

THE LAMPSHADE
The College Years
by
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Play # 10 : It's A Wonderful, Miracle on Elm Street

The Lampshade

Episode 10 : It's a Wonderful Miracle on Elm Street

INT. JOHNNY & B'S DORMROOM - NIGHT

Same old dorm room that we all know and love. Nothing spectacular going on, a few scattered beer cans, maybe the bong is making a repeat appearance on the desk complete with lampshade.

Johnny enters carrying Mare on his back. They are both dressed somewhat nicely, Mare is carrying her heels.

MARE

You're the best, Johnny.

JOHNNY

I couldn't have you walking all the way from the car in those heels.

MARE

(hopping off his back)
It was an excellent ride.

JOHNNY

I think usually the person rides the mare, though.
(beat)
That didn't sound right.

MARE

It's okay, I still think you're cute.

Mare kisses Johnny. She breaks the kiss and tosses her heels over by the bed, then she kisses him again.

JOHNNY

Mare, you know I have a meeting to get to.

MARE

Can't you be a few minutes late?

JOHNNY

What's gotten into you?

MARE

A romantic dinner, can be the most powerful aphrodisiac.

JOHNNY

But you got chicken fingers.

MARE

Well, then you're my most powerful aphrodisiac.

Mare kisses him again.

JOHNNY

Mare, I really have to go.

(kiss)

Really.

(kiss)

Mare... I'm sorry, but I could fail my class if I don't go to this meeting.

(kiss then pleading)

Mare...

MARE

Sorry, you're right. Go to your meeting.

JOHNNY

You sure?

MARE

Go.

Mare goes and starts to put back on her heels.

MARE (CONT'D)

It's fine, just hurry back.

JOHNNY

I will, and then we can definitely pick up where we left off.

MARE

Definitely.

Johnny kisses her quickly and rushes out.

MARE (CONT'D)

Where did we leave off?

Mare goes back to putting on her shoes, then wonders why she's bothering. She shakes her head and pulls back off her heel.

Suddenly B comes rushing in wearing a bath towel as a cape and mask, he is laughing.

B
They will never catch me, I leave
my mark again...
(sees Mare)
Mare! What's up? You wanna go and
make some craziness? We can be
Mare and B-urro, Burro.

MARE
No thanks, B.

B
What's wrong? Where's Johnny?

MARE
He had to bail after our date, he
had a meeting to get to.

B
And leave you to over analyze the
situation.

MARE
Yup, left me to make something out
of nothing.

B
Which is what is it. Nothing.
Let's play.

MARE
B, what do you think things would
have been like, if me and Johnny
never got together?

B
Well, he probably would've ended up
with Gwen, and would've been
miserable.

MARE
And I would've ended up with you,
by default. I mean, not by
default, we might've found
something in common.

B
I'd say default would be an
accurate assessment.

MARE
Yeah. That'd be crazy.

B
Yeah, crazy.

Mare and B look off into the nothingness and start to imagine what life would be like under these different circumstances.

Lights change.

Music rises "TWILIGHT ZONE THEME"

B and Mare sit down on the couch and snuggle.

Music goes down, lights return to normal.

MARE
This is nice.

B
Yeah, but you know what would be nicer.

MARE
B, seriously can you go 3 seconds without thinking about sex?

B
No. Seriously.

MARE
But it's all you ever want to do.

B
But sometimes I want to do it in different ways. That's like thinking about something else, right?

MARE
Not really.

B
Well, what about in different costumes.
(Mare is about to answer)
No wait, answer that in a second.

B goes into the closet.

MARE
I don't think anyone else is as preoccupied with sex as he is.

Door suddenly flies open and Johnny rushes in and shuts door behind him. His clothes are somewhat dissheveled, and he is breathing hard.

JOHNNY

Gwen is so preoccupied with sex!

MARE

Hey, Johnny.

JOHNNY

Oh hey, Mare. I wasn't interrupting?

MARE

No, it's alright that you're here. I gotta get outta here. B never stops.

