

Addition: An Unconventional Love Story

By

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Cast of Characters

BEN:

LOGAN:

DAREN:

Preview Only
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Time

Summer 2009

ACT I

Scene 1

BEN and LOGAN's condo. BEN is onstage.

LOGAN enters.

LOGAN

Honey, I'm home!

BEN

Cute. A bit overdone, though, wouldn't you say?

LOGAN

It's not overdone; it's a classic. It's a little black dress.

BEN

That's 2 sizes too small.

LOGAN

It fits. You're my honey, this is home; it fits.

BEN

So Wrinkle Puss came in today.

LOGAN

Ben, do you have to call her that?

BEN

(mocking)

'Ben do you have to call her that?' She's 80 and a slut; it fits. Unlike the little black dress she had on. Besides, she 'Paris Hilton'ed me last week while trying on shoes. Trust me, Logan, the name fits.

LOGAN

Did not need that image in my head.

BEN

It's been burned into my retinas. I spent the next hour going through my entire bottle of eye drops before I could focus again.

LOGAN

Ugh. What's for supper anyway?

BEN

I'm making stir-fry.

(CONTINUED)

LOGAN

Again?

BEN

You want something different, you come home earlier.

LOGAN

All right, fine.

BEN

Anyway, Wrinkle Puss--

LOGAN

Ew.

BEN

--she insisted on trying on every dress in 'her size' in the store. She hasn't been 'her size' in decades. Penny's working the change rooms, right? So, after WP drags me all around the store picking things out, I figure I can dump her off on Penny. Wrong. I'm in women's underwear--don't say it--when Penny taps me on the shoulder. Apparently WP needs some assistance zipping her dress and Penny's nails scratch her poor liver-spotted back. Now, she needs a nice, strong young man with short nails to help her out. Never mind the fact it's complete bull because Penny spends half her shift chewing her nails--

LOGAN

Gross.

BEN

I know! So I head back to the change room and she's waiting for me in the middle of the hallway, dress undone, covering her breasts with her arm!

BEN mimics covering his breasts.

Beat.

Lowers his arm to his stomach, indicating WP's sagging breasts.

I practically shove her back into her change room then, as I'm zipping her up, she starts grinding herself into my crotch. It practically wilted.

LOGAN

Probably tried to jump inside and camouflage itself as a vagina until she lost interest.

BEN

And the Savannah was once again safe, if only for a brief time. And you know I couldn't do a thing. It was a \$5,000 dress and I need the commission.

LOGAN

Trust me, I know. I'm sorry you had such a rough day, Ben.

BEN

She bought it, at least. Another couple days like that and we can make a nice dent in the credit card bill.

LOGAN

Like a gentle summer breeze against a one-tonne block of lead.

BEN

How was your day?

LOGAN

Busy. I designed the menu for a very respectable, high-end food establishment.

BEN

Which one?

LOGAN

Big Ed's Even Greasier Spoon; they're expanding.

BEN

Logan, you've been there for two years. You should be working on better accounts by now.

LOGAN

I guess they just don't think I'm ready yet.

BEN

How many people have been promoted over you?

LOGAN doesn't want to answer the question. BEN stares him down.

LOGAN

Three.

BEN

And they all had less training and experience than you. Sweetie, you've got to stand up for yourself.

LOGAN

Maybe it was the right decision. Anyway, I'll get the next one. I've got some good projects coming up.

BEN

Such as?

LOGAN

I'm designing letterhead for a bicycle store and business cards for a hairstylist.

BEN

I guess that's a step up. Which salon is it? Maybe you can snag us a discount.

LOGAN

(avoiding the question)

It's on the east side. We'd never go there.

BEN

For a cheap cut and colour we might swing by. What's it called?

LOGAN

(reluctantly)

Snips Ahoy.

BEN

(attempts to suppress a laugh)

Well, that's, um...very...nice. I can't do it, I'm sorry!

BEN bursts into laughter.

LOGAN

Ben! It's a very important project. The whole company--

(laughs)

Okay, okay. It's shit work. I know.

