

HOUSEMATES "THE CLASH"

By

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THE CLASH

FADE IN:

INTRODUCTION SEQUENCE

"NEVER HAD SO MUCH FUN" by Frenzal Rhomb plays through the credits. Characters introduced through animation.

JAMES (21) dreadlocks, left wing, studies politics and journalism, popular with the ladies, plays lead guitar in a band. James sits at the back of a lecture theatre, plays pool at the student tavern and rocks out with his band.

TANYA (20) gorgeous, tomboy, studies biology and volunteers at the state museum, completely oblivious that other people don't appreciate animal specimens at the dinner table. Tanya dissects some dead animal in a lab, drives a revamped Holden Kingswood, arrives home with a carton of Victoria Bitter and hands a can out to each of the housemates.

DIPAK (26) engineering student, Indian, computer geek, loves sport even though he sucks at it. Dipak builds a robot in the garage, plays soccer: shoots for goal and misses, plays video games at home with Tanya.

LIBBY (19) studies law, Young Liberal, loves expensive clothing brands, takes herself too seriously. Libby sits at a computer surrounded by law books, hands out political fliers to students, puts a poster of Tony Abbot with a heart around it on her bedroom wall.

Everyone sits around the dinner table eating, drinking, talking and laughing.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. RESTAURANT - MORNING

Tanya on her regular morning run, listens to "IF EVERYBODY LOOKED THE SAME" by Groove Armada on her ipod. Feet PELT along the concrete footpath.

She stops in the park to do stretches.

CUT TO:

JAMES' DREAM SEQUENCE

INT. JAMES' ROOM - MORNING

James asleep in bed.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. NIGHTCLUB - NIGHT (FLASHBACK)

James climbs off the stage and two beautiful girls walk up to him. GIRL ONE puts her arms around his neck, kisses him. She then turns to GIRL TWO and kisses her while James looks on with a satisfied grin on his face.

Door SLAMS (O.S.).

CUT TO:

INT. JAMES' ROOM - MORNING

James wakes with a GROAN, roles over and goes back to sleep.

CUT TO:

INT. KITCHEN - MORNING

Tanya back from her run makes a pot of coffee.

She turns on the TV to watch CARTOONS and slumps on the sofa.

HIGH ANGLE ON COFFEE MUG, thick tar-like brew.

CUT TO:

DIPAK DREAM SEQUENCE

INT. DIPAK'S ROOM - MORNING

Dipak sleeps soundly, a contented smile on his face.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. GARAGE - NIGHT (FLASHBACK)

Dipak is building a video arcade machine. He fits the back panel onto a large wooden box and switches the power. The machine hums loudly, then sucks him into the game.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. GAME

Dipak finds himself on a platform. Behind him is a closed door and to the left, a long drop to nothingness where the platform ends.

He tries the door but it's locked. He then walks right along the platform and notices footholds carved into the wall ahead.

Behind him the door opens and Tanya enters dressed as Lara Croft. The door slides shut behind her.

A zombie appears on the platform to his right and stumbles towards them. Tanya somersaults along the platform, shoots the zombie dead, walks straight passed Dipak and starts climbing down the wall.

Door SLAMS (O.S).

CUT TO:

INT. DIPAK'S ROOM - MORNING

Dipak wakes suddenly, looks at the clock which reads: "8:00AM." He GROANS and covers his head with blankets.

CUT TO:

INT. CORRIDOR - MORNING

Libby leaves her room with a towel wrapped around her naked body. She SLAMS the door, which woke Dipak, slips into the bathroom and closes the door behind her. Her hair, usually immaculate looks like a bird's nest.

CUT TO:

INT. BATHROOM - MORNING

Having showered Libby, inspects her reflection in the mirror, pouts and sucks her tummy in. She then begins to style her hair, humming "GOD SAVE THE QUEEN." She reaches for a can of hairspray, shakes it, empty.

LIBBY
(angry hiss)
James you wanker.

CUT TO:

EXT. HOUSE FRONT - MORNING

Tanya walks out the front door casually dressed in jeans, black hoodie and a backpack over her shoulder. She walks to the Kingswood parked on the front lawn, climbs behind the wheel and turns on the radio. TRIPLE J's "MORNING SHOW WITH TOM AND ALEX."