JOHNNY

Neither does Gwen, I'm sooo tired.

Johnny collapses on his bed.

MARE

You wanna sneak out of here?

JOHNNY

Yeah, let's go.

They go to sneak out the front door, with Mare in the lead.

Mare opens the door to find Gwen just outside. Johnny drops to the floor.

GWEN

Mare.

MARE

Gwen!

Mare quickly slams the door on Gwen.

GWEN

(from outside)

Ow!!

Johnny grabs a blanket and covers himself.

Mare reopens the door for Gwen.

GWEN (CONT'D)

Ow! I'm seeing stars.

MARE

Sorry, Gwen. I thought you were
Gwen Stefani and I hate No Doubt.
(Shaking fists at the air)
You witch, Gwen, ruining Scot
Weiland's career.

GWEN

Have you seen Johnny?

Gwen starts swaying strangely and keeps shaking her head
trying to shake off the hit from the door.

MARE

Um.. I think he.. Are you alright?

GWEN

I feel a little..

Gwen laughs and then falls onto the couch.

JOHNNY

(getting up from under the
blanket)
That was close.

B

(from closet)
Mare, I'm here I come.

Mare drops to the floor and covers herself with the blanket.

B jumps out dressed in some ridiculous costume.

Johnny quickly slaps B.

B (CONT'D)

Johnny!
(another slap)
Ow! Stop it!

JOHNNY

Just don't look!

B

Huh?

JOHNNY

Close your eyes, Mare said so.
(B does)
She told me to tell you, she wanted
to play Hide-N' Seek. So go back
in the closet and put on your
blindfold and then find her.

B
Ooh, she's so kinky.

B goes back into closet. Mare gets up.

MARE
Good thinking. Now let's get outta here.

JOHNNY
Wait, what about Gwen?

MARE
Maybe we can move her back to her room.

JOHNNY
Right, good idea.

Johnny and Mare start to pick her up.

GWEN
(still incoherent)
Johnny, are you ready again?

JOHNNY
Oh god, no I'm not. We gotta go.

MARE
Okay.

Johnny and Mare make a break for it.

B comes back in with blindfold.

B
I'm ready.

GWEN
(still squinting to get
good eye focus)
You're ready again?

B
Yes, I am.

GWEN
(squinting at B)
Is this who I think it is?

B
It's gotta be, right?

B makes a crazy growl. B and Gwen grab each other and fall down behind the couch, and make crazy animal noises. Some random clothes are thrown.

GWEN
(from behind couch)
Oooh, that was fast!

B
(from behind couch)
Yeah it was! I mean, hey, I'll
show you fast!

More crazy noises until...

The lights and music go all crazy again and...

We find B and Mare back in the places and outfits they were before the fantasy sequence started.

B (CONT'D)
That would've been weird.

MARE
Yeah. Do you really think about
sex that much?

B
You have no idea.

Knock at the door.

GWEN
(from outside)
You guys there?

B
It's Gwen, she wants to bust me for
the drunken stuff I was doing in
the hall.

MARE
B, she never busts you.

B
But maybe she's getting in trouble
for never busting me, I better
hide.

B runs into the closet.

MARE

That guy's crazy.

(opens door)

Hey, Gwen. The guys aren't here.

GWEN

Of course not. You know, with all the running around we do here, doesn't it seem like we spend as much time here as the guys.

MARE

Yeah. It's almost like we live here.

GWEN

Yeah.

B

(coming back)

Is she gone? Gwen! I didn't do it!

GWEN

That wasn't suspicious.

MARE

B, you're really bad at not looking guilty.

B

It's cuz I'm usually guilty.

GWEN

B, you didn't even do anything wrong, you were just running around yelling, "Bow for the B-urro, Come ride the B-urro."

B

So why'd you come here?

GWEN

Just because you didn't do anything wrong doesn't mean I shouldn't ask you to stop, seriously B can you imagine what it's like to be an RA in my shoes.

MARE

That'd be weird, if B was the RA, and we lived here.

GWEN

Yeah, this year might've started
out much, much different.

