Writers

Episode #104

"An Emotion Named Desire"

by Adam T Cottle

Based on characters from the short film "Writers"

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White Draft: (21-06-14)
Blue Revisions: (05-08-14)
Pink Revisions (24-01-15)

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1 INT. THE HOUSE, HUGH'S ROOM -- MORNING

1

Hugh sits at his computer, sitting thoughtfully, his fingers dancing over the keys.

HUGH (V.O)

He turned to him. Sweat glistened on his brow. His member throbbed...

(pauses)

Was throbbing? Was about to throb?

Hugh types furiously.

HUGH (V.O) (CONT'D)

His member was about to throb...

Barney bursts into the room.

BARNEY

Hey, Hugh, look-

Hugh raises a finger, silencing Barney. Barney waits a few moments, jigging on the spot with excitement. Finally, Hugh lowers his finger, glancing across at him.

HUGH

What is it, Barnabas?

BARNEY

You have to play this new video game.

Before Hugh even has a chance to respond, Barney surges forward, rushing over to Hugh's console.

HUGH

So much personal space being invaded here.

Barney ignores him, loading the game up, and thrusting a controller into Hugh's hands.

BARNEY

Come on, budge up.

Barney takes a seat on the bed, forcing Hugh over until they are both sat next to each other. Hugh is obviously uncomfortable.

HUGH

Not going to lie, I'm a little uncomfortable.

CONTINUED: 2.

BARNEY

Oh, stop moaning. Look, it's starting!

HUGH

(panicking)

Wait, what do I do?

**BARNEY** 

Move that knob to go forward, that one to look around, that to jump, that to shoot, that to dodge, that to melee, that-

HUGH

Woah, wait, what-!

BARNEY

No time! It's starting!

HUGH

No, I'm not ready, what are we doing-!

BARNEY

JUST KILL AS MANY FOOLS AS YOU CAN!

The game begins. Hugh, in a panic, hits as many buttons as he can, flicking and spinning the controller uselessly. Barney also does this, but a lot more composed and relaxed.

After a few moments of desperate button-bashing, an in-game announcer says "Game Over". Hugh and Barney take a deep breath.

BARNEY (CONT'D)

So. What did you think?

There's silence.

HUGH

That was the best thing in the history of everything.

GO TO TITLES.

FADE IN:

2 INT. THE HOUSE, JESS' ROOM -- MORNING

2

An alarm blares out through the messy room, still filled with unpacked boxes and unfolded laundry. From underneath the heap of her duvet, Jess' hand appears, hitting the snooze.

CONTINUED: 3.

Jess rolls over, pulling the duvet off of her face and rubbing the sleep out of her eyes. She takes a deep breath. Time to face the new day.

CUT TO:

3 INT. THE HOUSE, LIVING ROOM -- MORNING

3

Jess sits on the floor, doing sit ups. Each time she sits up, she is met by the sight of her blank laptop, the cursor still blinking at her accusingly. This seems to spur her on into the next sit up, and so on.

4 INT. THE HOUSE, JESS' ROOM -- MORNING

4

Jess steps into the room, drying her hair from the shower she just had. She looks at the laptop sat on her bed, Word document still open to that blank, flickering cursor. She sighs, reaching out and slamming it shut.

5 INT. THE HOUSE, KITCHEN -- MORNING

5

Jess opens the cabinets. She grabs cereal, milk, a spoon, a bowl. Putting them all together she makes herself some cereal, before heading into the living room.

6 INT. THE HOUSE, LIVING ROOM -- MORNING

6

Jess takes her seat at the dining table, placing her cereal to one side. She stares at the still-blank laptop before her. She sighs.

The front door opens, and Emmett steps in. Jess looks up as he enters the room.

EMMETT

Hey.

**JESS** 

Oh, hey.

EMMETT

Anyone else up?

**JESS** 

I think Hugh and Barney are upstairs. Daisy's still asleep though.

EMMETT

Ah, okay.

Emmett nods, closing the door behind him. He walks across the room. Jess looks him over.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: 4.