TOM (V.O.)
(radio)
Well, it's time to start planning for the holidays. This morning we'll be letting you know the amazing line up for Falls and Southbound Festivals.

ALEX (V.O.)
(radio)
But in return we want to know about your past New Year experiences...horror stories, random adventures, weird and wonderful surprises...you get the idea.

Dipak walks from the house to the car followed by Libby. Her hair is limp and still wet.

TOM (V.O.)
(radio)
What's your most memorable New Year Alex?

ALEX (V.O.)
(radio)
I was camping on the beach with a couple of mates and woke up on New Year's Eve to someone's loud music. I thought it was a car stereo but I
(MORE)

ALEX (V.O.) (cont'd)
 looked out of the tent and a group
 of people were setting up a rave in
 the middle of no where. Needless to
 say our previous plans were
 immediately canceled.

TANYA
 Let's roll!

Tanya starts the engine and the car shoots out onto the
 street.

CUT TO:

EXT. UNIVERSITY CAR PARK - DAY

With excessive velocity she pulls into the university car
 park. All the parking spots have been taken so she parks on
 the verge which has been loving made into a garden.

LOW ANGLE ON FRONT TYRE, from under which pokes out the
 remains of a tramples jonquil flower.

Libby, struggling with her bags follows Dipak and Tanya up
 the steps to the centre of the university.

CUT TO:

INT. LECTURE THEATER - DAY

In the second row of the empty theater Tanya sits alone.
 Alert, she rubs her hands together in eager anticipation.

The screen at the front of the room lights up revealing a
 composition of horsefly sexual positions.

The other students, bored and still half asleep fill the
 remaining seats. The lights dim and the lecture begins.

LECTURER (65) male, dressed in short shorts, knee high socks
 and thick square glasses. He carries a long old fashioned
 pointer resembling a pool cue.

LECTURER
 Welcome to the animal biodiversity
 series of lectures on arthropods.
 Today we will cover uniramia. For
 anyone who doesn't think insects
 are particularly interesting, the
 horsefly has over two dozen sexual
 positions.

CUT TO:

INT. LIBRARY - DAY

Libby enters the library, opens her laptop and logs onto Facebook. A CAT MEME is the first entry on her news feed.

CUT TO:

FACEBOOK CRAP SEQUENCE - CAT MEMES

ANIMATION, a series of cat memes appear on the screen. Title page: EVERYONE LOVES CAT MEMES! With a picture of a really ugly cat licking his lips.

The animation proceeds to show several other cat memes:

1. A woman sits in an arm chair surrounded by cats with the slogan "WE UNDERSTAND YOU'RE STILL NOT MARRIED."

2. A picture of a kitten playing with a ball of wool. The slogan says: "MEN LIKE CATS TOO. WE PLAY WITH BALLS."

3. An fat cat with feathers sticking out of it's mouth. Slogan: "AND...YEP, WE EAT BIRDS."

EVIL EDDIE (Australian musician) breaks through the last cat meme.

EVIL EDDIE

(angry)

No! No more friggin cat memes. I
refuse to perform on this program
if you show any more cat memes!

Evil Eddie continues to smash things around him.

CUT TO:

APOLOGY - AUSTRALIAN BROADCASTING CORPORATION

TRANSMISSION ERROR SCREEN appears with the following message: "THE PRODUCERS OF THIS PROGRAM AND THE ABC APOLOGISE FOR THE PREVIOUS SCENE. WE DO NOT ENDORSE THE SHARING OF CAT MEMES BECAUSE THEY ARE LAME"

CUT TO:

INT. LIBRARY - DAY

Libby, still on the computer looking at Facebook. A YOUNG MAN approaches her.

YOUNG MAN
Hey Lib. I finally got those Tony
Abbot signature wine labels.

Libby rubs her hands together.

LIBBY
Goodie.

Young man stands there looking at her.

LIBBY (CONT'D)
Well, hand them over.

They both survey the room to see if anyone is watching and make the transaction as if it were a drug deal.

