

Pub Garden

(Draft 3)

written by

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EXT. PUB GARDEN - AFTERNOON

It's a sweltering summer's afternoon. Dolly across from behind a wall to a table in a pub garden, where two friends are sat. TOBY downs his pint, and bangs the glass down on the table, letting out a loud belch.

CHARLIE

Can you not? I can smell those egg sandwiches you had.

TOBY

Right, another two I reckon. Your round, isn't it?

CHARLIE

It's been my round for the last two.

TOBY

Fair enough. Hey! Um, 'scuse me?

He clicks over to a nearby WAITRESS. She walks over looking slightly offended, but soon puts on a false smile.

WAITRESS

Yes sir?

TOBY

Another two Carlsberg's, thanks.

WAITRESS

Of course.

TOBY

Woah, hold on - errr, yeah I'll get a bowl of chips, too.

WAITRESS

Bowl of chips and two Carlsberg's - got it.

TOBY

And just make it a bit snappier this time.

WAITRESS

Excuse me?

TOBY

It's just, we were waiting quite a while for the last two. Just bring them out a bit faster, if you can.

WAITRESS

Sorry?

TOBY

Don't be! Look, I'll time you -
ready, set, go!

WAITRESS

Here's a thought - how about you
get up, walk to the bar, and order
them there?

TOBY

Hmm could do - oh! Here's another
thought though. How about you do
your job! Clock's ticking!

The WAITRESS gives him a scathing look and storms inside.
TOBY chuckles, as CHARLIE stares at him.

CHARLIE

You're un-fucking-believable, you
know that?

TOBY

Naw, that's sweet of you!

CHARLIE

You realise she's gonna spit in
those drinks now. In fact, with the
way you've been talking to her I
wouldn't be surprised if she's been
doing it all day.

TOBY

Sorry, but these people need to be
told. It took her a good 15 minutes
to bring those last ones out.

CHARLIE

Maybe because it's a Saturday?
They're busy, you twat.

CHARLIE's phone buzzes, and she quickly looks at the screen,
texting something short before placing it down on the table
again.

TOBY

How long does it take to pour a
couple of pints, that's all I'm
saying. Maybe I did go a bit over
the top though... Do you reckon
she'd still give me her number if I
asked?

CHARLIE
You're joking.

TOBY shrugs. AMY sits down next to CHARLIE, placing a pint of cider down.

AMY
Alright? Absolutely baking today!
How far behind am I?

CHARLIE
This is only our second.

TOBY points, outraged, at her pint.

TOBY
Sorry - how come she gets hers so quickly?

AMY
You can order at the bar, you know?

TOBY scowls.

TOBY
Could've got us a drink while you were there. Selfishness, is what that is.

CHARLIE
I thought Tess was coming?

AMY
She is, when she gets off. Think she's bringing her mate along.

TOBY's face lights up with excitement.

TOBY
Mate? What mate? Tess's mate, who's that?

AMY
Think he's called Dave?

TOBY slumps back, grumpily.

AMY (CONT'D)
What's the matter?

TOBY
Why do that, Amy?

AMY

Do what?

TOBY

Why get my hopes up? You know full well if you say "Tess is bringing a mate", I'm going to automatically assume it's the hot, easy girl type of mate, not the prick called Dave type of mate.

AMY

Wow, Toby.

TOBY

You say something like that, I get a dopamine rush. All these thoughts go racing through my head. Is she blonde or brunette? Whats her bra size? Is she single? If not, is she at least partial to a spot of polyamery slash infidelity?

AMY

You can hear yourself, can't you?

TOBY

Look, just be a little more specific in future, that's all I ask. It's bad enough both of you are off the market.

CHARLIE

"Off the market"? We're gay, not dodgy cod at the fishmongers, you prick.

TOBY

Look, I didn't mean it like that - I just meant you've just got to choose your words carefully.

AMY

I've got a few words I'm thinking of using very carelessly right now.

CHARLIE's phone buzzes again.

AMY (CONT'D)

That Tess? What's she said?

CHARLIE

No, it's no one.

The WAITRESS arrives, placing down the two pints. TOBY stops the timer on his phone, peering down at it.

TOBY

Well, you're certainly making progress. You've knocked a fair few minutes off, new record! Keep up the good work.

