (think of a college-aged Seth Rogen), is leaning against the door frame holding a giant bong, which he proceeds to take a hit from.

TOBY
Oh, you're home from the party already?

DAVE
(Coughs a little, then...)
Yeah man, that shit was beat. I think I regained my virginity just from being in there for too long.

TOBY
Were you expecting much from a chess club party?

Dave sits down on the couch next to Toby.

DAVE
Hey man, Earl said they throw down sometimes! Besides, I met a model and got her number...

TOBY
(Surprised)
Whoa, a model, huh? What was she doing at the chess house?

DAVE
No idea dude. But her name's Irena, she's from like...Latvia, or some other sad, potato-filled European country. Hey, wasn't your girl supposed to come over tonight?

(CONTINUED)

TOBY

(Sighs)

She was supposed to. I haven't been able to get a hold of her though! She's not picking up her phone.

DAVE

Aww man, that's a bummer. I saw that cute dinner you had prepared downstairs, you mushy piece of shit. I still have my girl with me tonight though.

(In a deep, booming voice)

Chernobyl!

Dave takes another hit from the bong (Chernobyl), exhales, and makes an explosion noise)

TOBY

(attempts laughter, then)

This isn't the first time that she hasn't answered her phone, but it's never happened when we were supposed to be hanging out. I've been stressing out all night wondering if she's okay.

DAVE

Dude, she's fine. Don't worry about it. I'm sure she'll--

The doorbell rings. Toby jumps up, alert, and leaves the room.

INT. TOBY'S HOUSE: FIRST FLOOR

Toby hurries down the stairs and opens the door. Two drunk girls are holding up an even drunker Jamie, who is much more attractive than Toby and skimpily dressed.

JAMIE

Wooo! Thanks girls!

Jamie stumbles forward into Toby's arms. He reaches out with one hand to shut the door, then walks her over to a couch and sits her down.

TOBY

Hey, hey, are you okay?

(CONTINUED)

JAMIE
(giggling)
I'm fine!

TOBY
Where have you been? You haven't been answering your phone and I've been worried sick about you! We were supposed to have dinner tonight, I cooked you salmon and potatoes.

JAMIE
(still drunk giggling)
Aww I totally forgot! Becky invited me to go with her to Pi Theta Sigma with her, and I didn't want her to go alone. My phone was like totally dead so I didn't get your calls.

TOBY
But it was ringing.

JAMIE
(sensually, ignoring his previous comment)
Hey. Baby. The dinner was really sweet of you. I'll heat it up for lunch tomorrow, I'm pretty tired.

Jamie leans in and kisses Toby.

JAMIE
Goodnight baby.

Toby sighs as Jamie slumps over.

TOBY
Okay, goodnight darling. Let me know if you need anything.

Dave appears behind Toby on the stairs, holding one of the flowers from the bouquet.

DAVE
Hey look, I'm Mario!

Dave suddenly chomps the flower and simulates shooting fireballs from his hands, making more explosion noises.

INT. DINING HALL (MORNING)

Toby and Dave eat breakfast at the corner table.

TOBY

Pi Theta Sigma! She knows I hate those douchebags!

DAVE

Hey, at least they didn't roofie her like they did to that girl freshman year.

TOBY

But how could she forget about our dinner? Come to think of it...last week she skipped out on the movies to go to one of their parties. And a few weeks ago, she told me she was going to a girls' night at Becky's but I saw Becky that night with her boyfriend at that froyo place.

DAVE

Damn dude. Well their parties are pretty fun, so I've heard. And we're kind of the resident boners on campus.

TOBY

I party when I want to!

DAVE

Playing Mario Party doesn't count.

TOBY

(sighs and looks down)
Thanks for the morale boost, asshole. It's even worse because she's going to another one of their parties tonight. It's their annual Indian Bros and Nava-hoes party too.

DAVE

Oh man, I heard that thing is insane. Sorry, even I'd choose that over you.

TOBY

(oddly not offended by this)
Hold up man. What if we threw a crazier party?

(CONTINUED)

DAVE

Pffft. Us? Dude. I threw a birthday party in high school and three kids showed up. One was the special ed kid that I tutored. And I'm pretty sure you've NEVER thrown a party.

TOBY

Well I gotta prove to Jamie that I'm just as cool as those meathead frat bros. I gotta top them.

DAVE

Alright, well can I invite Irena? She totally seemed into me last night. She probably has some friends that can come too.

TOBY

Of course dude! The more people, the merrier.

DAVE

Alright, well just don't invite...

INT. TOBY'S ROOM

DAVE

(seems to continue from last sentence)

All of your Facebook friends!?

TOBY

Chillax man, they're not ALL gonna come.