The three gaze off and start to imagine what life would've
been live under those circumstances...

Crazy music and lights rise again, as we are brought back in
time to another reality...

Messy dorm room. Beers cans are strewn about, liquor bottles
scattered, a bong sits on the desk.

Mare sits on a couch center stage and talks on the phone,
Gwen is on the work-out machine.

MARE

(hangs up the phone)
I shouldn't have lied.

GWEN

Of course you should have. They
expect it.

Gwen turns on some fast paced music.

Door opens suddenly and Johnny rushes in.

MARE

There's my Johnny!

GWEN

(to Johnny)
What's wrong?

JOHNNY

Room inspections! You've got to
clean up fast!

GWEN

Nah, our RA's cool.

JOHNNY

My RA's doing the inspection...

Mare and Gwen exchange a panicked look.

MARE & GWEN

(overlapping with Johnny's
line)

B!!

JOHNNY

...and if he finds any beer or drugs
in here, he'll confiscate it, and
probably drink or smoke it himself.

MARE

That's not fair, we paid good money
for it all.

GWEN

Let's do this.

The three furiously pick up all the beer cans and liquor
bottles, filling a trash bag with them. The fast-paced music
should compliment the cleaning.

Once the room is straightened Gwen is holding the trash bag
full of beer. Gwen spots the bong on the desk.

GWEN (CONT'D)

Bong!

MARE

Got it!

Mare rushes into the closet and pulls out a lampshade and
puts it over the bong.

Gwen reaches to open the door and a knock is heard.

Everyone freezes.

JOHNNY

Guys can't be in here.

Another knock.

B

(from outside)

RA!

MARE

What'll we do?

JOHNNY

Trust me.

Johnny goes to pull down Mare's pants, but she stops him and
slaps him.

MARE

Johnny!

JOHNNY

Sorry, just a thought I had, it was
stupid.

Johnny shrugs then drops to the floor and covers himself with
a blanket.

The door opens, B enters.

Gwen is hidden with bag behind the door.

B

(sees Mare and laughs with
surprise)

I keyed in, I figured you were
gone.

MARE

(faking a yawn badly,
laughs nervously)

I just woke up.

(pause)

What's up, B?

B enters to center of room behind couch.

Johnny crawls on floor in front of he couch towards door.

Gwen sneaks around the still open door and rushes out of the
room unseen.

B

Inspections.

MARE

Might as well start at the window.

B crosses toward window. Johnny crawls quickly toward door.

B

Missing screen. That's a fine.

MARE

Oops?

Johnny is about to sneak out the door, when Gwen reenters
without trash bag and shuts door behind him.

Johnny gestures angrily, Gwen shrugs, Johnny recovers himself
with blanket.

B

(to Gwen)

Inspections.

GWEN

Alright.

B

(spots blanket)

Is that...?

GWEN

(cuts him off)

Laundry.

Gwen picks up blanket with Johnny still inside, walks the bundle over to the closet and tosses it in the closet.

B crosses over to inspect the room door.

Gwen sits down on the couch.

B

(taking notes)

Wood's cracking.

Gwen shifts uncomfortably, reaches into the couch and pulls out a bag of marijuana. Gwen and Mare exchange a panicked look.

Mare grabs the bag and tosses it out the window.

Gwen jumps to her feet and is about to jump out the window after the bag, but Mare grabs her and holds her back.

B turns to see them in each others arms, they hug tightly.

MARE

We like each other.

(pause)

How's the cabinet?

B begins to inspect cabinet, Mare walks to her side.

B

Paint's chipped.

Gwen goes to the closet, whispers in Johnny's ear and points to the window, he shakes his head "no."

B (CONT'D)

(to Mare)

You've been working out.

MARE

Some.

Gwen pleads silently with her eyes. Johnny sighs and starts to sneak toward the window, Gwen follows after pulling an umbrella out of the closet.

B begins to turn around toward where Johnny is sneaking.

MARE (CONT'D)
 (sputters out)
 I can't stop thinking of that night!

