

Matthews Best Man

Written By

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Address
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INT. MATTHEW'S APARTMENT DAY

We see MATTHEW COLLINS in his living room pacing. Around the room can be seen pictures of himself and his fiance STACY. Among these are also pictures of Matthew and his best friend KELLY DALTON on the day Kelly left for college. Stacy enters from the bedroom.

STACY

Are you feeling a little anxious?

MATTHEW

Huh? Yeah. A little...actually a lot. Kelly's supposed to have arrived by now.

Stacy walks over to Matthew and directs him to the couch where the two of them sit down.

STACY

Okay, so your best man's flight might have been delayed. He is flying all the way from New York remember?

MATTHEW

You have a point, but it isn't just that. Kelly and I haven't actually seen one another in four years. Being best friends who go to two separate Universities is not unlike trying to be in a long distance relationship. I mean, he and I have only sent each other a couple emails per year.

STACY

Even so, Kelly jumped at the opportunity to be your best friend and he was incredibly happy for you when we announced our engagement.

Taking Matthew's hand in hers.

STACY

What's really going on in that adorable head of yours?

MATTHEW

(sighs)

Well, it's just been so long and the two of us have been to college. What if he isn't the Kelly I

(MORE)

MATTHEW (CONT'D)

remember? What if he's changed so much over the last four years I don't recognize him?

STACY

You're worrying too much. He may have matured a little, but that will really be the only difference.

MATTHEW

I guess you're right

At that moment, the door bell rings. Matthew gets up and answers it. A woman is standing there. She immediately greets Matthew with a hug.

KELLY

M.C.! Buddy! Long time no see!

MATTHEW

What?! Who?! Ugh!

Stacy gets up and walks over to Matthew and Kelly eyeing the woman suspiciously.

STACY

Ummmm. Matty? Baby? Who's this woman?

KELLY

Oh my! I just realized. You don't recognize me. It's me buddy! Kelly! You know...Kelly Dalton?

MATTHEW

Wait.Hold on. Kelly Dalton. As in who I've been best friends with since...hell...since kindergarten? That Kelly Dalton?!

KELLY

Yes.

A few beats pass before Matthew responds.

MATTHEW

No.No! This has to be some kind of joke he put you up to

He goes to the still open door and starts looking for the culprit

MATTHEW

Kelly! Kelly! C'mon man, I know

(MORE)

MATTHEW (CONT'D)

you're hiding out there! Come back here and tell this nice lady she can go back home. Kelly? Kelly!!!

STACY

Maybe the real Kelly is at a hotel laughing about all of this? Perhaps he'll call in a moment and tell us it was a joke and he's on his way over.

MATTHEW

Oh no, that isn't his style. He's hiding somewhere outside just waiting to see how long this will play out. Kelly! You officially suck elephant balls!!

KELLY

(rauciously)

HA HA HA!! OH GOD!! ELEPHANT BALLS!! That's a good one P.T.! HA HA ! Whooo! My sides hurt. Oh man! Hee Hee.

Both Stacy and Matthew look at Kelly thinking it odd for her to laugh so obnoxiously at Matthew's statement. Matthew looks taken aback.

MATTHEW

What did you just call say?

KELLY

What? My sides hurt.

MATTHEW

No. Before that.

KELLY

Whooo?

STACY

I think you called Matty something. P.T. I think.

MATTHEW

Thank you Stacy. Yes. That. Why'd you call me P.T.? Only one person calls me that.

KELLY

Yeah. Me. Because it's me Kelly, your best friend and apparently

(MORE)

KELLY (CONT'D)

your best woman too.

STACY

Wait a minute. I don't understand.
Why'd she call you P.T.?

MATTHEW

Well, since she claims to be my
childhood bestie. She should
explain.

KELLY

Really? Fine.

She goes to the couch and sits down.

KELLY

P.T. Is short for Puddle Tripper. I
call him that because in fifth
grade we and some other boys from
the neighborhood were jumping over
this puddle that was four feet
long, two feet wide and about two
feet deep. At first, we were just
jumping the width of it, but that
got boring so we decided to jump
the length. I went first and barely
made it. I was pretty sure Matt
would make it further than the rest
of us no problem. Anyway, he get's
a good running start and just
before he gets to the jumping point
this other kid; Lenny Mullins I
think, trips him and Matty goes
flying head first into the puddle.
(laughing) He was so wet.

Matthew has sat in the chair near Kelly Stacy in his lap.

MATTHEW

Man was I ever. I was so mad. I
punched Lenny so hard, his arm was
bruised for weeks.

KELLY

That's right! Anyway, I teased
Matty about it all the time. It
began as "Hey man! Have a nice
trip!", became Puddle Tripper
because he took a trip in the
puddle and eventually it was
shortened to P.T. SO, yeah. That's
why I call him P.T.

Matthew is staring at Kelly intensely

MATTHEW

The scar. Kelly has a scar on his thigh. He got it from...

Kelly understands immediately and lifts up the hem of her skirt revealing a small SCAR on the inside of her right thigh.

KELLY

From the time I got stuck on barbwire when scaling that fence? Right there buddy!

MATTHEW

Holy shit! It is you! Kelly! Dude! What the hell?! A sex change?! Why didn't you tell me sooner? Better yet, why?

KELLY

Well, I thought it would be funny as hell to just show up and confuse the crap outta you and because I've always identified with women more than men. I mean, how often did you catch me at home wearing my sister's clothes and pretending to be a female?

MATTHEW

Yeah, but I thought it was just a weird thing you did. That's why I joined in everytime. Your sister Callie got so mad at me the time she caught me in her room trying on her underwear. She thought I was a pervert for the longest time.

STACY

(interjecting)

So, um, Kelly? When did you realize you wanted to be a woman?

KELLY

My Senior year, but it wasn't until I got to New York that I could make it a reality. One of my professors helped me meet with the right people.

MATTHEW

Holy shit! My best friend is a woman now. God. I need to process all of this. With the engagement party tomorrow and the wedding in just two months and now this, my head's going to explode.

STACY

Matty! Oh my God! The engagement party! The whole twon is going to be here!

MATTHEW

Yeah, so? It's a little late for the jitters Stac.

STACY

Not me. Kelly! Does anyone else know about this?

KELLY

(gasps)

No! They don't!

The predicament dawns on Matthew surprisingly slow.

MATTHEW

I don't know what you two are so concerned...Oh God! What will we do? We can't introduce her as Kelly. You're telling me you're parents don't even know.

Kelly only shakes her head a sheepish look on her face. Stacy is deep in thought when...

STACY

I've got it! We tell everyone that she is my college roommate Claire!

MATTHEW

Isn't she coming to the engagement party and the wedding?

STACY

No. She can't make it because her sister is getting married at the same time as us and in Hawaii. They'll be there for the next three months.

KELLY

I can be Claire for the next two months!

MATTHEW

Good. It's settled then. Let's start planning this, but first we've go to show Kelly to her room.

He grabs Kelly's suitcases and heads to the hallway.

STACY

Well, CLAIRE that was an interesting first meeting. I'm glad your here. I have a feeling things are about to change around here.

KELLY

Yeah. Me too. Lot's of changes. I'm happy to be here too.

After a brief embrace, the two women join Matthew.

END SCENE ONE