

"Trouble"

By

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Part of the "Squirt!" Web Series

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INT. RUFUS' HOUSE--DAY

The gang's all there. Extreme close-ups on their faces.

RUFUS  
You thought you had me, didn't you  
Daniel? Thought I was cornered?  
Well-

The close-ups stop, revealing that they are simply playing cards.

RUFUS  
Go fish.

Dan sighs, and takes a card. The door bursts open, revealing GIGIVONETTE, 19, in ridiculously eccentric (yet fashionable) clothing. She holds many suitcases.

GIGIVONETTE  
Rufees!

Dan and Sue's jaws drop in astonishment. Rufus perks up and stands.

RUFUS  
Gigi!

OPENING TITLES: "Squirt!"

INT. SEAN'S ROOM--DAY

Sean and Nico sit facing a tranced Wanda.

SEAN  
Alright Wanda Withers, tell us what  
you know--Who's Squirt?

WANDA  
I don't know.

SEAN  
Shoot.

NICO  
Um, do you know anything about  
that, like, team?

WANDA  
I know Rufus Charleston and Sue  
McClamrock. I sought the Truth in  
their relationship and found them  
to be dating.

(CONTINUED)

SEAN

Yes, whatever, but do you know any of the weaknesses of the one they call Squirt?

WANDA

Uh, No.

NICO

Sean, um, maybe we should go after that Sue girl and just make Wanda write that article for our video tomorrow?

SEAN

Ugh, whatever Nico.

INT. RUFUS' HOUSE--DAY

Gigi sits between Rufus and an upset looking Sue. Dan sits across from them. Gigi speaks with a thick accent.

GIGIVONETTE

Rufees, when I got your message--it broke my heart. I cannot imagine living without you!

RUFUS

I'm sorry Gigi, but you're going to have to. I've moved on--but you'll always hold a place in-

DAN

Hold on.

Rufus and Gigi turn to Dan.

DAN

I, um, uh... Well, this whole thing still just baffles me. You're, um, real?

GIGIVONETTE

Yes of course I am real! What kind of question is that?

(To Rufus)

He is as stupid as you say.

Dan is taken aback. Rufus pretends to look shocked, but it comes off as fake and mechanical.

(CONTINUED)

RUFUS

Gigi! I said no such thing!

GIGIVONETTE

Yes of course, Rufeess. And who might this pauper be?

Gigi stares down her nose at Sue.

SUE

Sue.

RUFUS

That, Gigi, is my new love.

GIGIVONETTE

What? Her? Rufeess, she's horrible!

SUE

Yeah, well, you're horribly annoying.

GIGIVONETTE

Oh, Rufeess, I think you are confused, were you aware your new love was piece of shit?

Sue's jaw drops.

RUFUS

Oh Gigi, you and your vile retorts.

Sue angrily closes her mouth and pulls chopsticks out of thin air, breaking one over Gigi's head and the other over Rufus' before storming off. Rufus follows her.

RUFUS

Susan! Wait!

Gigi fixes her hair as Dan stares at her.

GIGIVONETTE

That little ruffian belongs in jail.

DAN

...So, you, like, really are Rufus's bilingual, italian, model ex-girlfriend.

Gigi scoffs.

GIGIVONETTE

Ex? That, simple-minded Daniel, is only a temporary mistake my Rufees made.

DAN

..and you flew all the way here to win him back?

GIGIVONETTE

Yes.

DAN

Rufus?

GIGIVONETTE

Yes.

DAN

Really?

Gigi frowns.

EXT. RUFUS'S HOUSE--DAY

Sue storms from the front door of Rufus's house to her car, but Rufus quickly catches up with her.

RUFUS

Susan, wait, please-

Sue turns and waits for Rufus.

SUE

What.

RUFUS

I'm so sorry for her, Susan. While bilingual, I don't think she has entirely grasped the cultural differences as far as being polite-

SUE

You know what Rufus? I'm pretty sure calling someone shit is bitchy by Italian standards too.

Sue gets in her car and slams the door. Rufus rushes around the car and knocks on her window. She turns on the car and rolls the window down.

(CONTINUED)

RUFUS

Please don't go, Sue. There's no reason to. I'm sure we can work this all out and get along, she'll only be staying a few days, I'm sure-

SUE

You're letting her stay?

RUFUS

She did fly all the way from Italy...

Sue lays on the gas practically dislocating Rufus' arm as she pulls away.

RUFUS

Well, shoot.

INT. RUFUS' HOUSE--DAY

Gigi has spread magazines out on the table in front of her and Dan.

GIGIVONETTE

Yes, the cover of *Brava!* is the most recent, but I think I'd have to say my favorite is my spread in *Voila*. It was very artsy.

DAN

How exactly did you meet Rufus?

Rufus walks in, sulking.

GIGIVONETTE

Rufees! Your, ehem, 'friend' Daniel just asked how we met! Do you remember?

Rufus smiles.

RUFUS

Of course, dear, like it was yesterday.

GIGIVONETTE

I was in the states for a shoot-

RUFUS

and we were both in New York, I had my annual leadership convention.

GIGIVONETTE

And I was not yet at super-model status, just regular modeling-

RUFUS

and we ended up in the same cab-

GIGIVONETTE

And the driver was terrible!

RUFUS

And Gigi's English was, at this time, somewhat broken,

GIGIVONETTE

And I could not express my distaste of the driver-

RUFUS

But I had the same distaste.

