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EPISODE 4

Camp Be Better

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ACT 1

1 INT. HALL - NIGHT

1

SLO-MO flashes of a strobe light illuminating:

The entire camp is in the hall, dressed up for a camp dance, and The H Campers are centre stage:

- Niah wears a shockingly ugly dress, has perfect hair, and is covered in grease and chunky sauce. She's yelling at:
- Wendy who looks about to explode --
- Declan has a black eye and has fists raised, swiping at:
- Jonas, covered in white powder, who is trying to use his shirt to cover:
- Roe, who is the centre of attention.

Everyone is looking at Roe: yelling ballistically in SLO MO to the entire camp, butt-naked and covered in weird sludge.

2 THERAPY CAM -- VARIOUS CAMPERS

2

WAKEFIELD-DEVI

The camp dance was a scene.

GREY-ZHAZHA

It was *camp*. Michaela knows how to put on a party.

GREY-LUCAS

-- And that kiss!

WAKEFIELD-HENRY

Getting shivers thinking about it.

WAKEFIELD-DEVI

But what the heck was up with --

GREY-ZHAZHA

Roe?

GREY-LUCAS

Roe!

JONAS

Roe. It all started with me helping Roe ask Wendy to the dance, like an absolute fool.

3 EXT. CAMP BE BETTER, GROUNDS - DAY

3

OVERLAY TITLE: TWO WEEKS EARLIER

With the help of Jonas' VO from the Therapy Room, we see a flashback (from here, imagine PTC's are used in this way throughout, like in 'The Afterparty').

Jonas, Declan and Roe emerge from the showers.

JONAS

Just evacuate your brain.

ROE

I'm not like you, Jonas.

JONAS

I know, you're inferior physically,
mentally and in the face
department--

ROE

I meant saying and doing whatever
comes to mind with no regard for
consequence.

The pair walk past some Seddon Cabin girls playing frisbee.

JONAS

Look, it's easy.

He walks over with a bean-ish swagger.

JONAS (CONT'D)

Hey you! Wanna go socialize with me
at the social?

SERAPHINA

If you get some nose candy for us?
It's going to be boring as shit
otherwise.

Jonas is unsure, but covers quickly.

JONAS

That's like, my whole thang, girl.

4

THERAPY CAM -- VARIOUS

4

JONAS

JONAS (CONT'D)

Seraphina from Seddon cabin has the
nicest laugh. Yes, her parents own
every theme park in Australasia
which is a fun quirk.

(MORE)

JONAS (CONT'D)

And I was low-key stressed that people are only friends with me for my status. Just kidding. Ha. Ha.

ROE

Just ask. Sure, simple enough. Just ask. Whew, I overdressed today, is it hot?

5 EXT. CAMP BE BETTER, FIELD - DAY

5

Roe crosses the camp grounds muttering.

ROE

I'm going to the social. We both technically have to be there mandatorily anyway --

WENDY

What?

Roe jumps out of his skin; he sweats.

ROE

The social! It's happening, huh?

WENDY

No way, NERD.

6 THERAPY CAM -- VARIOUS

6

WENDY

Why did I have to say it like that? I had a pretty normal childhood - expensive sperm donor for a dad, mum raised me to be an Island and trust no one, and our family motto is 'born alone, live alone, die alone'.

NIAH

The way I was brought up, people stick together. So I was having second thoughts about the supposed ledger ... it could ruin their families' lives, maybe even send them all to juvie. And -- Wendy asked me for advice.

7 INT. CHANGING ROOM - DAY

7

Wendy stands, fists clenched, struggling to ask advice.

WENDY

How do I. You know. You know?
What? Nah, forget it. Fuck you
anyway.

NIAH

If you like Roe but can't say it,
you could show it instead?

Wendy nods. They have a bro-ish handshake.

8 THERAPY ROOM -- NIAH, CONTINUOUS

8

NIAH

I thought I'd try and follow mum's
advice for a bit: "Try to fit in
and stay out of trouble." How hard
could it be?

9 EXT. CAMP BE BETTER, DANCE LESSONS - DAY

9

Declan whirls around with grace and ends on a flourish, not
breaking a sweat. The H campers are open-mouthed.