BEN

You'll get the big accounts soon. In the meantime, you win this evening's round of 'Who has the worst job?' Snips Ahoy trumps Wrinkle Puss.

LOGAN

So what's up for tonight?

BEN

The usual.

LOGAN

A game of Scrabble followed by me invading your triple word square.

BEN

Extra 50 points if you use all 7 inches.

(CONTINUED)

LOGAN

Couldn't we do something different? A little more exciting?

BEN

We haven't played Clue for a while.

LOGAN

I don't think you're ready for another game of Clue. You know how Professor Plum gets you going.

BEN

He doesn't 'get me going.' They just never tell you what he's a professor of. You know that's totally unfair. He could be a professor of English or History or, you know, Murder! And then you bet everything on the bimbo with the candlestick and it turns out to be the Professor of Murder, except you didn't know he was a Professor of Murder because they don't tell you that! You need to know this information, Logan.

LOGAN

How about something that's not a game?

BEN

You can dress up in your old Halloween costume and deliver me a package, wink, wink, nudge, nudge.

LOGAN

No, Ben. How about something we haven't ever done before? At least, we haven't done it before *together*. And I haven't done it before, well, ever.

BEN

Have I?

LOGAN

I don't know. Have you? I mean, it's okay if you have. I won't judge you. It may even be kind of hot. At least, maybe it's hot. Again, I don't know because I haven't done it.

BEN

What is it?

LOGAN

Um, okay, metaphor time. You know how sometimes we play Scrabble together, just you and I, and sometimes we invite someone else over to play Scrabble with us, like Rachel? Well, instead of inviting someone over to play Scrabble with us, why don't we invite someone over to play *Scrabble* with us?

BEN

You know you just said the same thing twice.

LOGAN

Yes, but I emphasized it differently the second time.

BEN

Okay. Um, can you say that again?

LOGAN

(sighs)

All right. Instead of inviting someone over to play Scrabble with us, maybe we could try inviting someone over to play *Scrabble* with us.

BEN

(unsure)

Oh.

(gets it)

Oh!

(in disgust)

Oh! I do not want to play Scrabble with Rachel! I haven't even seen a girl in the Full Monty!

LOGAN

First, it wouldn't be Rachel, it would definitely not be any girl. Ew. I don't mean something that new. And, second, is it the Full Monty for girls?

BEN

What else would you call it? The Full Mildred? No, don't call it the Full Mildred.

Beat.

BEN

So, you really want to have a threesome?

LOGAN

I don't know. It was just an idea. Besides, I've never had one, so I don't even know if it's a good idea. Is it a good idea? Or is it a bad idea? Is it a very, very bad idea?

BEN

I'm not sure. I haven't had one, either.

Beat.

BEN

You know what? No. I can't do that. I love you, Logan but I can't just shove someone in the middle of us.

(CONTINUED)

LOGAN

Well, you could be in the middle. Or I could be in the middle. Or we could take turns.

BEN

Hmmm...--no! No! I can't do it.

LOGAN

I understand. I won't bring it up again.

LOGAN kisses BEN and exits.

Beat.

BEN

Logan!

LOGAN

(off-stage)

Yes?

Beat.

BEN

We could take turns?

LOGAN enters.

LOGAN

What?

BEN

You mean, we could take turns? In the middle.

LOGAN

Um, yeah. We could. I think that'd be fun.

BEN

Yeah, it could be fun.

Beat.

BEN

And you know how sometimes you get tired and I want to keep going? Well, with a third, maybe I could keep going with him and you could watch. If you wanted. Or do other things. You know. With him. Or me. Or both of us. Or yourself. You could do any of those! I haven't been in one, but that makes sense, doesn't it?

LOGAN

That makes sense. And all of those would be fun. I could do all of those things. And so could you.

(CONTINUED)

BEN

Yeah, I could, couldn't I?

LOGAN

Yeah, you could.

BEN

Yeah.

Beat.

LOGAN

So, do you want to do this?

BEN

I think so. Yeah! I think so!

LOGAN

Okay! Um, so, how?

BEN

Huh?

LOGAN

How do we do it?