GIGIVONETTE

And Rufeese said everything that I was thinking.

RUFUS

And it was love at first criticism.

Dan just stares at them, as they hold hands and look into each others eyes.

DAN

So, okay, wait, hold on... You're real?

EXT. SUBURBAN STREET--DAY

Sue drives angrily down the street, when she sees Lisa selling Lemons door to door. She thinks, then stops the car and gets out.

SUE

Hey!

Lisa looks over.

(CONTINUED)

LISA  
Oh, hello!

Sue walks up to Lisa.

SUE  
So, we've never met, but you know  
Rufus, right?

LISA  
Charleston?

SUE  
How many Rufus's do you think there  
are in this town?

Lisa laughs.

LISA  
Good point. Yeah, I've known Rufus  
since grade-school. Why?

SUE  
We're having a situation and I'd  
like an outside perspective.

LISA  
I'd be happy to help.

Sue's cell phone rings.

SUE  
Oh, sorry, it's probably him.

She reaches into her pocket, and pulls out the phone.

SUE  
Wanda Withers? That's weird. Hold  
on?

Lisa nods.

INT. RUFUS' HOUSE--DAY

Rufus sits on a couch in front of a television. Gigi  
stands, her arms wrapped around Rufus's head, her chin  
resting atop his hair.

Dan sits at the other end of the couch shooting them awkward  
glances.

(CONTINUED)



DAN

Um, Gigi, there's room if you'd like to sit.

Gigi begins to stroke Rufus's face.

GIGIVONETTE

Rufees and I are quite comfortable, Daniel.

Dan stares for a few more seconds, before getting up and turning off the T.V.

DAN

Hey, maybe we should look for Sue?

GIGIVONETTE

Don't be ridiculous Daniel.

Gigi walks over to the T.V. and turns it back on, quickly returning to her awkward embrace with Rufus.

RUFUS

It's true Dan. She doesn't want to be found right now. I understand how you wouldn't pick up on that, but I know Sue quite well and-

GIGIVONETTE

You better not know that little clod that well, Rufees, you're too good for her.

Rufus smiles as Gigi strokes his head. Dan frowns.

DAN

Okay, as hard as this-

Dan motions at at the Rufus-Gigi awkward cuddle fest.

DAN

-is to believe, it is happening, and it needs to stop. Rufus, you and Sue are like, a, like, thing now and...

Gigi releases Rufus and, with a look of pure hatred, moves towards Dan.

GIGIVONETTE

If we wanted the advice of a mentally challenged, ugly, repugnant, screw-up slob-

Dan, upset, squirts Gigi in the face. She screams. Rufus stands up.

RUFUS

Daniel!

Gigi begins to fake cry as she sits in a puddle.

GIGIVONETTE

Rufees! I want him out of here!

She points and screams at the door. Dan has already started walking towards it. Rufus follows.

EXT. RUFUS'S HOUSE--DAY

Dan exits the house and waits for Rufus outside.

RUFUS

What were you thinking? You could have blown your cover!

DAN

What were you thinking? She was all over you! And weirdly so! And she's horrible!

RUFUS

I'm sorry, Daniel, but when did my love life become your business?

DAN

When you! Um! I don't know! You know what?! Fine! Sue's too good for you anyway. Honestly, Rufus, you're just, like, um, like a conceited, uh, nobody!

Dan gets into his car, slams the door behind him, and drives off. Rufus runs after him, pissed, with his pinky in the air.

RUFUS

This is how they do it in China, Daniel!

EXT. SUBURBAN STREET--DAY

Lisa and Sue walk down the street.

SUE  
-and now he's actually letting this  
whore stay at his house-

LISA  
Well, Sue, first of all let me say  
how surprised I am that Gigi is  
real.

SUE  
I know, right?

LISA  
Yeah. But I do think I know sort  
of what's going on.

SUE  
Yeah?

LISA  
Yup. See, Rufus has a bit of an  
ego, and, well, you're a very,  
well, in what I've picked up from  
our conversation anyway-

SUE  
Get on with it.

Lisa chuckles.

LISA  
Well, you're a very strong willed  
direct person. You're not into  
flattery and you call it as you see  
it.

SUE  
So?

LISA  
Well, I think that that's good. It  
means that when you do give a  
compliment, it's a bigger deal. I  
think that's part of Rufus's  
attraction to you--your honesty.

SUE  
So what's the problem?

(CONTINUED)

LISA

Well, it sounds like Gigi, who also sounds quite critical, swooped in and confused Rufus with a slew of compliments.

SUE

So what should I do?

LISA

Well, if you really like Rufus, which-

Lisa looks at the Sue, who looks worried and serious.

LISA

-I can tell you do, than you need to make him, well, aware. Tell him.

SUE

I, um... Won't that be weird?

Lisa smiles.

LISA

Not if you mean it!

Suddenly, Sean's car pulls up in front of them and Nico and him jump out. Lisa recognizes them and waves. Sue doesn't.

SUE

Uh, hello?

LISA

Hey Sean, hey Nico.

Nico looks down.

NICO

Hey Lisa.

SEAN

Get in the car.

LISA

Excuse me?

SEAN

Oh, I'm sorry-

He holds up his pocket watch which spins and glints in the---oh you probably get it by now.

(CONTINUED)

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12.

SEAN  
Get in the car.

Lisa and Sue obey.

CLOSING TITLES: "Squirt!"