**JESS** 

Aren't those the same clothes you were wearing yesterday?

EMMETT

Oh, yeah, I stayed at Clarice's last night.

**JESS** 

Oh.

Jess diverts her eyes, returning to her cereal. Emmett takes a seat opposite her.

EMMETT

We didn't do anything. We just spent the whole night talking.

**JESS** 

Oh?

EMMETT

Yeah. She's such an interesting person, you know? Like her Dad was in the army?

JESS

Oh really?

EMMETT

Yeah, he was in bomb disposal.

**JESS** 

Was?

EMMETT

Yeah, he retired a couple of years ago.

**JESS** 

I see.

Silence falls for a few moments. Emmett thinks.

EMMETT

Can I ask you something?

JESS

Yeah, sure.

EMMETT

Have you done... like, have you ever...

**JESS** 

What?

CONTINUED: 5.

Emmett shuffles awkwardly. He makes a feeble gesture with his hands, trying to get his message across. Jess raises an eyebrow.

JESS (CONT'D)

Sex?

EMMETT

Yeah. That.

**JESS** 

Erm... that's kind of personal,
isn't it?

EMMETT

Just curious.

Jess gives him an odd look.

**JESS** 

Yeah, I have. Why?

EMMETT

Oh, well, no reason-

**JESS** 

(pauses)

Have you?

Emmett shuffles awkwardly again, mouth opening repeatedly, trying to form words that never seem to appear.

JESS (CONT'D)

Oh. I see.

EMMETT

That's not bad, is it?

**JESS** 

No, no, of course not! Why would you think that?

Emmett shrugs. A thought occurs to Jess.

JESS (CONT'D)

So you and Clarice haven't-

EMMETT

Oh, God, no! No, I don't mean it like that, I mean... Well, you know, she's giving me the vibes-

**JESS** 

Uh, the "Vibes"?

CONTINUED: 6.

EMMETT

Yeah, y'know, signals and stuff?

**JESS** 

Then why haven't you, y'know... "made a move"?

EMMETT

Well, because, I, well...

Emmett becomes uncomfortable again, trying to pull the right words from his brain.

EMMETT (CONT'D)

I, like... well, say, as an
example, she... no, well, I
don't-

**JESS** 

Get to the point, Emmett.

EMMETT

Right, okay, yes, well, basically, I don't know how.

**JESS** 

Don't know how to what?

EMMETT

To, like, "seduce" someone.

Jess can't help but laugh. Emmett look sat her quizzically.

EMMETT (CONT'D)

What?

JESS

No-one calls it "Seducing" anymore.

EMMETT

What do they call it, then?

**JESS** 

Well, they...

Jess' expression becomes a bit more thoughtful.

JESS (CONT'D)

I... I don't actually know.

Emmett leans forward.

EMMETT

Look, can you help me?

CONTINUED: 7.

**JESS** 

What?

EMMETT

I need your help, okay? I spent all of last night trying to divert the subject away from...

(becomes awkward)

From...

**JESS** 

Sex.

EMMETT

Right, sex, yeah...

**JESS** 

What exactly do you need help with?

EMMETT

Like, what do I do?

Jess thinks for a moment. Emmett looks at her pleadingly.

EMMETT (CONT'D)

Please.

Jess continues to think.

**JESS** 

Alright.

CUT TO:

7 INT. THE HOUSE, HUGH'S ROOM -- DAY

7

Hugh and Barney lie belly-down on Hugh's bed, a controller in each of their hands. Both of them stare intently at the screen.

Daisy steps into the room. Neither Hugh's nor Barney's eyes move from the screen for a moment.

DAISY

There you are. I was looking everywhere for you two.

BARNEY

Where did you look?

There's a pause.

DAISY

Well, I started here-

CONTINUED: 8.

HUGH

And you kept looking?

Daisy ignores the comment, looking at the screen.

DAISY

What you guys playing?

BARNEY

A game.

DAISY

What sort of game?

BARNEY

A video game.

DAISY

What sort of video game?

