

Exclusion Suite

"Episode 1: Never Have I Ever"

by
Sam Roberts

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1 INT. THE SUITE - COMMON ROOM - DAY

1

Subtitle: "last spring semester"

SIMON is standing, looking out the window for what feels like the last time. ROB enters through the front door, slightly disheveled because of the early hour, notebook in hand and wearing a messenger bag. He takes off his bag and drops it near the couch. *

ROB
So how'd we do?

SIMON
Rob, how many posters did you put up?

ROB
I put up a lot... well, a few. But I definitely put them up. All over campus.

SIMON
Did you do Carman?

ROB
I thought you were doing Carman.

SIMON
No, I was doing John Jay.

ROB
Oh. Sorry Simon. My bad.

Simon glares at him.

ROB (CONT'D)
What?

SIMON
We got one response.

ROB
Oh. Shit.

GREG enters, from downstairs, in a bathrobe, yawning.

GREG

Yep. I mean, I didn't put mine up either, but yeah. Shit is right. Morning, by the way.

ROB

Hey Greg.

SIMON

I hate you guys.

ROB

So who are our hopefully soon-to-be suitemates then?

2

EXT. COLLEGE WALK - DAY

2

*

NATALIE and BROOKE are walking toward East Campus. Brooke is dressed in her best hipster outfit; Natalie is dressed plainly but well.

BROOKE

But I sent out so many emails, Nat!

*

NATALIE

Well, you probably could have sent those emails out a day or two earlier when we first saw all the posters?

BROOKE

Whatever. We'll just have to make a good impression on these guys, which is why I'm wearing my hair down.

NATALIE

(stopping)

Older guys, Brooke? I thought we were trying to live with girls.

*

BROOKE

(pausing and turning to face Natalie)

Well that is clearly not happening. Would you rather risk the shaft?

*

*

*

Brooke resumes walking toward EC and Natalie reluctantly follows, walking briskly to catch up with Brooke.

*

*

NATALIE

I know. I just think it might be, y'know... WEIRD.

BROOKE

Hah! Come on Nat, one of them is
in SEAS! The only weird part will
be their weekly Halo party.

(beat)

That's that video game SEAS kids
play, right?

*
*
*
*

3 INT. THE SUITE - COMMON ROOM - MOMENTS LATER 3

The guys have moved slightly, but are otherwise the same as
when we last saw them.

*
*

SIMON

(sitting down on the
couch)

Anyway, they should be here any
minute.

*
*
*

ROB

What?

Rob flies into a mad quest to get ready, checking himself out
in the TV reflection and attempting to find clothing in the
common room. He continues to freak out as he speaks.

*
*
*

ROB (CONT'D)

I'm totally unprepared and
underdressed!

*

GREG

Uh, Rob, they're girls.

ROB

Exactly!

SIMON

But you don't like girls.

ROB

But girls care about clothes!
They're going to judge us before we
even say a word. Especially since
they're WBAR girls.

GREG

Whatever.

*

Rob decides he'll need to go downstairs to get properly
dressed.

*
*

ROB
 (already on the move)
 I'm going to change.

Rob takes off his shirt as he's running. It's halfway over his head when he trips over his messenger. Simon dives out of his seat and catches him. And at that moment...

The doorbell rings.

ROB (CONT'D)
 (startled)
 AH!

GREG
 (doesn't care about Rob
 and Simon's compromised
 position)
 I'll get it.

Greg goes to the door. He opens it to reveal Brooke in front and Natalie behind her.

BROOKE
 (WHA?)
 Hi?

ROLL OPENING CREDITS.

4 INT. THE SUITE - DAY

4

It's move-in day, and still relatively early. We see a short montage of BROOKE, SIMON, and ROB moving in and unpacking. Specifically, we see Simon show up first and immediately begin unpacking his clothes. Everything he takes out is arranged/folded perfectly. Simon sets up his alarm clock next to his bed.

Simon goes upstairs and runs into Rob, who is just arriving. Simon attempts to hug Rob, who gives him a "that's so gay" look. They pause, then both laugh and then hug sincerely.

Brooke comes in the door while the boys are in the common room. She waves, they nod. Moments later they are carrying in her bags while she watches and directs.

Rob puts his Wii next to the TV (which Greg has already moved in). Simon goes to take a look for Greg, but nobody's in his room; he's out doing orientation stuff.

Finally, a perky Brooke enters her new double to find Natalie *
 passed out on the inside half of her bed, as if someone had
 been sleeping in the bed with her. Brooke flops down on the
 bed next to Natalie and gives her a nudge.

BROOKE
 Good morning, sleepyhead.

NATALIE
 (waking up, hung over)
 What time is it?

BROOKE
 Two PM. It seemed about time for
 you to wake up. I'll need help
 unpacking.

