At the end of August in 2018 I took a two-week vacation to Dallas, Texas. Every year I go down to watch an online tournament for the game DOTA 2. I end up staying at Jerry’s apartment and this year we convinced our other friends to come down. Specnor who lives in Illinois with his wife Thu. She is a 22-year-old Vietnamese foreign exchange student in Hawai’i. Specnor lives in Illinois and met her through a friend that lived in Hawai’i. They had only talked for a few weeks before he flew over to meet her. They got married shortly after meeting each other face to face. Than there was Whitworth from Hawai’i. All of us besides Thu were around the same age of 26 to 28.

It was the night of the third day of our vacation. Three in the morning, and after being up all-night watching movies it was time for bed. Specnors’ wife had been asleep for several hours now. As Jerry entered his room, Whitworth got comfortable on the couch and I on the recliner. Spec lying beside his wife on an air mattress. As I lie in the dark getting closer to falling asleep I hear some rustling and a figure moving in the dark. Suddenly a bright light and I see Thu standing in the kitchen. She starts banging pots. All I could think is that it’s going to be another night of mayhem. Every night she has woken up early and made a lot of noise making food, with no concern of the others in the room. “Spec I am not listening to this for another night, you must tell her this isn’t okay.”, I puffed.

I hear Spec mumble something. As I look over to see if he was going to get up I see Whitworth. His eyes filled with confusion and disbelief. I give off a slight chuckle as I wait for her to finish cooking. I hear her sit down and that is when I knew I could turn the light off, after all you don’t need to see to eat. I walk over and reach above Thu sitting at the table and pull the cord to the overhead light. It goes dark and as I walk back to the chair I feel a slap on my back. The light goes on and I see her phone on the floor. She screams, “You piece of shit!”.

I turn around to respond to her, “You understand people are trying to sleep, the world doesn’t revolve around you.”.

She squeals, “You kept me awake, so I keep you awake.”

“We don’t go to sleep early, and you know that; this vacation was for all of us to be together. It’s not meant for you to try and control everything.” I respond. I notice Whitworth laying on the couch recording it on his phone.

“I have a baby I need to eat.”, She yells again.

“Thu you’re only three weeks pregnant! You will be okay if you don’t eat for a few hours.”, I tell her.

That is when Jerry walks out of his room. “I am not listening to this for another night, Spec you need to do something.” He says. Specnor finally gets up from his position on the air mattress. Finally going to intervene on something he could have prevented. He turns the light off and sits at the table with his phone. He whispers to Thu, as I can only expect is to comfort her. I lie back down hoping to finally get sleep. A few minutes later I hear bags shuffling and things being packed up. An hour later Spec and Thu walk out the door with their luggage headed for a hotel room.

I didn’t see Specnor and Thu until two days after that. See the whole point of this trip was for a bunch of friends who live far a part to get together, hangout and watch the tournament. We only got to watch one more day of the tournament with Spec when things went even more downhill. We had all decided to go watch a movie after the games had finished. Specnor saying he would meet us there. All of us knowing that wouldn’t happen. In our minds he is too “whipped” by this woman, and as we knew he wasn’t there. We were not surprised. We texted him in our group chat “Where were you last night?”. Knowing his response would and was a deflection, because if you’re Specnor you must try and avoid actual confrontation. He responded, “Watching How I Beat your Mother, Ft. Jordan’s Mom.”. Specnor has always tried to insult me with things like talking about how I had cancer or about my mother. Or he would take information from the past and try and warp it. None of it has ever affected me. I usually just respond with information from his life. So, I did.

I asked, “Do you want a trophy?”.

“Yeah, actually.”, He responded.

I replied, “What do you want it to say. “Worlds Greatest Single Parent?”. Implying Thu will inevitably leave him.

“The only single trophy is for you, put on mine Cancer Free.”. Knowing I have a girlfriend his retort made no sense besides me having had cancer. However, I knew I could make this work.

