INDEPENDENT LIVING

1X11

"Kingston Lounge"

Story by Aaron Bielert

Written by Aaron Bielert

© 2005 AB Studio Productions

INDEPENDENT LIVING

"Kingston Lounge"

TEASER

FADE IN:

INT. APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - DAY

my shoe.

Jack, Aaron and Melissa are sitting on couch watching Television when Sarah comes walking in the front door.

> SARAH Hey Jack, I got some great news.

JACK I hope this is good, better than the last news of, I found gum on

AARON I thought she found her shoe by the gum.

JACK No it was gum on her shoe.

SARAH Are you two idiots done now, I do have great news here.

JACK I'm sorry sweetheart go ahead.

SARAH I got a job.

JACK A real job, a money paying job, like work, job.

SARAH That's right you wouldn't know what that is now would you.

JACK Ouch that hurts.

MELISSA Where did you find a job at? *

SARAH

Well I was getting coffee at Kingston Lounge right, and I noticed this help wanted sign in the window, so I applied and they hired me right there as a waitress.

JACK

You're going to be a waitress at our coffee place.

SARAH

That's right, why do you have a problem with that.

AARON

I do, Will you be giving us free or discounted coffee and or snacks.

SARAH

It depends how nice to me you are when I'm working and you're sitting. And how good you tip.

JACK

What do you need a job for, I thought you were doing fine with the money from your parents.

SARAH

I am but I can always use some extra so we can go out and not always have to stay in with well Aaron and Melissa all the time.

JACK

Hey there's nothing wrong with staying in.

SARAH

Well it wouldn't hurt for you to get a job too.

MELISSA

I think that's a good idea Jack, then you wouldn't be stuck here with me and Aaron all the time and breathing down our necks.

JACK Why do I have to work also if you're already working.

SARAH Well you know how I don't give you any right now, well maybe, just maybe if you got a job that would change.

JACK Well if you put it that way.

Jack runs out the door.

MELISSA Are you really going to give him some if he gets a job.

SARAH Not on his life.

BLACK OUT.

END OF TEASER

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

INT. KINGSTON LOUNGE - LATER

Aaron and Jack sitting at a booth talking.

AARON

It's been three weeks since you two have been dating, why are you doing everything she tells you, it's like you're a little puppy dog.

JACK And there's something wrong with that?

AARON It gets sick after a while.

JACK

Look this whole relationship thing is new for me, I'm not like you where girls just fall into my arms.

AARON I don't know how that happens it just does.

JACK

Look I want to keep this relationship thing going, but I don't want to have to get a job either, but she's been working for two days now right and we've seen each other about ten minutes.

AARON

So what are you going to do so you two can see each other more than ten minutes a day.

JACK

No we've seen each other about ten minutes in two days.

AARON

That's bad. Well why don't you get a job here also that way you two can see each other all the time.

JACK I don't know if she would like that.

AARON She told you to get a job right, she never said where did she?

JACK No, but I doubt she wants to work together.

AARON

Look we're in college, this isn't grade school anymore, we work where we can work, she doesn't have a choice in this matter.

JACK

You're right, I'm going to march up to that front counter and get myself and application right now, I'll be back.

Jack walks over to the counter when Amber walks in and sits down across from Aaron.

AARON

I see you came out in the sunlight.

AMBER

Very funny, what are you doing here so early, it's not even nine in the morning yet.

AARON

Jack and I had some business to take care of this morning. Why are you up so early?

AMBER

Well I was going to go see Christine at your place but I forgot she's on that ski trip. Plus I have a bad hangover from not enough sleep.

AARON Problems sleeping?

AMBER

Actually yes, how do you deal with loud annoying college dorm students living above you.

AARON Take a broom and hit the ceiling.

Jack comes back over and sits down.

AMBER

Morning Jack, where were you at?

AARON You okay Jack?

JACK Yeah, but I just got a job.

AARON You're kidding, good job, what are you doing?

JACK I'm going to be Sarah's boss, I just got hired as the new assistant manager of Kingston Lounge.

AARON Okay, I should have been clearer on what I meant, see now you're in trouble because you work with your girlfriend and you're her boss.

JACK I'm guessing that's not a good thing.

AARON Now that's a good guess.

BLACK OUT.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

INT. CAMPUS - HALLWAY - DAY

Melissa and Ryan run into each other walking in the hallway.

RYAN Hey Melissa hold on.

