

NEW GIRL

Spec Episode : "Big Kids"

Written by

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NEW GIRL  
Spec Episode - "Big Kids"

JESS ..... Zooey Deschanel  
NICK ..... Jake Johnson  
SCHMIDT ..... Max Greenfield  
WINSTON ..... Lamorne Morris  
CECE ..... Hannah Simone  
ELIZABETH ..... Merritt Wever

PREVIOUSLY ON "NEW GIRL":

Following the events of the 2nd Season Finale.

After two seasons of "Will They? Won't They?" JESS and NICK finally went for it and kissed. Wow! Then they took it even further and slept together. Finally! And they ended the season by officially becoming a couple to see where this strange relationship might lead.

Meanwhile, SCHMIDT has reconnected with his old college girlfriend, ELIZABETH, who is helping him get back in touch with his clumsy, big-hearted (read: fat) college self.

Things get complicated when CECE (Schmidt's most recent love) calls off her traditional Indian wedding, and declares that she still wants to be with Schmidt.

Finally, WINSTON has been dating Daisy, but she is constantly out of town, which leaves him understandably "frustrated."

**ACT ONE**

INT. LOFT. JESS' BEDROOM. DAY. (D1)

Nick (dressed vaguely like Mario with red t-shirt, red hat, overalls, a thick mustache and a plunger) storms into Jess's bedroom.

Jess (dressed vaguely like The Princess in a poofy pink dress) is riding on Nick's back.

JESS

Thank you, thank you, thank you,  
Mario! You saved me from that weird  
huge spikey turtle guy. What's his  
deal anyway?

NICK

(bad Italian accent)  
Hey-a, that's-a what-a I'm-a here  
for! And thank you for actually  
being in that last castle. It was  
pissing me off everytime I thought  
I saved you, it was really one of  
your mushroom friends in a dress.

JESS

What can I say, Toad loves his  
tranny-clothes?

NICK

How can I be sure you're not some  
toadstool under those clothes?

JESS

Only one way to find out.

They start kissing. Between kisses:

NICK

Who'd have thought an old video  
game themed brunch would be so much  
fun?

JESS

Oh yeah. Where'd you find a Mario  
costume on such short notice  
anyway?

NICK

(proudly)  
It's a t-shirt and overalls.

(MORE)

NICK (CONT'D)  
It's one set of clothes I actually  
already have.

JESS  
(re: her poofy dress-  
a little less proud)  
Yeah, me too.

NICK  
All I had to do was buy this  
mustache. And this plunger.

JESS  
Yeah, thanks for not using the one  
in the bathroom.

NICK  
There's one in the bathroom?

Jess turns on the flirting. She tosses Nick's plunger aside.

JESS  
Now, why don't you get rid of the  
rubber? And let's take things to  
the next level.

NICK  
Are you saying what I think you're  
saying?

JESS  
Oh yeah, Mr. Plumber. Let's Level  
Up.

NICK  
You really want to Level Up?

JESS  
Let's do it.

They make out furiously, and fall into the bed.

INT. LOFT. JESS' BEDROOM. A LITTLE WHILE LATER. (D1)

Jess and Nick are naked and heaving in bed.

JESS  
Not bad, Miller. Not bad at all.  
Something about that time... felt  
especially good.

NICK  
That's The Caveman for you.

JESS

Come on, you've gotten a little hairy around your elbows, but I wouldn't say caveman.

NICK

No, I mean, when you're going all natural. Au naturale. Wait... Do I have hairy elbows?

Nick checks out his elbows.

Jess is confused.

JESS

Nick, what do you mean "Au naturale"? The Caveman?

Suddenly, she gets it. She looks under the sheets.

JESS (CONT'D)

Nick! Where is it?! Where's the "candy wrapper"?!

NICK

I didn't use one.

JESS

What the f---?!

**SMASH TO MAIN TITLES.**

INT. LOFT. JESS' BEDROOM. A LITTLE WHILE LATER. (D1)

Jess is quickly pulling on clothes.