The WAITRESS gives him a fake smile and storms off. TOBY turns around and shouts to her.

TOBY (CONT'D)

Don't forget the chips!

He turns back to face the other two, who are glaring at him.

TOBY (CONT'D)

You see that? She was giving me eyes - I think she's warming up to me.

CHARLIE rolls her eyes.

CHARLIE

So, where are we going tonight?

AMY

Well, I reckon we start at Pryzm, stay there for a couple of hours and then-

TOBY lets out a loud moan.

AMY (CONT'D)

Yes, Chewbacca?

TOBY

Ooh, why are you lot so obsessed with going out every saturday? Come on. We've got the perfect recipe for a great night right here- just a few friends getting sloshed at their local.

CHARLIE

That's exactly what we do every other night, Toby. Sorry, that's exactly what you do every night, and we have to pick you up at 1 in the morning when you're too drunk to walk home.

TOBY

I just don't see the appeal. What's at the clubs that isn't here already?

AMY

Good music. Dancing. People. Not having to listen to your incessant babbling? I could go on.

TOBY

People are pricks though, come on guys, let's just stay here tonight. Plus that Waitress is gonna be very upset if I leave her in the lurch.

CHARLIE's phone buzzes again.

TOBY (CONT'D)

Right, Jesus Christ Charlie, who is that? Who?

CHARLIE

Who?

TOBY

That bloody mystery text person! That phone's been going off all day and every time it buzzes, you start acting all shifty.

CHARLIE

I do not.

TOBY

What is it, some other friends you'd rather be hanging out with? Someplace else you've got to be?

CHARLIE

No!

TOBY

Then who the hell is it?

CHARLIE

Okay... look, I- I didn't want to say anything before, but... I've sort of been seeing someone.

AMY

That's great!

TOBY

Charlie, you dirty dog! Who's the unlucky lady? Is she a total freak? I bet she's a total freak-

CHARLIE

It's Dani! It's... its Dani.

TOBY looks shocked.

TOBY

Dani? Dani Dani? My Dani?! Dani!?! Oh christ, Charlie, what the fuck!

AMY

Alright, let's calm down-

CHARLIE

I know it sounds bad! Look, Tobes, I was gonna tell you-

TOBY

When? You were gonna tell me when exactly? When you adopt a small Indian child together, when- when your sodding sex tape gets leaked?

AMY

Oh come on Tobes, you broke up with dani years ago. You were only together 4 months, I think this is a bit of an overreaction.

TOBY

I'll show you an overreaction in a minute!

AMY

Doesn't make any sense.

TOBY

I can't believe my own mate would do this to me. This is textbook betrayal.

CHARLIE

Come on mate, I've said I'm sorry-

TOBY

It's like you've stolen my, my-well, property isn't quite the right word, but still-

AMY

Just- just stop there. Stop right there.

TOBY

You know what I mean! I'm just saying, this violates the bro code. You know what, I can't deal with this right now.

TOBY downs his drink and stands up.

TOBY (CONT'D)

I'm going for a piss.

CHARLIE

Toby, mate, I'm-

TOBY

Don't mate me. You've already mated enough. Judas.

He storms into the pub. AMY cringes.

CHARLIE

Well he took that better than I thought.

AMY

Ignore him. At least he knows now.

TESS and DAVE arrive, sitting down opposite the other two.

TESS

Heya you two - you remember Dave? From our last flat party?

AMY

Heya!

CHARLIE

Alright mate? Hiya Tess.

TESS

Where's Tobes?

AMY

In the toilet. He might be quite a while.

CHARLIE exhales and rubs her face.

TESS

What's happened?

AMY

Charlie violated the bro code and stole Toby's property. Toby's own words.

TESS

What?

CHARLIE

Nothing, look - I'm sort of seeing Dani at the moment, nothing serious, just - a couple of dates.

TESS

I bet Toby took that brilliantly.

CHARLIE

You know him too well.

AMY

Look, I'll get some drinks in. Try and lighten the mood. What do you lot want?

TESS

Whatever cider they've got on tap, thanks.

AMY

Charlie?

CHARLIE

I'm fine, thanks Ames.

AMY

Okay, Dave, what can I get you?

DAVE

Oh, can I get a non-alcoholic lager thanks?