B
 (turning back toward Mare)
 Really?

Johnny is outraged.

Gwen puts her hand over his mouth, then not knowing what else to do, tosses Johnny out the window.

B (CONT'D)
 You've avoided me since.

MARE
 I'm intimidated.

B
 I'll bet you are.

Gwen tosses the umbrella out to Johnny, it gets tossed immediately back at her.

B backs Mare into a wall.

B (CONT'D)
 I thought I was too strong for you.

MARE
 You're strong.

Gwen pulls Johnny back in the window, he's dripping wet, he sees Mare and B up on each other, Gwen manages to keep him quiet.

Gwen and Johnny sneak over to closet and Johnny goes in. Gwen leans on door.

B
 Poor thing- are you bruised?

Mare doesn't know what to say, B is about to kiss her, but is interrupted by a sudden crash in the closet.

Mare and B look to the closet.

GWEN

I'll just...

Gwen goes in the closet.

We hear Johnny scream.

B looks to Mare, she shrugs. B goes over to closet, tries to open it, the door doesn't open.

GWEN (CONT'D)

(from inside)

I'm changing.

B

What?

B pulls the door open. Gwen is standing in closet pulling on Johnny's wet shirt.

Johnny is hidden.

GWEN

I'm hot.

MARE

(to B)

She's weird.

GWEN

Very weird.

B

What's going...

(he sees the bong with a
lamp shade)

What's that?

MARE

I'm in love with you!

JOHNNY

(storming out of the
closet)

That's it!

B

What are you doing...?

JOHNNY

Shut up.

(to Mare)

You love him?

MARE

No, I just said that to distract him, because I didn't want you to get in trouble, because I really love you.

B

Sure.

MARE & JOHNNY

Shut up!

JOHNNY

Do you really expect me to buy that? You cheated on me.

B

I can see why.

JOHNNY

What does that mean?

B

Just that you're so whiny. She wants a real man, not some freshman.

MARE

Shut up!

During the commotion, Gwen grabs the bong and puts it under her shirt.

GWEN

I'm gonna go!

MARE & JOHNNY

Shut up!

Gwen gives them the thumbs up, then runs out the door.

B

I'll leave you two to work this out, and when you do...

(to Mare)

...call me.

B exits.

JOHNNY

What an as...

MARE

Don't say it, Johnny. It's me you should be mad at. I made a terrible mistake, I was wasted and I screwed up. I couldn't tell you, because... I'm crazy about you, and I couldn't risk losing you.

JOHNNY

I don't want to hear this, Mare. I've been tossed out a window, rained on, thrown in your closet, all so you wouldn't get hurt. That's what being crazy about someone is.

MARE

I'm sorry. Johnny, I love you.

JOHNNY

Do you really expect me to trust you?

MARE

Yes.

JOHNNY

Okay, I do. You wanna go get lunch?

MARE

Wait, so we're good?

JOHNNY

Yup, I know you care about me, that's all I need to know. You wanna go?

MARE

Sounds good.

Johnny and Mare skip happily out of the room hand in hand.

Crazy music and lights come back...

Mare Gwen, and B reenter and go back to where they were before the original change, and return to their positions of day-dreaming.

B

Johnny's a pretty understanding guy.

GWEN

Yeah he is. You got yourself a good
guy, Mare, better watch out or
someone might try and steal him.

MARE

(totally misinterpreting)
What?!

B

Mare, she meant hypothetically.

MARE

Oh...

JOHNNY

(entering suddenly)
Yes! My meeting got cancelled! Hey
everybody's here, whatcha guys
doing?

GWEN

Nothing.

B

We're imagining what things would
be like if little things in our
lives were different.

JOHNNY

You mean like if we were rock
stars.

GWEN

No, like...

B

Rock stars, that'd be cool.

Crazy music and lights rise as B and Johnny start to imagine
what it would be like...

They each duck down and each come up with crazy hair or
something.

Music changes to whatever which Johnny and B stand on the
couch and lip sync and pretend to play.