**BARNEY** 

A good video game.

Daisy nods.

DAISY

Well, this has been... enlightening.

Daisy turns and walks out. A few silent moments go by.

BARNEY

Huh?

CUT TO:

8 INT. THE HOUSE, LIVING ROOM -- AFTERNOON

8

Jess is sat in the sofa, watching as Emmett stands in the middle of the room, practising on an invisible woman.

**JESS** 

Okay, so what do you do next?

EMMETT

I put my hands on her waist?

**JESS** 

Yep, that's fine. Then what?

EMMETT

Move them-

**JESS** 

No.

Jess leans forward, addressing Emmett sternly.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: 9.

JESS (CONT'D)

The worst thing you can do is move your hands. We love it-

EMMETT

We?

**JESS** 

Girls, Emmett.

EMMETT

Oh okay.

**JESS** 

We, girls, love it when guys put their hands on our waists.

EMMETT

Why?

**JESS** 

I dunno, it's sensual I guess.

EMMETT

But, why the waist? Wouldn't the shoulders-

**JESS** 

No.

EMMETT

Or what about the-

**JESS** 

No. Look, Emmett, trust me. The waist is all you need to worry about right now.

Emmett still appears unsure. Jess stands from her seat on the sofa, walking over to him.

JESS (CONT'D)

Right, this isn't working...

EMMETT

I'm sorry, I'm just not very good at this sort of stuff...

JESS

No, it's fine... Here, try it on me-

EMMETT

(alarmed)

What?!

CONTINUED: 10.

**JESS** 

Just do what I've spent the last two and a half hours teaching you. I'll pretend to be Clarice, if you want.

Jess fluffs her hair, doing her best Clarice impersonation.

JESS (CONT'D)

(shrill)

Hey babes, so where we going tonight?

EMMETT

Firstly, she sounds nothing like that, and secondly... Well, I'm not entirely comfortable with this.

**JESS** 

Alright I'll drop the voice... but, c'mon, you obviously need someone to practise on and "invisible Clarice" clearly isn't working out too well for you.

Emmett giggles to himself. Jess raises an eyebrow.

JESS (CONT'D)

What?

EMMETT

That sounded dirty.

**JESS** 

When are you next seeing Clarice again?

Emmett's smile drops and he straightens up. Jess steps towards him.

JESS (CONT'D)

Right... go.

EMMETT

How far am I supposed to go with this?

**JESS** 

I'll let you know when your ready.

(pause)

Or, if you'd prefer, I could go get Jenny?

Emmett hears the words, eyes briefly flicking off frame as we-

CONTINUED: 11.

FLASHBACK TO:

9 INT. THE HOUSE, LIVING ROOM -- DAY

9

CAPTION: About half a year ago

Emmett sits on the sofa, admiring a new, fancy pen. He smiles as Hugh ducks his head into the room.

HUGH

Emmett, are you coming to blow out these candles with Daisy?

EMMETT

Yeah, coming now.

Emmett stands, still admiring his pen. Jenny, entering from the kitchen, steps into his path, blocking him. She's a wee bit tipsy.

**JENNY** 

Emmett. Darling.

EMMETT

Oh, hey, Jen-

**JENNY** 

Happy birthday.

EMMETT

Oh, well, thank you-

**JENNY** 

I never got a chance to give you your present.

Jenny smiles at Emmett. Emmett grows nervous.

EMMETT

But- But you got us a new slow-cooker-

JENNY

That was a joint-present, darling. For you and Daisy. This one... well, this one's just for you...

EMMETT

Oh, wow, look, Jenny, I'm sure it would be great but the thing is I-

Jenny pulls a card from within her coat, passing it to Emmett with a raises eyebrow. Emmett looks relieved.

CONTINUED: 12.

EMMETT (CONT'D)

Oh, thank God, it's just a card...

**JENNY** 

Why don't you open it?

Emmett, though a little unnerved by Jenny's persistence, gives her a smile as he opens the envelope. He pulls out the card, looking over the front.