REGINA

Stunning demo, Declan! Dance is
about listening, supporting one
another, and being in sync - the
perfect opportunity to 'be better'!

JONAS

Ma'am, I have my period.

REGINA

Eat the Frog, Jonas.

MONTAGE: Regina teaches a classy-looking waltz.

Niah is paired with Roe - she catches Wendy's eye.

NIAH

Heights are off. Can we swap?

Wendy and Roe are paired now. It's awkward.

10 THERAPY CAM -- ROE

10

ROE

Of course, she rejected me. I mean
look at her.

27

EXT. CAMP BE BETTER, DANCING LESSONS - DAY

27

Roe and Wendy are dancing. Roe looks over at Declan who gives him an encouraging nod. Roe gives Wendy some 'whoa back horsey' energy which Wendy is confused by.

Niah is struggling, paired with Declan. Jonas watches them.

JONAS (V.O.)

I know we all enjoy some perks with our families being who they are. But I guess I'd never spent any time with people from families who don't enjoy those perks.

DECLAN

Would you get over yourself, and just let me teach you?

NIAH

What do I look like, a plastic pottle with a coin slot? I don't want your charity.

JONAS (V.O.)

I guess that's when I went inwards...and ignored what else was going on around me.

Jonas limps over to Seraphina, who passes with a friend.

JONAS

Wanna join?

SERAPHINA

I'd rather take a dildo to the eye. Did you get the drugs for Friday?

JONAS

Uh, yeah, on their way. Hey -- have you heard any little tidbits about any chill nepotism or bribes to get people into the camp?

SERAPHINA

Omg. No?? Gasp! Literally, do you see any other way of getting in?

The Seddon girl laughs and sniggers at Niah.

SERAPHINA (CONT'D)

Uncoordinated much. Probably put in the dryer as a kid.

WENDY

He said my arms looked like an albino python.

NIAH

Yeah, even I'm not sure what that means. But he likes you, there's a vibe, no doubt.

Wendy pulls out a big stick from Niah's hair, quizzical.

WENDY

Where have you been?

38

EXT. CAMP BE BETTER, FIELD - EARLIER

38

Niah and Declan teach each other dirty fight techniques and waltz, cut together in contrast.

- Niah teaches Declan to knee someone in the crotch
- Declan teaches her about timing while he claps
- Niah puts sunglasses on Declan and demonstrates how to claw someone's eyes out
- Declan spins Niah

They improve - the montage has a fun rhythm and there is warmth and laughs. Declan is slow to duck under Niah's punches.

NIAH

Are you trying to get a black eye?

39

THERAPY CAM -- DECLAN

39

DECLAN

Well, she did try to warn me.

40

INT. MICHAELA'S OFFICE - DAY

40

Jonas barges in.

JONAS

I'll be Frank, not Jonas here; why am I here instead of juvie?

MICHAELA

Why do you think?

JONAS

Erm, were told we were special, an asset to society, and deserved a second chance, not like regular crims. Is that ... not true?

JONAS

Uh, this stuff is good, ay.

Seraphina preps another line. He looks over his shoulder and flips it open, curious...

53 THERAPY CAM -- JONAS

53

JONAS

The ledger was indeed real. It's basically a list of all the bribes made to the camp.

54 INT. MICHAELA'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

54

Jonas sobers as he reads, Seraphina dancing in the BG. His eyes widen --

JONAS (V.O.)

The Highmores have donated a LOT ... to hush up *my* whoopsie.

SECOND AD BREAK

ACT 3

55 EXT. HALL - AFTERNOON

55

The campers prepare to entire the dance hall.

Michaela swings the doors open --

ROE (V.O.)

It was magical.

WENDY (V.O.)

Jarring on the eyes.

NIAH (V.O.)

Is this a thing rich people do?
"Deliberately ugly?"

Crazy mismatched colours and textures, tacky balloons and weird streamers.

MICHAELA

WHAT THE FUCK IS THIS SHI -- ?

Thomas hits a music cue on his laptop as if it's a DJ deck.

THOMAS

Wooooo--!

56 INT. MICHAELA'S OFFICE - EVENING

56

Seraphina smashes lines while Jonas reads the ledger.

SERAPHINA

--ooooh!

Jonas is pulled out of his reverie as Seraphina drags him up to dance.