MELISSA Hey Ryan, I was on my way to the library, I needed to print up this article for a project that's due tomorrow.

RYAN

I wanted to ask you, I mean I know that you're in a relationship with Aaron, so maybe you can give me some advice.

MELISSA

I'm really in a hurry, can this wait till later.

RYAN It'll only take a few minutes.

MELISSA Fine, lay it on me.

RYAN

Okay, say this guy, likes this girl who just happens to live with him and wants to ask her out again, even though he knows he blew it last time on account of his best friend, what should he do?

MELISSA

Okay, why don't you just talk to Dan and tell him how you feel and then talk to Veronica.

RYAN

Well I know you and Veronica are going to the mall later, so maybe you can talk to her.

MELISSA

Okay I'll be in preschool with the he said she said nonsense for a few more hours, now I got to go.

RYAN

Hey why are you and Aaron so compatible for each other?

MELISSA

I don't know, I never really gave it much thought.

RYAN

Well thanks for the advice, I'll go ask Amber her opinion.

MELISSA

Hey I gave you good quality advice, don't mess with the brain of advice.

INT. APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Jack and Sarah sitting on couch watching television.

SARAH

So the owner was telling me you got a job at Kingston Lounge today.

JACK

It's nothing.

SARAH Not getting a job is nothing, reading a book is nothing, a job is something, what did you get?

JACK You really don't want to know.

SARAH Yes I do want to know.

JACK You can't handle the truth.

SARAH I want the truth right now, I can handle it.

```
CONTINUED:
```

JACK And you promise you won't get mad or upset.

SARAH Why would I get mad or upset, just tell me.

JACK Okay here it goes, I'm going to be your new boss.

SARAH

Say what, no no no dear, You're not taking that job. There's no way in hell that you're going to be my boss.

JACK See I told you that you couldn't handle it.

SARAH Well this is a little different, I mean we're dating, besides what would you do if I came home telling you that I'm your new boss.

JACK No dear, I think you're having backlashes, I'm your new boss.

SARAH I know that, I was trying to.... Never mind. Look if you take this job it could affect us.

JACK Well I guess that's a risk we'll have to be willing to take now, won't we?

INT. MALL - FOOD COURT - LATER

Veronica and Melissa sitting at a table eating.

MELISSA So how are things at home right now.

VERONICA

It's funny you ask that, you know it's been weird ever since the whole Ryan and Dan thing a few weeks ago. It's more like a competition between the two of them now, like who can go out with me first.

MELISSA

It's funny you say that because I was on my way to the library today and I ran into Ryan in the hall.

VERONICA

You did, that's funny, he said he was going bowling today.

MELISSA

Well he stopped me and wanted my advice on how to ask you out without Dan knowing.

VERONICA

So now they've both stooped to a new low, now there trying to go behind each others backs.

MELISSA

Why do let this happen, why don't you just lay down the law with them.

VERONICA

Well I do like them both, plus it is kind of funny watching them both try to out do each other like they are, like last night Ryan did the old shaving cream trick to Dan to try to embarrass him and then Dan got back at him by bleaching his toothbrush. It's so funny, I wish you could be there to see it.

MELISSA

For some reason I think it's good that I'm not.

INT. KINGSTON LOUNGE - CONTINUOUS

Aaron and Dan sitting down and talking.

AARON

We should have done this a long time ago, we don't even really know each other.

DAN

Well what do you want to know besides, I've been Ryan's friend for most of high school and you didn't even pay a lick of attention to me in high school.

AARON

I was busy with my studies.

DAN

I even stuffed myself in your locker one time just so you would say hi, how are you.

AARON

Okay at first I'll admit that I was a little weird with the fact of Ryan hanging with you.

DAN I was a good kid.

AARON You wore make-up in high school.

DAN

So there's nothing wrong with that, besides, I don't anymore.

AARON

So what's going on between you and Ryan, he called me last night telling me to talk to you about Veronica and how she's a lesbian, which for some reason brings me back to the competition between you two.

DAN

That little rat, he wants me to believe that Veronica's a lesbian so I won't go after her anymore.

AARON That's probably the gist of it.

DAN

I like Veronica a lot, I wish there was a way for both of us to have her so we wouldn't be fighting anymore.

AARON

Well that's the problem with girls and friendships, a girl walks into your life and rips two friends in half like barbecue spare ribs.

Sarah comes walking over in her waitress uniform.