Natalie suddenly becomes aware that she is speaking to her *
 best friend who she hasn't seen all summer. Forgetting her *
 hangover, she jumps up with a scream and a gives Brooke a
 huge hug.

NATALIE
 God, I missed you!

BROOKE
 It seems like you were doing
 alright without me. Did you have a
 drink for me last night?

NATALIE
 (remembering her hangover) *
 More than one.

BROOKE
 Aw, you're the best friend a girl
 could want.

NATALIE
 You know it.

BROOKE
 So when did you move in?

NATALIE
 Yesterday. They said it was *
 alright since I live in New York.
 I left you the good bed, though.

BROOKE
 There's a good bed?

NATALIE

Yeah, unless you'd rather hear Simon and his girlfriend go at it for forty-eight straight hours every two weeks.

BROOKE

I didn't know Simon had a girlfriend.

NATALIE

It's on his facebook.

BROOKE

I'm not friends with him.

NATALIE

In real life or facebook?

BROOKE

Either. I don't friend people I'm not friends with in real life. Thus, I'm not friends with him yet, or Rob. I'm friends with Greg solely because HE friended ME and-

NATALIE

(wasn't friended)
He friended you?

BROOKE

(mostly ignoring Nat) *
Yeah and honestly, I waited a few weeks before I decided it wouldn't be too painful if I accepted.

NATALIE

Painful?

BROOKE

Yes, it was a serious issue.

An IM SOUND comes from Natalie's computer. She goes over to the computer and reads it out loud.

NATALIE

Simon says you should expect a friend request soon.

Brooke looks confused. The CAMERA PANS to reveal Simon in the doorway.

SIMON	NATALIE	*
Yeah, thin walls. Also,	(in the background)	*
you're really loud, Brooke.	How long have you been	*
	standing there?	*

Brooke gives him a look that says, "Who do you think you are, eavesdropping and then insulting me?" While this is going on, *

BROOKE
(regaining her composure)
It matches my personality.

SIMON

That might be the most ridiculous statement I've ever heard. *

NATALIE

Oh, just wait. They get better.

BROOKE

Ouch.
(To Simon)
Look, you are in absolutely no position to talk seeing as you just spent the past five minutes creepily eavesdropping on us.

NATALIE

And on that note, you
(pointing at Simon)
Out. I need to get dressed.

Simon exits, pulling the door closed.

5 INT. THE SUITE - COMMON ROOM - LATER 5

Rob is eating some pasta and watching TV. Natalie is hanging up a poster.

NATALIE

Whatcha watching?

ROB

This new show. It's about a pirate who can talk to dead people. He uses his power to solve murders on the seven seas and recover lots of buried treasure.

(beat)

It sounds like it shouldn't work but somehow it does. *

Greg enters, loudly, through the front door. Natalie looks away awkwardly. Greg avoids eye contact with her.

GREG

Rob! Go find Simon! I'm finished with orientation and we're going out!

Greg goes to the fridge, pulls out a few beers. *

ROB

Right now?

GREG

(moving in front of the TV) *

Well, after pre-gaming. *

ROB

Can I finish my food and watch the end of Ghost Ship?

GREG

(handing Rob a beer) *

Only if you're drinking a beer at the same time. *

ROB

That seems fair.

Simon enters from downstairs and joins Greg in front of the TV. *

SIMON

I heard my name and "beer". What's the plan? *

A frustrated Rob gets up and turns off the TV. *

GREG

(handing Simon a beer)

I was thinking 1020?

SIMON

Sounds good to me.

(pulling Greg aside)

Hey, think we should invite the girls?

GREG

(glancing over at Natalie)

I dunno. I was thinking just us guys tonight. *

ROB
 (bitter about the TV
 thing)
 Hey Natalie, you wanna come out
 with us?

*
 *

NATALIE
 Um.

The door slams. Brooke enters from the front door, returning from grocery shopping, bags in hand.

BROOKE
 Hey everybody.
 (beat)
 What's up?

*
 *
 *
 *

Brooke goes to kitchen and begins unpacking her groceries.

*

ROB
 We were getting ready to start the
 semester off right, which mostly
 entails going out to 1020 and
 getting smashed.

BROOKE
 (through the wall)
 I like the way you boys think.

*

Natalie walks to the kitchen so she can talk to Brooke with some semblance of privacy. Rob follows.

*
 *

NATALIE
 But I thought were gonna go catch a
 movie.

*

BROOKE
 Yeah, but we can do that any night.
 There is only one move-in night.

ROB
 Well, per year.

*

SIMON
 (from the common room)
 Think of it as a mandatory
 orientation event.

*
 *

BROOKE
 (back through the wall)
 Bad example. We never went to
 those.

*

GREG
 (To Simon)
 Nobody does.