JONAS

Wait. Sorry to be a downer, but this whole camp is cooked; the amount of shit we get away with, not just now, but maybe our whole lives ... Doesn't it feel ...

SERAPHINA

Oh my god, no one CARES Jonas. Let's go!

JONAS

Okay, nah.

Jonas grabs the bag of coke off her, and she grabs back -- ripping the bag open -- covering them in coke.

Then - a FLASH - a torch beam...Jonas shoves the ledger under the cushion of the Camp Be Better Throne.

The two scarper.

57 INT. HALL - CONTINUOUS

57

Michaela thunders down on Regina, angry about the decor.

REGINA

I returned all the expensive party stuff to pay for dishwashing liquid and baked beans!

MICHAELA

It looks like a poor person's 50th!

Declan offers his hand to Niah -- she joins him on the sance floor in a waltz. Roe and Wendy shuffle to the floor too.

58 THERAPY CAM -- VARIOUS

58

ROE

It started perfectly.

WENDY

I even shaved my arms. And toes.

59 INT. HALL - CONTINUOUS

59

Regina stops Michaela yelling at her and points: Niah and Declan dance together.

REGINA

You know those two are from
completely different backgrounds?
And now look at them.

MICHAELA

I don't care, Regina! I want my
party to be dope.

Wendy and Roe dance closely. Eye contact. Roe is sweating.

WENDY

Can I ask a dumb question?
(beat)
Do you even like me?

Roe panics and scarpers, leaving Wendy forlorn.

Niah watches Roe leave. She goes over to Wendy.

NIAH

What happened to Roe?

Wendy shrugs, trying not to be upset. Niah goes after him.

60 INT. BATHROOM - EVENING

60

Niah heads to the men's bathroom -- she has a peek under one of the doors.

NIAH

Roe?

WAKEFIELD-DEVI

Not Roe, but I have my own
problems.

NIAH

Oookay.

61 INT. HALLWAY -- CONTINUOUS

61

Niah walks down the hall searching. She hears a shuffling and a moaning coming from a nearby storeroom.

62 INT. FOOD STOREROOM -- CONTINUOUS

62

Roe tears off his clothes inside a tiny closet as he SWEATS--

Niah BURSTS in.

NIAH
Roe!

ROE
Ahhh!

NIAH
What's going on??

Seeing Roe almost nude - she shuts the door behind her.

ROE
-- can't breathe - too hot - nylon
blend --

NIAH
What happened? Why --?

Roe claws at his tight pants.

63 INT. HALL - CONTINUOUS 63

Wendy sits alone. Declan approaches.

DECLAN
Have you seen Niah?

64 THERAPY CAM -- JONAS 64

JONAS
I had to let the others know I
found the actual ledger.

65 EXT. CAMP BE BETTER, FIELD - EVENING 65

Jonas, coke all over his face, rushes through the camp.

66 INT. FOOD STOREROOM - CONTINUOUS 66

Roe continues pulling off his clothes, having a full-on panic attack.

NIAH
Roe! Just breathe! Talk to me, what
is it?

ROE
It started with ... Eliza.

67 EXT. COURTYARD, ROE'S FLASHBACK

67

SLOW MO: Roe puts a rose into the buttonhole of a very swish suit.

ROE (V.O.)

My parents are diplomats, so we moved around a lot, I didn't go to school much. One of my live-in tutors was - Eliza.

Reveal - a courtyard aglow with candles and rose petals. ELIZA (30's, intelligent) stands, looking around, confused. Roe clears his throat.

ROE (V.O.) (CONT'D)

One night, I declared my love for her ... through the medium of song.

He starts to sing. Eliza is surprised and awkward.

ANGLE ON: A lace curtain is dangerously close to the candles, fluttering right in and out of the flame.

As Roe sings, a trail of smoke rises behind him...

ROE (V.O.) (CONT'D)

I didn't even get to the octave change. Three buildings next door were damaged, I was charged with arson.

Roe turns around, and we focus on Roe's face which turns to horror as we hear the sound of flames.

Eliza is on the phone to the emergency services. Roe reaches out to help but she cringes away from him. She throws him a pitying look.

ROE (V.O.) (CONT'D)

Needless to say, she didn't feel the same about me. I totally misjudged the situation.