DAVE

That's still a crazy number of people to tell man! Do you know how these things work? You tell a shitload of people, and then those people tell a shitload of people, and--

TOBY

(shrugs)

Do you really think we have that many friends? I'm telling you, this won't be out of control. Besides, even if it does turn into a rager, Jamie will just be that much more impressed. When she sees

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

TOBY (cont'd)
her nice guy boyfriend can host a
kickass party too, she won't be
able to resist me. The only frat
she'll ever want to visit is Pi
Theta Toby.

DAVE
Maybe dude. I just hope it doesn't
get too insane, that might freak me
out when I'm high.

INT. TOBY'S ROOM (AFTERNOON)

TOBY
(On the phone)
Hey baby. Did you get my text
about my party tonight?
(pause)
Oh, you did! Cool. I know they're
that crazy Nava-hoes party tonight,
but I'd love if you could stop by.
(pause)
Oh, really? You'll come to my
place instead? That's awesome,
I'll be sure to show you a good
time.
(pause)
Alright, I love you too babe. I'll
see you tonight.

Toby hangs up the phone and smiles.

INT. TOBY'S HOUSE: LIVING ROOM (NIGHT)

Toby, Dave, a couple of their out-of-shape stoner friends,
and a quiet Asian kid, YOSHIRO, stand around the living
room, which has been cleared out and has a pong table in it.
It looks like the guys have been in the same spots for a
while now.

The only thing keeping the room from being in complete
silence is the sound of Yoshiro chewing some potato chips.

DAVE
Okay, nevermind. I had nothing to
worry about. We have NO friends.

TOBY
Yoshiro said his friends are
coming. And you invited the chess
club guys right?

(CONTINUED)

DAVE

Yeah, once the chess club and foreign students get here then this will be a real turn up! Tell Jamie to bring her hot friends.

TOBY

Jamie's coming late, she has to do her makeup. But that works out. It gives the party time to get going before she gets here. If she saw this sausagefest, she would dump me on the spot.

DAVE

I feel like it's only a sausage "fest" if there's a lot of sausages. This is like a small gathering of lonely sausages.

The doorbell rings. Toby's face lights up and he runs to open the door. He opens it and two well-dressed guys walk in.

TOBY

Hey! Glad you could make it!

Toby shuts the door and begins to walk back to the others.

TOBY

Hey guys, these are my fri--

Toby is cut off by the sound of the door bell ringing again.

TOBY

Oh! I'll get it!

Toby walks back to the door and this time lets in a group of three girls.

TOBY

Right this way!

The girls giggle and Toby begins to lead them to the others, but just as he gets there the doorbell rings again.

Montage of Toby letting in various groups of people. The first group looks somewhat nerdy. Party music has started playing.

CUT TO:

Another group of girls being led in, but this time the lights in the house are out.

(CONTINUED)

CUT TO:

Another group is led in, this time a lot of people are in the house and Toby looks somewhat surprised.

CUT TO:

A wide-eyed Toby lets in another group. This time the house is packed with people and looks like it can barely contain any more. The montage ends.

INT. TOBY'S HOUSE: LIVING ROOM (CONTINUOUS)

Toby wades his way through the sea of people that has now enveloped his living room. He struggles and awkwardly squeezes past people, constantly apologizing, until he reaches Dave.

TOBY

(yelling over the music)

Dude! This is out of hand! I don't think our house can physically fit another human body!

DAVE

I told you not to invite all your Facebook friends! We're violating like seven different fire safety codes right now! And I'm bugging the fuck out!

TOBY

The Craigslist post was probably a bad idea.

DAVE

You posted about this on Craigslist!?

Dave raises his arm as if to punch Toby, but then Dave's face suddenly lights up.

DAVE

Irena!

IRENA has appeared through the crowd and stands with them now. She is tall and slender and...hideously ugly. She is as butterface as it gets. She is joined by a prettier girl with soft features, SASHA.

IRENA

(in a thick Eastern European accent)

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

IRENA (cont'd)
'Ello Dav-eed! This party is
crazy!

DAVE
Yeah, you know, I like to think I
host a pretty mean party. Meet my
co-host, Toby!

Irena smiles and shakes Toby's hand. Toby wears a smile that poorly masks his confusion and disgust. Sasha smiles and shakes his hand too, and Toby has a genuine smile on when greeting her.

DAVE
Let's go get you a drink!

Dave and Irena turn to leave. As Dave turns, he makes eye contact with Toby, who is back to looking disgusted.

TOBY
(whispering loudly)
You said she was a model!

DAVE
(shrugging)
She's a hand model, man.

Toby looks perplexed, then turns to Sasha.

TOBY
So, nice to meet you Sasha! Do you
want me to show you where the
drinks are too?

SASHA
(In a much prettier accent
than Irena)
That would be lovely! You have
quite the gathering here, Tobby.
(She mispronounces Toby on
accident.)