AMY

Sure, see you guys in a minute.

She walks off. There is a brief silence.

TESS

So... you and Dani then?

CHARLIE

I'd rather we'd just leave it.

TESS

Okay, okay.

CHARLIE

So Dave - how've you been? Been a while since the party.

DAVE

Yeah, yeah... well, not great, to be honest.

CHARLIE

Oh no, sorry - what's up?

DAVE

Ahh, nothing much. Just been having mild mood swings. Bouts of crippling anxiety, manic depression- same old, same old.

CHARLIE

Oh- God- I'm sorry to hear that.

DAVE

Ahh, it's nothing really. Cheers for letting me come along though, guys. It er - it means a lot.

He smiles shyly. CHARLIE and TESS smile as TESS puts her arm round him.

TESS

We're lucky to have you here. There she is!

AMY returns with the drinks, she passes them around and sits down. Soon after, TOBY returns.

CHARLIE stands up.

CHARLIE

Tobes, look, I'm sorry, I- I should've told you-

TOBY

No, just... look... I did some thinking while I was draining the old python, and I've come to the conclusion that - although I may not be happy about it - I guess she's... public domain now.

AMY

(under breath) Jesus wept.

TOBY

You know I'm no good with words- it's- what I mean is... maybe I overreacted.

CHARLIE

So... we're good?

TOBY

Yeah, yeah it's all good mate.

The two awkwardly stand there, looking at each other nervously with weak smiles. AMY sighs.

AMY

Right, either kiss eachother or sit back down, anything to break this weird tension.

The two immediately jump back into their seats. The WAITRESS arrives with the chips.

WAITRESS

Here you are, sir.

TOBY

Ah, thanks. About time too.

She scowls and walks off. TOBY goes to eat a chip, but TESS smacks it out of his hand.

TOBY (CONT'D)

Ow! What the hell was that for?

TESS

Don't eat them.

TOBY

Why?

TESS

Look.

TOBY

What? Is... wait, is that- has she spat in my chips?! She has! She's gobbed in my fucking chips!

CHARLIE

I mean, I can't say you didn't have it coming mate.

TOBY

That is fucking disgusting. Do you know how unhygienic that is?

(MORE)

TOBY (CONT'D)

What if she'd had some sort of virus - i don't know where that mouth of hers has been! You know what, I'm gonna say something.

CHARLIE

Oh come on.

TOBY

What?

CHARLIE

You know you asked for it mate. Just leave it.

TOBY

Never tell a victim they were asking for it.

TESS

Oh, so all of a sudden you're a me too activist?

TOBY shoots her a look of disgust, and angrily snaps his fingers. The WAITRESS walks over slowly.

TOBY

Excuse me! Yep, you, hi - that's it, over here, all the way. Hi.

WAITRESS

Is there something I can help you with sir?

TOBY

Uh, yeah, yeah there is. Do you have something you'd like to tell me?

WAITRESS

I don't think so sir.

TOBY

The chips.

WAITRESS

Are they too salty sir?

TOBY

Hmm, that's not really the issue is it?

WAITRESS

Sorry, I'm not sure what you're talking about sir.

TOBY

Oh I think you're sure. I think you're very sure.

WAITRESS

Sir, what are you trying to say?

TOBY

(through gritted teeth) You know exactly what I'm trying to say!

WAITRESS

Sir, I need to get back to the kitchen. If you have any complaints about the food that aren't just incoherent babbling, I suggest you take them up with the chef.

She smiles and walks off, leaving TOBY gobsmacked.

AMY

Ouch. You just got told.

TOBY

This is a gross injustice. She shouldn't be working here. Well that's it. She can forget ever having a night of intense passion with me, that ship has sailed.

TESS

Woe is her!

CHARLIE

You need to start being less of an asshole to people mate. This is a sign.

TOBY

This is a sign that manners and hygiene in hospitality are going down the drain! It used to be that the customer's always right. Now it's- now it's-

AMY

The customer's always a cunt?

TOBY sighs, sits back and drinks his pint in silence. Two men walk over to a nearby table and sit down.

The WAITRESS comes over, and one of them stands up, giving her a hug. Their voices are muffled. Only CHARLIE notices them. The WAITRESS leaves to get their drinks.