SARAH Hi, welcome to Kingston Lounge, what can I get for you two today?

AARON Well Sarah, I think I'll get the cafe expresso double blended with a whipped cream topping.

DAN I'll just have a malt cafe.

Jack comes walking over.

JACK

Sarah look when you take someone's orders you must tell them about today's specials, everytime.

SARAH But I know these two, we live with one of them.

JACK Well that's the best time to practice.

SARAH

Well maybe you should practice how to say would you like to go out sometime.

JACK Maybe I'm wrong here but wouldn't you rather know today's specials Aaron?

AARON Well actually....

JACK See he needs to know today's specials.

SARAH

Actually he didn't say anything because all you did was interrupt him like you do everybody, so why don't you take this job and our relationship and shove it where the sun don't shine, I quit.

FADE TO BLACK.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

FADE IN:

INT. KINGSTON LOUNGE - CONTINUOUS

Aaron and Dan sitting at booth with Jack standing next to table.

JACK

What just happened.

DAN Well I guess that your girlfriend and employee just dumped you flat on your face.

JACK

Thanks for putting that in a nice way. I don't get it, all I'm trying to do is what she asked, get a job, okay I get one and she gets mad, now I'm trying to do my job the right way and she gets mad, what is it with women?

AARON

Jack, if I knew the answer to that I wouldn't be here right now believe me.

DAN

Look Jack try having what I have, my roommate and I don't get along and we're fighting over the same girl.

AARON

Look Jack, why don't you just go home tonight and I'll stay the night at Melissa's and just really be nice to Sarah.

JACK In other words you want me to kiss ass.

AARON That's what I'm pretty much saying.

JACK So you think if I ask her to come back to work she will?

AARON

I think so.

INT. CAMPUS - MELISSA'S DORM - NIGHT

Aaron and Melissa sitting on bed.

MELISSA

So I ran into Ryan today, this whole thing between them is really getting funny.

AARON

I was with Dan earlier. I'm ready to put a stop to this myself pretty soon, It's starting to get old. I'm getting gray hair from this.

MELISSA I just noticed that.

AARON

I was joking, you mean I'm really getting gray hair.

MELISSA

No but it looks good since you decided to let it grow out.

AARON

Well you know it's that whole new look middle length hair style thing.

MELISSA

Well it's nice of you to let Jack and Sarah work out there stuff.

AARON

Well I figure with Christine gone and also this gives us a chance to spend some extra time together.

MELISSA

Well I hope you don't mind but I invited Amber over for cards tonight.

AARON

Oh come on, Why can't you and I spend the night alone?

MELISSA

Well I felt bad, she stays there all alone with that big dorm room and has no one to send time with ever since you guys broke up and besides her sister is out of town.

AARON

Fine but she's gone by eleven.

MELISSA

If she's not gone then I'll marry you tomorrow.

AARON

Really?

MELISSA What do you think?

AARON I'm thinking we've only been dating for three months.

MELISSA

So anything interesting happen at your only class today.

AARON

I wouldn't know because I didn't go.

MELISSA

You didn't go to class today, then why weren't you over all day until now. So who were you out with all day because I know you and Dan didn't spend the whole day together.

AARON

Honey, nobody, I spent the better part of the day sleeping, calm down, take a chill pill, I only love you (kisses Melissa) Look I was thinking...

MELISSA

Actually I was doing some thinking too today and you know how both Sarah and Jack got jobs, even though it isn't working very well, I think we should get jobs too.

AARON

A job, like work, like getting paid hardly anything for doing a lot of work, that kind of job. One question, are you crazy?

MELISSA

Look it wouldn't hurt us to have some extra money too Aaron, besides wouldn't you like to move out of the apartment one day and you and I get our own apartment.

AARON

You're thinking way too much ahead, we're freshman in college, I plan on living where I am right now until I graduate in three years.

MELISSA

I know but we don't graduate until 2008, that's a long time away.

AARON

The answer is no, I'm getting a job right now, I have enough money coming in from my college fund.

MELISSA

Okay, whatever you say, let's just get through the night.

BLACK OUT.

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

FADE IN:

INT. CAMPUS - RYAN AND DAN'S DORM - NIGHT

Ryan and Dan sitting on other sides of the room talking.

RYAN

I don't know why you won't let me go out with her, why do you have to have her.

DAN Ryan I like her, I can treat her better.