EMMETT

Oh... it's very nice, Jenny-

**JENNY** 

Why don't you look inside?

Emmett looks at Jenny a moment, trying to read her. Then, he opens the card, looking inside.

EMMETT

To Emmett, Happy Birthday, Love-

Emmett gives Jenny a look, as she nods for him to continue reading. Emmett looks back at the card.

EMMETT (CONT'D)

Love from Jenny. Aw, that's very sweet of you Jenny, thank you-Oh, you've put something else in here.

Emmett pulls out a small polaroid picture, looking it over.

EMMETT (CONT'D)

Oh, it's a picture.

(looks at it oddly)

Hmmm... it looks a bit like-

Emmett turns the picture slightly, trying to work it out. His eyes widen.

EMMETT (CONT'D)

Oh my God! Jenny is that-

Jenny places a single finger on Emmett's lips, silencing him. She leans in close enough to whisper.

**JENNY** 

If you ever want to see the real thing... just let me know...

Jenny gives him one last crafty smile before turning and heading back into the kitchen.

CONTINUED: 13.

A slightly bewildered Emmett stands there for a moment. Then, he looks at the picture again, looking at it from different angles.

FLASHBACK TO:

10 INT. THE HOUSE, LIVING ROOM -- AFTERNOON

10

Emmett shudders.

EMMETT

Where was I supposed to start, again?

**JESS** 

The table.

EMMETT

Right, of course.

Emmett walks over to the table, stopping a few feet short. He glances back at Jess, struggling to remember what to do next.

**JESS** 

Chair.

EMMETT

Right.

Emmett pulls the chair out, and waits. Jess looks at him expectantly.

Emmett twigs what he has to do. He quickly jogs back over, taking Jess' hand and leading her to the table. He then pulls out the chair for her, guiding her into the seat with her hand. She smiles.

**JESS** 

Very good!

EMMETT

Now what do I do?

JESS

Well, you'd sit opposite. We'd make conversation... you could maybe drop some innuendo about where you want the night to go-

EMMETT

Such as...?

**JESS** 

Well, like complementing her. Talk about her eyes. If you're

(MORE)

CONTINUED: 14.

JESS (CONT'D)

going to compliment her, though, try and talk about anything above the neck. Anything below might come across as pervy. Also, try and stay away from anything sausage-related.

EMMETT

"Sausage related"?

**JESS** 

Well, if you don't get that, then there's no point going any further, Emmett.

Emmett takes a few moments, before twigging. His look of elation quickly vanishes again.

EMMETT

Then what should I talk about?

Jess thinks a moment.

**JESS** 

Sometimes, don't even talk at all.

EMMETT

Really?

**JESS** 

Yeah. Maybe, see if she'll let you sit on the same side of the table as her. Maybe run a hand up her leg, or a finger across her palm...

(beat)

But we don't need to practise that bit.

EMMETT

Okay. So now what do I do?

**JESS** 

Well, first, help with the chair. Help her up, and then take her hand and escort her back to her car.

Emmett stands, and does exactly as Jess instructed, stopping in the middle of the room by the sofa.

JESS (CONT'D)

So, by this point, you'd be back at her house.

CONTINUED: 15.

EMMETT

Right.

**JESS** 

In her living room, I'd have thought. Unless she's proper gagging for it, then you might be in her car...

(mentally elsewhere)

Or on the porch step... or the front lawn... or your both in Dad's bed while he's up the shops getting some bread, and you know he could be back any minute but you don't care because-

Jess realises Emmett is giving her a peculiar look. She snaps herself out of it.

JESS (CONT'D)

Happened to a friend of mine.

EMMETT

(skeptical)

Right.

**JESS** 

Okay. So this is the most important bit. This is the make-or-break of the whole thing. You get that?

EMMETT

Think so.

**JESS** 

Okay. Remember what to do?

EMMETT

Yep.

Emmett doesn't move. Jess realises an eyebrow.

**JESS** 

Well?

EMMETT

Well what?

**JESS** 

Go on then!

