

Rabbit Hole
By David Lindsay-Abaire
Act Two
Scene Three

A few days later. Jason is sitting on the couch in the living room. He looks around. Becca enters from the Kitchen with a plate.

Becca

I made some lemon squares.

(she holds out the lemon squares, and he takes one and a napkin.)

Jason

Thank you.

Becca

Can I get you some milk or something? I don't have any soda. Unless you want seltzer.

Jason

I'm fine.

Becca

You'll need something to wash it down though. You don't drink coffee, do you?

Jason

Sometimes.

Becca

You want coffee?

Jason

No thanks. Really, I'm okay.

Becca

All right. But let me know if you change your mind.

(she joins him on the couch. Jason takes a bite of the lemon square.)

Jason

It's good.

Thank you. **Becca**

Still warm. **Jason**

(she smiles. Pause)

So, you're moving?

Becca
We're thinking about it. If we can find a buyer.

Jason
Where are you moving to?

Becca
We're still looking.

Jason
Far away?

Becca
Probably not, no. My husband works in the city, so we can't go that far.

Jason
Where does he work?

Becca
He works at Prime Brokerage. Risk management.

Jason
(Doesn't know what that is) Uh-huh

Becca
So we don't wanna go too far.

Jason

It's a nice house. I hope you find one as nice as this.

Becca

We'll probably go smaller. This is too big.

(Jason goes back to the lemon square.)

I'm sorry Howie couldn't be here.

Jason

That's okay

Becca

He's, uh...

Jason

Not ready?

Becca

I was gonna say working, but yeah, *that* too.

Jason

He seemed mad. The other day.

Becca

No, he was just surprised that you dropped by.

Jason

Okay.

Becca

You just scared him a little bit.

Jason

He didn't seem scared.

Becca

Yeah well...Maybe that's not the right word. But... Howie's not mad at you. What happened was an accident. Howie knows that.

(Beat.)

You know that, too, right?

(Jason takes a bit of lemon square. Taz barks out back. Becca cringes.)

That bark goes right through me. I swear, we better move somewhere without squirrels.

Jason

You should have his vocal cords snipped.

Becca

What?

Jason

That's what some people do. If their dogs won't stop barking.

Becca

Huh. I've never heard of that.

Jason

Yeah, because some dogs just never shut up. So that's what they have to do. Otherwise the alternative is give'em away. Or put'em to sleep, I guess. You should look it up online. I bet there's all sorts of information, if you're interested.

Becca

No, Howie would never allow it. He loves that dog too much.

(Beat.)

Do you have any pets?

Jason

No.

Becca

Well that's lucky.

Jason

Yeah?

Becca

Unless you *want* a pet. Do you want a pet? Because I've got one you can borrow. Just kidding.

(Pause. Jason notices a book on the coffee table.)

Jason

We read that book.

Becca

Bleak House?

Jason

Yeah, in English class.

Becca

Did you like it?

Jason

Not really. It's too long.

Becca

I know. I barely made it through.

Jason

I liked *David Copperfield* though.

Becca

Also very long.

Jason

Yeah, but it didn't feel as long.

Becca

No, you're right.

(Pause.)

Jason

So, I don't see any photos anywhere.

Becca

Of Danny?

Jason

Yeah.

Becca

Well, we put most of them away. Because of the open house.

Jason

Okay.

Becca

Do you *want* to see pictures? Because I could—

Jason

No thank you.

(Beat.)

Becca

Okay.

Jason

The one in the article was nice though. Him at the beach.

Becca

That's at Anneport Bay.

Jason

I used to have a shirt just like that one. The one he's wearing in the picture.

(Beat.)

I might've been going too fast. That day. I'm not sure, but I might've been. So. . . that's one of the things I wanted to tell you.

(Beat.)

It's a thirty zone. And I might've been going thirty-three. Or thirty-two. I would usually look down, to check, and if I was a little over, then I'd slow down obviously. But I don't remember checking on your block, so it's possible I was going a little too fast. And then the dog came out, really quick, and so I swerved a little to avoid him, not knowing, obviously. . .

(Beat.)

So that's something I thought you should know. I might've been going a little over the limit. I can't be positive either way though.

(Pause.)

Becca

I'm gonna get you some milk. You don't have to drink it if you don't want it.

Jason

Okay.

(Becca heads into the kitchen. She gets a glass from a cabinet and fills it with milk.)

Becca

So you're a senior?

Jason

Yeah

Becca

Where you headed in the fall?

Jason

Connecticut College. They have a good writing program.

Becca

Oh, well that's nice for you. And not too far from home. Your parents must be happy about that.

Jason

It's just my mom, but yeah, she's happy about it. She's already started picking out sheet sets for the dorm room.

