

Bear Necessity

By

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1. INT. STEVE'S APARTMENT - SATURDAY EVENING, 9PM

Steve, 20's nerdy but loveable Jay Baruchel-type, sits on his couch playing his PS3. He wears a headset with microphone. He is intensely playing a massively multiplayer online (MMO) war game. The area is single-working-adult messy, with a few empty Coke cans lying around, along with a half-eaten HotPocket on a paper towel. The audience hears lots of yelling and button clicking.

STEVE

Go! Go! Go!... I'm in... First floor clear. Get him! Get him! To your right!... No! No!.... Ok, I see him... Got him. Move! Move! Yes! (laughs) Oh nice! Good shot man....

Knock. Knock.

Two knocks on Steve's front door, but he does not hear them.

STEVE

...I'm in. I'm in the chopper! Go! Go!... Turn around. Turn around. Raining lead! (laughs) Nailed it...

Knock. Knock.

Again, Steve does not hear the knocking.

STEVE

...Oh shoot, left. Turn! Turn! Hold. No. No! I'm out of ammo. Reloading. No! No! Pull up, Pull up! DAMN IT!

Steve takes off and slams down the headset. He gets up abruptly, pissed off from losing.

Knock. Knock.

This time Steve does hear the knocking.

He heads to the FRONT DOOR.

He looks out the peephole - nothing.

He starts to unlock the door. He slowly opens the door a crack, then a little more. He looks down in surprise. The audience CANNOT see what he is looking at, yet.

(CONTINUED)

Out of pure confusion and suspicion, he looks back and scans his apartment. Then he peeks his head out the door and scans the hallway. Nothing.

In a mix of anger, frustration and confusion, Steve slams OPEN the door. Revealing to the audience a BIG STUFFED BLUE BEAR sitting in doorway. Like the kind you win at a carnival if you hit the biggest jackpot.

STEVE  
OK! OK! WHAT THE...?!

**TITLE SCREEN: BEAR NECESSITY**

2. INT. STEVE'S APARTMENT - MOMENTS LATER

Steve and Big Blue Bear sit on the couch. Steve is staring at Big Blue Bear.

STEVE  
(To Big Blue Bear. In all  
seriousness.)  
Do you want a HotPocket? (beat) No?

Steve gets up and starts circling the couch, interrogation-style.

STEVE  
You know, it's very suspicious. You  
showing up here. 10 o'clock on  
Saturday night. How'd ya get here?  
Cab? Subway? Long Island Railroad?  
Hmm, quiet type.

Steve lunges in at Big Blue Bear and starts inspecting him for microphones and video cameras. He looks and pats all over, very meticulously. Nothing.

STEVE  
You're clean.

Suddenly...

Knock, knock, knock.

Knock, knock, knock.

Steve gathers himself. He looks through the peephole, unlocks the door, and opens it to reveal a cute girl in her 20s.

(CONTINUED)

STEVE

Hi.

CUTE GIRL

Oh thank goodness! Oh thank you,  
thank you!

She starts entering the apartment.

CUTE GIRL

I... um...I locked myself out. And  
I think I can climb out on to your  
fire escape and get in my window. I  
always leave it open. I live next  
door. My name is Kelly.

STEVE

I'm Steve.

He takes a moment to take her in visually. She is very cute,  
but her makeup is too heavy and her clothes are a little too  
tight. She clearly was out somewhere... with friends, a date  
maybe? But she isn't drunk. She is a little flighty, and  
surprisingly full of energy.

KELLY

Hi Steve.

She walks in and quickly takes in the messy, nerdy bachelor  
apartment. She sees the Big Blue Bear on the couch.

KELLY

(seemingly sarcastic)

Nice bear.

She quickly B-lines towards the window. It's been a long  
night and she just wants to be home.

She tries to open the window, it doesn't budge. She tries  
again, still no movement. She turns back to look at Steve.

Steve moves in to unlock the window. She doesn't move.  
Suddenly the two are very close. Beat. He unlocks the window  
and steps back.

KELLY

Thanks.

She lifts open the window and gracefully pops on to the fire  
escape. Still squatting, she turns to Steve.

(CONTINUED)

KELLY  
Goodnight Steve.

Off she goes to her own apartment.

STEVE  
Night.

Steve tries to take in what just happened. He turns and looks at Big Blue Bear on the couch, embarrassed. He beats himself up about it.

