

ROOMMATES

A 10-minute Play
by

Katherine Pereira

SAMPLE

Cast of Characters

REBECCA	A fed-up roommate.
DAVID	Her boyfriend.
BIGFOOT	Non-speaking role. An unwanted roommate.
MOTH-MAN	Non-speaking cameo role. A new roommate.

Place:

Rebecca and David's apartment

Time:

Present; Scene 2 a few months after Scene 1.

NOTE ON COSTUMING: Bigfoot and Moth-Man should be costumed as simply as possible while still representing the cryptids.

Scene 1

(DAVID is reading on sofa. REBECCA is cuddled up against him. Suddenly, loud tribal music. REBECCA gets up and pounds on the door. DAVID just puts earbuds in. Music's volume lowers. REBECCA returns to DAVID and pulls out his earbuds.)

REBECCA

He's well overstayed his welcome. Go get rid of him. Now.

DAVID

Why do I have to do it?

REBECCA

You invited him into our apartment, you have to get him out of it.

DAVID

Oh, come on. Just a few more days.

REBECCA

I agreed to 'just a few more days' last week. And the week before that. And the week before *that*. For about eight weeks now I've been agreeing to 'just a few more days.' Now go.

DAVID

Aww, but Becky-

REBECCA

No. No being cute to try to get out of doing it.

DAVID

I'm always cute.

REBECCA

True, but that's besides the point. Go kick him out.

DAVID

You said he could stay until he got back on his feet.

REBECCA

Yeah, but he hasn't even been trying to get back on his feet. He's sent out no job applications and hasn't looked at any apartments of his own since he's been here. Or housing of any sort for that matter.

DAVID

It's hard for him, Becky. Because of, well, you know...
(gestures up and down his body)

REBECCA

I know that, Dave. But why can't he go and crash with Laurie and Jack for a while? Or Alan or Sam or literally anyone besides us? How about his family? I'm sure they'd love to have him back for the indefinite amount of time it'll take for him to be a productive human being.

DAVID

That's not fair. You know that he's not. Not technically.

REBECCA

You know what I meant, David. Don't be a smart-ass.

DAVID

Do you really think he's going to fly himself all the way back out to Oregon to live with his folks?

REBECCA

If he doesn't want to fly, then he can drive or hitchhike.

DAVID

No one would pick him up and he doesn't have a car.

REBECCA

Neither of those are our problem. We've done more than enough for him in the past two months and I'm sick of it!

(Tribal music gets even softer.)

DAVID

Keep your voice down. He might hear you.

REBECCA

And what? Leave? Oh no, what a tragedy that would be. What a shame it would be if that were to happen.

DAVID

Becky, come on.

REBECCA (riling up)

What? I'm sick of him using my soap and getting it all hairy. I'm sick of him mooching off our food. I'm sick of having the shower drain clogged every single time I go to use it. I'm sick of him leaving a bunch of little hairs all over the bathroom sink when he shaves—if he decides to shave at all, dulling whoever's razor he feels like because Heaven forbid he have one of his own. And I'm sick of him not chipping in for a damn thing he uses around here.

DAVID

How can he? He doesn't have a job.

REBECCA (exploding)

And I'm sick of him not having a job! I'm sick of him just loafing around here—*buck naked*, mind you—and eating jerky and watching a bunch of stupid hairstyling shows!

DAVID

Hey, he doesn't judge you for watching NASCAR races. If it's because it's a sort of girly show, then...I thought better of you.

REBECCA

What? No, this isn't a stereotype thing, Dave. It's a 'hairstyling shows are a damn weird pastime while other actual people watch NASCAR' thing. But while we're on the topic of watching things, I am absolutely sick and tired of being able to hear his porn through the walls. Has he never heard of earbuds? Or, I don't know, volume control?

DAVID

To be fair, we—

REBECCA

You cannot possibly blame *us* for The Incident, David. We left a tie on the doorknob. How does he not understand what that means?

DAVID

They never did that where he's from.

REBECCA

Oh yeah, no doors. Still, I want him gone as soon as possible!

DAVID

Babe, you're just overreacting.

REBECCA

Ugh! Why are you so blind? I mean, I get that he's your best friend and everything but you can't tell me that you don't get the slightest bit annoyed by, I don't know, everything he does. You're not two idiot frat boys anymore, Dave. You've grown up since then, why can't he?

DAVID

It's harder for him than it is for me, Rebecca!

REBECCA

I understand that, David! But there are...well, I'm sure there are programs that can help him and none of them are located in our apartment. He's not even seeking out people like him! And, let's face it, if I had Lisa staying here for two months mooching off our stuff and making no effort to leave, you would be all up in arms about it.

DAVID

Yeah, because Lisa's a bitch.

REBECCA

And he's a monster!

(Beat. There is no more tribal music. REBECCA realizes what she's just said.)

DAVID

You promised you would never call him that.

REBECCA

Oh, David. I'm sorry. It just slipped out. David, I'm so sorry.

DAVID

Rebecca, he's my best friend and you think he's a (mouths the word) monster.