TESS

So, where are we all going tonight?

AMY

Apparently, we're staying right here.

TESS

What? But it's student night at OMG, it'll be fun, we should-

TOBY

We don't have to go anywhere, come on- let's just enjoy eachother's company instead of antisocially dancing to shit music.

TESS

Well, it doesn't really look like you're enjoying anyone's company today, Toby, so...

TOBY

Maybe that's because I'm having a bit of a shit day, Tess.

TESS

Oh for god's sake Toby, if this is just about the Waitress spitting in your food-

TOBY

No, it's not just about that actually. Nothing's going right, first I find out my backstabbing so called mate is bonking my ex -

CHARLIE

We've been through this!

TOBY

- then Tess brings along some specy twat that nobody wants here, and to top it all off that bitch of a Waitress decides to spit in my food!

(MORE)

TOBY (CONT'D)

I try to be upbeat, I really do, but everyone's making it very difficult for me - all I wanted to do was have a nice friendly piss up with you lot, but if you want to go and get yourselves spiked at some shit club then be my guest and fuck off. And take "Dave" with you.

Everyone stares at him. TESS stands up.

TESS

Come on, DAVE. I can't stand to be around this piece of shit for one more second.

DAVE slowly stands up.

DAVE

I- I've gotta get going now anyways. Thanks for the beer, Amelia - nice to see you all again.

He starts to walk off.

TOBY

Thank Christ for that.

TESS

What's wrong with you? He's having a rough time at the moment, and I invited him out because he needs a laugh. He needs his mates.

TOBY

Well, sorry, but- but I don't know him do I? I'm not his mate.

TESS

No. And you're not mine either. See you guys. Dave! Wait up.

She storms off.

She leaves. AMY waits until he's gone, then turns to TOBY and slaps him across the face.

TOBY

Shit!

AMY

Why do you have to be so fucking horrible?

(MORE)

AMY (CONT'D)

You've always acted like you don't give a shit about anyone, but I'm starting to think you actually don't. So what if your ex has moved on? Get over it. It's hardly surprising.

AMY gets up to leave. TOBY walks over to her.

TOBY

What exactly do you mean by that Amy?

AMY

Sod off, Toby.

TOBY

No, no, come on, what do you mean, "it's hardly surprising"?

AMY

What do you think I meant? You're blatantly and consistently misogynistic, homophobic, narcissistic and downright spiteful. You're a walking red flag, Toby, and I don't think you're ever going to change. In fact, you're only going to get worse. So you can sit here on your own, drinking yourself into oblivion without the only mates that have ever accepted- no, sorry - tolerated you-

TOBY

How fucking dare you speak to me like that.

The WAITRESS walks up behind him.

WAITRESS

Sir, can you please lower your voice, you're disturbing the other customers.

TOBY

No. No I can't lower my voice actually. And by the way, maybe instead of spitting in people's food, you should work on being less of a shit waitress. Fuck off back inside and worry about yourself.

TOBY spits on the ground, then turns back to AMY. The man who hugged the WAITRESS gets up and slowly walks over behind TOBY, touching the WAITRESS gently on the arm. They have a brief, quiet conversation while TOBY rants on, before she walks off.

TOBY (CONT'D)

What are you still doing here then?
You know, I can't believe I thought
any of you were my real mates.
You're just -

The man taps him on the shoulder. TOBY slowly turns around.

TOBY (CONT'D)

I told you to go back inside and
worry about yourself -

He stops talking when he sees the man standing there instead of the WAITRESS.

MAN

I don't appreciate you speaking to
my daughter like that.

TOBY

I - I wasn't- didn't mean to -

The man puts his hands on TOBY's shoulders and head-butts him. He falls to the floor, his broken nose streaming blood. AMY steps back in horror, covering her mouth. CHARLIE stands up, shocked. The man kneels down and punches TOBY five times in the face. CHARLIE and AMY are both shouting over for him to stop. The man gets up and leaves, his friend trailing behind him. CHARLIE rushes over to TOBY, who is lying still and breathing raspy.

CHARLIE

Toby? Tobes? Jesus Christ - can you
hear me Toby? Toby?

Fade to black and roll credits as AMY and CHARLIE's voices and TOBY's breathing can still be heard.