STEVE  
(mockingly, to himself)  
Oh nice bear Steve. Ugh, stupid.

In frustration, Steve plops back down on the couch to resume his playing.

STEVE  
(To his friends online)  
Hey guys, I'm back. Sorry, this stupid bear. This stup... Ugh. Nevermind. No, it's this... someone... there was a bear at my door. No, not a real bear. A big blue stuffed bear.

Steve is suddenly aware of Big Blue Bear sitting next to him, watching him.

STEVE  
Yeah, like a carnival prize. No, he's not wired. No, no note. I dunno! I dunno!

Dejected, Steve starts to shut down his PS3.

STEVE  
I gotta go. Night guys.

This bear is seriously ruining Steve's night. With strong purpose, Steve throws off his headset and grabs Big Blue Bear off the couch. He marches to the front door, unlocks it, grabs his keys, and heads out with Big Blue Bear, slamming the door shut behind him.

CUT TO:

## 3. EXT. STREET NIGHT - DUMPSTER

Big Blue Bear being thrown in the dumpster.

## 4. EXT. / INT. TIME PASSING

## 5. INT. STEVE'S APARTMENT - SUNDAY MORNING

In his pajamas, Steve enters the living room, cracks open a Coke can and plops down on the couch. He turns on his PS3 and puts on his headset when...

Knock, knock, knock.

Knock, knock, knock.

Still wearing his headset, he opens the front door, to reveal Kelly.

She is doing laundry, with basket in tow, and looks much more natural than the night before. In minimal makeup, comfy pants and a tank top, she looks much more effortlessly beautiful.

Steve quickly takes off his headset.

KELLY  
(embarrassed)  
Hi.

STEVE  
(surprised)  
Hey.

KELLY  
This is embarrassing, but I locked myself out again.

STEVE  
What?

KELLY  
These stupid doors that lock themselves.

This time Steve walks ahead of Kelly. He gets to the window first, unlocks it. Like a routine he's been doing for years.

KELLY  
(laughs)  
Oh thank you.

(CONTINUED)

Kelly hops out on to the fire escape with her laundry basket. But as she climbs out the window, her keys fall out of the basket and on to the floor.

They share an awkward moment. Steve picks up the keys and hands them to Kelly.

KELLY  
(changing the subject)  
Hey, where's that cute bear?

STEVE  
Huh?

KELLY  
The cute bear. The big blue one?  
You know, he's all big and cuddly.  
He was on your couch last night.

STEVE  
Oh! That bear! Yeah, he um, he's...  
I sleep with him. I mean, he's in  
my bedroom. I mean, nothing weird  
like that. I just like something to  
cuddle with. Like you said, cuddly.

KELLY  
Aw! That is the cutest thing I've  
ever heard! Thanks again Steve.  
Hopefully won't happen again...  
unless you want it to of course.  
Haha, just kidding. Bye Steve!

And off she goes through her window into her own apartment.

Steve realizes he must go get Big Blue Bear. In a moment of panic, he runs out the front door. He forgets his keys.

#### 6. EXT. STREET MORNING - DUMPSTER

Steve arrives at the dumpster. He dives in. Trash and paper start flying everywhere.

#### 7. INT. APARTMENT HALLWAY

Steve gets to his front door, carrying Big Blue Bear. Both Steve and Big Blue Bear are covered in disgusting trash and unidentifiable grossness.

He grabs the knob, it's locked.

(CONTINUED)

STEVE  
No!... Damn it!

He searches his pants for his keys, he knows he doesn't have them. He looks at his door, then at Kelly's door. He tries turning his knob again.

Steve lets out one long dejected sigh.

Still holding Big Blue Bear, he knocks on Kelly's door.

Knock, knock.

Knock, knock.

Kelly opens her door.

KELLY  
Hi.

STEVE  
Hi.

Kelly takes in the bizarre image in front of her - Steve and Big Blue Bear covered in trash. Steve gives an apologetic smile. It seems like Big Blue Bear is smiling too.

CUT TO BLACK.

OVER CREDITS

Instagram montage of the three throughout the city. Steve, Kelly and Big Blue Bear sharing coffee at Starbucks, walking through Central Park, going to the Museum of Natural History, waiting in line at Shake Shack, posing with a civil war soldier outside the NY Historical Society, riding the bus, having a picnic, etc...