I said, “You have Thu, that’s the worst kind of cancer.”. His comeback proved shows exactly the kind of friend Specnor was. If he can’t win and argument with insulting one thing he must insult another. So, he does what so many have done when arguing with me. He insulted the sound of my voice. Implying that it sounds cancerous.

So, I text him back, “Sorry to busy not letting my wife walk all over me and actually having a voice in things.”

“ROFL, you have no voice in anything Jordan, you’re literally the group door mat.”. I read his text back to everyone in the Specnor-less room. They laugh because everyone knows it’s the a very untrue statement.

I reply to him, “If I don’t have a voice than why am I still in the apartment, and you left to spend all your money and not visit us at all.”. When the vacation started Spec stated how much funds he had for the trip and that he needed to be careful on what he bought. Since he left he had a hotel room, a rental car, and they had gone and bought a Nintendo Switch. Not to mention all the food he bought. His next remark blew everyone’s mind.

“Because you’re dumb enough to think we’re spending much at all. So, we can do whatever we feel like doing. Tough concept for you to understand I know. Also, we did visit, we have just been out all day so far and unable to go right fucking now.”. Which is funny cause we had only seen him one other day since he left for the hotel. Out of the 9-day vacation Specnor was with us for about four of them.

Which is why I told him, “Well I booked my trip to hang out with Jer, not get my controlled by Thu and go sight-seeing. I hope you enjoy the aquarium.”. A remark I had to make because only Thu had the intentions of going to the aquarium. But the next thing Spec said is probably the only thing that could have hurt me. The rage and pain that went through me was terrible. Everyone was shocked when I read this text to them. It is by far the lowest blow anyone could have made towards someone.

He replied,” Sounds like you booked it to get a break from your shitty life. I know fun is a foreign term for you and all since you just sit enslaved to your mom, and try to fill your dead dad’s shoes, that are clearly too big for you, LMAO.”. I know if he was there when this comment was made I would have seen nothing but red. Nothing would have stopped me from kicking his ass.

But since he is a coward I texted my response, “This is coming from the one who needs everyone to do things for him. You couldn’t book your own ticket and you have to let your wife and parents decide everything for you. You’ll never get out of your house, never join the military and will be stuck at the bowling alley microwaving hamburgers for the rest of your life. Sorry I am bettering my future instead of being a burden to my family.”.

His response to this was,” BRB having a dad lol.”. Jer was sitting beside me on the couch asking if I was okay. I was pissed, and everyone could tell. But the fight must go on and I was going to crush him.

“At least I am not the whipped man-child who decides to marry someone after barely knowing them and claiming the sloppy seconds from your friend. Not to mention saying you’re ready for a fucking kid when you’re not any kind of stable or ready to have one. But wait you’ll be joining the military when you can ever lose that 8lbs you’ve been holding on to for years. How are you going to handle that? Let me guess, you’ll have your wife help with that. Man, the fuck up Specnor.”. This had to hurt him cause his next remark was full of so many holes it confused everyone.

“Look at Jordan rage and cry like a child, he can keep people awake as long as he wants, but when a preggo gets up at odd times to eat it surprises him. To hard for him to use his brain to understand preggos get cravings.”. If there is anything I know about Spec, it is that his disrespect has no boundaries.

I had a bright idea to tell him about how he is a coward, “Look at Spec being the keyboard warrior. Can’t do shit in person. Not even teach his wife to respect other people’s belongings. Instead just play It off as that’s her culture. Her being pregnant isn’t the problem, it’s the lack of respect she has. You blame us for keeping her up, but we asked you if it was okay if we could watch movies. Knowing we were going to be up late and be loud. Good thing you can only argue of texts. At least when I come down I don’t run away.”. At this point it became pointless banter. I was tired of his bullshit and I knew if I wasn’t the adult this could go on forever. I simply stopped responding to him. The next day he texts us about going to the art museum, we all ignore it.

Jerry later asked me, “Would you still play video games with Spec?”.

I simply said, “Only if he could man up and give a verbal apology.”. Knowing that would never happen. I told Jer that I’m not afraid to apologize. That I would if that was what needed to be done. But I would never expect one from Specnor, he wasn’t that kind of person.