TOBY
Yeah, well--

Int. Toby's Kitchen

As they the kitchen, Toby sees three BROS carry a keg in through the back door and set it down, causing him to stop mid-sentence.

(CONTINUED)

BRO #1

Who's doing the first keg stand of
the night!?

A group of people push Yoshiro toward the bros. The whole room cheers and a confused Yoshiro is lifted up by his feet to do a kegstand.

CROWD

Chug! Chug! Chug! Chug!

The crowd cheers as Yoshiro is put down. High-fives all around. Toby smiles at this, knowing people are having fun.

INT. TOBY'S HOUSE: LIVING ROOM

Toby wades through the mass of people again. Sasha has stayed behind in the kitchen. He comes upon a table surrounded by SKETCHY-LOOKING KIDS. One of them is snorting a huge rail of white powder while the others cheer.

TOBY

Whoa! Whoa! What is that? Get
that off my table!

SKETCHY KID #2

Off the table and into my brain!

Sketchy Kid #2 proceeds to snort his own rail, make a "woo!" sound, and run off.

SKETCHY KID #1

Niiice!

The sketchy kids all disperse, and Toby attempts to wipe down the table with a tissue he pulls from his pocket. He looks less pleased than he did in the kitchen.

Screaming can be heard off camera. Toby jolts up and heads for the dining room. Across a mass of people, he sees a guy swinging on a chandelier and spilling a beer all over everyone below him.

Before he has a chance to make it over there, Yoshiro suddenly pushes past him through the crowd. Yoshiro then throws up all over the back of an attractive girl. Her and her friends all scream.

TOBY

Holy shit...

Toby pushes through the crowd to Dave, who is now standing by the front door letting even more people in.

(CONTINUED)

TOBY

Dude, shit is starting to hit the fan.

DAVE

Dude, I know, I tried telling them to stop.

TOBY

What?

DAVE

The people throwing shit at the fan. Someone deciding to throw a beer can at the fan to see who it would fly into, and now they won't stop. It's like a game.

Toby glances over and sees a crowd of people chucking half-filled beers can at into the ceiling fan and watching them whiz across the room, usually hitting people in the face or back of the head.

TOBY

Oh. Well. I mean the party in general. And Jamie isn't here yet.

DAVE

Don't worry about it man, this party is so crazy that she's gonna drop her pants for you the second she walks in.

Suddenly Dave's face changes to an expression of horror.

DAVE

My baby!

Dave lunges to the ground and begins to pick up pieces of a shattered Chernobyl. He's frantic, as if tending to a seriously injured child.

DAVE

Which one of you monsters did this!? This is madness! Madness!

Toby frowns. He walks upstairs to let Dave grieve and to get some a moment of piece

INT. TOBY'S ROOM

Toby opens the door to his room but there is a threesome taking place on his couch. The people don't even notice him. Toby's eye twitches a little and he quietly shuts the door and walks into the hallway.

He takes out his phone and dials. A split screen opens up and we can see Jamie surrounded by mostly naked guys and girls wearing headresses and with paint marking all over.

TOBY
Hello...Jamie?

JAMIE
Hey baby! I'm pre-gaming with
friends now! I'll be over soon!

Toby hears someone imitating a Native American call in the background.

TOBY
Are you at Pi Theta Sigma?

JAMIE
What? No, I'm--

TOBY
Baby, it's okay if you are , you
dont have to lie. I was just
hoping you'd stop by.

JAMIE
I am! Indian Bros and Nava-hoes is
the pregame! Your party is the
main event, baby!

TOBY
Uh okay baby. Well then I'll see
you soon.

Toby hangs up the phone and looks annoyed. He hears a giant crash come form downstairs, causing him to bolt down.

INT. TOBY'S HOUSE: LIVING ROOM

Toby reaches the bottom of the stairs to discover the chandelier has fallen from the ceiling and shattered into a million tiny pieces. Absurdly drunk people surround it and cheer.

(CONTINUED)

He wades through the crowd, observing the people who have gathered in his house. A couple homeless-looking men raid his pantry for food. Before he can say something to them, he notices a kid who looks no older than 10 puking his brains out.

Toby then looks up to see Dave hoisted above the crowd by Yoshiro and BRO #2 from the kitchen. Dave looks a little confused and still holds a piece of Chernobyl in his hands, but his mood brightens when he hears:

BRO #2

Hey! Listen up everybody! This dude knows how to throw a fuckin' sweet party! Let's give it up!

The whole crowd starts chanting Dave's name. Dave pumps his fist and surfs across the crowd. Toby frowns.

TOBY

(to himself)

Hey! I'm throwing this party too!

Toby is shoved out of the way by people who want a chance to touch Dave and carry him across the crowd. Toby looks dejected. Sasha walks up to him and puts a hand on his shoulder.

