

GYM PERVERT
a short play
By Allie Kent

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CHARACTERS

JAKE: 19 Male. Scrawny build.
MALIK: 20 Male. Jake's Best friend. Football Player.
BOYFRIEND: 21 Male. Really Buff gym guy.
GYM GIRL: 20 Female. Fitness influencer.
WOMAN: 20 Female.

SETTING: GYM
TIME: DAY
PLAYWRIGHT'S NOTES:
Inspired by ReeceKlidd

SCENE ONE

(GYM GIRL does squats in the corner, her phone is propped up in front of her. MALIK stretches at the opposite end of the gym. JAKE enters on the side of the girl and stops for an uncomfortably long second and stares. He abruptly runs away with the realization that he was in view of Gym Girl's phone. Jake runs to Malik.)

MALIK

Yo, what up J dawg?

JAKE

Oh my god! Oh my god! I'm ruined, Malik. They're going to post it online// and my scholarship, it's all done for me.

MALIK

Woah slow down. What did you do?

JAKE

You see that girl over there?

(Malik begins to turn his head toward the girl, but Jake grabs Malik's head and turns it back to him.)

JAKE (CONT'D)

Side eye, side eye. Trust me man.

MALIK

Yeah, I see that baddie over there. What happened, you ask for her number, and she turned your bum ass down?

JAKE

No! No. Worse.

MALIK

Shit, what'd you do?

JAKE

I might have zoned out at her.....area.

MALIK

Nothing wrong with a little staring dude, girls like that want the attention.

JAKE

Well, she's recording.

MALIK

Shit, man. That does not look good on you.

JAKE

What! You said nothing wrong with a little staring!

MALIK

Yeah, but she won't think that.

JAKE

Oh man, I'm gonna go down as the school pervert.

MALIK

It's ok.

JAKE

How?! No way coach will tolerate that shit.

MALIK

Look man, I'll always have my teammates back.

JAKE

Really.

MALIK

Course. it's just us and her, right? We'll just go up and say you think you were in the background, and you don't feel comfortable being recorded. Then we'll ask her to delete the video.

JAKE

You think that will work?

MALIK

Yea, we'll peer pressure.

(Malik and Jake begin to walk towards the girl when her BOYFRIEND enters. The Boyfriend and Gym Girl talk while Jake and Malik quickly walk backwards at the sight of the BIGGEST MAN THEY'VE EVER SEEN)

JAKE

He is going to kill me!

MALIK

That is not good.

JAKE

He's going to kill me and go to jail a hero who kills perverts. And I'll be the pervert!

MALIK

No big deal.

JAKE

Big deal. Huge fucking deal!

MALIK

We just need a new plan.

JAKE

Yea, like what?!

MALIK

The straightforward approach is out of the question.....We'll wait till the man leaves again and I will distract the girl while you grab her phone and delete the video.

JAKE

And what if he comes back?

MALIK

I got your back man. On and off the field.

JAKE

Promise.

MALIK

Sure.

(The Boyfriend walks past Jake and Malik, who hurry to make themselves look busy. He exits.)

(Beat.)

MALIK

Ok let's do this.

JAKE

Wait let's think this through.

(Malik walks to the girl.)

MALIK

Excuse me ma'am.

GYM GIRL

Hi.

MALIK

Sorry to bother you.

(JAKE sneaks past them and grabs the girl's phone. He has his back turned from them.)

GYM GIRL

All good, what's up?

MALIK

I was over here earlier and seemed to have lost my air pods.

GYM GIRL

Oh no.

MALIK

I was wondering if you've seen them around.

GYM GIRL

Unfortunately, no. I can keep an eye out for you if you'd like.

MALIK

That would be great.

GYM GIRL

You want to give me your Instagram, in case I find them?

(The Boyfriend reenter and walks past Malik and the Gym Girl and stands behind Jake without him noticing.)

MALIK

On second thought, I think I left them in the car. Thanks for the help though.

(Malik hurry's out of the room.)

BOYFRIEND

What do you think you're doing?!

(Jake slowly turns around with the Gym Girls phone in his hand.)

JAKE

Um.....nothing?

BOYFRIEND

You tryna send that video of my girl to yourself, you sick fuck?

JAKE

No, no, no. I thought this was my phone.

BOYFRIEND

Yeah right, damn pervert.

JAKE

No, I swear. I really did.

(The boyfriend pushes Jake.)

BOYFRIENDS

What, you come to the gym to look at girl's asses?

JAKE

I'm on the football team.

BOYFRIEND

Yeah right.

(The Gym Girl walks over to Jake and the Boyfriend's heated conversation.)

GYM GIRL

Babe, what's going on?

BOYFRIEND

What's going on is this creep thinks he can come to the gym to watch women.

JAKE

This is all a huge misunderstanding.

(The Gym Girl pauses looking Jake up and down.)

GYM GIRL

Babe, I think he's a little.....special.

(Beat.)

BOYFRIEND

Oh my god.

(Boyfriend pats Jake on the head.)

BOYFRIEND (CONT'D)

I'm so sorry, little man.

JAKE

What!?

(The Boyfriend gently takes the phone from Jake's hands and speaks slowly)

BOYFRIEND

This is HER phone. Not YOUR phone.

(The Boyfriend turns to the rest of the gym.)

BOYFRIEND (CONT'D)

Everyone, he's harmless.

JAKE

I'm the kicker of the school's football team.

BOYFRIEND

That's really cool buddy. Do you kick a lot of balls?

(Boyfriend looks at his girlfriend.)

BOYFRIEND (CONT'D)

He's one of the make a wish kids.

GYM GIRL

Oh.

JAKE

You have to be dying to be a make a wish kid!

(The Boyfriend and the Gym Girl start leaving.)

BOYFRIEND

Keep strong little man!

(They Exit.)

JAKE

Wait! Come Back!

(Beat.)

JAKE (CONT'D)

I'm not special!

(Malik walks back into the room.)

MALIK

Aw.. I think you're special bro.

JAKE

Where the hell were you!?

MALIK

I forgot how big that dude was.

JAKE

What happened to having my back!

MALIK

Sorry man, but you're just the kicker.

JAKE

Fuck off!

MALIK

So, did you delete the video?

JAKE

..... Yeah.

MALIK

Your limbs still look attached, no fight?

JAKE

..... Nope.

MALIK

Then what the hell happened?

(Beat.)

JAKE

We had a civil conversation like men. I told him how I thought the phone belonged to me, and we cleared up the minor misunderstanding. And that's that!

(Malik pats Jake on the back.)

MALIK

Good for you bro.

(A woman casually walks by stopping at the sight of Jake.)

WOMAN

You are so brave.

(The woman walks away. Jake begins to cry.)

JAKE

.....I'm never going to the gym again.

END of PLAY