Gwen and Mare change into groupies watching B and Johnny and
screaming and yelling.

The music dies down as Johnny and B strike poses.

MARE

That was cool.

GWEN

Yeah, you guys are totally awesome.

B

Well, we like to give personal performances for the very special fans.

JOHNNY

Yeah, right here in our hotel room.

MARE

I can't believe we're in the hotel room of Bastards of the Universe!

GWEN

Yeah, it's like totally awesome.

B

Well, we insist on all our hotel rooms being furnished exactly like our old college dorm room to remind us where we came from.

GWEN

Totally awesome.

JOHNNY

B insists anyway.

B

What do you mean? You don't like it?

JOHNNY

It's just not original anymore?

B

Like you know original, you haven't written a song with more than three cords ever.

JOHNNY

Can we just forget it and shag these ladies?

B

Right.

JOHNNY
I'll take the hot blonde-bombshell,
you take the brunette.

B
How do you know I want the
brunette?

JOHNNY
You don't?

B
No, I do, I just loathe the
assumption.

JOHNNY
Well, I loathe you!

B
You pig!

JOHNNY
Talentless hack!

B
I'll bash your head in!

JOHNNY
Go ahead and try!

The two start to fight and wrestle around as the girls watch.

GWEN
This is totally awesome!

JOHNNY
This'll show you.

Johnny pushes B out the window, there's an excessively long
yell as B falls.

JOHNNY (CONT'D)
Not exactly like our first floor
dorm room!

B
(in the midst of his
falling, he yells)
Girls! Johnny's got the clap!

B hits the ground.

GWEN
Not awesome.

The girls look disgusted as they rush out of the room.

JOHNNY
Bloody hell!

Crazy lights and music rise again...

Everyone finds their way back to their original positions and clothes again.

Lights and music fall.

B
That was cool.

JOHNNY
Yeah.

GWEN
You guys're such animals.

JOHNNY
No, we're...

B
(cutting in)
Oooh, could you imagine if we were
all animals?!

JOHNNY
Yeah.

Johnny and B go into day-dreaming mode...

Gwen puts her head in her hands in disbelief.

Crazy lights and music come up...

Music changes "You and Me Baby ain't Nothing but Mammals"

A brief sequence in which the four are all animals hopping and yelling and maybe trying to mate ensues, only lasts at most about a minute.

Crazy lights and music come back...

Everyone goes back to their original positions.

Crazy lights and music go down.

JOHNNY (CONT'D)
It's cool, that even as animals we
found our way back to this room.

B
And decorated it the same, despite
having no opposable thumbs.

JOHNNY
And the four of us stayed together.

GWEN
You guys are hopeless, I'm outta
here.

B
See ya, Gwen!

Gwen exits.

B (CONT'D)
I think I'm gonna go work out, and
check out all the girls getting
sweaty.

B grabs some shorts and goes into the closet.

JOHNNY
(going over to Mare)
You've been kinda quiet.

MARE
I was just thinking about things
too.

JOHNNY
Well, you wanna have some mindless
fun instead? Let's go up to your
room and watch a movie.

MARE
Sounds good.

JOHNNY
Cool, then I'm gonna hit the
bathroom, then I'll meet you
upstairs.

MARE
Great.

Johnny exits, and Mare picks up her heels.

B comes back changed into workout clothes.

B
You outta here?

MARE

Yup.

B

You feel better?

MARE

Yeah.

B

Sometimes it's good to imagine what things might've been like.

MARE

Like imagining what things would be like if me and Johnny ever broke up.

Mare and B go into day dreaming mode for a second, but before any light change or anything...

They both laugh and shake their heads.

B starts to put on his gym shoes.

MARE (CONT'D)

But that's not gonna happen.

B

Nope.

MARE

See ya, B.

B

See ya.

Mare exits.

B starts to but then stops.

B (CONT'D)

It'd be so cool to be a rock star...
or a monkey... or a rock star monkey!

B goes all imaginative.

Lights and music change and B happily dances out of the room.

Blackout.