Nick is also dressing as he tries to calm her down.

NICK

Jess, what's the big deal? I thought you wanted to take this to the next level. Level Up.

JESS

We were making Mario Brothers jokes! And I didn't want to tell you to "Lay Some Pipe." Gross.

NICK

Oh, that makes more sense.

JESS  
I wasn't talking about making a...  
B-A-B-Y.

NICK  
Jess, who're you spelling for?  
There's not an actual baby here.

JESS  
Well, now there could be!

NICK  
No, there couldn't. Jess, if there  
was a chance of making a baby, do  
really you think I would go Force  
Field Down?

JESS  
Why do you have so many names for  
it? Force Field Down? Au Naturale?  
Caveman?

NICK  
Sans Snake Skin.

JESS  
I wasn't trying to figure out what  
else you had in your repertoire!

NICK  
Jess, relax. You're like the most  
careful girl ever about taking your  
birth control on time.

INT. LOFT. LIVING ROOM. FLASHBACK

Jess, Nick, Schmidt, and Winston are watching a movie in the  
living room.

T.V. SCREEN (O.S.)  
I never knew me, until I knew that  
you know me like no one else knows  
me.

JESS  
Oh, oh, oh, this is my favorite  
part! Here it comes!

Beep, beep, beep! An ALARM goes off on her phone.

Jess leaps up off the couch.

JESS (CONT'D)  
Oh snit! I almost forgot!

SCHMIDT  
Almost forgot what? Are you okay?

Jess stiff arms Schmidt literally knocking him over the couch.

JESS  
Out of my way, Schmidt! I've got to  
BRUSH MY TEETH!

And she sprints out of the room.

BACK TO PRESENT: (D1)

NICK  
We figured out that you didn't  
really have to brush your teeth at  
exactly 10:30 every morning. It  
only took us a couple of months.  
And Cece explained it.

JESS  
Okay, but still... why'd you have  
to take the risk? This is kind of  
irresponsible even for you, Nick  
Miller.

NICK  
Jess, this was about becoming even  
more intimate. Taking things to the  
next level with us.

JESS  
That's what you think is "taking  
things to the next level"? Next  
time, let's take a weekend trip  
together.

NICK  
Noted. The Next Level means  
something different for you.

JESS  
Wait... Does that mean...? You've  
dropped the plunger for other  
girls?

Nick shrugs reluctantly. Jess shudders.

NICK  
Jess, you know I've slept with 8  
women. And it doesn't bother you,  
right?

JESS  
No!

NICK  
But it does bother you that I've  
slept with some of them... Sans  
Snake Skin?

JESS  
Yes! How many?

NICK  
4.

JESS  
Times or girls?

NICK  
Girls.

JESS  
Including me?

NICK  
Let's not get hung up on numbers  
here.

Jess has heard enough and storms out of the room.

INT. LOFT. LIVING ROOM. DAY (D1)

\*\*\*\*\*STILL TO BE WRITTEN\*\*\*\*\*

WINSTON is in the living room doing something.

Jess comes out, has a weird look on her face, and makes an  
awkward exit.

Nick comes out and tries to cover for her. He does a bad job.

\*\*\*\*\*

WINSTON  
Whoa! Too much information, my  
friend. But High Five.

Nick and Winston hi-five.



NICK  
Man, that's a good High Five.

EXT. OUTDOOR RESTAURANT. PATIO. DAY (D1)

SCHMIDT is sitting down at a table with CECE and ELIZABETH.  
He's reading off of note cards.

SCHMIDT  
"First of all, I'd like to thank  
you both for meeting me here  
today."

ELIZABETH  
Schmidt, we know this is a tough.

CECE  
But we've all got to talk about-  
Schmidt holds up a finger.

SCHMIDT  
Just let me get through my opening  
statements.  
(reading)  
"Sir Robert Frost spoke of two  
paths diverged in a yellow wood..."