SASHA

Don't worry, I know you're doing good job hosting this shindig too.

TOBY

Shindig?

(laughs)

That's cute. Nobody in America actually says that.

SASHA

(giggles, embarrassed)

Oh. I tried to sound hip and cool.

Toby smiles at her. She's cute in her own funny way.

JAMIE (OFF CAMERA)

Toby!

Toby looks up to see Jamie has just arrived with two frat bros, LOGAN and BRENT. Jamie's face is covered in smudged war paint on one cheek. Logan stands a little behind Brent, so we are unable to see his face clearly.

TOBY
Oh! Hey baby!

They hug and kiss. Sasha recedes into the background.

 JAMIE
Sorry I'm late! The pregame was pretty fun but we just had to come as soon as we heard how crazy your party was! This is Logan and this is Brent, they're in Pi Theta Sigma.

She seems pretty drunk again. Toby wears an uneasy expression.

 TOBY
Oh, that's cool. Nice to meet you guys.

 BRENT
Yeah.

Logan is busy looking into the house, trying to see the craziness. After a few moments, he realizes Toby said something.

 LOGAN
Oh, sup dude. Sick party. Where can I find a brew?

 TOBY
In the kitchen.

The two frat bros nod and go off. Jamie gives them a flirty giggle as they walk away, which doesn't go unnoticed by Toby.

 JAMIE
Oh my god. I had no idea you could throw such a sweet party. Where has this party animal been?

 TOBY
Listen, Jamie, I--

Toby is suddenly cut off by police sirens. Red and blue lights flash outside the windows.

 TOBY
Oh shit.

Jamie gasps. Groans and screams are heard coming from inside the house. People run out the houses in endless numbers. Some just yell as they leave, but Toby overhears a few things.

PARTY-GOER #1
That was awesome!

PARTY-GOER #2
Most fun I've ever had!

PART-GOER #3
I lost my virginity on the washing machine!

As more people begin to file out, Toby begins to smile, his face still lit up by police lights. Dave walks up and joins him, with Irena draped on his shoulder. He has white powder under his nose.

DAVE
We are so boned, brother.

TOBY
Hey, people had fun though. And that's pretty cool, right?

Brent and Logan emerge from the crowd and stand near Jamie. In this light, Toby can see that Logan's war paint on his face is slightly smudged, and the colorful smudges on Jamie's face match the colors and pattern of Logan's paint.

JAMIE
Aww, I didn't get to enjoy the party!

TOBY
Yeah, and you won't get to enjoy any more of mine.

JAMIE
(confused)
W...what?

TOBY
I'm not an idiot. I shouldn't have to try to impress you for you to actually hang out with me instead of with these losers. And I see the paint on your face. Are you serious?

JAMIE

What do you mean? Becky
accidentally got some on me when we
were taking pictures, I--

Toby puts a beer can in her hand and pushes her out the door. She stumbles and then gives the beer can a confused look. Suddenly, a police officer walks up to her.

OFFICER

Open container of alcohol? I'm
going to need to see some ID
please.

Jamie looks back at Toby in fury. She begins to scream and flails in his direction, but the officer grabs her arms and begins to take out his handcuffs.

OFFICER

Calm down ma'am! Calm down!

DAVE

(yelling to her as the officer
takes her away)
Suck a dick! A frat dick!

INT. TOBY'S HOUSE: LIVING ROOM (LATER)

Toby, Dave, Irena, Sasha, Yoshiro, and a couple others remain in the house. A cop finishes writing a few tickets that he hands to Toby and walks out of the house.

DAVE

What's the damage?

TOBY

Let's just say I think you should
reallocate your drug money for a
long time.

Dave winces and walks to the other side of the room to talk to Irena. Toby looks over the ticket. Yoshiro walks past him in a haze to the door.

TOBY

Hey, thanks for coming buddy. You
feeling alright?

Yoshiro turns and we see vomit coating the front of his shirt. He smiles and gives a thumbs up and walks out. Toby looks back down at the ticket. Sasha walks over to him.

(CONTINUED)

SASHA

That policeman sure was angry.

TOBY

Yeah. Turns out we had over 1000
people in an around our house
though. Can you believe that?

SASHA

(giggles)

That's incredible!

Another cop walks by. This one is thin and moustached.

SASHA

That one kind of looks like Luigi.

Toby looks up with a smile.

TOBY

Yeah, he kinda does, doesn't he?
Hey, you know who Luigi is?

SASHA

Of course, I love the Mario Bros!
I grew up playing those games with
my brother.

TOBY

(still smiling)

I have the original Super Mario
Bros upstairs. You wanna play?

Sasha nods eagerly and they head up the stairs.

ON A TV SCREEN

Mario defeats Bowser and runs through a door into another
room. The new room contains the princess. Video game
victory noises are heard and the screen goes black.