

(Printed with an unregistered version of Fade In)

THE FURNITURE STORE

Written by

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CAST OF CHARACTERS

KENNETH: Any age. Any ethnicity. Male.

TONI: 20s/30s. Any ethnicity. Female.

SYLVIA: 20s/30s. Any ethnicity. Female.

KYLE: 20/30s. Any ethnicity. Male.

SETTING:

The Furniture Store.

TIME:

The Furniture Store.

CONTENT WARNING:

~~The Furniture Store.~~ Violence.

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The Furniture Store, Daniel Prillaman, 1.

The Furniture Store.

*It is not filled with
furniture.*

It is filled with nothing.

*Including KENNETH, the sole
employee.*

You are nothing, KENNETH.

*A ding-dong chime as loving
couple, TONI and SYLVIA, enter
the store.*

Oh! Hi! Customers! KENNETH

Hi. TONI

Greetings, upholsterer. SYLVIA

Welcome to the Furniture Store! How can I help you? KENNETH

Uhhhhhhhm. SYLVIA

Wait, where-- TONI

What are you looking for? KENNETH

What? TONI

What kind of furniture are you looking for? KENNETH

Um. TONI

Beat.

What kind of furniture do you have? SYLVIA

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The Furniture Store, Daniel Prillaman, 2.

KENNETH

Oh. All kinds.

Mattresses, box springs, bedspreads, head boards
Short lamps, tall lamps, both kinds with the cords
Knife blocks, throw pillows, tables of mahogany
And mirrors you can pose in to strike back at life's
monotony

For your office spaces we've a lot of desks and chairs
But if you intend to see them all, well, cancel your affairs
I'm pretty sure that I have an ottoman or two
But between the three of us I think that they both sit askew

But! As for recliners, ma'ams, we have the very best
If I may be so bold to say and puff out my own chest
They sit yonder down the aisle in cushioned, vast array
Every color you could want, free shipping no delays!
We do take checks.

(Pause, launching
into the semi-
lengthy first
note(s) of a much
longer musical
number)

ALSO--

TONI

Hey, that's--that's...that's enough. That's cool, thanks.

KENNETH

Usually people listen to the whole thing.

Beat.

SYLVIA

Naaaaah.

KENNETH

Well. Anyway. Next to you is the Titan Model Mattress, Queen
Size, for a lovely couple. Memory Foam! The best. Give it a
try.

TONI

...

I mean--...

(a short chuckle of disbelief)

KENNETH

Is something wrong?

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The Furniture Store, Daniel Prillaman, 3.

TONI

You're--you're fucking with us, right?

KENNETH

What?

TONI

You're not fucking with us?

KENNETH

No? I would never fuck with you.

TONI

You're fucking with us!

SYLVIA

Hey! There's no furniture in here!

KENNETH

What?

TONI

This entire fucking store is empty, dude!

KENNETH

(Looking around)

What?

Oh my god!

You can't see it?

TONI

What?

KENNETH

You can't see the furniture?

TONI

What furniture?

KENNETH

(Pointing)

It's right there! Next to you!

*SYLVIA walks into the area
KENNETH is pointing.*

KENNETH

She's in it! SHE IS IN. THE TITAN MODEL.

TONI

You're fucking with us.

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The Furniture Store, Daniel Prillaman, 4.

KENNETH

I swear to God I am not.

SYLVIA

Toni, I don't know if I like this one. It doesn't feel very bouncy.

KENNETH

The Titan Model is extra bouncy!!

TONI

EVERYONE SHUT THE FUCK UP PLEASE.
(Turning on the audience)

EVERYONE.

EVERYONE!

I FUCKING SAID EVERYONE.

(Pulling a gun)

THIS IS A FAKE GUN! PRETEND IT IS REAL!

SUSPEND YOUR DISBELIEF!

KENNETH

(As TONI holds him at
gunpoint)

Woah, woah, woah, hey now. Don't do anything crazy.

TONI

Do you have a single piece of goddamned furniture in this store?

KENNETH

We do.

TONI

Tell the truth!

SYLVIA

Yeah, bitch.

TONI

Do it. Or we'll feed you a length of razor wire, take care of you until you shit it out, then play tug of war with it until you're dead.

SYLVIA

Yeah, extra bouncy!

Beat.

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The Furniture Store, Daniel Prillaman, 5.

KENNETH
We have housewares in the back?

TONI
Show us the fucking furniture!

KENNETH
It's there!!

TONI
No, it's not!

KENNETH
Yes, it is!

TONI
No, it's not!

KENNETH
Yes, it is!

TONI
No, it's not!

KENNETH
Yes, it is!

TONI
No, it's not!

KENNETH
Yes, it is!

TONI
No, it's not!

KENNETH
Yes, it is!

TONI
No, it's not!

KENNETH
Yes, it is!

No, it's not.

KENNETH
Yes, it is!

TONI
No, it's not!

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The Furniture Store, Daniel Prillaman, 6.

Yes, it is!

KENNETH

No, it's not!

TONI

Yes, it is!

KENNETH

What if...

SYLVIA

It is. And. It isn't?

DRAMATIC SOUND CUE.

Could that be possible?

TONI

DRAMATIC SOUND CUE.

Toni. Through God, all things are possible.

SYLVIA

I don't believe this.

TONI

You have to, Toni.

KENNETH

Accept the Lord, Toni.

SYLVIA

Just because you can't see it. Doesn't mean it's not there.

KENNETH

Put down the gun, Toni.

SYLVIA

Beat.

TONI haltingly hands SYLVIA the gun.

She slowly lies on the Titan Model.

Well, the area of the floor that KENNETH has been referencing.

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The Furniture Store, Daniel Prillaman, 7.

SYLVIA
How do you rate the bounciness?

Toni?

TONI
10.

SYLVIA
10?

KENNETH
10?

TONI
10.

OUT OF TEEEN!!

*TONI hops up and begins
slapping KENNETH.*

KENNETH
AH!

TONI
YOU BASTARD!

KENNETH
AH!

TONI
WHY WOULDN'T YOU TELL US!

KENNETH
AH!

TONI
WE'LL TAKE EVERYTHING!

KENNETH
Ok! We do take checks.

A gunshot rings out.

SYLVIA has shot KENNETH.

Silence.

TONI
Sylvia! What did you do?

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The Furniture Store, Daniel Prillaman, 8.

She freed me. KENNETH

KENNETH falls over and dies.

It is ours now. SYLVIA

All of it.

All of it? TONI

All of it. SYLVIA

All of it? TONI

All of it. SYLVIA

All of it? TONI

All of it. SYLVIA

Wow. TONI

Nice.

We have to feed it, Toni. SYLVIA

It hungers.

Yes. TONI

You know what must be done. SYLVIA

I do. TONI

A ding-dong chime as stoned human, KYLE, enters the store.

Woah. KYLE