ELIZABETH  
Oh for the love of-  
Elizabeth grabs Schmidt's note cards out of his hand.

SCHMIDT  
Hey, those are numerically and  
color coded!

CECE  
Schmidt, we need to really talk  
about this. You tried to sabotage  
my wedding. Before I sabotaged my  
wedding. So there's clearly some  
stuff still between us.

ELIZABETH  
And I was pretty sure there was  
something between us. Or does  
eating two extra large Meat Lover's  
pizzas together mean nothing to you  
anymore?

SCHMIDT

It does!

(to Cece)

And there is still stuff.

(to both of them)

You're both amazing. I've really done a lot of soul searching. Lots of Bikram Yoga. And I think I know what I want.

Both Cece and Elizabeth brace for the worst.

Schmidt picks up his note cards again.

SCHMIDT (CONT'D)

After careful thought- I've devised a series of tests with which I can judge you both using an impartial scoring system.

CECE & ELIZABETH

Ugh!

Elizabeth and Cece have heard enough. They both get up from the table.

SCHMIDT

Wait! We can skip the tantric stylings, and just go into the astrological compatibilities and discussions of Greek philosophies of love!

ELIZABETH

Schmidt, I was happy before you came back into my life. And now you're making it really hard.

CECE

You have no idea how tough it is on this side of things. How hard it can be to be a woman. Try thinking about it from our side for once.

Cece and Elizabeth leave.

Schmidt has a sudden realization.

SCHMIDT

I need to think like a woman. I need to get in touch with my feminine side!

INT. LOFT. DAY. (D1)

Nick and Winston are exchanging hi-fives.

NICK

That's amazing! It's like perfect contact, tone, strength everytime!

WINSTON

That's years of team sports for you. I've got it mastered.

They hi-five again.

NICK

My self-esteem feels higher. I feel more handsome. Taller.

WINSTON

You're not any taller.

NICK

Yeah, but I feel like a man!

Schmidt enters.

SCHMIDT

Guys, I need your help to feel like a woman.

NICK & WINSTON

Not it!

SCHMIDT

I met with Cece and Elizabeth at Le Beaujolie Cafe over spinach and egg white omlettes to try and work through our feelings. And I realized I'm too masculine.

WINSTON

You?

SCHMIDT

Winston, please. I need help to touch my inner little girl.

NICK

I'd start by never saying it like that again. And anyway, I'm no help. I really screwed up with Jess earlier.

Schmidt strokes Nick's cheek.

SCHMIDT

We're two of a kind aren't we,  
Nicholas? Unlucky in love.

NICK

Yeah. But, please, don't touch me  
like that.

Winston's heard enough. He jumps to his feet.

WINSTON

You two ought to be ashamed of  
yourselves!

(re: Nick)

Boo hoo, me and my new girlfriend  
are having so much sex, that I  
misread her signs.

(re: Schmidt)

Wah, wah, I've got two women  
fighting over me.

(beat)

What about Winston, huh? My  
girlfriend's out of town for weeks  
at a time. What about my needs,  
huh? What about my needs?!

NICK

I'll give you a hi-five.

WINSTON

You're just a hi-five amateur. You  
can't satisfy me.

(beat)

I need to get some fresh air.

Winston leaves.

Schmidt turns to Nick.

SCHMIDT

You wanna get mani-pedis with me?

He just gets up and heads for his room.

NICK

I'm not going to help you get in  
touch with your feminine side!

And he slams his door shut.

SCHMIDT

That wasn't even a girlie thing.  
That was just to clear my head.

INT. BAR. DAY. (D1)

Jess has met up with Cece at the bar. Cece is offering Jess a drink. But Jess pushes it away.

JESS

I'm not sure if I should. Just in case, you know...

CECE

Jess, you managed to take your birth control at exactly 10:30 even the one time we were stranded in the woods for four days without watches or cell phones. You're not pregnant.

