

JOON'S IN A TRASH ROOM

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INT. JOON AND ALEX'S APARTMENT - HALLWAY - DAY

KNOCK KNOCK.

PRIYA and SCOTT, late 20s, stand in front of the bedroom door impatiently.

PRIYA
Joon? You in there?

SCOTT
Joon! The game's starting!

They knock again. Across the hallway, ALEX, 20s, calls out:

ALEX
Come on guys! Pizza's getting cold.

Scott reaches for the handle. Priya stops him.

PRIYA
Don't just barge in.

SCOTT
Why?

PRIYA
I don't know, what if he's naked or something?

Scott thinks about it for a second.

ALEX (O.S.)
Guys, I'm already halfway through the first one!

SCOTT
Don't you dare! Joon, you better not be naked!

Scott bursts in.

INT. JOON'S ROOM - CONTINUOUS

SCOTT
Oh my god.

Priya covers her mouth, wide eyed.

The room is absurdly messy: dirty clothes, old homework, books, random knick knacks.

SCOTT (CONT'D)
 (confused)
 He's not here.

Priya paces around the room, in awe at the mess.

Scott cautiously examines the mess on the nightstand.

SCOTT (CONT'D)
 Priya, you gotta take a look at--

He turns around. She's gone.

SCOTT (CONT'D)
 Priya? Priya!

Scott scans the room, panicked. Frantically running around the room, he trips into a pile of dirty laundry and disappears. A loud CRASH.

INT. LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

The sound catches Alex's attention for a brief second. He shrugs it off and bites into his pizza.

INT. JOON'S TRASH WORLD - CONTINUOUS

Scott tumbles in.

SCOTT
 What-- Where--

He looks up to see Priya and JOON, also late 20s. Joon's a mess, his hair all scruffy, his clothes worn and dirty.

SCOTT (CONT'D)
 Oh, hey guys.

JOON
 (smiling)
 Hey Scott.

Joon helps him up.

JOON (CONT'D)
 Glad to have you guys here. It was getting a bit lonely.

PRIYA
 Joon, what is all this?

The room is covered in heaps of laundry, soiled pizza boxes, dirty newspapers. There's old food, bright candy wrappers covering the walls, decaying cardboard-- imagine a landfill took a dump all over a room that is, itself, made of garbage.

SCOTT

It's like those febreze commercials. But without the fresh linen scent.

(beat)

So like a crack den, I guess.

JOON

Look, the mess got a bit out of hand, I'll admit.

PRIYA

A bit? Joon-- that's a cockroach.

JOON

Pff, don't be such a baby.

PRIYA

It's three feet long!

The shadow of a giant cockroach briefly scurries through the frame. Joon shrugs it off.

SCOTT

Are those my coveralls?

JOON

Yeah... I've been meaning to give that back to you.

PRIYA

Okay, and who the hell is that??

FRANK, 60s, sits on a mattress in a corner of the room. He's wearing a letterman and holding onto a worn out football. Frank waves hello.

FRANK

Frank Thomas, class of '72. Go Badgers!

Priya and Scott turn to Joon in shock.

SCOTT

I think we're in some other dimension, man.

PRIYA

We have to get out of here.

Joon sighs and shakes his head.

JOON

Well, that's kinda the problem. You can't.

PRIYA

What do you mean?

In the background, Scott takes a few steps back and throws himself at the wall. He bounces off uselessly. The room shakes like an unstable cave.

JOON

I wouldn't do that if I were you.
The last guy who did that--

He points to a far corner of the room, where a pair of legs poke out from a pile of garbage collapsed from the walls-- Wicked Witch of the East style.

JOON (CONT'D)

Well, Frank can tell ya... It was before my time.

Frank shakes his head, wiping away a tear.

FRANK

Jared was too good for this world.

Scott is horrified.

PRIYA

Well, what about Alex?

SCOTT

Alex!

INT. JOON AND ALEX'S APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

Alex sits sprawled out on the couch, engrossed with the basketball game on TV. Scott's faint cries can be heard.

