DANNY V THE BULLY

"Time Machine Pt. 1"

written by

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INT. NICK AND JAKE'S APARTMENT - DAY

Jake, clad in exercise gear, sits at the kitchen table surrounded by about 100 thick books stacked on top of each other in several towers. His head darts from side to side, feverishly reading a 2,000 page tome.

Nick enters through the front door. He's wearing a facemask, a face shield, protective goggles, surgical gloves and a t-shirt that says "6 Feet!" He carries a small dog poop bag that is busting at the seams with shit.

NICK

I hope this global pandemic ends soon so I can get a real job again. I am so tired of picking up dog shit for hard seltzer money.

He casually tosses the bag of dog shit aside. It bounces off a trash can FULL TO THE BRIM with bags of dog shit and falls to the floor next to other discarded bags of shit.

JAKE

Why don't you just go on unemployment, Nick? It's not your fault you lost your job because of a once in a century pandemic the likes of which has rendered the very fabric of our socio-economic infrastructure completely impotent.

NICK

I--

Jake nods in understanding.

JAKE

I get it. You're self reliant and emotionally astute enough to feel that ensconcing yourself in the bosom of government subsidy would be tantamount to sacrificing what little agency you have left vis-avis your already withering sense of personhood.

Nick blinks. A bag of dog shit falls out of the trash can.

NICK

Wow, Jake. That was some good talking. You don't usually talk that good.

NICK

Come to think of it, you don't usually sit at the kitchen table reading books big enough to kill me either.

Nick checks his watch.

NICK

And it's two o'clock. Usually this is about the time when you lie on the floor and stare at the ceiling until dinner. And you don't usually wear exercise gear indoors. What gives?

JAKE

I'm exercising my mind, Nick! I woke up the other day and I said to myself, "you know what? Enough's enough." I'm tired of waking up, watching cartoons for five hours, jerking off eight or nine times, spending all my money on takeout and doing it all again the next day. I decided to use all this time to get super smart. So I went on Amazon, spent like eleven bucks on all these history books, and now at least I feel like I'm doing something with my life.

NICK

Well good for you, Jake. I guess if it keeps you inside and safe it can't be all bad. You wouldn't believe how many people don't wear masks outside. And guess what? I saw our Bully Danny V hanging out by the freeway off ramp. Instead of shaking down lunch money he's stealing people's masks! And it's not some kind of Robin Hood thing either - He's just throwing them in the LA River!

JAKE

That is typical our Bully Danny V. He's just trying to rock the boat and make this worse for everyone!

JAKE

But you know what, just like this pandemic, at least one day Danny V will be gone and he won't be able to hurt anyone anymore.

NICK

I guess. Still, though. Can you believe out of the whole history of the world, we had to live not only during this pandemic but with a horrible bully tormenting us all the time?

Jake shakes his head and returns to his book.

JAKE

Yeah, if only Danny V was born hundreds of yea--

Suddenly Jake GASPS and SLAMS the book shut. He looks up to Nick, white as a ghost.

NICK

What is it?

Jake rubs his eyes with his fists.

JAKE

Nothing, I just thought...you know what, I'm done reading about Byzantium slash Constantinople for today.

Jake picks another up book. Nick goes to his room.

INT. NICK'S ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Nick enters and sits down at a desk. He opens his laptop to reveal his OWN CUSTOM WEBSITE page is on the screen. The image features a solid green-screen green background with a large picture of Nick's face (unsmiling) next to all lower case white words that say "I'll pick up your dog's shit (dog shit)" with a phone number beneath.

JAKE (O.S.)

No, no, no! NICK!!

Nick runs out of the room.

INT. NICK AND JAKE'S APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

NICK

What is it?!

Jake points to a page on the book in front of him.

JAKE

Please tell me I'm crazy. What do you see?

Nick leans closer to the book.

INSERT

A grainy black and white photo of Hitler giving a speech while tens of thousands of Nazi's salute him. It's the famous photo of all the Nazi's saluting with the one person in the crowd not saluting. After a second, we see that the person not saluting is none other than DANNY V THE BULLY.

NICK

What a second...is that?

JAKE

It gets worse!

MUSIC CUE: Carnival of the Animals: VII. Aquarium.

INSERT: Jake puts several different book pages in front of Nick.

- 1.) Danny V is seen on the street in a photo seconds after JFK was shot. He's holding a hot dog in one hand and pointing to the Grassy Knoll with the other.
- 2.) Danny V is seen in a reprinted painting depicting John Wilkes Booth shooting Lincoln. Danny V is sitting in the box next to Lincoln's, asleep.
- 3.) In the famous photo of Muhammad Ali standing over Sonny Liston, Danny V is in the stands in the background, a hand inside a bucket of popcorn.
- 4.) In the famous photo of the sailor kissing the woman in Times Square on VJ Day, Danny V is seen in the background, looking at the kissing pair with an impressed expression that says "not bad."
- 5.) In the photo of Obama, Biden, Clinton et al during the Bin-Laden raid that killed him, Danny V is seen standing in the far back of the room, yawning.

Nick and Jake look at each other in shock.

NICK

I don't believe it. I can't. But also...do you know what this means?

JAKE

I think I do.

He stands up.

NICK

We need to find Danny V, steal his ostensible time machine and travel back to 2019 and stop that one guy from eating that bat in Wuhan or whatever it was that happened.

JAKE

We need to find Danny V, steal his ostensible time machine and travel back to 2019 and stop that one guy from eating that bat in Wuhan or whatever it was that happened.

JAKE

Let's get all this worthless shit off the table and cook up a strategy.

Jake uses his arm to push all the books onto the floor. Nick grabs a piece of paper and pen from his kitchen counter and sits down next to Jake. They begin to deliberate furiously as the camera SLOWLY MOVES past them, heading toward a living room window that looks out on the sidewalk below. The camera stops. Suddenly DANNY V THE BULLY MATERIALIZES OUT OF THIN AIR. He looks exactly like the Danny V we've seen before, except he's wearing a t-shirt that says "the future." He pounds his fist into his hand and begins moving toward the apartment.

TO BE CONTINUED