Jess takes the drink.

JESS

You know, when I was driving over here, I actually called Dr. Sadie.

CECE

Oh god. If anyone knows about being pregnant and crazy, it's her. What'd she say?

JESS

It was awkward.

INT. DOCTOR'S OFFICE. FLASHBACK. (D1)

DR. SADIE (pregnant and as big as a house) flirtatiously talks on the phone to Jess.

DR. SADIE

You know, Jess, I can examine you, if you want. But it'll be mostly pleasure, if you know what I'm saying? Just kidding. Unless you really want to. Forget I said that. My hormones are all over the place.

BACK TO SCENE: (D1)

Jess is tipping back her drink.

CECE

I don't understand why you're freaking out so much over this.

JESS  
It just threw me, you know. Have  
you ever... done The Caveman?

CECE  
The Caveman?

JESS  
That's what Nick called it.

CECE  
The Caveman?

JESS  
Fine. Au Naturale? Force Field  
Down? Sans Snake Skin?

CECE  
Why do you have so many names for  
it?

JESS  
I know, right?!

CECE  
I've never done it. I use double  
protection every time. I'm Indian.  
We're super fertile. Over a billion  
served. And I didn't want a little  
Schmidt running around.

Jess falls silent. Then finally:

JESS  
I'm not sure I'd want a little Nick  
Miller running around. I need  
another drink.

END OF ACT 1

ACT 2

INT. BAR. DAY. (D1)

Jess is on her cell phone. A drink is in her other hand.

JESS  
(on the phone)  
Hey, Nick.

INT. BAR / NICK'S BEDROOM. INTERCUT (D1)

Nick is talking on his phone in his bedroom.

NICK

Jess! I've been wanting to call you. But you know how I can only take incoming calls. Because my screen is covered in duct tape.

JESS

Yeah, it's cool. I just wanted to call and apologize about that blow-up before.

She looks to Cece. Cece gives a "Thumbs Up."

JESS (CONT'D)

I've had some time to think about it. And a drink or two. And really it's no big deal.

NICK

Right? It's just the Plastic-Free Slip 'n Slide.

JESS

No more names for it, Nick.

NICK

Sorry.

JESS

I realize it was meant to be a sweet and significant gesture.

NICK

Most other girls like it.

JESS

Again. Don't dig yourself into a hole.

NICK

Again. Sorry.

JESS

I just freaked for a second at the thought of you being a father. And how horrible you'd be at it. But, then I was like, what am I worrying about. I'm not gonna let that happen!

NICK  
Wait... What?!

She looks to Cece who's eyes have gone wide. Jess instantly realizes she's said something wrong.

JESS  
Uh... Nevermind. You'd be a great father. I'd love to have babies with you.

NICK  
Wait! WHAT?!

JESS  
One day! Not now! You'd be terrible now! I mean, you'd be fine, but... I'm going through a tunnel... Bbbkkkkksssttt...

And she hangs up quickly.

JESS (CONT'D)  
(to Cece)  
Never let me do that again after three drinks!

INT. LOFT. NICK'S BEDROOM. DAY. (D1)

Nick hangs up the phone.

NICK  
What's she talking about? I could be a dad. Not that I want to be!

Suddenly, he panics and quickly knocks on his wood dresser.

The dresser cracks and tips over.

NICK (CONT'D)  
Okay, that was a sign that I shouldn't be a dad. But I could be. I'd be okay. I'd just...

He takes a pillow off his bed and puts it against the corner of the dresser.

NICK (CONT'D)  
Baby-proof.

He puts a bulky sweatshirt on a sharp corner of a side table.



NICK (CONT'D)  
Baby-proof.

He grabs a roll of duct tape.

NICK (CONT'D)  
I'll show Jess who could be a good  
dad.

EXT. PARK. BASKETBALL COURT. DAY (D1)

Winston is outside shooting some hoops. He sinks a basket.