RYAN Dan, we've been friends for a long time now, I'm asking her out.

DAN Look go ahead but I'll be right behind you ask her out at the same time.

RYAN There's no way we can work this out is there?

DAN Maybe Aaron was right.

RYAN What do you mean Aaron was right.

DAN Well he was telling me that it affects your friendship with somebody when you fight over a girl.

RYAN

Look it's not that I don't want you to go out with her, it's just that I feel like there's something between us, and it's like attracting her to me.

DAN

That's the problem we both have reasons to go out with her, neither of us have reasons not to go out with her.

RYAN

Who in there right mind would have a reason not to go out with somebody as good looking as Veronica.

DAN

Good point, but we've been through this before, remember?

RYAN

I remember, it was junior year of high school and her name was Veronica too, weird, yeah we almost got suspended from school because of how we fought over her.

DAN

And remember what happened in the end because we kept fighting over her in front of her.

RYAN

Yeah she told both of us to go to hell, oh, I see if we keep fighting in front of Veronica she's going to reject both of us you're saying.

DAN

Exactly, so we need to stop fighting in front of her, we need to keep her out of this. But in the end I'm going to be with her.

RYAN Once again you are so wrong.

INT. APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Sarah is watching television while sitting on the couch when Jack comes walking in through the front door.

JACK

I think we need to talk about things.

SARAH

There's nothing to say Jack, I said everything I needed to say this afternoon.

JACK

That's what I think we need to talk about.

SARAH

Great, you want to yell at me some more, tell me what a bad job I'm doing, or what about embarrassing me in front of my friends.

JACK

Hey there my friends too and no I don't want to do any of those things.

SARAH

Then what do you want?

JACK

Look, do you have any idea how much what you said hurt me after you left.

SARAH

Look I don't expect for you to understand this but growing up, I was always the last one chosen for volleyball or sports in general or actually anything, I've never really been good at anything, and all of that just came back to me today.

JACK

Okay, I'll admit, maybe I was wrong by doing what I did. We did know them and it's not like they order different things when they come in but besides that.

SARAH

Look I didn't mean what I said as far as us not being together anymore, I just got mad and overreacted, but you have to admit that I had a reason to be.

JACK

I just said I was sorry, like ten seconds ago if you didn't hear me.

SARAH

No I heard you.

JACK

Look, I know it's weird with me being your boss, I was surprised also with it when I got the job but we just have to look at it as a good thing, for one it gives us a chance to see each other more than we would with us working at different places, also what other couples get to work together?

SARAH

I guess you're right. Maybe I was wrong for getting as mad as I did, I mean you were only doing your job.

JACK Stuff happens.

SARAH

So do you think I could have my job back?

JACK

I don't know, a lot of people really want to work at Kingston Lounge, but I think I can arrange something.

SARAH I guess it's cool having your boss be your boyfriend.

JACK It comes with perks.

SARAH Sounds cool. (kisses Jack)

INT. KINGSTON LOUNGE - DAY

Aaron, Amber, Melissa, and Ryan sitting at booth.

AARON

So what do you have planned this weekend Ryan?

AMBER

You still fighting with Dan over Veronica?

RYAN

Well actually we've come to some agreement on the fact we need to be more civilized about this.

AMBER

Well I think either one of you would make a good boyfriend for Veronica in a weird sort of way.

MELISSA

Darling, remember we have dinner with your mom and sister this weekend.

AMBER

Hey Melissa, on Sunday, you think you might want to help me with my econ project.

MELISSA You don't mind do you Aaron?

AARON

No go ahead.

Sarah walks over.

SARAH

Hey guys, what can I get you guys today?

AARON I'll have my usual, actually I think everybody will have the usual.

SARAH Usual's all around, got it.

Jack walks over.

JACK You're doing a great job.

SARAH

Thanks.

MELISSA

See Aaron, that's why we need to get a job in the same place.

AMBER

You and Aaron are trying to get jobs?

MELISSA Yes we are, well we're trying but he feels we don't need jobs.

RYAN Hey if I had a job I know that Veronica would be mine right now.

AARON

I just feel we're fine with our class schedule and everything else right now.

MELISSA

Maybe you're right, I guess maybe I'll have to ask Professor Daniels to give us more homework.

AARON

I'll get a job.

Aaron gets up and runs out of the building.

MELISSA See talk about homework and he listens.

FADE TO BLACK.

END OF SHOW