Becca

Uh-huh

Jason

She keeps saying she's gonna apply to the graduate program so she can keep an eye on me while I'm up there. She's just joking though.

Becca

Right.

Jason

She's not really looking forward to it, since I'm the only one at home now, but I told her I'd come back on the weekends when I could.

Becca

That'll be nice.

(She reenters, brings him the milk.)

There ya go.

Jason

Thanks

(He puts the milk down.)

Becca

And you graduate when?

Jason

Thursday. Matt Lauer is gonna speak. His niece is in my class.

Becca

Well that's great. I like Matt Lauer.

Jason

Yeah. So does my mom.

Becca

So you must have a prom coming up then.

Jason

It was last Saturday actually.

Becca

And you went?

Jason

Yeah.

Becca

Do you have a girlfriend or—

Jason

No. I mean, I *did*, but we broke up a while ago, so I went with this girl Carly who's just a friend, and this other girl Tina went with this guy Jake whose dad owns this old-fashioned Rolls-Royce that he brings to car shows and stuff, so we all went in that together.

Becca

That must've been fun.

Jason

Yeah, it was a tight squeeze though, because no one wanted to sit up front, but it worked out. We had champagne in the back—not to get drunk or anything, just to celebrate—but Carly is really skinny so she got a little tipsy, even though she barely had like one glass of champagne. And she kept telling the driver to put the top down because she wanted to stand up in the back and act crazy, but the car wasn't even a convertible, so we essentially had fun of her the entire night for that. That part was pretty funny.

(Becca has been tearing up while listening. And with little warning, she is crying. A lot. It goes on for a few beats. Jason just sits, not sure what to do.)

Becca

I'm sorry.

Jason

No, that was stupid of me.

Becca

I asked.

Jason

Still, I shouldn't have—should I go?

Becca

No. I'm fine.

(She collects herself. She grabs a Kleenex and blows her nose.)

I'm sorry.

(They sit in silence for a couple of beats.)

So did you have a good time? At the prom?

Jason

It was okay.

Becca

Well it sounds like it was very nice.

(Beat.)

I liked that story you sent by the way. I'm sorry we never thanked you for it.

Jason

That's okay.

Becca

We appreciated it.

(She grabs another Kleenex and wipes her nose.)

So the scientist that the boy is looking for. . .

Jason

Yeah?

Becca

Is that your dad?

(Beat.)

Jason

No.

Becca

I mean, is it based on him?

Jason

No. My dad was an English teacher.

Becca

Oh. Okay. I was just curious about that part. He is dead though, right?

Jason

It's just a story.

Becca

No, I know. I'm sorry. It's none of my business. I was just. . .

Jason

Reading into it?

Becca

Yeah.

(Beat.)

Well, anyway, I liked it very much. It reminded me of Orpheus and Eurydice. Do you know that Greek myth?

Jason

Not really.

Becca

Eurydice dies, and Orpheus misses her so much, that he travels to Hades to retrieve her, but in the end it doesn't work out.

Jason

I should read it.

Becca

Yeah, it's similar. But instead of Hades, you have the rabbit holes. The Parallel universes. It's interesting. I liked that part.

Jason

Thank you.

Becca

Is that something you believe in?

Jason

Parallel universes?

Becca

Yeah.

Jason

Sure. I mean, if space is infinite, which is what most scientists think, then yeah, there *have* to be parallel universes.

Becca

There *have* to be?

Jason

Yeah, because infinite space means. . . it means it goes on and on forever, so there's a never-ending stream of possibilities.

Becca

Okay.

Jason

So even the most unlikely events have to take place *somewhere*, including other universes with versions of us leading different lives, or maybe the same lives with a couple things changed.

Becca

And you think that's plausible.

Jason

Not just plausible—probable. If you accept the most basic laws of science.

Becca

Huh.

(*Beat.*)

So somewhere out there, there's a version of me—what?—making pancakes?

Jason

Sure.

Becca

Or at a waterpark.

Jason

Wherever, yeah. Both. If space is infinite. Then there are tons of you's out there, and tons of me's.

Becca

And so this is just the sad version of us.

(*Beat.*)

Jason

I guess.

Becca

But there are other versions where everything goes our way.

Jason

Right.

(*Beat. A change.*)

Becca

And those other versions *exist*. They're not hypothetical, they're actual, *real* people.

Jason

Yeah, assuming you believe in science.

Becca

Well that's nice thought. That somewhere out there I'm having a good time.

Jason

(After a pause) So, could you tell your husband for me? How I might've been going a little over the limit? I know he's probably still mad but—

Becca

He's not mad. Nobody's mad.

Jason

Okay.

(Beat.)

Can you tell him though?

(Beat.)

Becca

Sure.

(Jason goes for the milk. He drinks it as the lights fade.)