WINSTON  
And Winston has just won the game!  
Yes! Winston, Winston, Winston!

He turns to see a 5 year old KID staring at him in awe.

WINSTON (CONT'D)  
Hey, Kid.

KID  
That was cool.

WINSTON  
Thanks, buddy. Put it there.

Winston puts out his hand for a High Five.

The Kid Hi Fives Winston, and The Kid smiles ear-to-ear.

KID  
Whoa! I feel so tall!

WINSTON  
Yeah, I have that effect on people.

KID  
Can I have another?

WINSTON  
Course, little man!

Winston gives the Kid another Hi Five.

The Kid is loving it. Winston plays up the Hi Five.

WINSTON (CONT'D)  
Aaaaah! Wow! You sure you don't  
have super strength? Give me one  
more.

The Kid smiles, laughs, and gives Winston another Hi Five.

Winston is pleased, until:

He turns to see KID #2.

KID #2  
Can I have a Five too?

WINSTON  
Of course, buddy!

Winston gives Kid #2 a Five.

Then he notices two more KIDS have shown up.

Winston happily gives each of the kids a Hi Five, then notices with mounting horror-

A small horde of children is converging on Winston looking for Hi Fives.

INT. LOFT. NICK'S BEDROOM. DAY. (D1)

Nick has finished duct-taping up his room.

Several pillows, blankets, and sweatshirts and pants have been duct taped to every corner in the room.

NICK  
I got this.  
(beat)  
But if I really want to impress  
her...

He looks at the roll of duct tape. Still a bunch left.

NICK (CONT'D)  
...The living room.

INT. LOFT. LIVING ROOM. DAY (D1)

Nick comes out of his room and finds:

Schmidt wearing a skin-tight leotard and ballet shoes.

At first, Schmidt seems embarrassed until:

T.V. SCREEN (O.S.)  
Go, Billy!

So Schmidt half-passionately/half-defiantly dances a bizarre, hilarious ballet dance, as music from "Billy Eliot" plays from the T.V.

After 30 seconds or so:

NICK

Okay! Stop! Stop it! What is wrong with you?

SCHMIDT

I'm embracing my inner "Billy Eliot." I've got to feel the music. Feel the rhythm. And just dance.

NICK

So you decided to buy a leotard?

SCHMIDT

This old thing? I've owned it for years. It's a 100% lycra sweat-managing, muscle-toning undersuit.

NICK

To be fair, it is giving you an extra lift. You look vibrant.

SCHMIDT

I feel so alive, Nick. I'm finally able to put aside some of my ultra-masculinity.

NICK

You?

SCHMIDT

Very funny, Nicholas. But I'm not going to let my femininity be judged by someone who doesn't understand the difference between a Sashay and a Plie.

NICK

You're proving my point here, Schmidt.

SCHMIDT

Nick, I need your help. I'm discovering a new side of myself. But right now, it's just fantasy. I need a partner to make it reality.

NICK

So you're asking me to...

SCHMIDT

To be my partner. To be a man for me. So I can be a woman.

NICK

Yeah... No.

SCHMIDT

C'mon, Nick. I realize I have to do this. But I'm scared. You're my best friend. Don't you want to support me?

NICK

No.

INT. BAR. DAY. (D1)

Jess and Cece are still drinking.

CECE

Do you really think Nick would be that bad at being a dad?

JESS

Yes! He kind of thinks that raising a kid would be the same as raising a dog.

INT. HOUSE. BATHROOM. FUTURE FANTASY.

DADDY NICK (with a bad comb-over and gold chains) is dealing with a kid.

THE KID

Dad, I found this under my bed!

The Kid holds up a moldy, rock-hard piece of pizza.

THE KID (CONT'D)

Can I eat it?

Daddy Nick sniffs it. Then shrugs.

DADDY NICK

Eh, why not? Gnawing on this kind of stuff is supposed to be good for your teeth. Have at it, kid.

Daddy Nick pets The Kid and scratches him behind the ears.