EMMETT

What? I'm not having sex with you!

CONTINUED: 16.

**JESS** 

Keep your voice down! And I'm not on about that bit!

EMMETT

Oh. Right.

**JESS** 

Before that. What did I tell you to do.

EMMETT

Hands on the waist.

**JESS** 

Right, exactly.

EMMETT

Oh that bit!

**JESS** 

Yes!

**EMMETT** 

Right, right, okay.

Emmett steps forward, and gingerly slides his left hand onto Jess' waist. He freezes with his right hand. Jess gives him a raised eyebrow.

**JESS** 

What is it?

EMMETT

Just the waist, you say?

JESS

Yep. Just the waist.

EMMETT

See, I disagree.

**JESS** 

Emmett, we don't have time-

EMMETT

Just hear me out, okay? So, what if I have one hand on her waist...

Emmett moves his other hand round Jess' back, positioning it just above her shoulder blade.

EMMETT (CONT'D)

...and the other here?

CONTINUED: 17.

**JESS** 

Well-

EMMETT

Because then I've got more room to move, see, like if I then move the other hand further round.

Emmett's hand slides forward from Jess' waist, around her back, pulling her in close to his body. Jess looks down at what he is doing, looking impressed.

**JESS** 

Yeah, I guess that is better...

Jess looks back around, looking up at Emmett. She finds herself looking at him, eyes seemingly transfixed. Emmett hasn't noticed.

EMMETT

And then I can move this hand round here...

Emmett moves his right hand from her shoulder blade to the back of her neck, and then up, so he's cupping just below her cheek.

EMMETT (CONT'D)

And then it's easier to kiss her, see.

**JESS** 

Yeah, yeah, I can... I can see that...

Jess loses herself in her train of thought. Before she knows what she's doing, her hand is sliding onto Emmett's waist.

The two are now stood barely centimetres apart. They are looking into each other's eyes. Emmett gently brushes Jess' cheek with his thumb, an oblivious smile on his face.

Then, she's leaning towards him, eyes slowly closing, getting ready to-

The phone rings. Emmett quickly pulls away from Jess, darting over to the phone, leaving Jess stood, on her own, in the middle of the room, eyes closed, still trying to savour what's left of the moment.

Then, she opens her eyes, blinking away the trance, turning around as Emmett answers the phone.

CONTINUED: 18.

EMMETT

Hello?

(beat)

Oh, Clarice! Hey!

(to Jess)

It's Clarice.

Jess gives him a false-smiled nod. Emmett turns back to the phone.

EMMETT (CONT'D)

What was that? Oh yeah, sure,

I'll be round in a moment. Yeah.

Yeah. Okay. Bye babe.

(in a whisper)

I love you too.

Emmett hangs up the phone, turning to Jess, clapping his hands together.

EMMETT (CONT'D)

Well, I best be off. Thanks for all the advice.

**JESS** 

Oh, no, it's fine-

EMMETT

No, really, you are such a great friend.

The last word is like a slap in the face for Jess. Emmett gives her a quick hug, kissing her on the forehead, before bounding towards the door, stepping out and closing it behind him.

Jess falls back into the sofa. She raises her hand, in the shape of a gun, and mimics blowing her brains out.

11 INT. THE HOUSE, HUGH'S ROOM -- AFTERNOON

11

Hugh and Barney are still engrossed in their video game as Jess enters. She looks across the room at the screen.

JESS

What you guys playing?

BARNEY

A game.

**JESS** 

What sort of game?

BARNEY

A video game.

CONTINUED: 19.

**JESS** 

What sort of video game?

BARNEY

A good video game.

Hugh glances across at Barney.

HUGH

Woah... de-ja-vu!

**BARNEY** 

Watch what you're doing! They're breaking in!

HUGH

What?! But I turned away for, like, a second-

A deep voice cackles out the words "Game Over". Barney glares at Hugh, exasperated.

BARNEY

You... ass!

HUGH

Hey, don't start blaming me!

Hugh glances across at Jess, who is standing in the doorway, lost in thought.