BEN

I don't know. It's not like I have a copy of *Threesomes for Dummies* in my personal library.

LOGAN

Maybe we could ask one of our friends.

BEN

Wouldn't that be weird?

LOGAN

Not really. They are the people who know us the best.

BEN

What if it changed things between us? We wouldn't want to change things between us.

LOGAN

You're right. It could make things awkward and they'd never want to see us again.

BEN

Or worse, they could want to do it with us all the time and we'd have to tell them no, it's a one-time thing, and they'd get upset and it'd just be a big mess.

(CONTINUED)

LOGAN

Exactly. Besides, who would we do it with? Shane?

BEN

Yeah, not Shane.

LOGAN

Why not? I like Shane. He's cute.

BEN

Okay, we can do it with Shane.

LOGAN

I thought we weren't doing it with friends.

BEN

We're not.

LOGAN

So why are we doing it with Shane?

BEN

Because you think he's cute.

LOGAN

Don't you?

BEN

Well, yes. He's cute. He's got the whole Abercrombie and Fitch thing going on.

LOGAN

You know he used to model for them?

BEN

Really?

LOGAN

Well, kind of. He was a store model. Basically he stood in front of the place without a shirt on.

BEN

Shirtlessness doesn't strike me as the best way to model a clothing line. A&F is only using half the real estate available to them.

LOGAN

True, but the half they're not using has an incredible view.

BEN

Grab 'em with the view and tell them they can develop the land later.

(CONTINUED)

LOGAN

Exactly. But no friends.

BEN

Where else do we look? The internet?

LOGAN

That could work. Go on one of those hook-up sites, chat with some local guy, and meet up from there.

BEN

It sounds sort of skeezy. I mean, what if he's lying? What if he says he's 24 with washboard abs but he's really 42 with the entire load of laundry on his gut? And that doesn't even take into account internet inches.

LOGAN

Internet inches?

BEN

7 is really 6, 8 is really 7, and 9 is really 3.

LOGAN

We can ask for pictures.

BEN

When everyone knows Photoshop?

LOGAN

Fine. What do you suggest?

BEN

How about the bar?

LOGAN

Really? The bar?

BEN

Why not? We get a whole room full of guys to pick through; we don't know any of them personally, so there's no friendship to ruin; we get to see what they look like in-person, without edits; and they're at the bar, so they're horny anyway.

LOGAN

That could work. That could actually work.

BEN

So we're doing this?

LOGAN

I think I'm still up for it. Are you?

BEN

I think so.

LOGAN

Okay, so Saturday night we go to the bar and lure some poor, unsuspecting guy into our clutches of lust.

BEN

Lust clutches?

LOGAN

What?

BEN

It just sounds like some sort of promiscuous purse.

LOGAN

Okay. We will go to the bar and ask some guy to have a threesome with us.

BEN

Better. So what are we going to do tonight?

Beat.

LOGAN

Scrabble?

Scene 2

At the bar. BEN and LOGAN are onstage. LOGAN is holding a cosmopolitan; BEN, a beer.

BEN

A cosmo? You never drink cosmos.

LOGAN

What? I like them. They're likeable.

Beat.

LOGAN

Well, we want him to know, right?

BEN

Logan, we're at a gay bar. Whoever he is, he's going to know.

(CONTINUED)

LOGAN

I'm just nervous. That's all. How do we find him, anyway?

BEN

I don't know. Look around.

LOGAN

I haven't been to one of these places for over a year.

BEN

Hasn't changed, has it?

LOGAN

Not in the slightest.

BEN

I still recognize half these guys. It's the same crowd, the same drama.

LOGAN

They're even hitting on the same people.

BEN

Trying to. I swear, gay guys, as much as I love them, have no balls. Staring at each other, looking away, giggling, lather-rinse-and-repeating for over a year isn't going to make anything happen.

LOGAN

Well, not all of the guys are like that. The over-the-hill homos--

BEN

Touched for the very first time pre-"Like a Virgin"--

LOGAN

At least they take action and make advances.

BEN

True. And they're not still hitting on the same guys.

LOGAN

Right! They've moved on to a new batch of 18-year-olds.