INT. HOUSE. LIVING ROOM. FUTURE FANTASY. A LITTLE LATER.

Daddy Nick walks into the living room, and finds The Kid sprawled out on the floor.

Apparently dead.

With the half-eaten pizza near him.

Daddy Nick is freaked for a second, so-

He lifts up the rug and rolls The Kid under it.

BACK TO SCENE: (D1)

JESS

Ugh... what am I going to do?  
Should I not be thinking like this?

CECE

No. It's natural to wonder about  
it.

JESS

Am I a terrible person? Nick, is  
murdering our unborn child!

A BAR PATRON walks by and gives Jess a weird look.

She pounds her head on the bar top.

CECE

Maybe you don't have anything to  
worry about. I mean, Nick more or  
less took care of his whole family.  
Maybe he's just the kind of guy who  
has to rise to the occasion.

JESS

Yeah, and, I mean, really? How much  
can kids really complicate things?

Jess's phone rings. She picks it up.

JESS (CONT'D)

Winston?

INT. PARK. PLAYGROUND CASTLE. DAY (D1)

Winston has barricaded himself into a kid's play castle at  
the playground.

Dozens of little hands are bursting through the windows looking for Hi Fives.

KID'S VOICES (O.S.)  
Fives! Fives! Fiiiives!

WINSTON  
(into his cell phone)  
Jess! These kids are gonna kill me!

INT. BAR / PLAYGROUND CASTLE. INTERCUT. (D1)

Jess is on her feet.

JESS  
Winston, what's going on?

WINSTON  
I gave some kids a High Five on the playground!

JESS  
That's nice. Your high fives are amazing. They always make me feel medium height.

WINSTON  
Now all the kids want one. They've got me surrounded!

JESS  
Is it really that bad?

WINSTON  
It's like The Walking Dead except with 5 year olds!

KID'S VOICES (O.S.)  
Fiiiiives! Fiiiiives! Fiiiives!!

BACK TO BAR: (D1)

Jess finishes up the phone call.

JESS  
Just hang in there, Winston. Me and Cece are on our way.

Jess grabs Cece and pulls her away.

CECE  
Why do I have to go?

JESS  
You only had one drink. You're  
driving!

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

INT. LOFT. DAY. (D1)

Schmidt is still chasing Nick around the room.

SCHMIDT  
Why are you so afraid of this,  
Nick?

NICK  
I don't want to, I don't want to!

SCHMIDT  
Nick, I'm not even sure I am a  
ballet dancer. Which is why I need  
your help to find out.

NICK  
No! Look, I respect the courage  
it's taking for you to explore your  
ballet-ness.

SCHMIDT  
It's really scary!

NICK  
I know it is, Schmidt. And I'll  
stand by you. I don't see you any  
different.

SCHMIDT  
Yes, you do. I can tell. You're  
already awkward around me.

NICK  
Okay! This threw me for a curve  
here. But you're still my friend.

SCHMIDT  
So then why won't you experiment  
with me?

NICK  
Because I AM NOT A BALLET DANCER!

SCHMIDT  
How would you know if you never  
even tried it?!

Nick falls silent. He's stuck.

SCHMIDT (CONT'D)  
Look, Nick, I really need you here.

Nick winces and struggles with it.

NICK  
I can't!

But he stands there as Schmidt approaches and puts his arms  
around Nick.

NICK (CONT'D)  
It doesn't feel right to me!

SCHMIDT  
Just close your eyes and pretend  
I'm a woman!

NICK  
I can still feel your hair.

SCHMIDT  
You've been with girls with way  
hairier arms than mine before.

NICK  
Yeah, but never mostly sober!

Schmidt grabs some beers from the fridge.

SCHMIDT  
Alright. Let's get you drunk.

EXT. PARK. PLAYGROUND CASTLE. DAY (D1)

Jess and Cece show up at the playground. They scan the place  
and see:

JESS'S POV:

A small plastic Play Castle is swarming with kids pushing and  
fighting their way to get closer.