HUGH (CONT'D)

Are you alright, Jess?

**JESS** 

Huh? Oh, yeah, I'm fine.

BARNEY

You don't look fine.

**JESS** 

I'm fine! Honestly, I'm totally-

HUGH

Is it about Emmett?

**JESS** 

What do you mean?

HUGH

Well, I don't really have much experience in this area - being the loveable person I am - but I imagine being in love with someone who doesn't love you back is a bit-

CONTINUED: 20.

**JESS** 

Woah-woah-woah! Hold up a second! I'm not "in love" with Emmett!

Barney and Hugh give a peculiar look to each other, and then to Jess.

HUGH

Yeah you are!

**JESS** 

What? No I'm not!

HUGH

Yes you are!

**JESS** 

No I'm not!

HUGH

Yes you are!

**JESS** 

No I'm not!

HUGH

Yes you are!

**JESS** 

No I'm not-

(realisation hits her)

Oh my God, I'm in love with

Emmett!

(pauses)

Emmett?!

Hugh and Barney give her a supportive nod. Jess, suddenly furious, instead slaps them across their shoulders.

JESS (CONT'D)

Why didn't you tell me!

BARNEY

We figured you knew!

HUGH

How could you not know!

**JESS** 

Because it's Emmett!

(pauses; sighs)

Why am I in love with Emmett?

Hugh and Barney exchange a look.

CONTINUED: 21.

HUGH

I don't know.

(to Jess)

Why are you in love with Emmett?

BARNEY

Yeah, I mean, he's one of my best friends-

HUGH

Excuse me?

**BARNEY** 

But, in all fairness... the guy's a dick.

HUGH

Yeah, I mean he's annoying.

BARNEY

He's needy.

HUGH

Whiny.

BARNEY

Controlling.

HUGH

He spends most of his time talking about himself...

Jess slowly sits down on the bed, looking off frame.

**JESS** 

Yeah... but he's also kind of sweet... and there's that way he wears glasses, even though he doesn't actually need them, just because he thinks they make him look intellectual... and the way he gets really passionate about the things he cares aboutOH MY GOD where the hell is all this coming from?!

Distraught, she crumples to her knees, hands on her face, falling, face-down, onto the bed, right into Barney's lap, who shuffles backwards uncomfortably.

BARNEY

(to himself)

Please say Daisy's not here... Please say Daisy's not here... CONTINUED: 22.

**JESS** 

How did I not see this! It's so obvious!

HUGH

You got me!

Jess eyes widen in horror.

**JESS** 

Oh my god... I've just spent the whole afternoon teaching him how to get off with *Clarice*!

BARNEY

What?!

**JESS** 

Well, he was nervous! He was all silly and had no idea what he was doing... what was I supposed to do?

HUGH

How about *not* help the love of your life seduce another woman?

**JESS** 

(to Barney; pointing to
Hugh)

Okay, he's really not helping!

Hugh leans towards Jess, reassuringly.

HUGH

Look, Jess, in all seriousness; you taught Emmett how to seduce his girlfriend?

**JESS** 

Yeah?

HUGH

Implying they haven't yet "sealed
the deal", so to speak?

**JESS** 

Well, yeah-

HUGH

And generally speaking, you would have more chance with him before he has sealed said deal?

**JESS** 

Yeah, I guess-

CONTINUED: 23.

HUGH

Then why the hell are you still sat there?! Go! Go stop him!

Jess' stands, becoming more determined.

HUGH (CONT'D)

But maybe sort you're hair out first. You look like a-

Jess shoots Hugh a glare. Hugh shuts up. Jess quickly darts out of the room.

CUT TO:

12 EXT. STREET -- AFTERNOON

12

Jess, now properly clothed, sprints down the street as fast as she can, a look of grim determination on her face.

13 EXT. CLARICE'S HOUSE -- CONTINUED

13

Jess rounds the corner onto Clarice's driveway. She sprints straight up to the door, ringing the doorbell. She waits impatiently a few moments, before ringing it again.