YOUNG MAN
(pockets the money)
There's plenty more where that came
from.

The young man exits while Libby shuts down her computer. She exits the library.

CUT TO:

EXT. UNIVERSITY COURT YARD - DAY

James walks along the footpath beside a young woman BECCA, dressed in colourful reggae paraphernalia.

James glances at his phone.

JAMES
I'm late for my tutorial.

BECCA
What one?

JAMES
Environmental Ethics.

BECCA
Nice. I'll see you at the gig on
Friday.

The couple part company and proceed in different directions. James quickens his pace and disappears around a corner.

CUT TO:

EXT. SMALL GARDEN - DAY

A group of students and a lecturer who kinda looks like Gandalf the wizard sit in a circle on the grass. The students are generally left-wing and of alternative appearance.

James flings his backpack down behind him and joins the circle.

Gandalf smiles across at the bright-eyed attentive students.

GANDALF

We're comparing the three readings:
Tragedy of the Commons by Garret
Hardin, the chapter from Richard
Dawkins' Unweaving the Rainbow and
an article from the Huffington Post
"Bleeding Hearts and Good
Intentions Kill Wildlife.

James' phone BEEPS loudly as he receives a text. Class members and Gandalf send him dirty looks for the disruption.

JAMES

Sorry.

He puts the phone on silent.

MICRO SHOT - JAMES' PHONE, The message from BIANCA reads
"GREAT NEWS, I GOT OUT OF THE FAMILY THING. SEE YOU FRIDAY."

GANDALF (O.S.)

Who wants to identify a common
theme the three articles share?

James starts to reply to the message but decides against it. He places the phone face down on the grass.

FEMALE STUDENT

They come from different
perspectives but they all value the
natural world.

GANDALF

Spot on. What did you think of
them?

MALE STUDENT

The Huffington Post article supports trophy hunting because it provides an economic incentive for African countries to preserve large mammals as a source of revenue.

James' phone BUZZES again. He turns is over discretely to read the message.

MICRO SHOT - JAMES' PHONE, the text from BETHANY this time reads: "SORRY COULDN'T MAKE IT LAST WEEKEND, SOMETHING CAME UP BUT GOOD FOR FRIDAY."

As James registers the information his eyebrows rise. He strokes his chin lost in thought.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. BAND ROOM - NIGHT (FLASHBACK)

The band hide out in a cramped room during interval between sets. On the wall an amateur cartoonist has drawn a small alien on a black motorcycle. Other writing on the wall reads: "FOR A GOOD TIME CALL LARA BANGLE 0434 339 772."

The DRUMMER hands James a beer, he takes a swig as two beautiful women enter.

BIANCA, a petite brunette smiles and takes an empty seat beside him. Her cute blond FRIEND absorbs the strange surroundings.

BIANCA

(to James)

Here I am. Had a pull a few strings though.

James smiles politely and kisses her on the cheek.

BIANCA

Is that all I get?

He kisses her on the lips this time.

BIANCA

How about a beer?

The drummer hands her an open stubby of Heineken. She takes a swig and snuggles up next to James.

BETHANY, a leggy redhead enters the room. She spots James, leans down for a kiss. He moves his mouth away and her lips meet his cheek.

All the chairs are taken so Bethany stands awkwardly in the corner.

James gets up, Bethany takes his seat and he leaves the room, knocking into BECCA on the way out.

CUT TO:

INT. NIGHTCLUB - NIGHT (FLASHBACK)

James weaves across the dance floor to the bar clutching his head. Bianca and Bethany run after him. They each take an arm and try to pull him towards them.

Becca now watches the spectacle from across the room.

Bethany wins the tug-o-war, propelling James across the floor. He trips, stumbles and falls flat on his face.

Bianca launches herself at Bethany and they roll around on the floor together pulling hair and throwing punches.

James sits up and watches the brawling ladies. He GROANS and falls back on the floor where he lies staring up at the ceiling.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. SMALL GARDEN - DAY

The other students pay attention to Gandalf, some take notes, while James stares into space.

GANDALF

Do you think the other two writers
would accept this position?

STUDENTS

(together)

No!

