

The night of the get-together had finally come about. Asher and Liam were preparing the snack on the sofa-table. The two lived on Thyme street in the little town of Fyneborough, just on the outskirts of the big University grounds where they both studied. They were waiting for their friends to come over for games and drinking. Asher brought his video game console when he moved, ripe for some cozy multiplayer gaming. Liam couldn't wait for the others to come; Sam, Faulkner and lastly Billy. Asher knew that Liam had a crush on Sam so that's mostly the reason she got invited. Asher didn't know much about her, other than she had great humor that always made him giggle when he heard her in the dining hall. Faulkner they both hit it off with from the beginning and Billy was an old friend of Liam.

"Hey Liam, can you fix the rest? I'm just gonna go change into something... eh... else". Asher told Liam, already down the small hall leading to his room. "O-Okay! Put on some damn boxers while you're at it!" Asher didn't like wearing underwear it often scraped and didn't fit very well. Asher was what you would call "well-endowed" in the pelvic department. And Liam had noticed. Without ever telling Asher of course, Liam was a little envious of him. But he wouldn't let a bit of envy break their friendship. The clock struck eight and the first guests knocked on the door. The first to arrive was Sam. Liam couldn't stop smiling when he opened the door. Sam noticed and teased him; "Are you glad to see me or what?" "What... yes. Yes of course I am!" Liam tried to sound as sassy as Sam just did but it came out awkward and nervous instead. Sam smiled non the less. She actually liked him back, Liam was just a bit too afraid to do something about it, but he was convinced that tonight's the night he would do something about it. The thought made Liam blush even more.

Sam was still standing in the doorway blocked by Liam's stiff body. She shoved him aside with a gently but at the same time firm elbow to his abdomen. Liam let out a gasp and looked at her back. She noticed and swayed her buttocks while walking, making Liam even more giddy. Asher was in the kitchen-corner smiling add them both to hide how awkward he felt. Liam always acted so different around Sam, it was obvious why but that still didn't make it any less unpleasant. Asher didn't have to feel that way for long because soon after Sam's arrival came Billy. His actual name was William but everyone just called him Billy, he didn't seem to mind but Asher wanted to ask him if he actually preferred to be called Will or maybe even his full name. Asher shook the thought and went to the door to greet Billy. "Hey there ma' main man Asher!" Billy almost jumped at Asher gripping around his neck and swirling a whole three hundred degrees. Asher felt a sudden buzzing in his stomach. "H-Hey there Billy! I'm glad you could come!" Liam released his gaze from Sam and blurted "Hey homie!" Almost cutting Liam off, Billy quickly answered Asher "wouldn't miss it for the world!" Asher felt warm, and silly at the same time. "What's with this buzzing feeling? I've never felt this around Billy before." Liam and Billy fist bumped and began talking about class and how things were at home. They actually used to live in the same town and go to the same elementary school together. Through their friendship Asher got introduced to Billy. Back then Asher thought Billy was kind of rowdy and even annoying. Bit that had since changed Asher realized. He went to his room and shot the door trying to collect his thoughts. "What, why the hell do I feel this way around Billy suddenly!?!..." He didn't want to admit it to himself but he realized he had a crush on him. He hadn't felt this intense burning for another man before, sure he had felt a bit warm about another guy before, but only passing and he had had girlfriends before. He swallowed what felt like a stone and exhaled audibly. Suddenly the door went up and on the other side Asher

heard Billy's voice. "Hey Faulkner has arrived. Wanna start the festivities?". Asher calmed his mind and went with Billy without a word. Billy shot Asher's back an odd look shook his shoulders, smiled and skipped to the beanbag he had claimed earlier right in front of Asher. Billy stuck his tongue out at him, and shortly after patted the beanbag with his splayed hand. Asher's vision blurred slightly at the thought of sitting so close to Billy. Practically fusing with him. Asher sat down with a "plump" and the talking soon resumed.