Beat.

BOTH

Ew.

LOGAN

You know, for years that was the only attention I ever got here.

BEN

What do you mean? Whenever we came, you always had guys drooling over you.

LOGAN

What do you mean? No one ever asked me to dance. Even when I was single. It's too messed up. You can meet someone over the internet for casual sex, but you can't say 'hi' to the cute boy at the bar.

BEN

We found each other. That worked out pretty well.

LOGAN

I still can't believe you ever responded to my profile. I had probably the worst picture ever on that site. The dorkiest smile, and I hadn't shaved--

BEN

It was my first time on one of those, too. All of the other guys looked so--

LOGAN

Half-naked and intimidating?

BEN

Pretty much.

LOGAN

We didn't even do anything. You saw my complete set of 'Buffy' DVDs and we spent the night on my couch with season 3.

BEN

Yeah. When I got home and thought about it, I realized that probably wasn't how a hook-up was supposed to go.

LOGAN

So, do you think we should just stay here by the bar or actually get out on the dance floor?

BEN

Definitely the bar. It's easier to see the whole crowd at once.

LOGAN

And we don't want to scare them away.

BEN

Scare them away?

LOGAN

Well, you get a little too into dancing sometimes.

BEN

I feel the rhythm.

LOGAN

Ben, sweetie, you feel the rhythm like it's a grand mal seizure.

BEN

I'm intense. I get into the music. That's all.

LOGAN

Yes, and it's very cute. I think it's a very endearing quality. I just don't want to end up taking home the guy you give a black eye to because I feel bad for him.

BEN

You'd waste this on a pity threesome?

LOGAN

How else would you apologize?

BEN

I don't know. It may be a little traditional and, dare I say it, conservative, but 'I'm sorry' tends to work. Sex is not an apology.

LOGAN

I'll remember that next time we have a fight.

BEN

Make-up sex doesn't count. Make-up sex is hot. Besides, it comes after the apology, not in place of.

LOGAN

So, do you see anyone you like?

BEN

Not yet. Oh! What about him?

LOGAN

Which one?

BEN

Red shirt. Next to the military shorts.

LOGAN

Not ba--oh. Balding.

BEN

Oh. Oh, yeah.

LOGAN

You know, when I start to bald, I'm just going to shave it all off.

BEN

Thank you, Jean-Luc Picard, for making it hot.

LOGAN

Before him, it was only Mr. Clean.

BEN

You know, I had a Picard fantasy.

LOGAN

Really?

BEN

Totally! Just imagine: he takes you into his ready room to talk about an important mission he has for you. The whole time he's dropping these innuendos about 'debriefing' you and staring at you with those commanding eyes. Soon, everything gets so blatant and you're at the point where you just have to ask, "Captain, are you saying you want to have sex with me?" Then he leans back in his big, important captain's chair, smiles, and says, "Make it so."

LOGAN

Oh my god. You're serious.

BEN

Completely. Patrick Stewart is a hunk.

LOGAN

We're not having a threesome with Patrick Stewart or any sort of look-alike or derivative thereof.

BEN

Okay, fine. How about him?

LOGAN

Emo kids creep me out. They totally intimidate me. I just want to go up to them and say, 'I'm sorry, I don't feel as much as you do.'

BEN

What about the blond? Tight blue shirt.

LOGAN

Nice! Very hot. Good body, but not too big; he won't crush my head with his man-thighs.

BEN

And he has a gorgeous smile. Great jawline.

LOGAN

And all of his teeth.

BEN

Awesome. You know, I just was not in the mood for pirate sex tonight. Now to get him away from his fag hag.

LOGAN

I don't really like that term. Who'd want to be referred to as a hag?

BEN

But, it rhymes!

LOGAN

Not everything that rhymes is right.

BEN

What would you prefer I call her?

LOGAN

Why not 'flame dame?' It's classier.

BEN

Okay, I can deal. How do we get him away from his flame dame?

LOGAN

We could wait until she goes to the bathroom.

BEN

Cool.

Beat.

BEN

Should we also wait until he stops making out with her?