BROOKE
 (To Natalie)
 Come on. It will be fun.

ROB
 And if it isn't, you won't remember
 anyway!

BROOKE
 Don't make me go alone.

NATALIE
 Okay. Fine.

Natalie and Brooke go to get their jackets/scarves/whatever.

NATALIE (CONT'D)
 Ugh, and I'd just gotten over my
 hangover from LAST night.

GREG
 (finishing his beer)
 Everyone ready then?

SIMON
 Hold up.

Simon downs his beer and pauses for dramatic effect.

SIMON (CONT'D)
 Okay. Let's go.

They all walk out, with Simon, the last one out, turning off
 the lights.

6 INT. 1020 - NIGHT

6

The bar is crowded, with loud music in the background. Simon
 is at the bar, getting a bunch of drinks before heading
 toward the back, nodding to people along the way. One gets
 the impression that most of the junior and senior classes are
 here. He gets to his suite's table, where GREG, BROOKE,
 NATALIE, and ROB are already sitting, in that order. There
 are a few empty bottles/glasses on the table, evidence that
 they're a round or two in. Throughout the scene, Natalie and
 Greg drink more heavily than the rest, particularly Natalie.
 As Simon arrives,

BROOKE

So how do you boys know each other?

Simon distributes the drinks. *

ROB

Well, I go way back with Simon here. We lived on the same floor freshman year and were in the same Lit Hum class.

SIMON

(sitting between Greg and Brooke) *

That's actually how we met Greg, too. He was looking for some freshmen to fill the double in his suite and asked us. *

ROB

We were basically the you of last year, only you probably have better music taste. Certainly better than Simon's anyway. *

SIMON

I have great music taste! *

ROB

The Beatles don't count, everyone likes the-

GREG

You know what's more fun than talking about Simon's crappy music taste? ANYTHING.

SIMON

And what would you prefer to talk about?

GREG

I say we play Never Have I Ever.

ROB

I haven't played that in ages, except in Kings.

SIMON

That game always falls apart after a round or two.

BROOKE
Well, I'm in.

NATALIE
(reluctantly)
Okay...

*
*

SIMON
Then I guess it's settled.

ROB
Gregory, would you be so kind as to
lead off?

GREG
Never have I ever had sex.

NATALIE
What? You can't do that one.

GREG
You can do whatever you want. But
if it's something you've actually
done you have to drink,
(he drinks)
so I did.

*
*
*

SIMON
It's true. I think it's pretty
lame, but those are the rules.

Simon drinks. Natalie grumpily follows suit. Brooke looks
at her beer for a moment, then picks it up and drinks. Rob
conspicuously doesn't drink. Everyone looks at him.

*
*

ROB
Nope, you can all stare elsewhere
now.

SIMON
Okay. Never have I ever... cheated
on my girlfriend. Er, I'll keep it
gender neutral. Never have I ever
cheated on a significant other.

Natalie and Brooke look at each other, aware that they both
have to drink, clink glasses, and drink. Natalie drinks way
more than Brooke. Greg gives a little "heh." Simon gives
Brooke a "really?" look, which she shrugs off.

BROOKE
Never have I ever had a one night
stand.

Natalie and Greg awkwardly avoid eye contact and both drink.

GREG
(unconvinced by Brooke)
Really.

BROOKE
I have a strict only-kissing policy
for first hookups.

GREG
Sure.

BROOKE
Well... I do make exceptions on
occasion. But no sex on the first
date. Never have, never will.

NATALIE
(trying to cut off the
flirtation between Greg
and Brooke)
I think it's my turn now. Uh. I
hate this game. Er.

ROB
Just say something.

NATALIE
Gah! I know. Okay, uh, never have
I ever smoked pot.

Everyone else drinks.

BROOKE
Really?

ROB
We have GOT to solve that problem.
Maybe tonight.
(beat)
Maybe right now.

BROOKE
Hey, hey. Don't get distracted.
It's your turn Rob. What haven't
you done?

ROB
Never have I ever hooked up with
two people in the same night.

SIMON
Does spin the bottle count?

*

*
*
*
*

BROOKE

If you have to ask, it probably counts.

ROB

No, it definitely does not count. My turn, my rules.

SIMON

Well, then I guess I'm not drinking.

Everyone looks around. Finally, Natalie drinks.

ROB

Well, THAT was unexpected.

SIMON

(sing-songy)
Tell the story!

*
*

NATALIE

(looking noticeably
drunker)
I don't want to.

GREG

Doesn't matter. Those are the rules. Tell the story.

*

NATALIE

I don't- Brooke, I don't feel so good.

BROOKE

I think it might be time to get you to bed, Nat. Boys, it's been a blast and a half, but I think we're going to depart.