James snaps out of his daze and GROANS Loudly.

They all stop and look at him. James shrugs apologetically and they turn their attention back to the lesson.

FEMALE STUDENT

Hardin says that it's overpopulation which leads to depletion of resources including lions and rhinos.

GANDALF

But can better management practices prevent exhausting natural resources?

CUT TO:

EXT. BIOLOGY LAB - DAY

Students stuff their bags into pigeon holes in the corridor and pull on white lab coats. They collect their books and enter the lab.

CUT TO:

INT. BIOLOGY LAB - DAY

Students take their seats in the sterile lab room. Tanya plays with her dissection kit as the DEMONSTRATOR begins.

DEMONSTRATOR

Today we'll be looking at Cnidaria which you covered in the lecture series last week. We have a number of fresh water hydra to look at. You will then dissect preserved sea anenomes.

A FEMALE STUDENT accidentally drops her dissection kit on the floor. The pieces go everywhere. She climbs under the desk collecting the items.

DEMONSTRATOR

Remember in your drawings I want to see accuracy. If you see 19 tentacles, draw 19 tentacles. There's no artistic licence in biology. You're working in pairs.

Students pull the containers of fresh water from the centre of each table toward them.

HIGH ANGLE ON CONTAINER, in the water are several live hydra polyps.

TANYA
(referring to the notes)

It says we're supposed to feed them and record what they do.

DEMONSTRATOR
I've got a special reward for the student who wrote the best lab report last week. You'll be able to take it home and study it as long as you bring it back on Monday.

CUT TO:

INT. ENGINEERING LAB - AFTERNOON

Dipak is one of six students sitting at a table in an engineering lab. JEFF (35) engineering demonstrator, tall, blond, athletic.

JEFF
Good afternoon. I trust you've all read the notes for the robot design project. My name is Jeff and I'll be supervising the next six labs.

As Jeff speaks, a RED DOT appears on his forehead. The red dot moves down to his chest, to his groin and then back up to his head getting him in the eye.

JEFF CONT'D
Whoever is playing with the lazer pointer can you please stop it!

The red dot disappears.

JEFF CONT'D
Just a little bit about my background before we get down to work. I've spend the last five years working for Mercedes, in their design department and have just completed a Ph. D focused on cruise control safety features.

CUT TO:

EXT. ROAD - DAY (FLASHBACK)

MAN (60) grey hair, drives a motor home along a long strait road.

MAN

Time to test out the cruise control
of my brand new motor home while I
slip into the back to make myself a
cup of coffee.

He presses a button, climbs out from behind the wheel and disappears. The motor home drives along the road keeping within the lines but a sharp turn approaches.

CUT TO:

INT. MOTOR HOME - DAY (FLASHBACK)

The man stands by the stove WHISTLING to "HOTEL CALIFORNIA" by the Eagles. Everything SHAKES as the vehicle goes over a bump. The empty cup and saucer hover in the air and land back in the same place.

CUT TO:

EXT. MOTOR HOME - DAY (FLASHBACK)

The motor home follows a long, straight stretch of road growing small in the distance.

CUT TO:

EXT. ROAD WORKS - DAY (FLASHBACK)

ROADWORKS SIGNS are visible beside the road. One sign reads "NO LINES, DO NOT OVERTAKE".

A road train thunders towards the signs. The motor home appears as it comes around a corner in the opposite direction.

The two vehicles look as though they are going to pass each other but where the lines have disappeared the motor home drifts onto the right hand side of the road.

The screen goes BLACK as breaks SCREECH followed by a loud CRASH.

CUT TO:

INT. ENGINEERING LAB - AFTERNOON

JEFF CONT'D

Before that I worked for a manufacturer of factory and supermarket equipment and led the team that developed the self-checkout machine now used by most of Australia's large supermarkets.

LOUD VOICE (O.S.)

It was you!

Someone throws a PENCIL CASE at Jeff. It nearly hits him in the face but he dodges it. He composes himself.

JEFF

I get that a lot.

CUT TO:

INT. SUPERMARKET CHECKOUT - DAY (FLASHBACK)

Dipak, young and pimply stands behind a checkout. He swipes a customers goods and bags them. The customer pays and leaves.