KIDS  
Fiiiives! Fiiiives! Fiiiives!

BACK TO SCENE:



Jess and Cece rush toward the Play Castle.

JESS

Geez, that place is swarming with stumbly walkers. Winston, must be terrified!

CECE

Where are these kids parents?

Jess and Cece look around.

JESS'S POV:

In another part of the park, A BUNCH OF PARENTS are seated on benches checking their cell phones, napping, etc.

PARENT

We're at the park. Not my problem.

BACK TO SCENE:

Jess and Cece get close to the swarm of kids.

One of the Kids turns to them.

KID #1

Five? Five?

The Kid holds up a hand for a Hi Five. A couple more turn toward Jess and Cece too.

CECE

Don't do it. It'll just make them crave more.

JESS

I've got to get to Winston. Can you draw them away so we can escape?

CECE

I'll come up with something.

Cece takes off running.

Jess digs into her purse. She comes up with a small handful of candy.

JESS

Look, kids! Candy! Caaaaandyyyyy!

She tosses pieces aside and the kids scurry after it.

It creates a path through the mob, and Jess makes it to the Play Castle.

But the horde of kids is closing behind her.

So Jess quickly pushes her way into the tiny Play Castle-

INT. PARK. PLAYGROUND CASTLE. DAY (D1)

Jess squeezes into the tiny Play Castle.

Winston is balled up on the verge of tears.

WINSTON

(singing)

Swing low... sweet chariot...  
Coming for to carry me...

JESS

Winston! Snap out of it!

WINSTON

Jess! Is that really you?! But if  
you're here... We're both doomed...

JESS

Pull yourself together, Winston!  
Cece is going to create a diversion  
but we'll only have a small window.  
We've got to make it count.

WINSTON

I'm scared, Jess. I'm scared.

JESS

I know... I know...

INT. LOFT. DAY (D1)

Nick and Schmidt are drinking and having a heart-to-heart.

SCHMIDT

I'm just scared, you know. What if  
I make the wrong decision? Then I  
could lose both of them.

NICK

I know, buddy. But you'll make the  
right decision.

SCHMIDT

I thought I had come up with the perfect labyrinth of intelligence and skill to test both their womanhood and their lovemaking. But they didn't go for my note cards.

NICK

You should probably put those right into the Douche Bag Jar.

SCHMIDT

I'm lucky to have you, Nick. My rock. My safe place. My man.

Schmidt tries to stroke Nick's cheek.

NICK

Not quite drunk enough, Schmidt.

SCHMIDT

Just let me know when you get there.

NICK

I'll be honest with you, Schmidt. I'm scared too. I want to take things to the next level with Jess, but I'm not sure I'm good enough for her.

SCHMIDT

Would you get right out of town! You're great!

NICK

And you're great!

SCHMIDT

You are!

NICK

You are!

They end up staring into each other's eyes.

SCHMIDT

How 'bout now?

NICK

Almost drunk enough.

INT. PARK. PLAYGROUND CASTLE. DAY (D1)

Jess and Winston are still barricaded in the castle.

JESS

Should be any second now.

WINSTON

Jess, if we don't make it through this-

JESS

Quiet, Winston, don't talk like that.

WINSTON

No, listen, I want to say this. I'm so glad you became our roommate. You've become like the glue. I don't know what me and Schmidt would do without you and Nick.

JESS

Me and Nick?

WINSTON

Yeah. It's kind of weird having two roommates that you know are sometimes sneaking off to get naughty.

JESS

You guys know?

WINSTON

We know. But you and Nick are like the Mom and Dad of the apartment.

JESS

You really think Nick is like the Dad?

WINSTON

Sure. He's often drunk. And surly. And doesn't wear pants enough. But we know we can always count on him. And you too.

JESS

So you think Nick would be a good Dad?

WINSTON

Whoa! No way! God no! Terrible idea! Jess, seriously, do not make Nick a father! Don't do it!