LOGAN

What? Not fair. So not fair. They can't just come here, camo up with their tight clothing and hair product, and trick us like that! It's like, 'Hey, look! Look at that nice field of wavy brush out here in the Savannah. It's kinda pretty and stripey and oh my god, it's a tiger! It's not brush, it's a tiger!'

BEN

Except, you know, straight boys aren't going to tear our flesh off with their heterosexual mandibles.

LOGAN

Says you.

BEN

So, what? There's nothing left. I don't see anyone.

LOGAN

Neither do I.

DAREN enters.

BEN

Should we call this experiment a failure and go home?

LOGAN

No, wait. What about him?

BEN

Who?

LOGAN

(indicating DAREN)
The guy behind you. No! Ben! Don't look!

BEN

How am I supposed to see him?

LOGAN

Well, be casual about it.

BEN looks at DAREN.

BEN

Wow.

LOGAN

Mhmm.

BEN

I mean, wow.

LOGAN

Mmmhmmmm.

BEN

Just, totally, wow.

LOGAN

I can't make my 'mmhmm's any longer, but, yes. Do you think we should go for it?

BEN

Absolutely. I think he's cute. Don't you?

LOGAN

Of course! You'd have to be blind not to think he's hot and even then your seeing eye dog would probably start humping his leg.

BEN

Okay, okay. So, how do we do this?

LOGAN

I don't know. In my big plan I just kind of skipped ahead to the fun, sexy part. I didn't think the details through.

BEN

This is an important detail!

LOGAN

You didn't think of anything either!

BEN

We have to do something before he goes away.

LOGAN

What are we supposed to say? 'Nice shoes. Wanna fuck?'

BEN

No! He looks classy. He won't respond to that.

LOGAN

So, what? 'I know this sounds gauche, but would you do my boyfriend and I the sincere honour of joining us for a sexual encounter this evening?'

BEN

Of course not! I don't know.

BEN turns around to peek at DAREN.

BEN

Logan, he's looking at you.

LOGAN

Is he? Oh, well, that's nice. That's very nice.

BEN

Use it! Go reel him in!

LOGAN

Just me? On my own? Isn't that a bit dishonest? It's the two of us looking.

BEN

It's not dishonest, it's a surprise! You're the cereal and I'm the prize inside the box. You don't expect it, but you get the bowl, get your milk ready, start pouring the cereal and then, splash! It's there! Yay prize!

LOGAN

That's no fair. I want to be the prize. No one wants the cereal once you see the prize.

BEN

Seriously?

Beat.

BEN

Fine. You are some sort of sugary, marshmallow-filled cereal with unicorns and magic powers that everyone wants to have, along with the prize. Okay?

LOGAN

I still don't know what to say.

BEN looks behind him and sees DAREN leaving.

BEN

He's going!

BEN pushes LOGAN into DAREN. LOGAN is completely overtaken by nervousness. Throughout their conversation, BEN watches, hanging on every word.

LOGAN

Um, hi.

DAREN

Hi.

LOGAN

I'm Logan.

DAREN

Daren. Nice to meet you.

LOGAN

Yes. Very nice to meet you, Daren. Daren, that's a nice name. Daring Daren. Are you very daring, Daren?

DAREN

Not really.

LOGAN

(disappointed)
Oh.

DAREN

Sometimes I am, I suppose.

LOGAN

That's good! That's really good. I like daring. You know, taking risks, trying new things with a new person, or people.

DAREN

Yeah, that can be fun. I, uh, guess you saw me checking you out.

LOGAN

No, not really. My boy--my Ben! Ben, uh, he, over there, he saw you checking me out.

LOGAN indicates BEN. DAREN looks at BEN, who was not expecting to be involved in the conversation. BEN panics and waves.

LOGAN

I didn't see it. I don't really notice these things. I noticed you though. It's hard not to notice you. You know, you're really cute.

DAREN

Thanks. So are you.

LOGAN

Thanks. Um, you're not straight are you?

DAREN

No, I'm not.

LOGAN

Awesome! Neither am I. See, we've got something in common.

DAREN

(laughs)
I guess we do, Logan.

(CONTINUED)