DIPAK

(calls after customer)

Have a nice day!

MARY, 40, female, large build with oily hair and a red face. Mary, the supermarket manager approaches Dipak at the checkout.

DIPAK

(cheerful)

Hi Mary. Thank God it's Friday hey?

MARY

(awkward)

Look Dipak, I'm really sorry but I'm going to have to let you go.

DIPAK

(distressed)

Why? Did I do something wrong?

MARY

No, it's not you. We're getting in some of those self-checkout machines.

CUT TO:

INT. ENGINEERING LAB - AFTERNOON

Dipak launches a PENCIL CASE across the room.

DIPAK

Ahhhhhh!

This time it hits Jeff in the eye. Jeff CRIES out in pain and clutches his face.

Dipak packs up his bag and walks out of the lab.

CUT TO:

EXT. CAR PARK - DAY

Tanya strolls across the parking lot to the Kingswood, tyres resting upon crumpled flowers. A piece of paper pokes out from under a windscreen wiper.

TANYA

(groans)

There goes more beer money.

She pulls the ticket from the windscreen and pockets it. She gets behind the wheel, revs the engine and does a burnout in the garden bed before taking off down the street. Guns and Roses "SWEET CHILD" lingers in the air behind her.

CUT TO:

EXT. DRIVE THROUGH BOTTLE SHOP - DAY

Tanya pulls up at a bottle shop drive through. She turns the music down and waits expectantly for the attendant. A YOUNG MAN in a pink shirt and a metro-sexual haircut peers in through the window.

TANYA

Carton of VB please.

Young man GIGGLES.

TANYA

What's so funny?

YOUNG MAN
 (smiling, effeminate)
 You're listening to Gunners. I
 think that's great.

The young man reenters the shop to fill the order. Tanya sits in stunned silence.

TANYA
 (to self)
 And you're laughing at me!

The young man returns with a carton on VB, struggles with the weight but manages to slide it onto the back seat. Tanya pays, turns the music back up, swings back onto the main road.

CUT TO:

INT. KITCHEN - AFTERNOON

Libby mixes flour and water in a large bowl. She tries in vain not to get any on her clothes. James enters with a guitar. He inspects Libby's work curious about what food will soon be available (typical male).

LIBBY
 Damn it!

JAMES
 What's cooking Libs?

LIBBY
 I'm making pasta from scratch.

She spins around, covered in flour, dough all over her hands.

LIBBY CONT'D
 But it's not going very well.

James shrugs, takes his guitar into the living room. Loud CHORDS can be heard from the kitchen.

Libby takes the dough out of the bowl and drops it on the bench. The bowl falls to the floor and smashes. She SCREAMS in frustration.

The chords stop and James enters the kitchen to save the maiden in distress. Libby washes her hands and starts picking up pieces of bowl off the floor.

James takes the broken pieces, throws them in the bin. He wipes the flour off her clothes with a damp tea towel. Libby blows the hair out of her face and looks up at him. There is obviously some attraction. She blushes and moves away.

LIBBY

Thanks.

JAMES

No worries. Do you want some help?

LIBBY

No thanks. The hard part's already done.

James leaves the tea towel on the bench and gets two bottles of beer out of the fridge, hands one to Libby.

CUT TO:

INT. DINING ROOM - NIGHT

James and Dipak sit at the table with empty plates and a salad in front of them.

Tanya walks in the front door with a CARTON OF VB over her shoulder. She puts the box down by the fridge, tears it open and throws a can to each of the boys seated at the table.

JAMES

I'm so hungry.

DIPAK

Me too.

Tanya proceeds to stack the fridge.

JAMES

She's making the pasta. Been at it all afternoon.

DIPAK

Man, that sounds good. There are definitely some bonuses to coed living arrangements.

Tanya places a large jar it on the table and sits down.

TANYA

Yer, like what?

DIPAK
Yummy food.

JAMES
And general cleanliness.
(to Dipak)
You never put your games away.

DIPAK
And you never clean the bathroom.

TANYA
Neither do I come to think of it.
Don't cook much either.