INT. JOON'S TRASH WORLD - CONTINUOUS

JOON

It's no use. He can't even hear is seven alarms in the morning.

Scott pulls out his phone.

JOON (CONT'D)
No signal here, either.

Joon takes a seat on the floor and picks up a newspaper.

PRIYA
There has to be *some* way out. How long have you been down here?

JOON
What day is it today?

PRIYA
Saturday? The nineteenth.

JOON
What day did we have all that cake?

Priya cocks her head, confused.

PRIYA
Wh-- My birthday??

JOON
Yeah, that day... the...

He turns to Scott. Scott shrugs, he has no idea.

JOON (CONT'D)
(mumbling)
...rrrn-teenth.

PRIYA
Oh, the rrrn-teenth?

JOON
Look, point is, it's been a few days. I can assure you there's no way out, so you might as well get comfortable. Snack, anyone?

He pulls out a bowl of crumbs.

SCOTT
Yeah sure, I'll take some.

Scott happily munches on a handful.

PRIYA
Wait, Joon.

JOON
Priya! Please.

PRIYA
No, where'd you get those from?

A pizza crust falls onto Scott's head. They look up.

JOON
Oh, I call that the Food Hole.
'Cause whenever you get hungry,
food comes down from the hole.

Impressed, Scott eats the crust. Priya slaps her forehead.

INT. JOON AND ALEX'S APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

Alex is still glued to the TV as he finishes up the pizza. When he's done, he nonchalantly tosses the box into a gaping hole inexplicably placed next to the couch.

INT. JOON'S TRASH WORLD - CONTINUOUS

A pizza box falls from the ceiling. They look at each other.

CUT TO:

Scott's face is red. Straining, he looks up.

SCOTT
Guys, this is not safe!

PRIYA
Just hold still!

Priya remains focused on the hole in the ceiling. There's a light coming from the end of it.

PRIYA (CONT'D)
I think I see something.

Joon is struggling almost as much as Scott. He wiggles in and out of frame.

JOON
Stop moving so much!

SCOTT
Who?

JOON
Both of you!

Joon sits on top of Scott's shoulders. Priya sits on Joon's. It's a precarious position.

JOON

Alex, listen to me. Is there some kind of large opening somewhere in the room?

PRIYA

Joon, that's ridiculous.

ALEX

Oh, you mean Trash Hole?

Priya is in disbelief, the way someone who just learned about Trash Hole would look.

PRIYA

What?

ALEX

Yeah, the hole next to the couch that I throw trash into? Trash Hole.

SCOTT

We call it Food Hole.

PRIYA

There was a hole next to the couch, and you just threw trash in it?!

ALEX

Yeah, I couldn't believe it either.

SCOTT

Isn't this a third floor apartment?

JOON

Alex, we're stuck in the hole!

He leans over and looks down into Trash Hole.

ALEX

(amazed)

What? That's insane. What's it like in there?

SCOTT

Not that bad for a Trash Hole, honestly.

PRIYA

Guys, focus. Do you have some sort of rope or something?

ALEX
Oh yeah, let me get it from the
Rope Hole.

PRIYA
What?

ALEX
(laughing)
Nah, I'm just playing. One sec.

He quickly climbs off the couch.

CUT TO:

Alex stands over the hole with a bundle of rope in his hands.

ALEX (CONT'D)
Okay, what do I do now?

JOON
Just toss the rope in.

ALEX
Then what?

SCOTT
We're gonna climb up.

ALEX
Oh. Shit.

He's empty-handed. The entire bundle of rope falls from the ceiling.

The other three can't believe it.

ALEX (CONT'D)
Hold on, lemme get it back.

He jumps into the hole.

CUT TO:

INT. JOON'S TRASH WORLD - CONTINUOUS

Alex looks around, amazed. Scott groans. Priya facepalms.
Joon sighs.

Frank shakes his head in disappointment.

FADE OUT.