Behind the door is movement. Jess takes a few steps back, making herself looking as best as possible, expecting Emmett. However, it is instead CLARICE who answers the door.

CLARICE

Oh. Hey Jess!

**JESS** 

Oh, hey Clarice, is Emmett-

It takes Jess a few moments to realise that Clarice is wearing Emmett's shirt. Jess looks her up and down, quickly putting two-and-two together in her head. She's too late.

CLARICE

He's upstairs.

(cheeky whisper)

Recovering.

(giggles)

Did you need him for something?

**JESS** 

Uh... no, no, I was just passing,
and.... it doesn't matter now...

CONTINUED: 24.

CLARICE

Okay. I'll let him know you stopped by.

Clarice gives Jess a quick grin before closing the door, turning and bounding away. Jess stays where she is for a moment, an empty look on her face.

Jess slowly turns and walks back out of the driveway, making her way down the road a few steps. She stops, realising Hugh is now stood before her.

The two of them look at each other for a moment, Jess inconsolable, Hugh working it out in his head. Hugh walks towards her, opening his arms. Jess allows herself to be taken into a hug by him.

And the two stand there, in the middle of the street, oblivious to the world around them as we-

FADE TO BLACK.

CREDITS.

FADE IN:

14 INT. HUGH'S ROOM -- DAY

14

Barney sits on the bed, now alone. A moment later, Daisy joins him, examining the game controller now in her hands.

DAISY

I never really got the appeal of video games.

BARNEY

You'll love it if you just give it a chance.

DAISY

Alright, alright... how do I play?

BARNEY

Don't worry, I've put it on tutorial mode, seeing as it's your first time gaming.

Daisy smiles at Barney.

DAISY

Aw, that's so sweet, playing on easy mode just for me.

Daisy leans over and gives him a loving kiss on the cheek. Barney smiles back at her.

CONTINUED: 25.

**BARNEY** 

Right, you ready?

DAISY

Yeah, let's give it a go.

Daisy and Barney turn their attention to the screen, and begin to play.

TIME JUMP to just a few minutes later. Daisy has a headset and her game-face on, glaring at the screen as she taps the buttons aggressively. Next to her, Barney cowers, terrified of what he has unleashed.

DAISY (CONT'D)

Flank him! Flank him! Flank- Aw, you dumb-ass! Don't you even know what flank means?!

(to Barney)

Fields! Get your head in the game!

BARNEY

I'm trying... I've never played it on the Armageddon difficulty setting before-

DAISY

(at screen)

Oh, come on, what was that!

(at mic)

Hey! Don't you start shouting at me! Yeah, well you're Mum's a whore and you have the face of an alpaca!

(pauses; looks offended)
Oh, you want some! You want some!

We hear a hail of gunfire on-screen followed by a scream. Daisy grins evilly.

DAISY (CONT'D)

Yeah, how you like me now, huh?! How you like me now!

BARNEY

You're not supposed to shoot the people on your team-

DAISY

Little dick wasn't doing what he was told.

BARNEY

But still, maybe you're getting a little-

CONTINUED: 26.

DAISY

(to mic)

Guys, hold on a sec, Shelby ducking out.

Daisy pulls off her headset. She turns to Barney, grabbing him by the scruff of his shirt and hoisting him to eye-line.

DAISY (CONT'D)

Now you listen here. You better get your shit together and get your head back in the god-damn game, or I swear to God I'll-

There's a scream from on screen. Daisy turns, looking at the screen, horrified.

DAISY (CONT'D)

You can't kill me! I'm your squad leader! You bunch of total ass-holes!

Barney has had enough. He stands, running to the door. He stops, looking back at Daisy.

BARNEY

This is why no-one ever plays with you!

Barney darts out of the room. Daisy's expression changes to one of regret.

DAISY

Barney, wait-

The door slams shut. Daisy stares at it a second. Slowly, her look of regret fades away.

DAISY (CONT'D)

Pussy.

CUT TO BLACK.

CREDITS.

END EPISODE.