JAMES
But you're not really a girl.

Tanya peers down her shirt.

TANYA
Wow! Pretty sure I actually am.

Libby enters with a large saucepan full of homemade pasta.
She places it in the middle of the table.

LIBBY
The sauce is just coming. Tanya
what's in that jar?

TANYA
(with pride)
That is a dolphin fetus.

Dipak looks more closely at the jar and can see that it is
definitely a dolphin fetus.

LIBBY
That is really gross.

DIPAK
I think it's kind of interesting.

LIBBY
Well, it shouldn't be on the dinner
table.

Tanya shrugs, puts it on the floor beside her seat. Libby
returns to the kitchen while the rest of the housemates help
themselves to salad and garlic bread.

DIPAK
 Guess who our new robotics
 demonstrator is?

JAMES
 (disinterested)
 No idea.

DIPAK
 The guy who designed those
 self-check out machines.

JAMES
 Bastard!

Libby enters with a pan of sauce, squeezes it amongst the
 accouterments already on the table.

LIBBY
 Who's a bastard?

JAMES
 (dishing out food)
 The guy who invented self-check out
 machines.

Libby stares at him blankly.

JAMES CONT'D
 You know, like the ones at Coles.

LIBBY
 I like them.

JAMES
 But they've cost thousands of jobs.
 People like us, young people, old
 people, people with disabilities.

LIBBY
 But you don't have to wait as
 long...(pause)..and because they
 don't have to pay as much in wages
 they can give more discounts.

TANYA
 (with sour expression)
 What did you put in this sauce?

Dipak and James try it with the same results.

LIBBY
Lots of stuff. It's vegetarian.

DIPAK
Like what?

LIBBY
Vegetables, tinned tomatos, red
wine, a bit of chili...

TANYA
(sifting through the sauce)
Is that a pickle?

Dipak, James and Tanya share a knowing look across the table.

JAMES
I appreciate the effort but pickles
really don't belong in pasta sauce.

Dipak eats it anyway and after every couple of mouthfuls washes the taste away with a swig of beer.

DIPAK
Man, that stuff is evil.

CROSS TO LIVING ROOM where Evil Eddie stands, with band, in front of a mic ready to perform.

EVIL EDDIE
Did somebody say evil?

CROSS BACK TO DINING ROOM.

DIPAK
(to self)
Umm, I did.

The housemates leave the table and enter the adjoining living room as Eddie starts to perform whatever song he chooses.

As the music plays the housemates dance and the living room progressively fills with extra people who have just walked in from off the street.

When the song finishes Libby runs off to her room to get something. She reenters with a bottle of wine.

The extra people leave while Tanya, Dipak and James get comfortable on the sofa.

LIBBY
(formally)
Eddie, on behalf of the house I'd
like to thank you for coming to
play for us with this Tony Abbot
signature bottle of Shiraz.

C.U. - TONY ABBOT SIGNATURE WINE LABEL.

Eddie, uncomfortable about accepting such a gift but not
wanting to be rude leans forward and takes the bottle from
Libby with a grimace.

LIBBY CONT'D
It was supposed to be used for a
Young Liberal fundraiser but I
thought you'd like it.

EVIL EDDIE
Um, thanks.

DIPAK
Well that was fun. How about some
FIFA?

Dipak picks up a game consol as Tanya enters the living room
wearing a pair of VB boxer shorts and a singlet. She waves a
toothbrush with paste on it.

TANYA
(sings)
School night, school night, school
night!

All men on set ogle Tanya while Libby ogles Eddie. She winks
at him. His response: horror.

EVIL EDDIE
(whispers to band member)
I've got to get out of here.

The band starts another song and Eddie uses the distraction
to sneak out of the house.

CUT TO:

EXT. FRONT YARD - NIGHT

Eddie creeps around to the front of a house, climbs into
Tanya's Kingswood, hot-wires it and drives off in a hurry.

CUT TO:

CLOSING CREDITS

CUT TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

The room is dark empty as everyone has left or gone to bed. cicadas CHIRP in the background. The Tony Abbot signature wine has been left amongst empty bottles and dirty glasses on the coffee table.

[THE END]