

Mind The Gap

written by

Abby Brabham

abby.brabham@gmail.com

INT. UPSCALE BAR - NIGHT

* All action takes place in a single, lush booth on the back wall of a trendy bar in DTLA with transitions being made through creative shots, camera movement, and editing. *

Three young men sit comfortably at the booth, drinks in hand, speaking to each other but never making eye contact. All of their attention is focused on the unseen patrons of the bar. All of the men have spruced up to go out and are looking their best and feeling their best now that the alcohol in their cups has begun to take effect.

BENJI

I don't get it, why do women always travel in groups when going out to pick up men? Don't they realize how intimidating it is to have to impress not only them but all fifteen of their friends?

ALEK

Well, we also came with about half the guys that work in our office.

BENJI

Yeah, but that's not the same.

ALEK

What do you mean it's not the same?

BENJI

No, it's not. We need to go out with other guys to create a strong game plan. There's strength in numbers, you know?

ALEK (CONT'D)

It definitely is. Actually, I bet a group of guys is a lot more intimidating. What? A game plan?

KIT

So, what game plan did you and Bill from marketing hatch for tonight, Benji? You're sitting here with Alek and I and Bill is in the bathroom hugging the toilet.

BENJI

Alright, Kit, what about you? You talked a big game when we first got here and now, you're just cradling your third pina colada.

KIT

Oh, you're gonna make fun of me again about my pina coladas? You should see the face you pull whenever you sip that scotch.

KIT (23) scrunches up his face and puckers his lips, mocking BENJI (24), while ALEK (23) looks on and laughs.

BENJI

Oh, fuck you guys! I'm gonna go check on Bill.

Benji leaves the booth as Alek and Kit continue to laugh. Alek takes a big sip of his beer while scoping out the group of girls who just entered the bar. Suddenly his eyes go wide as if they were about to pop out of his skull.

ALEK

Fuck! Is that- no way- she looks- doesn't she hate places like this?

KIT

Hey Alek, are you good? Is your left side numb? Do I need to take you to--

ALEK

It's Mya!

KIT

What? No, it's not. Where?

Alek grabs Kits face and turns it toward the entrance to the bar. Recognition lights up Kit's face.

KIT (CONT'D)

She does hate places like this. Or at least she told me she did.

ALEK

So, what happens now? Do you want me to hold your pina colada while you go hide in the bathroom?

KIT

(scoffs)

Hide in the bathroom? Please Alek, I'm-- oh shit she saw me!

ALEK

Oh dude, she looks like she's walking over here.

KIT
No, she isn't.

ALEK
She's looking right at you man.
She's definitely coming over here.
I think that's my cue to go get
another drink from the bar.

KIT
No! You can't leave me here alone.
What about strength in numbers?

Alek gets up with a chuckle and quickly heads to the bar.
Kit's expression is full of fear and curiosity as he watches
MYA (22) approach the booth. Mya slides into the booth right
next to Kit confidently. Kit can't stop staring at her but
can't find anything to say.

MYA
(giggling)
I've been good, Kit Kat, thanks for
asking! How's the position at
Obsidian Group been?

KIT
Yeah, yeah. Good. The position has
been pretty good. I've been working
pretty hard, but it has been very
rewarding, you know?

MYA
That's great to hear! So, you've
been juggling selling properties
pretty well then?

KIT
(chuckling)
Uh, well, I haven't exactly been
given my own properties to sell yet
but the guy I'm working with right
now, David, has really valued my
assistance booking walk-throughs
and stuff. I can tell they'll be
giving me my own properties to sell
any day now.

MYA
Ah, yeah! Gotta start somewhere,
you know?

KIT

Oh, no, it's not like that. It's not like I'm just the guys who gets everyone their coffee-- I mean I do that too, yeah. I bring them their coffee but, like, as a favor you know? What any coworker would do for another coworker.

MYA

Oh, yeah, for sure. I didn't mean it like that, I'm sure they value your assistance a lot at Obsidian. I'm really happy you were given the position.

KIT

Yeah, thanks... it's a pretty huge company in the business and they seem pretty impressed with me, so... I mean, we're working with clients no one else is working with, you know, it's exciting stuff!

MYA

Yeah! Yeah... I mean, it's *right* up there with Price Properties as one of the most competitive real estate development groups, we both know that. Isn't that why we interned there?

Mya chuckles softly, leaning forward and placing her hand on Kit's knee. He takes notice. The gesture flusters Kit but also noticeably boosts his confidence. Mind swimming with thoughts, there is an awkward pause before Kit hurriedly continues-

KIT

(Laughing awkwardly)

Uh, yeah, yeah! Absolutely! I mean, yeah, even though the job didn't go to you, I bet you learned so much through the internship experience itself, right? I was so impressed by how far you'd come by the end of the summer; you were incredible.

Kit looks into Mya's eyes and leans towards her a bit. Kit believes he is smoother than creamy peanut butter.

KIT (CONT'D)

You are incredible. Maybe we can grab dinner sometime and I can teach you what I've learned from the job, and you can tell me all about what you've been up to lately?

Mya keeps a smile on her face and her hand on Kit's knee.

MYA

Oh, I wish I could, I'd love to catch up and all, I've just been super busy lately. This promotion's got me working nonstop! I mean, this is my first night out in God-knows-how-long and my coworkers had to drag me out of the office to be here.

KIT

Oh, a promotion, congratulations! Your bosses must be pretty impressed with you, uh-- I'm sorry, where did you end up after the internship, I never--

MYA

Oh, I'm so sorry! I'm- well, I'm now a 'Senior Real Estate Analyst' for the city at Price. Very official.

Mya giggles at herself. Kit is in shock, mouth agape. Mya pauses for a moment to relish in Kit's surprise, then--

MYA (CONT'D)

I really like it there; you get the sense that they really appreciate your work, you know? I mean they must, right?

Mya giggles again, breaking Kit out of his confused stupor.

KIT

Wow... yeah, uh, it definitely seems like it. Good for you. I'm glad.

MYA

Thanks! I'm really happy where I am... Well, it was nice reminiscing about our internship days... See you around Kit Kat.

Mya slides out of the booth, victorious. She rejoins her coworkers, who welcome her back with excitement.

Kit sits in the booth motionless. He cannot wrap his mind around what just happened. Alek approaches the booth tentatively, reading Kit's body language.

ALEK

Hey, buddy... So, how did it go?

Kit remains silent, looking forward.

ALEK (CONT'D)

Kit...? Did she ask to peg you or something, what's up?

Benji slides into the booth looking disheveled.

BENJI

Pegging? I didn't know Mya was into--

KIT

(blurts out)

Mya is a 'Senior Real Estate Analyst' for the city at Price.

ALEK

What?! Holy shit...no way.

BENJI

Whoa! I thought you were supposed to be smarter than her?

Kit groans and puts his head in his hands. Pause.

BENJI (CONT'D)

So... No pegging, then?

END