Brooke gets up and helps Natalie to her feet. Simon takes a look at Natalie and decides he should probably help take care of her. He gets up and looks at Rob and Greg.

*

SIMON

I think I'm gonna go too. You guys coming?

*

GREG

Nah, we'll catch up with you.

The girls walk out with Simon. A moment later, Rob and Greg do too, with Rob leading. As they walk out Rob bumps into KEVIN, who is standing near the bar.

KEVIN
Watch it! Wait... I know you.

Rob gives him a confused look.

KEVIN (CONT'D)
You're the guy... from last semester! *

ROB
I have no idea what you're talking about. I mean, I guess I could be... I did a lot of things-

KEVIN
Don't play dumb with me.

ROB
No, I seriously have no-

Kevin starts shoving Rob.

ROB (CONT'D)
Hey, chillax, man. *

KEVIN
What? Not such a big shot anymore?

Kevin gets increasingly belligerent, culminating in Rob semi-instinctively punching Kevin in the face. Greg and Rob both look shocked for a moment.

GREG
Whoa.

Kevin starts coming back for more, but his friends hold him back.

GREG (CONT'D)
Okay, time to leave.

They get the hell out of there.

7 INT. THE SUITE - BATHROOM - NIGHT

7

Brooke drags a very drunk Natalie into the stall, Simon a few steps behind, carrying a water bottle. He stands outside the stall, leaning on the sink, while Brooke takes care of Natalie. As he listens, he begins to see Brooke for the first time as something other than a stereotypical hot hipster girl. *

NATALIE
Brooke, I wanna go home.

BROOKE
Don't worry, Nat. We are home. *
Here, let me help you with your
hair.
(pulling back Natalie's
hair)
Do you have a hair tie?

Natalie slowly and precisely pulls a hair tie off her wrist
and gives it to Brooke.

BROOKE (CONT'D)
Thanks.

Brooke ties Natalie's pony tail. Natalie vomits into the
toilet violently.

NATALIE *
I'm okay. *

BROOKE *
(stepping out of the *
stall) *
I think I should give her some *
space. *

SIMON
You are a better friend than I.

BROOKE
Eh, it's nothing she wouldn't do
for me.

SIMON *
Rob and I are kinda the same way.
Except with short hair.

Simon's phone beeps, a text message. He pulls the phone out
and starts responding. *

BROOKE
Who's that?

SIMON
Huh? Oh, my girlfriend.

BROOKE
Where does she go to school?

SIMON

She's at Wellesley. It's funny, we went to high school together but we never really met until we were living two states apart.

*

BROOKE

That's rough. I think it's a lot easier to have a girlfriend at your own school.

*

*

Natalie pukes again while...

*

SIMON

How about you?

*

BROOKE

Hm?

SIMON

Oh. Hah. No, I mean, do you have a boyfriend?

BROOKE

Would I be hanging out with you if I did?

SIMON

(chuckling)
No, probably not.

BROOKE

Yep, what's the phrase? Single and ready to mingle? It's why I am so much fun to hang out with.

The upstairs door opens and slams off-screen. Greg and Rob can be heard moving around.

*

ROB (O.S.)

Yo, Simon! You missed it! I punched some dude in the face... at a bar! It was epic! I was all, "Welcome to the EC, bitch!"

*

*

GREG (O.S.)

Well, to be fair, you were nowhere near East Campus.

*

ROB (O.S.)

Can we start calling it The EC, though? I kinda like it.

SIMON
Sounds like they've got quite a
story for me.

BROOKE
Yeah.

SIMON
(handing Brooke the water
bottle)
Take care of her, okay?

*
*

BROOKE
Of course. Have a good night.

SIMON
You too.
(heading upstairs)
So what's this about Rob and
punching?

BROOKE
(to Natalie)
You feeling better?

NATALIE
Yeah, I think so.

BROOKE
Throwing up always helps. Here,
drink some water.

She gives Natalie the water bottle and Natalie drinks a few
sips.

NATALIE
Ugh, I'm so embarrassed.

BROOKE
Don't worry about it. What
happened, though? You're usually
pretty good about not getting sick.

NATALIE
Brooke, I need to tell you
something.

BROOKE
Okay?

NATALIE
I had sex with Greg.

BROOKE

What? When?

NATALIE

Last night. We were the only ones
in the suite. We both came back at
the same time and we were both
pretty drunk and, well... Ugh.
It's so awkward.

BROOKE

Oh Nat.

NATALIE

I told you I didn't want to live
with boys.

BROOKE

Look, I know it's awkward now, but
hey, these things happen. You two
will work it out in no time. I
mean, you have to. Otherwise, it's
gonna be a long year.

*
*
*

NATALIE

That's what I'm afraid of.

ROLL END CREDITS. END EPISODE 1.