68 INT. FOOD STOREROOM - CONTINUOUS

68

ROE

And now I'm afraid I've got it all wrong again. I can't ... I can't--

NIAH

That's a lot. But I know for a fact Wendy likes you.

ROE

Really?

NIAH

Yeah. How about we talk about this
once you get dressed?

He's still in his undies. She goes for the door -- it won't
move.

NIAH (CONT'D)

Oh shit.

Roe jiggles the handle -- no dice.

Niah throws herself against the door -- she bounces off,
crashing dramatically into Roe and the shelf behind them.

Jars of condiments and grease rain down. The panic begins. As
they get more frantic, they knock more foodstuffs down.

69 INT. HALL - CONTINUOUS

69

Jonas bursts into the hall, snow-faced.

Michaela and Regina's argument has become the main event, all
the campers now watching.

MICHAELA

You've always been so idealistic --
it's pathetic!

REGINA

We have completely different
values! I don't know how we were
ever friends - let alone...

MICHAELA

Let alone what?? Huh? You wanna go?

70 INT. FOOD STOREROOM - CONTINUOUS

70

Covered in foodstuffs, Niah and Roe back up, readying to bust
the door down:

NIAH / ROE (UNISON)

One, two ... THREE!

71 INT. KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

71

Wendy and Declan walk in -- hear THUDDING from the storeroom.

Declan pulls it open to see:

Niah's next--

NIAH
Wendy, just listen to me!

WENDY
Don't touch me, you WHORE!

Big gasp from the gathered campers.

Declan runs out, clutching his head.

DECLAN
Someone get the man some pants!

And now Roe comes in, stark naked, covered in foody mess, his privates covered in thick pink paste.

76 THERAPY CAM -- ROE 76

ROE
My intention was to fashion a
modesty patch from berry yoghurt
which I admit now I failed to fully
think through.

77 INT. HALL - CONTINUOUS 77

ROE
Wendy! It's not what it looks like!

78 THERAPY CAM -- JONAS 78

JONAS
It looked like he'd been ...
fucking yoghurt.

79 INT. HALL - CONTINUOUS 79

Jonas jumps to action, pulling off his shirt to cover up Roe while Roe tries to rush after Wendy.

We have caught up to our opening tableau.

80 THERAPY CAM -- WENDY 80

AI VOICE (V.O.)
How do you feel about it, Wendy?

WENDY
What kind of dumbarse question is
that? How do you think I feel about
it, robo-therapist? I feel...
(MORE)

WENDY (CONT'D)

I feel like talking to a real person about it.

(beat)

But I guess I don't have any 'real' people around me, anymore.

(beat)

People, man.

81 INT. HALL - CONTINUOUS

81

Jonas holds his shirt over Roe's nakedness though he's jumping around. Wendy leaves the hall, upset.

ROE

Wendy! Wendy! Wendy!

Niah goes after her, passing Michaela and Regina who continue kissing.

FADE OUT.

82 EXT. CAMP BE BETTER, ESTABLISHER - DAWN

82

It's a new day.

83 EXT. CAMP BE BETTER, FIELD - MORNING

83

Eating a piece of toast, Roe walks past Wakefield-Devi.

WAKEFIELD-HENRY

Morning, Yoghurt Fucker.

84 THERAPY CAM -- ROE

84

ROE

It won't catch on.

85 INT. MESS HALL - MORNING

85

Niah has extra hash browns, as she looks around the hall. Wendy sees her, and leaves. She sits, sad.

Jonas slides next to her.

JONAS

Still upset about the getting-caught-with-your-new-friend's-boo-naked-in-a-walk-in-fridge-then-humiliated-in-front-of-a-crowd thing? We've all been there.

(beat)

So Wendy hates you but...I've drunk the povvo Kool-aid.

(MORE)

JONAS (CONT'D)
I have some intel. The ledger is
real. And I know where it is.

86 INT. MICHAELA'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

86

JONAS (V.O.)
It's in the Camp Be Better Throne.

PUSH IN ON: The Camp Be Better Cup.

87 INT. MESS HALL - CONTINUOUS

87

Niah's eyes light up - she shoves the hash brown in her
mouth, reignited.