JESS

No, I mean, one day.

WINSTON

Oh, one day! Yeah. You can always count on Nick to step up to the plate when it counts.

INT. LOFT. LIVING ROOM. DAY. (D1)

Nick puts his beer aside with purpose.

NICK

Drunk enough.

Schmidt jumps to his feet.

SCHMIDT

You'll be my partner?!

NICK

Yeah. What're friends for? I might never be a good father, but I can be a good friend-

SCHMIDT

Wait. Who said anything about being a father?

NICK

That's what me and Jess's whole fight was about earlier. She freaked out at the thought of me being a Dad. And, you know what? She's right. I would be a terrible dad.

SCHMIDT

Nick! That's ridiculous. Of course, you wouldn't. But that's what you have me for.

NICK

Alright. Let's do this.

SCHMIDT

You be a man. And I'll be a woman. And we'll do what comes naturally.

NICK  
A little less talking, Schmidt.

INT. PARK. PLAYGROUND CASTLE. DAY (D1)

Jess and Winston are poised and ready to run when:  
There's the NOISE OF AN ICE CREAM TRUCK.

EXT. PARK. PLAYGROUND CASTLE. DAY (D1)

The horde of kids turns to look for the ice cream bells.

KID'S POV:

Cece has taken a HISPANIC MAN'S ice cream cart.

CECE  
C'mon, kids! Ice cream! Come get  
your ice cream!

BACK TO SCENE:

The kids swarm away from the Play Castle-

JESS (O.S.)  
(from inside)  
RUN!!!

Jess and Winston come bursting out of the Play Castle.

Cece pushes the ice cream cart as she runs from the horde of kids.

The Hispanic Man chases her too.

HISPANIC MAN  
Aye, aye, aye! Loco Lady! Gimme  
back my cart!

Cece abandons the cart and runs over to Jess and Winston.

They all sprint toward the parking lot.

INT. LOFT. LIVING ROOM. A LITTLE LATER.

"I've Had The Time of My Life" is playing softly.

Schmidt is on one side of the room. Nick is on the other.

SCHMIDT

I'm scared, Nick. What if I learn something I'm not ready for.

NICK

Just take the leap. I'm here to catch you.

Schmidt prances toward Nick, when-

Jess, Winston, and Cece enter.

WINSTON

I've just seen the weirdest thing of my life.

They fall silent as they watch-

Schmidt leaps into the air at Nick.

It's not even close. Schmidt totally pancakes Nick.

WINSTON (CONT'D)

Second weirdest.

NICK

Uggghhhh... My spine....

Jess runs over to the pile that is Nick and Schmidt.

JESS

Oh my god. Are you okay? What were you guys doing?

NICK

I'm suddenly wondering that myself.

SCHMIDT

He was trying to help me embrace my buried, latent femininity.

CECE

You?

Schmidt finally notices Cece. He rushes over to her.

SCHMIDT

Cecilia! I'm trying to dig down deep. To find out what I really want. Because you deserve the best I can give.

Cece is really touched, until-

CECE

It's really hard to take you seriously in that leotard.

SCHMIDT

It's a lycra undersuit.

On the floor, Jess is cradling Nick's crushed body.

JESS

How could you ever think you'd be in good enough shape to do that?

NICK

Good judgement wasn't exactly a big theme here. But I had to step up when my boy needed it.

Jess smiles. She kisses Nick.

Then she helps him to his feet.

JESS

You really need to figure out better ways to take it up a notch.

NICK

Where were you, like, ten minutes ago?

END OF ACT THREE

BEGIN TAG

INT. LOFT. JESS' BEDROOM. NIGHT. (N1)

Jess and Nick are in bed together. They're heaving. Post coital satisfaction. But-

JESS

It really wasn't quite as good.

NICK

That's cuz you miss The Cave-

JESS

Stop with all the names!

NICK

Sorry.

THE END