An hour or so had passed. They had played a couple of rounds of a cartoony racing game, Faulkner won almost all of them. Liam threw the controller in front of him in a staged fit of rage. Sam giggled "You're such a sore loser!" She laughed even louder now, it even broke Liam's pouting face and soon everybody laughed. Billy settled his skyward arms around Asher. They were both pretty drunk. Asher almost didn't notice. Sam then suggested that they play another game. The rest agreed and she turned around with a big grin on her face. She rustled her bag a little and pulled from it a card game with two different decks. Everybody broke out in affirmative roars and laughs. Sam sent up a disciplining finger. "But! I have some house rules." Liam quickly cut Sam off "But you don't live here." He told Sam unintelligible. She couldn't keep her poker face and grinned with him "Shut up Liam, and let me talk! Now, the house rules are: every time you win a point you have to remove a piece of clothing." "So strip poker? But without the poker?" Billy asked drunkenly. Sam shook her head and said "yep." Asher's face flushed red and he thought in an attempt to comfort himself "Good Liam told me to put on boxers." He let out a little nervous laughter. Sam asked if everybody was up for it, and everyone hollered except for Asher who only confirmed his participation under his breath. Sam dealt the cards and soon they were playing. The first one to lose a piece of clothing was Faulkner. He was chubby but only in all the right places as he used to say. He took off his socks and he let out a sigh of relief. "You want to kill us all?" Said Billy jokingly, waving his hand and squeezing his nose shut. The next one to get a point and thereby have to remove a garment, was Asher. Surprisingly to himself he didn't feel embarrassed or awkward but actually confident and giddy with excitement. He almost tore off his tank-top cocked his head upward and put his fists on his hips all in one motion before the tank-top settled on the table. Silence fell over the five guys aside from the music in the background. Soon they all laughed hysterically. Billy was the first one to break the cacophony of laughter "whew Asher I've never seen you like this before bro!" Asher looked at Billy with tears in his eyes: "Then you haven't seen me in bed." It just came out like that. Billy and Asher shared a gaze and quickly turned to the others who were still laughing. Now both Billy and Asher flushed red.

The game went on for a bit longer until Asher wanted a smoking break. Sam agreed and they all went out the sliding door to the small terrace. Asher lit his and Sam's cigarettes and they started puffing. It was warm outside even though the time was half past ten. "Can I get a hit?" asked Billy. Asher looked a little surprised but quickly passed the cig along. The thought of sharing a smoke with Billy turned on the same buzzing feeling he had felt when Billy first arrived. He looked at Billy without blinking. He noticed and Asher looked away quickly, and awkwardly tried to start a conversation with Sam. "So Sam... what are you majoring in?" Sam looked back at Asher with a perplexed look. "what are you serious?" "well..." "okay I'll tell ya' I'm majoring in Alien relations." Asher shook his head with puckered lips and closed eyes, but then it dawned on him. He opened his eyes and retorted: "there's no such things as alien- alien relay- ree." Asher was getting really drunk, and Sam saw what was going on coursing her to

answer Asher so she knew it would throw him for a loop. She smiled at him "I'll tell you when we sober up." "whaddaya mean... I'm sober" Asher blurted back at her almost tipping over but Billy caught him right before he lost balance. Asher felt the buzzing more intense than ever before just be the touch of Billy's hand on his exposed abdomen. Blood quickly rushed to Asher's nethers and he stumbled inside to his room almost tripping on the sofa-table on the way. On the other side of the door he tried to hold down his erection but to no avail. The more he tried the more elated he became be stroking it. He stopped and just plopped onto his bed. He didn't want this to be true. Although he couldn't deny the feelings he had come to have for Billy. He sat with his arms around his legs trying to force his erection to go away. He began counting in his head in a desperate attempt to help it along. Knocking sounded from his door "are you okay Asher... bro?" It was Billy. Asher began sweating profusely from all the overwhelming feelings he was suddenly feeling. "should I just embrace it? What if Billy's not even into guys? - what if he is?" Every thinkable thought went through his head in that moment. "Can I come in?" Asher's eyes flickered to the door, the doorknob turning and then the door opening. "something up big guy?" Billy asked with a soft and almost sober sounding voice. Asher looked away trying not to make eye contact. "No I'm just a little..." Asher didn't know what to say but then: "I'm just a little nauseous." No way Billy wouldn't believe that considering the circumstances. Faint laughter and conversation was audible from the slightly open door. Billy sat beside Asher and comforted him with a pat on the back. "Ya' hafta hurl?" The stark words made Asher's erection go away completely. "No... no let- let's go and join the others..." Billy helped Asher up and they went out to the others in the living room. Before they could even sit down Sam yelled: "You ready to strip?" Everybody laughed and they continued the game.